



# Role of the Universidad Nacional de Colombia in strengthening the cacao chain value in Colombia

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Associate Professor

Cacao for Peace Research Meeting

May 17, 2017



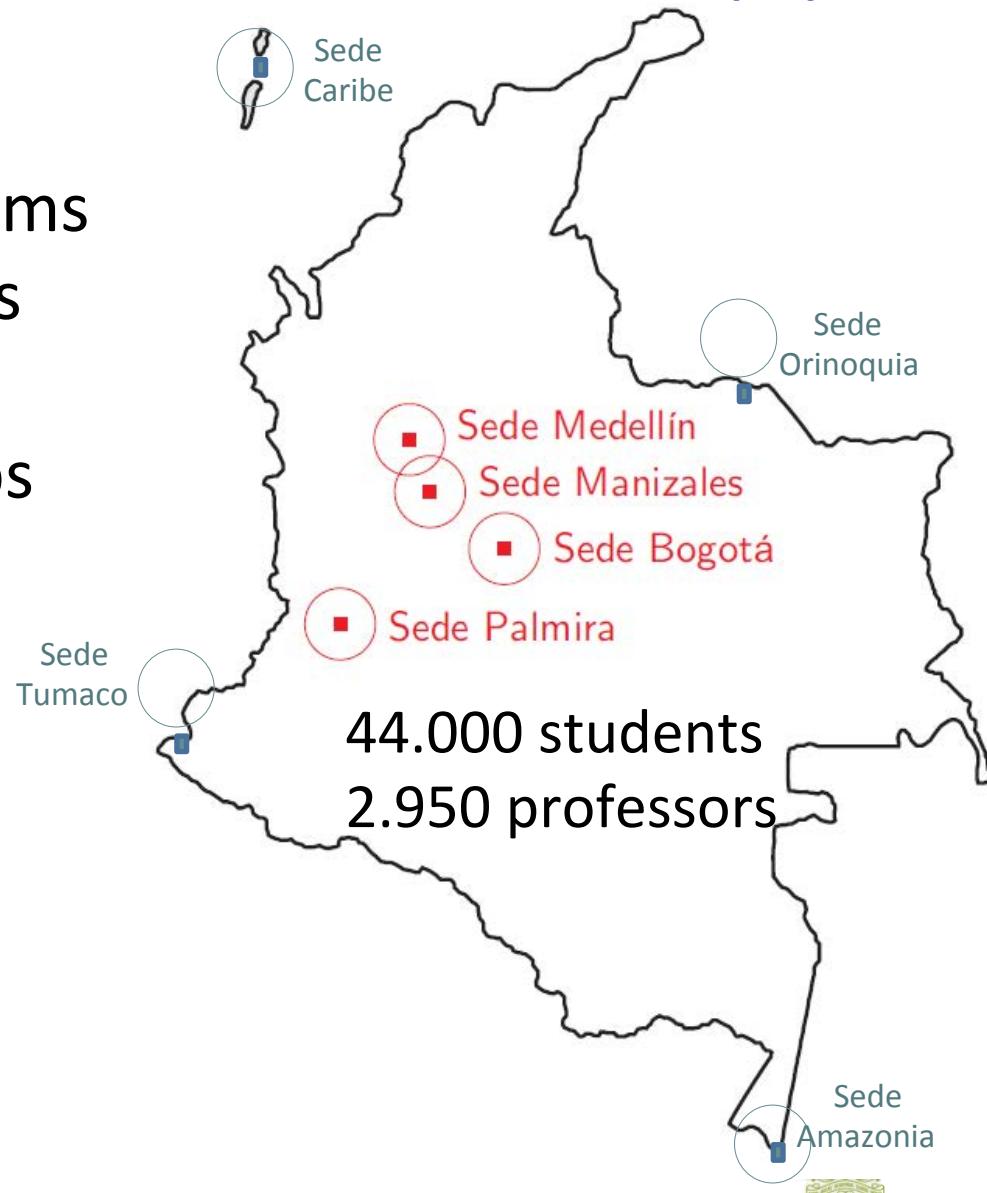
The UNAL, was founded in 1867,  
it's public belong to the State and  
it's the largest one in the  
Country.





