

# Empowering Youth *in the Territories*



Leading utility company for natural gas distribution, Colombia, Caribbean Coast

Sustainability approach based on local development

**755.014**

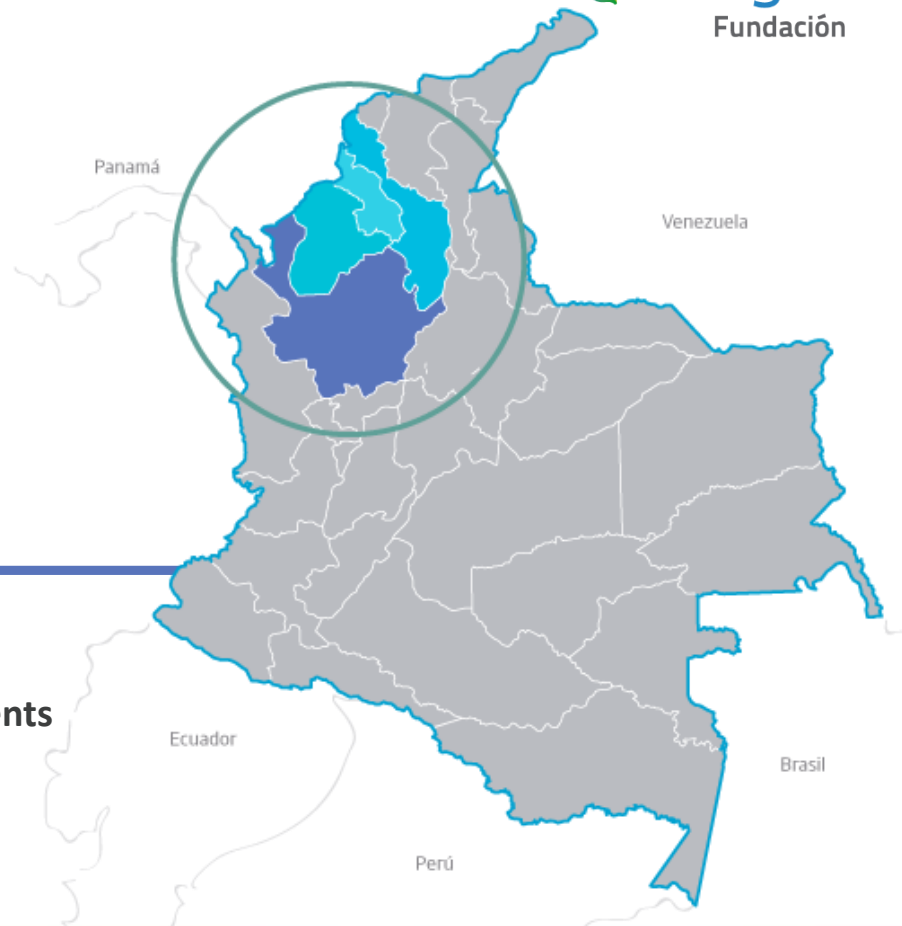
Clients

**177**

towns

**5**

Departamentos

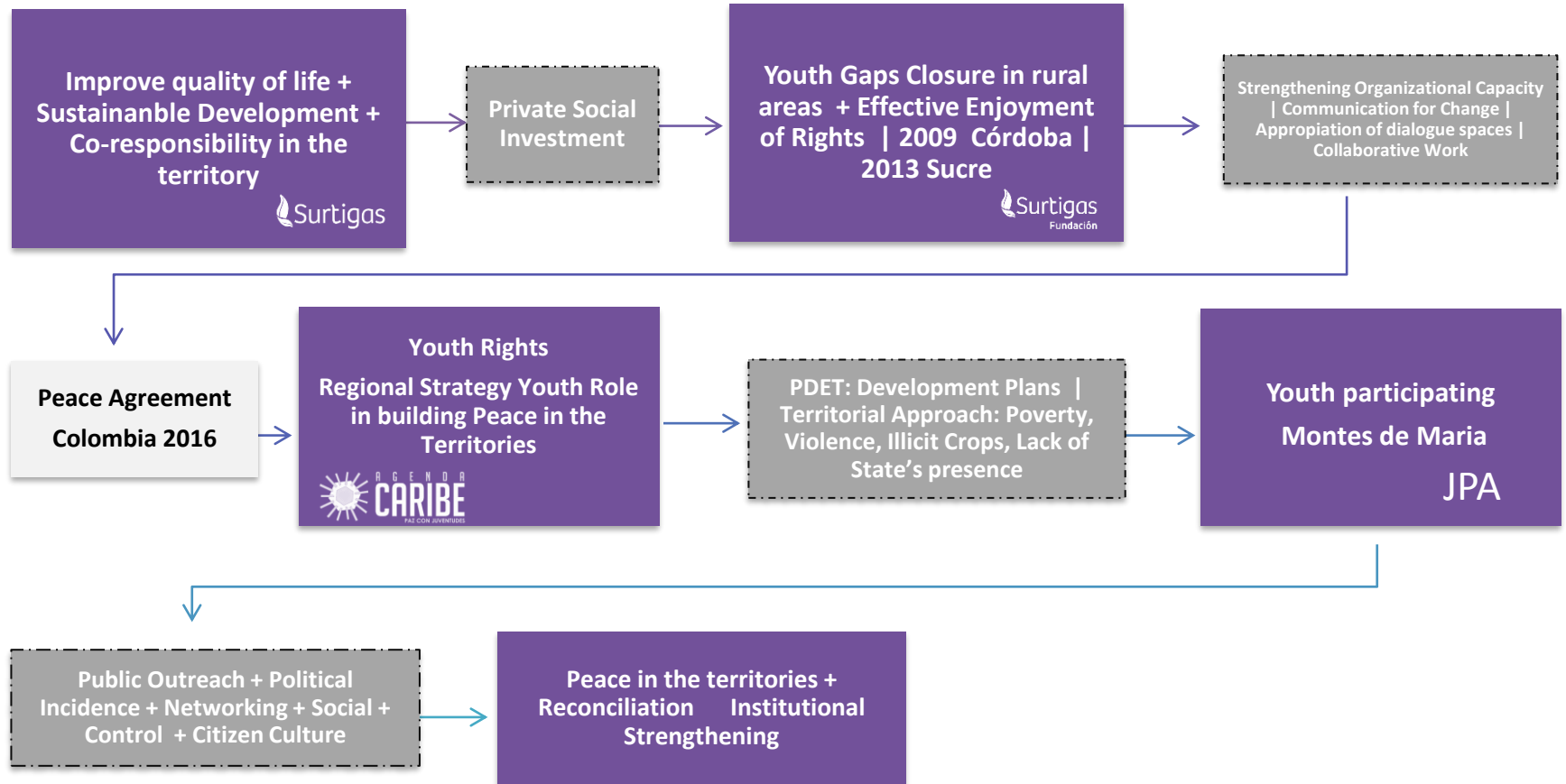


# Goals

1. **Strengthen leadership skills** and abilities for advocacy, social control, participation and the role of young people as subjects of rights.
2. **Develop a youth agenda** articulated with different actors
3. **Create platforms for dialogue**, discussion, decision-making
4. **Generate social capital** by strengthening and promoting the creation of grassroots organizations, youth groups and local action boards.
5. **Strengthen democracy**



