



Calendar 2013

PROJECT
**COmmunity-based
Management of
EnvironmenTal
challenges in
Latin America**

www.comet-la.eu

Who is part of COMET-LA?



UNIVERSIDAD DE CÓRDOBA



Estudios Rurales y Asesoría



CC-AMDA



Pontificia Universidad
JAVERIANA
Bogotá
Facultad de Estudios Ambientales y Rurales



Comité
Español



The James
Hutton
Institute



Norsk institutt for luftforskning
Norwegian Institute for Air Research



January 2013



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26th January – World Environmental Education Day

What's COMET-LA project?



The COMET-LA research project (Community-Based Management of Environmental Challenges in Latin America - Management participatory community environmental challenges in Latin America) is a network initiative, funded by the 7th Framework Programme of the European Commission.

It is a research project that will identify and analyse local solutions for managing and resolving tensions arising from the use of natural resources and ecosystem services, in the face of environmental and climatic changes.



COMET-LA equip

The University of Cordoba (Spain) coordinates this initiative, that involves 11 academic and civil society institutions.

Follow us! www.comet-la.eu

February 2013



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2th February - World Wetlands Day

12th to 14th February - COMET-LA meeting in Cordoba (Spain)

Where are we working?



The project partners are from Spain, Norway, United Kingdom, Portugal, Mexico, Colombia and Argentina, but the project focuses on three case studies in the latter three countries.

Sustainable land management models are discussed with an especial focus on forest conservation in Mexico; water management and biodiversity in Colombia; and marine and coastal management in Argentina. In this way we cover some main ecosystems that may be affected by climate change.

March 2013



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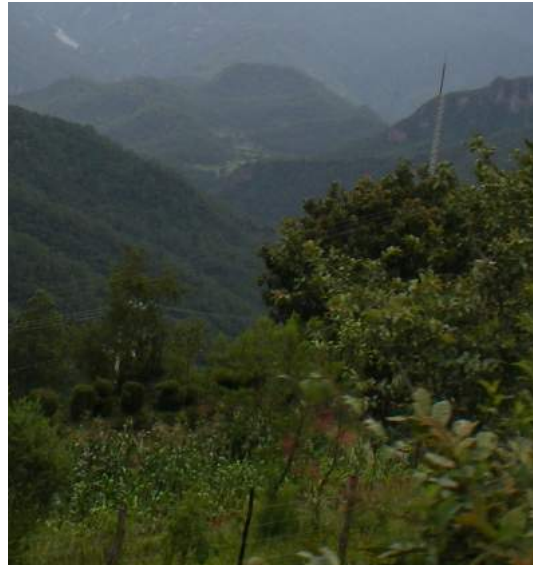
5th March – World Day for Energy Efficiency
14th March – International Day against Dams, for Rivers, Water, and Life
21st March – World Forestry Day/ Tree Day

22th March – World Water Day
23th March – World Meteorological Day
March: Presentation of COMET-LA painting competition

Why do we work in Mexico?

Mexico was chosen to analyze land use and forest management because it is a country with major forestry resources. Currently, it has 128 million hectares covered with forests, jungles, and other kinds of vegetation. It is a country with large forests, but it suffers from one the highest rates of deforestation, up to 600,000 hectares per year.

In addition, forestry represents an important means of living to many Mexican families. It generates about 82,000 direct jobs and more than 208,000 in the industrial sector. It's therefore important to ensure best management and forest health.



April 2013



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7th April – World Health Day
12th April – International Noise Awareness Day
19th April – American Native Day

22th April – World Earth Day
29th April – Animal Day
April: Final decision of COMET-LA painting competition

The community of Santiago Comaltepec

The Faculty of Economics of UNAM and ERA (Estudios Rurales y Asesoría) are responsible for the case study of Mexico, which takes place in the 'chinalteca' community of Santiago Comaltepec.

Santiago Comaltepec is a community with high social capital, well-structured and whose inhabitants have a strong commitment to their



neighbors. There is more than 18.000 hectares of temperate mesophyll forest which is managed under a common property regime, in which everybody takes responsibility for the sustainability of forest management in the area. Part of the profit obtained by the community is reinvested in community social services, such as schools, health center or the rehabilitation of roads and the village church.