# Our Campus is Colombia: 8 (5)

- ✓ 96 graduate programs
- ✓ 161 Master degrees
- ✓ 58 doctorates
- ✓ 931 research groups
- ✓ 43 Research institutions
- ✓ Peace and Conflict Center



# Faculty of Agricultural Sciences - 1963

Areas: Genetic and Breeding, Crop Physiology and Production, Plant Protection (Entomology, Diseases, Weed); Soil, Water, Geomatics

- ✓ 1 graduate program
- ✓ 1 Specialization
- ✓ 4 Master degrees
- ✓ 2 doctorates
- ✓ 11 research groups
- ✓ 15 Lab
- ✓ 1 Marengo (94.7 ha)

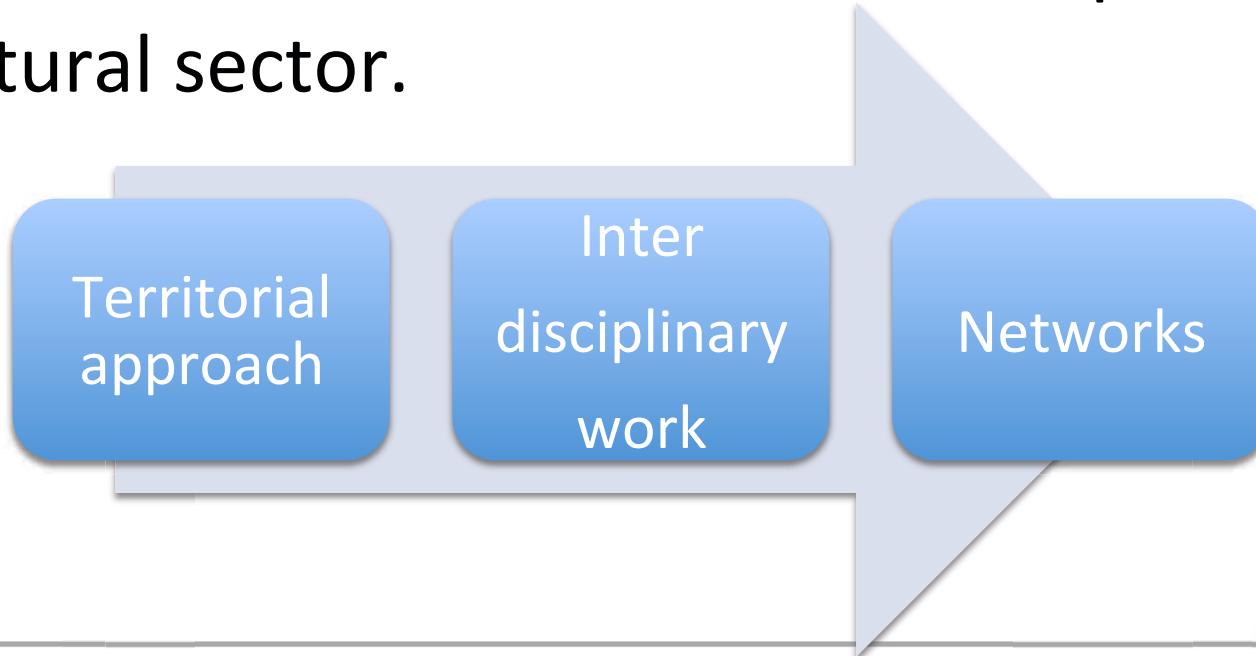


638 graduate, 250 postgraduate students and 42 professors



# What is the reason?

To promote the formation of human resources at high level in order to develop scientific knowledge and contribute to the solution of problems of agricultural sector.