# Context



# Participants



**Business  
Sector**

**Youth**

**Organizations  
Groups  
Platforms  
Alliances  
Youth Networks**

**Territory**

**Local public  
institutionality**

**Civil  
Society**

**Local Governments  
Governorships  
Attorney General**



INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION



terre des hommes  
suisse

# Methodology

*Young people 14 - 26 years old*

Partnerships  
and long-term  
approach

Strengthening  
of youth  
social base

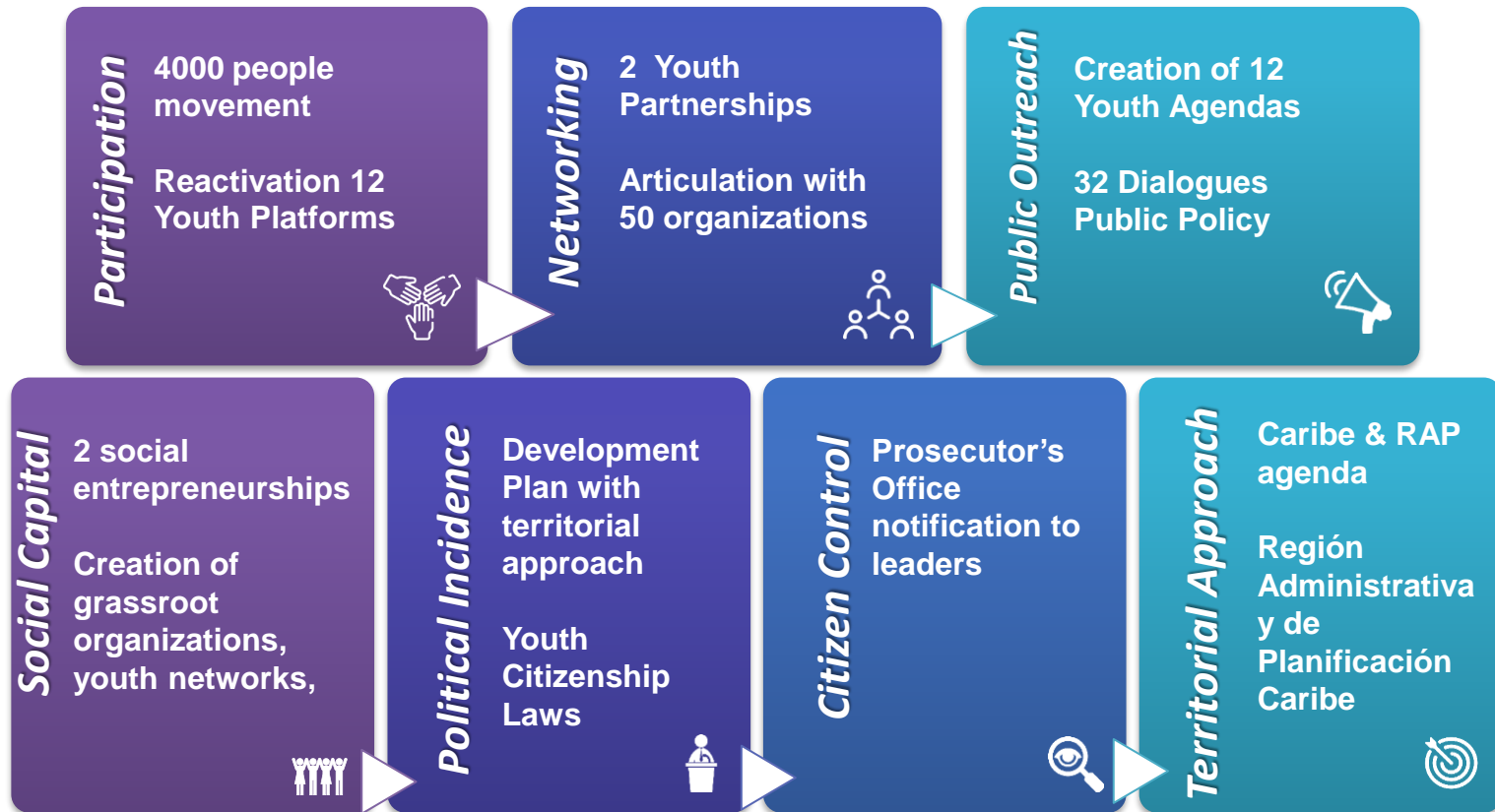
Generation  
of dialogues  
for Incidence

Articulation of  
regional youth  
associations

Enhance youth  
agendas

Outreach and  
consolidation

# Results





# Strategic for the Company

**Dialogues grassroots  
communities**

**Identifying risks**

**Aligning business to  
territorial agenda**

**Identify key actors and  
true leaders**

**Promote new groups  
of leaders**

**Build long-term and  
close relationships**

**Contribute to the  
creation of conditions  
for democracy**

**Strengthen Public  
Institutions**

**Assure company's  
interest is not against  
community and  
territory interest**

**Social capital facilitates  
conflict resolution  
proceses  
business continuity**



# Conclusions

Public policy connects people to territories so they can access their rights, and strengthen democracy.

To guarantee young people appropriation and empowerment, it is key to include them in exercises to identify problems, agree on solutions, and strategies.

The private sector's role is to support and facilitate the process.

Articulation not only broadens social benefits, but it also generates **safe environments** for the exercise of **communitarian leadership**, serving as a protective barrier against threats to leaders that have arisen in the Colombia post-conflict scenario.



@fundacionsurtigas



fundacionsurtigas



@fundacionsurtigas



@funsurtigas

**Merci Thank's Muchas Gracias**

Maria Claudia Trucco

