

## CONSERVATION OF THE PÁRAMOS AND ITS BIODIVERSITY AND WATER PRODUCTION IN THE NORTH AND CENTRAL ANDES

This initiative seeks to emphasize the importance of conserving the grasslands, the high mountain non-forested ecosystems, which are the most biologically diverse in the world and found only in Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Costa Rica and Panama. These *paramos* are characterized by their superior biodiversity, both in culture and landscape, and function as biological corridors of many animal and plant species.

The sustainable development initiative supports the implementation of the mandates of the Sixth Summit of the Americas, using the theme of sustainable development as a transversal element and incorporates five specific topics: water, energy, clean cities, food security and oceans. It aims to strengthen a national water policy that is focused on the protection and stewardship of water resources in Colombia and other countries in the Northern and Central Andes.

Only a third of this ecosystem is adequately protected; the sustainable management of grasslands and cloud forests requires a joint effort between various government entities and contributions from a financial, technical and political point of view.

### PARTNERS:

