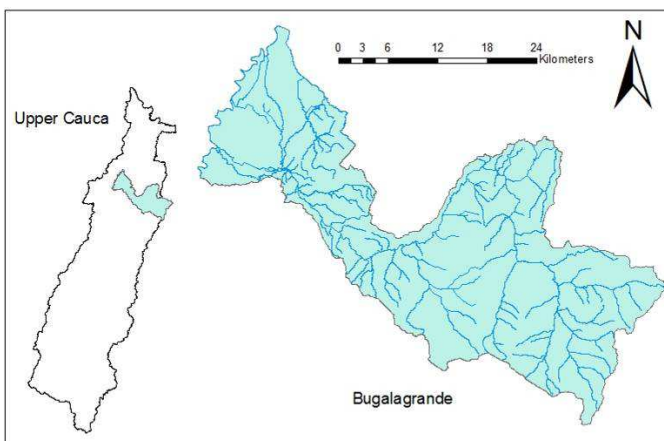
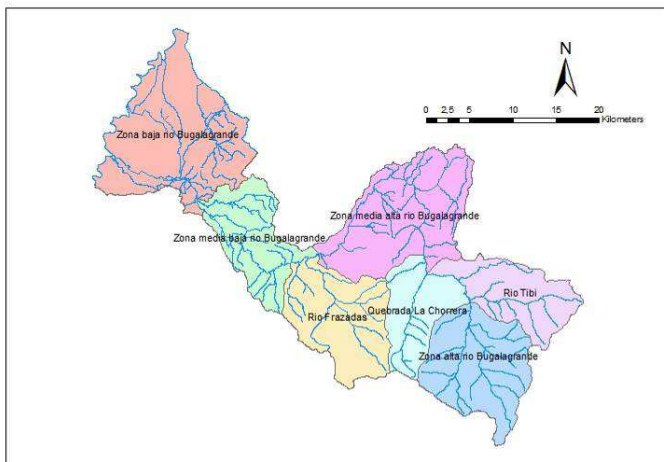


THE UPPER CAUCA BASIN

The Cauca river, a tributary of the Magdalena (Colombia's largest river) originates in the Macizo Colombiano (S) from the Laguna del Buey. It flows northwards through one of the most fertile agricultural valleys in the world, the "Valle del Cauca". With an agricultural area of 336 000 ha, the valley spreads between the Western and Central Mountain Ranges of Colombia. Traditionally, the valley has been a producer of soybeans, sorghum, sunflowers, cotton and sugar cane. In the beginning of the 1990's, sugar cane gained area amounting up to 200 000 ha and actually supplies the primary resources for 13 sugar mills.

The Cauca river has a total length of 1350 km and crosses 9 of Colombia's 32 Departments. It provides drinking water to approximately 10 million Colombians, and is the principal provider for Cali (> 2 million inhabitants), one of Colombia's major cities and the capital of the "Valle del Cauca" Department. From an economical point of view, the Magdalena-Cauca system is considered to be the most important river system in Colombia. The Cauca river basin itself has a total extension of 62 000 km².



TWINLATIN PROJECT

The Latin American and Caribbean region is highly heterogeneous in terms of climate zones, hydro-ecology, socio-political systems etc. Numerous problems in relation to water quality and water availability arise. Flooding occurs frequently and erosion and pollution pressures have also become major problems. Management strategies, legal framework and stakeholder involvement needs to be improved. Activities and research tasks will be conducted within several fields of IWRM; hydrology, modelling of pollution flow, impact assessment, socio-economic impacts, climate change effects, scenario analysis and action efficiency.

The project addresses the goals of the EU Water for Life, and builds on the methods and guidelines developed for the EU WFD.

The area under focus in the TWINLATIN project corresponds to the management units representing the Upper Cauca basin, located in the Departamentos "Cauca" and "Valle del Cauca", and covering an extension of approximately 22 000 km².

Contributions of the TWINLATIN project, aimed at filling knowledge gaps and providing the basis for the establishment and improvement of integrated water resources management plans, are:

- Impact of global change on local meteorology and hydrology (flooding)
- Land use dynamics impacts on water quality and aquatic biodiversity
- Erosion risk assessment (land use planning and implementation of mitigation techniques)
- Development of economical tools for use as water policy instruments
- Integrated water resources management plans

(ADDITIONAL INFO ON [HTTP://TWINLATIN.IVL.SE/INDEX.HTML](http://TWINLATIN.IVL.SE/INDEX.HTML))

ABOUT TWIN2GO

Twin2Go reviews, consolidates, and synthesises research on adaptive and integrated water resources management in basins around the world. The aim is to draw insights relevant to policy and research on issues around adaptive water governance in the context of climate change, and to make them transferable to other basins. Twin2Go further promotes sharing of research results with practitioners and high level decision makers through effective dialogue.