May 2013



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4th May – International Firefighters' Day
11th May – Day of Parks and Natural Reserves (Buenos Aires)

15th May – International Day of Climate Action
22th May – World Biodiversity Day

COMET-LA project in Santiago Comaltepec

During participatory workshops with the population, the community of Santiago Comaltepec pointed out that in recent years they have observed environmental changes in their community, for example, in the pattern of rainfall, vegetation, wildlife and crops.

COMET-LA will analyze the interaction of the community with its natural resources, especially forests, and how they manage them. The project will identify best practices and generate future scenarios that help people to plan measures to adapt to possible changes and environmental challenges.



June 2013



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5th June – World Environment Day

8th June – World Oceans Day

17th June – World Day to Fight Desertification

26th June – International Day of the Rainforest

Why do we work in Colombia?



Colombia is one of the most biologically diverse countries in the world". The basins of rivers such as Amazon, Magdalena, Cauca, Orinoco, Dagua and Calima are the basis of important water socio-ecological systems and allows water resources availability per capita in Colombia to exceed five times the world average.

Although it has been recognized in many international fora to effectively use, manage and conserve many different natural resources, Colombia has many species at risk of extinction. Therefore, the priority of COMET-LA in this country is to analyze biodiversity and water management issues.

July 2013



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7th July – Soil Conservation Day

8th July – Tree Day in México

11th July – World Population Day

26th July – Mangroves Day

1th to 7th July - COMET-LA Workshop in Argentina

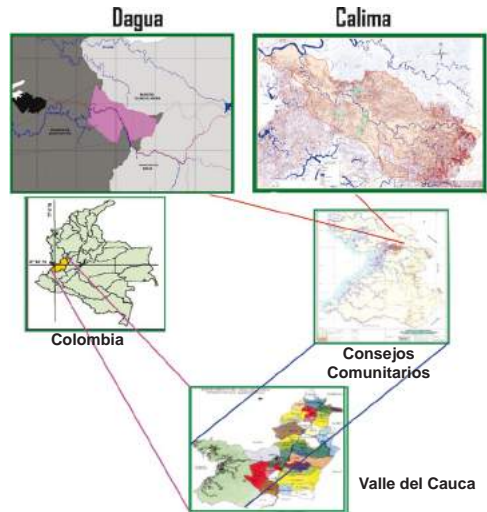
8th to 14th July - COMET-LA Workshop in Colombia

15th to 21th July - COMET-LA Workshop in México

Bajo Calima and Alto-Medio Dagua Black Community Councils

Black Community Councils are organizational processes that exert collective administration in the collective territories of black communities. These were consolidated in 1993, under the Law 70, which recognizes their autonomy in their ancestral lands.

Alto-Medio Dagua and Cuenca Baja del Río Calima are located in the Choco Biogeographic Region, internationally recognized as one of the most biologically diverse areas on the planet. This region boasts several types of ecosystems ranging from mist and mountain forests to coastal mangroves. The hydrographical system is also a key element of the local biodiversity, and provides water for the local communities. Both Councils work with



Pontificia University Javeriana School of Environmental and Rural Studies.

August 2013



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9th August – International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

COMET-LA project in Community Councils

COMET-LA is characterizing the socio-ecological systems of both Councils to identify their strengths and weaknesses in managing biodiversity and water resources.

Although the population shows great awareness of the need to preserve these resources, they also recognize that they are facing threats that may endanger its biodiversity and cause contamination of water sources, such as the presence of illegal crops and open-mining activities in the river basin of Calima Dagua. The project will plan future scenarios that aim to mitigate these threats.



September 2013



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6th September - Action against Waste Incineration

16th September – International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer

22th September - World without car Day

29th September - World Maritime Day

Why do we work in Argentina?



Argentina has one of the most extensive coastlines in Latin America (6.816 km) and fisheries and Artisanal fisheries are an important resource for coastal communities. There have been notable declines over the last decade in some areas where the survival of artisanal fleets is difficult to sustain. In future, the situation may be exacerbated by predicted climatic changes.