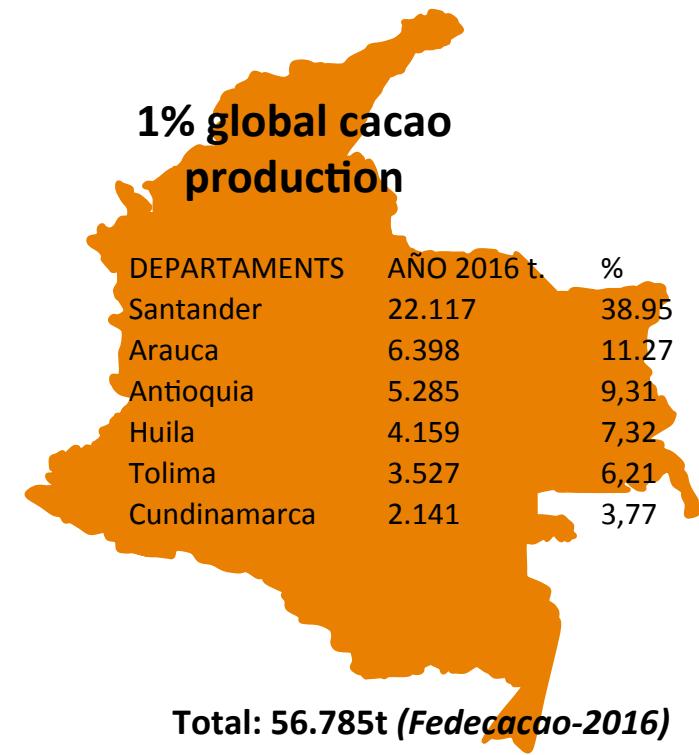


# Key aspects of Cacao Crop

- Cacao is a millennial crop and essential for the survival of 40-50 million people of the world.
- Cacao is an American crop

| Production of cocoa beans<br>(thousand tonnes) |             |                      |             |                      |             |               |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------|
|                                                | 2013/14     | Estimates<br>2014/15 |             | Forecasts<br>2015/16 |             |               |
| <b>Africa</b>                                  | <b>3199</b> | <b>73.1%</b>         | <b>3073</b> | <b>72.5%</b>         | <b>2942</b> | <b>73.8%</b>  |
| Cameroon                                       | 211         |                      | 232         |                      | 250         |               |
| Côte d'Ivoire                                  | 1746        |                      | 1796        |                      | 1570        |               |
| Ghana                                          | 897         |                      | 740         |                      | 820         |               |
| Nigeria                                        | 248         |                      | 195         |                      | 190         |               |
| Others                                         | 97          |                      | 109         |                      | 112         |               |
| <b>America</b>                                 | <b>727</b>  | <b>16.6%</b>         | <b>763</b>  | <b>18.0%</b>         | <b>639</b>  | <b>16.0%</b>  |
| Brazil                                         | 228         |                      | 230         |                      | 135         |               |
| Ecuador                                        | 234         |                      | 250         |                      | 230         |               |
| Others                                         | 265         |                      | 283         |                      | 274         |               |
| <b>Asia &amp; Oceania</b>                      | <b>447</b>  | <b>10.2%</b>         | <b>400</b>  | <b>9.4%</b>          | <b>408</b>  | <b>10.2%</b>  |
| Indonesia                                      | 375         |                      | 325         |                      | 330         |               |
| Papua New Guinea                               | 36          |                      | 36          |                      | 36          |               |
| Others                                         | 36          |                      | 39          |                      | 42          |               |
| <b>World total</b>                             | <b>4373</b> | <b>100.0%</b>        | <b>4236</b> | <b>100.0%</b>        | <b>3988</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Source: ICCO Quarterly Bulletin of Cocoa Statistics, Vol. XLII, No. 3, Cocoa year 2015/16





# Key aspects of Cacao Crop

- Potential for increased cultivation area from 140.000 to 670.000 ha (MADR-CNC, 2015)
- Cacao cultivation offers to farmer communities in Colombia a great opportunity to increase their income and social benefits.
- It is considered as one alternatives for post-conflict and for the substitute of illicit crops.

The collage includes:

- A banner for the Federación Nacional de Cacaoteros (FNC) with the Colombian flag and the text "COLOMBIA FEDERACIÓN NACIONAL DE CACAOTEROS".
- A logo for "El País.com.co".
- A logo for "MINAGRICULTURA" and "TODOS POR UN NUEVO PAÍS".
- A news article from "EL MUNDO" dated 21/01/2016, titled "La buena cosecha del cacao en el posconflicto" by the Redacción EL MUNDO.
- A news article from "Dinero" dated 8/3/2017, titled "La producción actual de cacao en Colombia no es para enorgullecerse".
- A photograph of a dense cacao plantation under a cloudy sky.



