



CBIMA's Citizen Climate Change Monitoring Network

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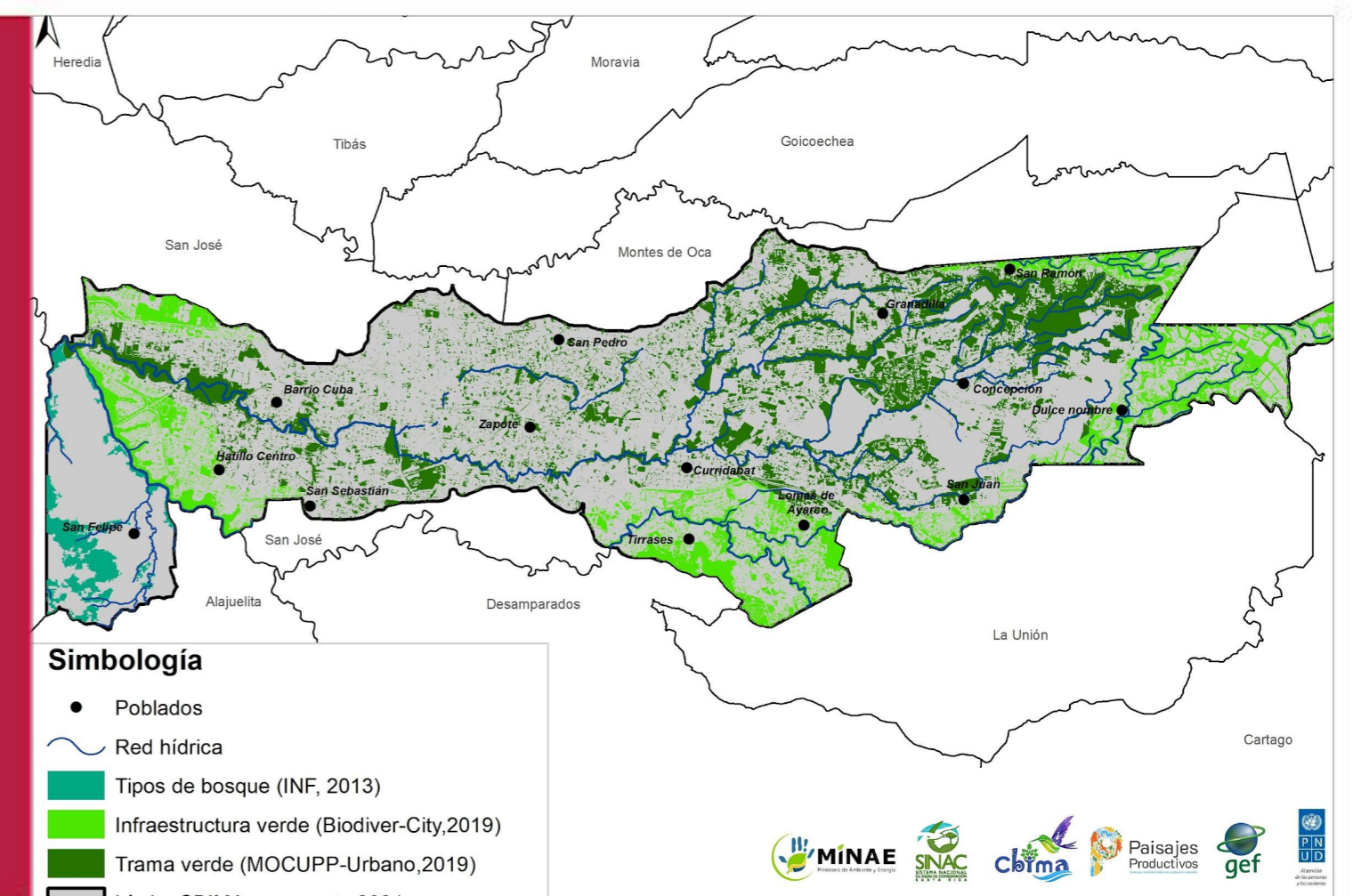
Background

MAIN CHALLENGES:

- Need to generate scientific data for decision making in the territory.
- Citizen demand to know and be part of the actions taken by the authorities to combat climate change.

CITY PROFILE:

- Population: 402,468 inhabitants in approximately 4000 ha.
- It is located in two provinces, San José and Cartago and 5 cantons: La Unión, Curridabat, Montes de Oca, San José and Alajuelita.



Approach



What are they doing?

- Formation of a group of people to function as a network to generate information on fauna in the city and water quality.
- It allows to know what species exist in the territory and to follow up on the behavior and state of the water bodies.
- SBN: Protection of artificial wetlands within the city as a way to contribute to climate change adaptation.

What was the starting point?

- It started in December 2019 with the conformation of Monitoring Brigades. Initially 4 brigades were formed to monitor birds.



Methodology



- For the development of this practice we have adopted the methodology of citizen science and the use of digital applications that are free and generate open data.
- The project is led by the CBIMA Local Committee, and is supported by experts in the different types of fauna and citizens.
- The project is financed with resources from local governments and different entities that participate in the Committee, such as the Ministry of Public Security, private enterprise and international cooperation.



Outcomes



What have they achieved?

- In addition to obtaining scientific data, we have been able to form working groups to monitor fauna and water quality in the area.
- We discovered new species
- Participating brigadistas specialized in the identification of different kinds of animals.

Next steps

- Train citizens in water quality monitoring.
- Challenge: This is a project that is envisioned as permanent, as it is necessary to have permanently updated scientific data.

Lessons learned

- The constant participation of the municipalities has been key to obtaining good results in this practice.
- People want to feel that the institutions are close to them and that their efforts are taken into account in the decision-making process.
- A key element in obtaining good results has been that the participants have remained within the project and are helping us to incorporate more people.
- We aspire to have an inclusive Citizen Network. We need to include all types of people. We aspire to work with blind people and other groups with special needs.
- We participate in the activities that are promoted worldwide to add to the open data figures.