Coastal retreat by sea level rise and erosion due to climate change is likely to become much worse. An integrated coastal management program to address this situation has become necessary.

October 2013



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5th Oct – World Bird Day and Interamerican Water Day

7th Oct – World Habitat Day

9th Oct – International Day for Disaster Reduction

17th Oct – International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

18th Oct – Day of the Protection of Nature

24th Oct – World Day of Development Information

November 2013



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6th November – International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict
23th November – World “Buy Nothing” Day

COMET-LA project in Bahía Blanca Estuary



The decline in fish catches and the change in the direction and intensity of winds concerns the population who lives near the estuary and relies on fishing. These factors force fishermen to fish offshore, increasing their risk and exposure to climate variations. The population is also worried by increased coastal erosion, with the consequent danger of floods, destruction by storms and the disappearance of the paleontological area of Pehuén Co.

COMET-LA is analyzing the relationships between people and natural resources of the estuary and aims to create a consensus arena to build new scenarios that support sustainable management of coastal and marine resources.



December 2013

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5th December – International Volunteer Day
10th December – International Day of Human Rights

11th December – International Mountain Day
15th December – Establishment of UNEP



Calendar 2014

**Children from the
case studies
envision the future
of their communities**

PROJECT **COMMUNITY-BASED
MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
CHALLENGES IN LATIN AMERICA**

www.comet-la.eu

COMET-LA and the drawing contest “The future I want for my community”



The project COMET-LA* analyzes different socio-ecological systems, creating a learning arena for researchers, policy makers and local communities. The aim of the project is to identify sustainable community-based governance models for the management of natural resources.

COMET -LA considers vital to include children and young people’s opinion in this learning arena. Considering young people as potential influencers within the community is a key factor to achieve responsible resource management and sustainable local development in the medium and long term.

For this reason, we wanted to explore how children imagined the future of their community and its natural resources. To achieve this, we conducted a drawing contest in each of the communities that are part of the project.

Some youngsters pointed out that although they want to maintain their natural resources, the idea of progress and globalization comes stomping. How to bring them together in a sustainable manner is one of the project’s challenges.

*COMET -LA is funded by the European Commission’s 7th Framework Programme.

Over 700 students participated in the contest, which took place in 2013, as it was adapted to the rhythms of each school site.

In Colombia school students competed in the following areas: La Delfina and Zaragoza (CCC Alto y Medio Dagua) and in CCC Bajo Calima in the following schools: Marina Solano, J. Ruiz Antonio, San Antonio de Guadual, Alfredo Vásquez Cobo and Infant Jesus of Prague.

In México, students from the three communities participated (Santiago Comaltepec, Soyolapam and Esperanza). Finally, in Argentina children from Bahía Blanca, Villa del Mar and Pehuen Co participated.

Colombia and Mexico chose two winners from primary and two from secondary schools, while in Argentina, since students from primary were only chosen, the three winners were from this category.

This calendar is based on the winners' drawings.