# Limiting factors of the crop



- Old planting materials (mainly hybrids, with 60% of them over 20 years)
- Low densities (less than 1000 pl.ha<sup>-1</sup>)
- Low yield: 0,5 t/ha (DANE, 2013).
- Pathogens
- Poor management of agroforestry systems and processing of the grain

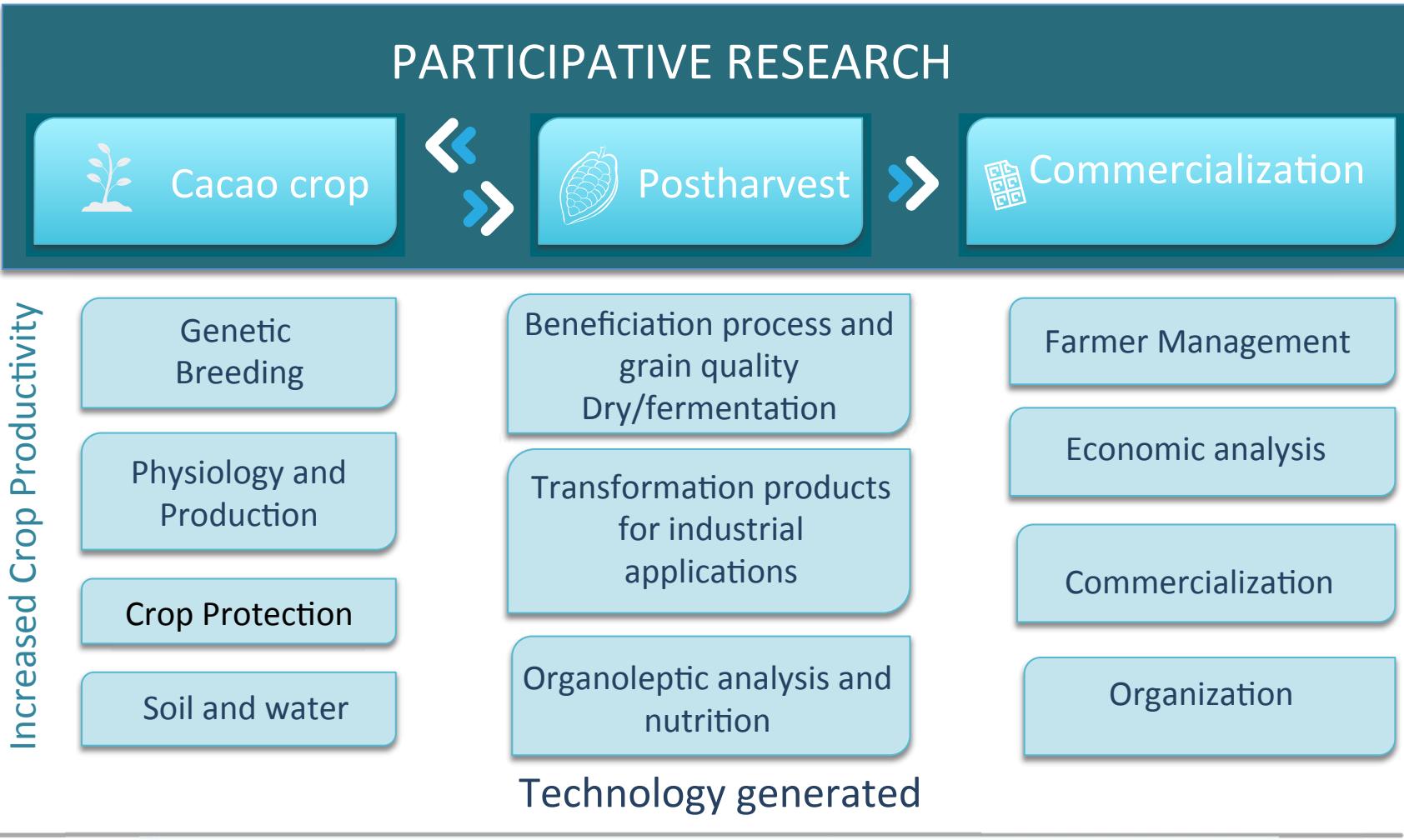


**It is necessary to strengthen each of the links  
of the cacao value chain**



# Cacao Crop Program

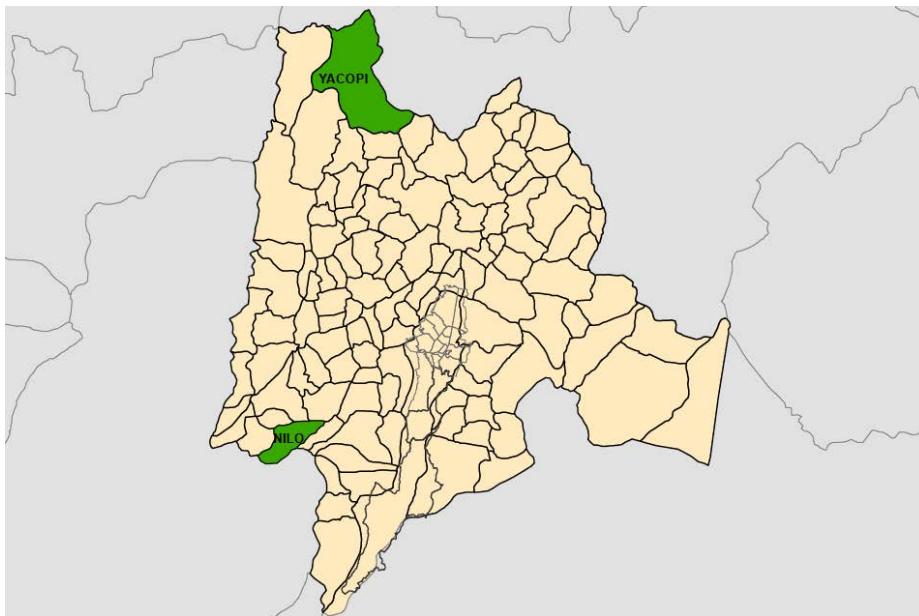
Climatic aspects and Good Practices





# Cacao Project

- YACOPÍ** -- Aprox. 2.000 ha
- NILO** -- Aprox. 300 ha

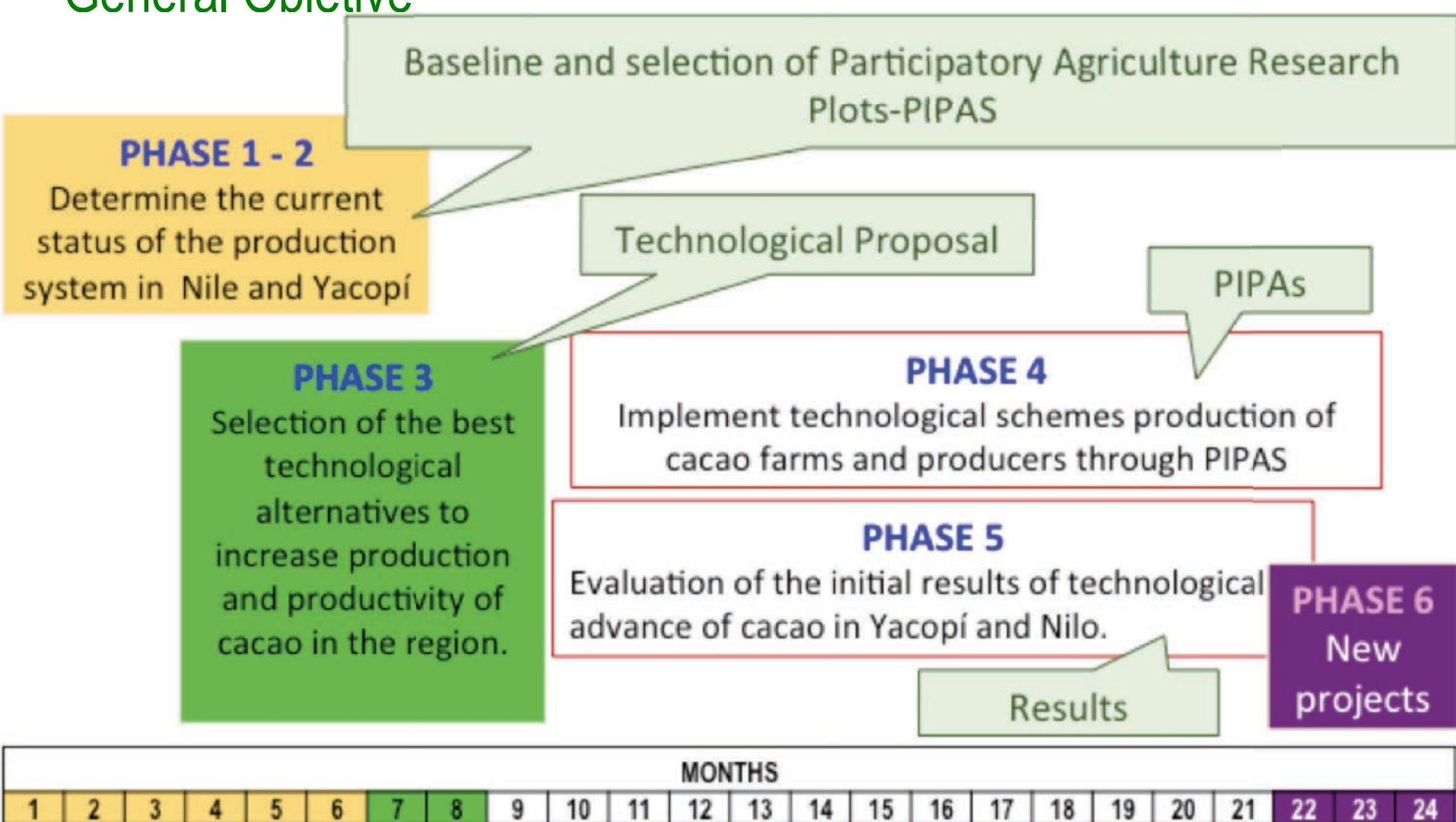


