# **Community Perspectives**

"As parents, our legacy is protecting the forest so our kids can have good oxygen, diversity of flora and fauna and clean water. It's incredible what the workers at the Costayaco Forestry Centre have been able to do — now we see a huge amount of trees in what used to be empty lots. The animals have come back and the monkeys go through the trees to cross the road. The CFC helped me plant trees near my home, and people are more aware of the forest here because when they come to take trees to plant, they learn not to cut trees down. For me a place like this is incredible because I'm very concerned about climate change."

- Fabio Montenegro, Member of the El Meson Vereda Community Action Board (JAC)

"The Acordionero Forestry Centre has allowed us to see how we can work our land in a more efficient and sustainable way. With hydroponic pilot projects we have seen first-hand how, with a small portion of land, we can grow different crops in less time and with a significant increase in the volume. I'm sure that this could change the way we live and we could spend less money on food and accelerate the production of our crops."

- Leodan Navarro Herrera, Community Participant, la Vereda el Cairo



### **GTE Footprint**

Conservation vs. Operations

#### +5,300 Hectares<sup>1</sup>

Land reforested, conserved or protected



VS.

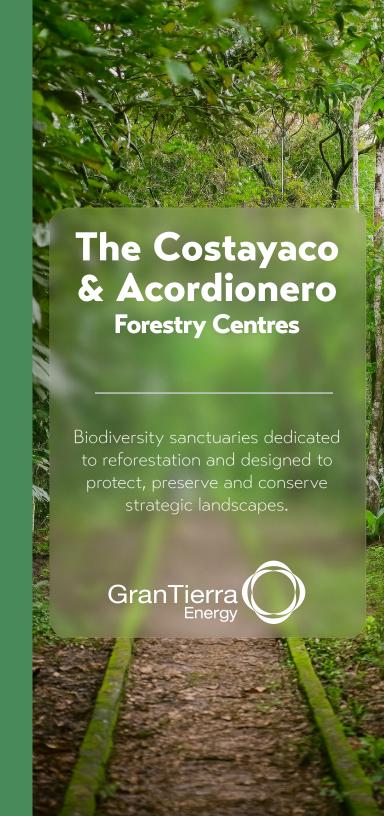
#### 153 Hectares

Landscape used for all GTE's operations in South America



'Total hectares reforested, conserved and protected as of 2024 through GTE's environmental initiatives including the Costayaco and Acordionero Forestry Centres and the NaturAmazonas project implemented by NGO Conservation International.

For more information about the Acordionero and Costayaco Forestry Centres, we encourage you to visit our website: https://www.grantierra.com/ sustainability/reporting/



## **Forestry Highlights** 100,644 Trees 79,819 **Trees** +519 Hectares Land purchased for reforestation and conservation purposes **Native Species** Planted in the Costayaco Forestry Centre 2,310 Visitors Including students, local community leaders, and environmental organizations visited the Costayaco Forestry Centre to date

# Acordionero Forestry Centre

The Acordionero Forestry Centre (AFC) has successfully conserved 185 hectares and planted 10,992 trees. This rapid progress has positioned the centre as a key player in protecting vital water resources in the Lebrija River sub-basin, which contributes to the health of the larger

Magdalena River system. Through our integrated approach combining reforestation and conservation with innovative aquaponics systems, the cultivation of native stingless bees through meliponiculture, and the use of biodigesters for clean energy, the centre is helping to preserve regional ecosystems and ensure the long-term sustainability of critical resources.

#### **Aquaponics**



At the heart of this innovation hub is a solar-powered aquaponics system that merges fish farming with hydroponic plant cultivation in a closed-loop system. Nutrient-rich water from tilapia tanks is used to irrigate and fertilize crops such as basil, cherry tomatoes, and lettuce. The system recycles water continuously, achieving over 90% water savings compared to conventional agriculture.

#### Meliponiculture



The Meliponiculture Initiative is a biodiversity conservation effort focused on the protection and reproduction of native stingless bees. These bees are essential pollinators that play a critical role in maintaining the health and regeneration of local ecosystems.

### Costayaco Forestry Centre

The Costayaco Forestry Centre (CFC) is one of the most innovative reforestation efforts in South America that has grown to 335 hectares, located near the Company's production facilities in Putumayo.

Established in 2010 in coordination with regional environmental regulator Corpoamazonia, the facility has grown into a significant habitat for butterflies, birds, large felines and other wildlife. The Centre is strategically located in an important environmental corridor connecting the Andean foothills and Amazonian Forest ecosystems, serving as a focal point for the Company's compensatory requirements as well as many of its voluntary environmental activities.

After 10 years, the Company is very close to achieving its long-term goal of connecting the corridor to the foothills. The Centre, which was officially designated as a protected habitat and has been replicated around the country, also serves as a hub for nearby communities, hosting educational sessions, presentations and briefings.

#### **Seedlings**



The Forestry Centre has cultivated hundreds of thousands of seedlings providing local communities the capability to reforest their land with native trees.

#### **Monitoring**



The motion sensor camera and monitoring stations at the CFC have successfully identified 121 species of birds, 15 species of amphibians and 11 mammal species.