Who is part
of COMET-LA

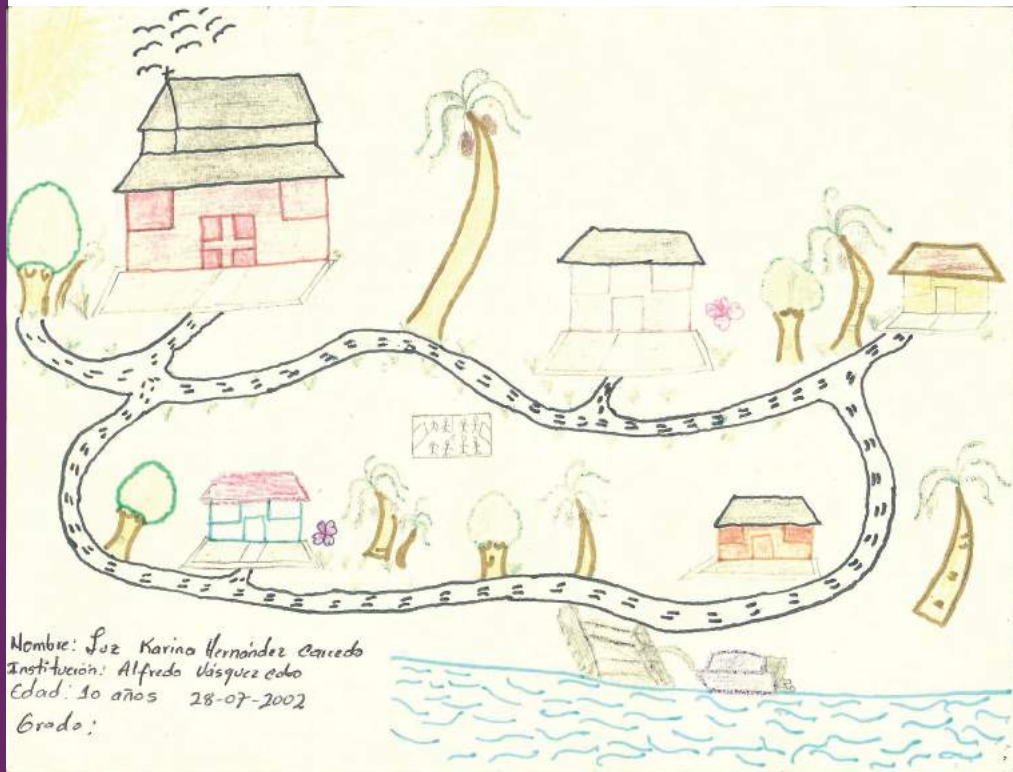


January 2014



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26th January – World Environmental Education Day



Nombre: Luz Karina Hernández Caicedo
Institución: Alfredo Viquez codo
Edad: 10 años 28-07-2002
Grado:

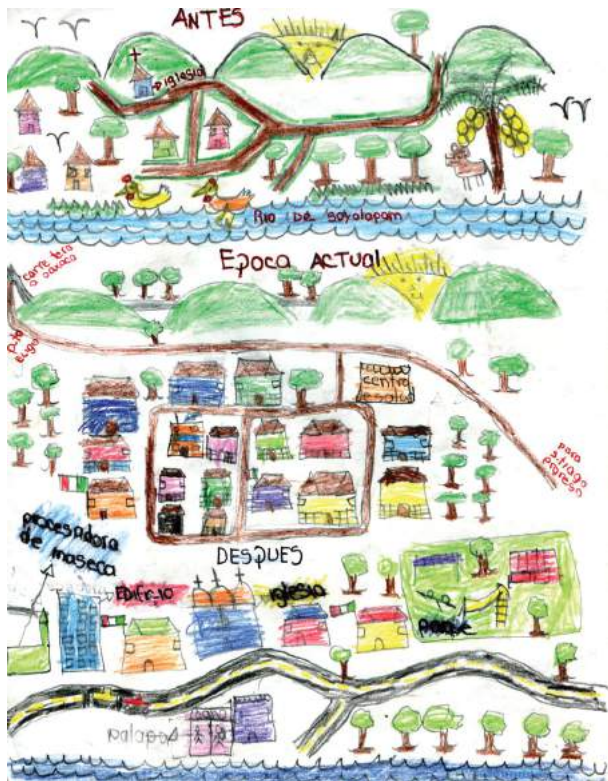
February 2014



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2th February - World Wetlands Day

13th to 15th February - COMET-LA meeting in Faro (Portugal)



Héctor Edel López Guatemala,
first winner of competition in
Mexico, Primary school

March 2014



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5th March – World Day for Energy Efficiency
14th March – International Day against Dams, for Rivers

21th March – World Forestry Day/ Tree Day
22th March – World Water Day

Nora Belén Martino, first winner of competition in Bahía Blanca, Argentina, Primary school



April 2014



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7th April – World Health Day
19th April – American Native Day
22th April – World Earth Day

29th April – Animal Day
30th April – International Noise Awareness Day

Danna Fernanda Miranda, first winner of competition in Colombia, Secondary school



May 2014



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4th May – International Firefighters' Day