## CUNDINAMARCA

- 2.141 ha. (6)
- Yield: 0,4 t/ha (DANE, 2013).
- **Potential for increased acreage to 46,000 has** (MADR-CNC, 2012: 14).



# General Objective





## Interdisciplinary and Participative Research

| COMPONENTS                              | RESEARCHERS                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Socio-economics</b>                  | UNAL: Juan Carlos Barrientos and Yesid Aranda.<br>CORPOICA: Carlos Herrera.                             |
| <b>Fertilization</b>                    | UNAL: Marta Henao, Roberto Villalobos and Stanislav Magnitskiy; Esperanza Torres.                       |
| <b>Crop Protection</b>                  | UNAL: Augusto Ramírez , Esperanza Torres and Sandra Gómez CORPOICA: Camilo Beltrán.                     |
| <b>Cultural Management</b>              | FEDECACAO: Hernando Morales and Oscar Ramírez.<br>CORPOICA: Gildardo Palencia and Luis Enrique Ramírez. |
| <b>Postharvest</b>                      | FEDECACAO: Nubia Martínez.<br>UNAL: Alfonso Parra, Aníbal Herrera, Carolina Sánchez and Marta Henao.    |
| <b>Climate and Good farms Practices</b> | CORPOICA: Carlos Herrera.<br>UNAL: Efrén Ospina.                                                        |

