

Panama

Conservation of Wildcats and Prey Species Through Public-Private Partnerships and Human-Jaguar Conflict Management in Panama

Project Sites

Chagres National Park, Darien National Park, Narganá Wildlife Protected Area, and cattle ranches surrounding the Darien National Park

Species Focus Jaguars

Grant Amount \$1.8 million

Executing Partners Ministry of Environment and Yaguará Panamá Foundation

GEF Implementing Agency UNEP

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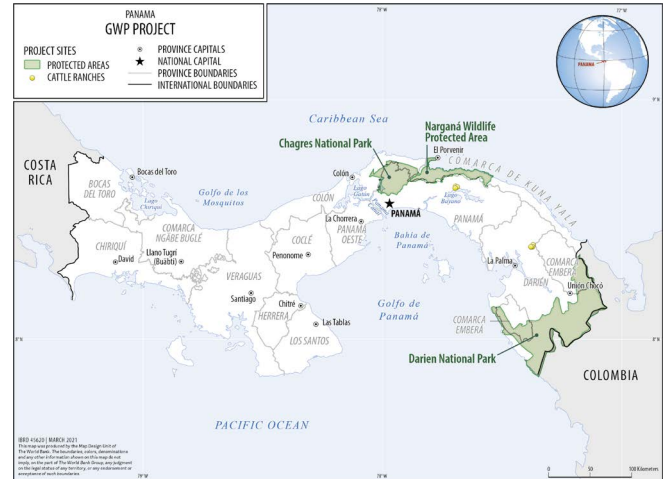
Project Manager

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Expected Start Date May 2021

Context

Panama is a biodiversity rich country with 77.5% of the country's land area covered in forest cover. The many natural ecosystems of Panama are represented in its National Protected Areas System (SINAP), which consists of 120 protected areas covering 31.8% of the terrestrial area and 13.5% of the marine area of the country. Conversion of natural habitat for agriculture and specifically cattle ranching is causing ecosystem degradation and forest fragmentation which is driving biodiversity loss and landscape change and threatening traditional livelihoods and cultures. Additionally, human-wildlife conflict, retaliatory killing of jaguars and poaching are also threatening jaguar populations.



Objective To strengthen jaguar conservation capacity and connectivity between core protected areas in the Chagres National Park-Darien National Park complex.

Project Components

- **Conserve jaguar and prey species through connectivity promotion and human-wildlife conflict management:** Biodiversity considerations will be mainstreamed via environmental offsetting into infrastructure project designs, institutional capacity will be strengthened for jaguar data collection, monitoring and management, and jaguar anti-predation strategies will be incorporated into farm management plans distributed through-out the project intervention area.
- **Generate scientific knowledge, build national capacity, and promote regional commitments on wildcat conservation:** support the co-financing and provide funds to set-up the first stage of the 'Wildcats Conservation and Research Centre of Panama' as a 'go to' resource for scientific data, capacity building, and knowledge dissemination on jaguar conservation and HWC management.



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Project Executing Entity