11th May – Day of Parks and Natural Reserves (Buenos Aires)

15th May – International Day of Climate Action

21st May - World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development 2014

22th May – World Biodiversity Day

Santiago Iván Grogorio Martínez, first winner of competition in Mexico, Secondary school



June 2014



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5th June – World Environment Day

8th June – World Oceans Day

17th June – World Day to Fight Desertification

23th June to 13th July - COMET-LA Workshop in Latin America



Cindy López Etchard, first
winner of competition in Villa
del Mar, Argentina, primary
school

July 2014



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7th July – Soil Conservation Day
8th July – Tree Day in México

11th July – World Population Day
26th July – Mangroves Day

Erika Katherine Patiño, second winner of competition in Colombia, Primary school



August 2014



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9th August – International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

Cristian Jared López Justo, second winner of competition in Mexico, Primary school





September 2014

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16th September – International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer

22th September - World without car Day
25th September - World Maritime Day

Joaquín Bellei, first winner of competition in Pehuén Co.,
Argentina, Primary school



October 2014



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7th Oct – World Habitat Day

13th Oct – International Day for Disaster Reduction

17th Oct – International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

Valerin Dayana Rentarí, second winner of competition in Colombia, Secondary school



November 2014

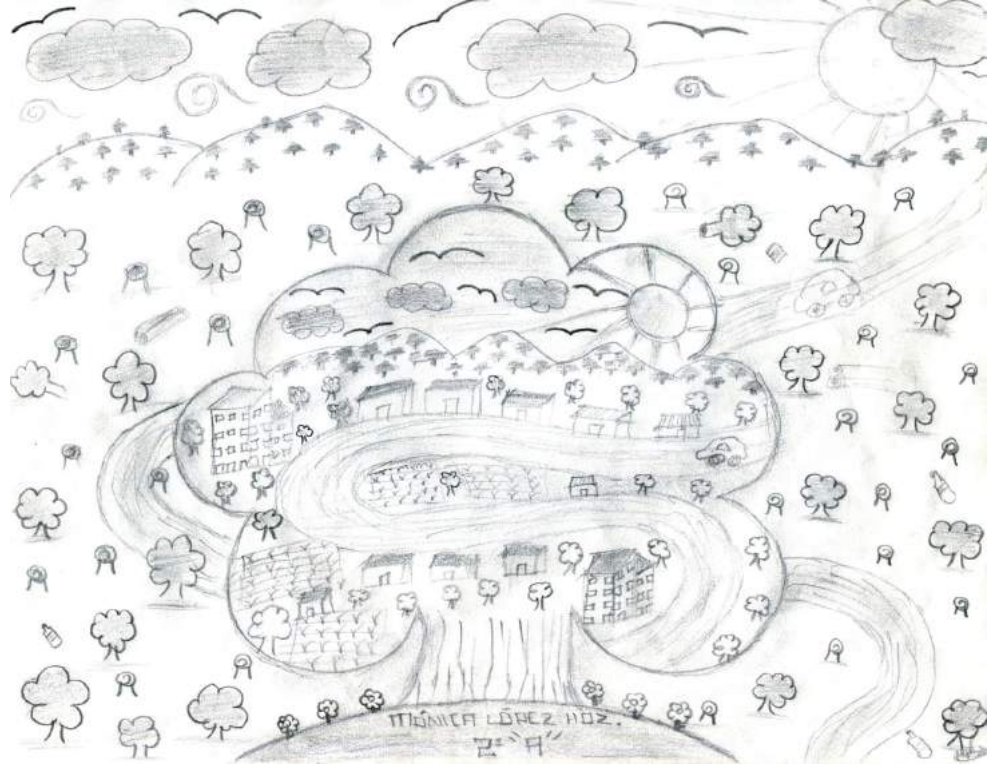


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6th November – International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict

28th November – World “Buy Nothing” Day

Mónica López Hernández, second winner of competition in Mexico, Secondary school





December 2014

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5th December – International Volunteer Day
10th December – International Day of Human Rights

11th December – International Mountain Day
15th December – Establishment of UNEP