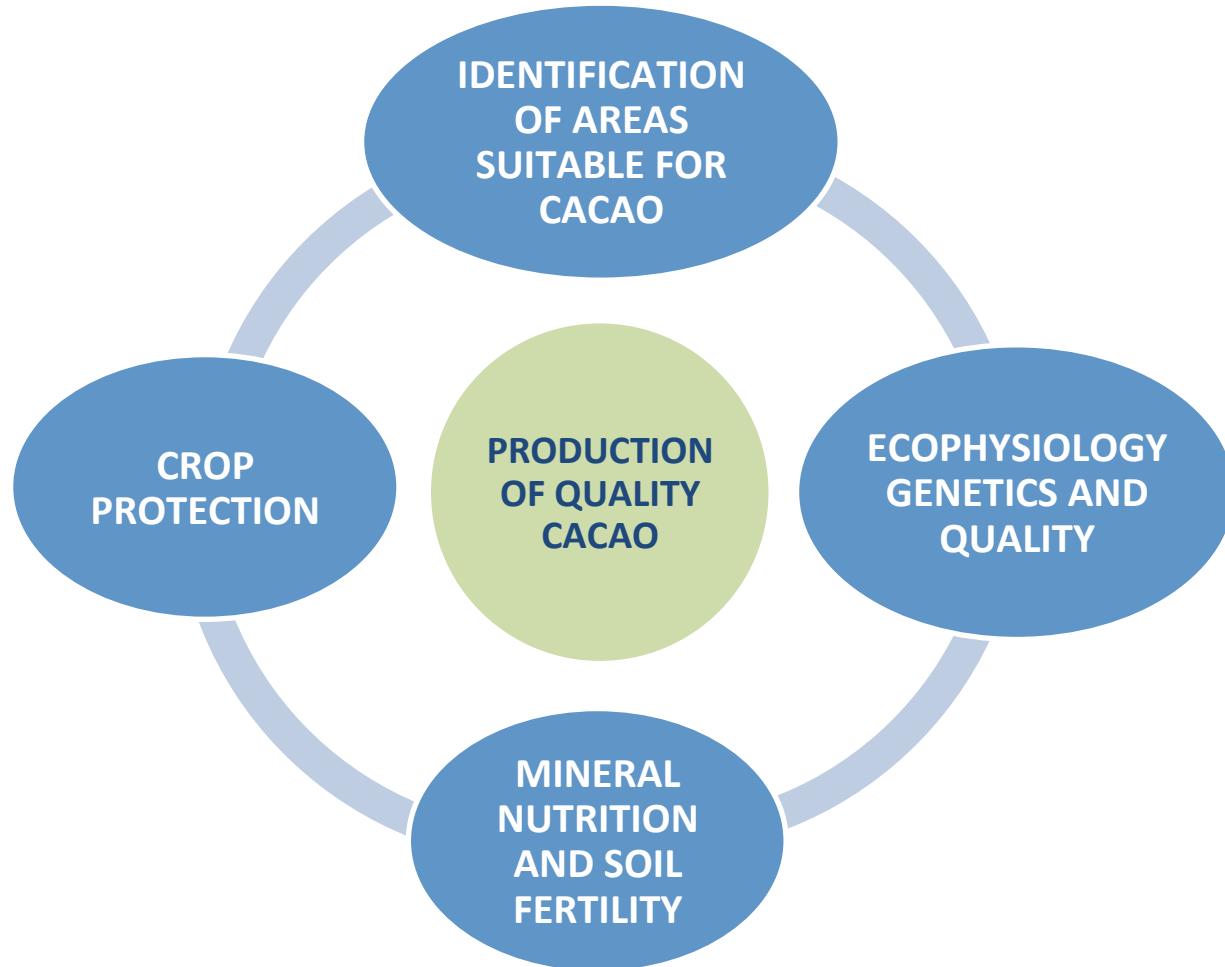


# Results

- ✓ The current status of the production system in Yacopi and Nilo (baseline).
- ✓ Diagnosis of Cd levels in the soil and its distribution in leaves and fruits of cultivated cacao in Nilo and Yacopi, Cundinamarca.
- ✓ Characterization of the soil microbiota community associated with and without fertilization (C, N, P) as to as contribution of management of soil fertility.
- ✓ Characterization of the soil microbiota community tolerant to Cd as a strategy to soil bioremediation.
- ✓ Diagnosis of the major cacao diseases in Nilo-Yacopi, Cundinamarca and its control strategies



# Future Plans





# IDENTIFICATION OF AREAS SUITABLE FOR CACAO CROPS



Biophysical Parameters

Climate

Soil

Water



Socioeconomic Aspects  
Access to roads and markets  
Promotion of food security  
Employment generation



Methodology of land evaluation  
for zoning for agricultural  
purposes

scale (1: 25,000) developed by  
UNAL for the Rural Agricultural  
Planning Unit (UPRA)





# ECOPHYSIOLOGY GENETICS AND QUALITY



## Ecophysiology

To Identify cacao materials with better physiological performance in the region



## Genetics

To Identify the genetic groups of cacao that are grown in the region



## Quality

To identify the cocoa materials with higher fruit quality at the time of harvest in growing conditions

Integrated analysis of information





# MINERAL NUTRITION AND SOIL FERTILITY



Physical,  
chemical  
Properties  
and microbial  
diversity



Calibration of soil  
and plant  
analysis for N, P  
and K



To evaluate the  
Chemical  
fertilization  
effect on the soil  
microbial  
diversity and  
plant yield



To evaluate the  
organic  
fertilization  
effect on the  
soil microbial  
diversity and  
plant yield



Elaboration of  
compost and  
biofertilization





# CROP PROTECTION



To identify the main diseases of cacao crop



To identify the insects of the cacao crop



Biology control of the main diseases and pests of cacao crops



Use of nanoparticles to control the main disease





# Acknowledgment



CONVENIO DERIVADO No 2 DEL CONVENIO MARCO 395 DE 2012  
COMITÉ TÉCNICO CIENTÍFICO DEL CONVENIO DERIVADO No 2



SEQUICENTENARIO  
UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE COLOMBIA

SEDE BOGOTÁ  
**Dirección Académica**

**escuelainternacional2017**



DEL 5 AL 27 DE JUNIO

## **ASPECTS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATED TO THE VALUE CHAIN OF CACAO CULTIVATION**

**PREINSCRIPCIONES ABIERTAS**

<http://diracad.bogota.unal.edu.co/einternacional17-2>

SEQUICENTENARIO

