

## Project Update: May 2013

### Between April and May performed the following activities:

1. **Field trips:** We conducted two field trips, one in early April and another in early May 2013. Reptiles were sampled along transects design; in each of the forest fragments, six researchers participated in the sampling. We recorded 16 species, including lizards and snakes and a turtle (see photos attached).

2. **Working with human communities:** Informal interviews were conducted for the inhabitants of the villages of El Jabo and Guacoche in the municipality of Valledupar, to investigate perceptions and uses given to natural resources and especially wildlife. Recreational games were conducted with school children and obtained information about their knowledge of the animals, for the planning of the workshops and subsequent learning games.

3. **Access to public services:** Observations were made of the various public services that are accessible to residents of the areas surrounding the forest fragments; in its entirety only have access to electric power service and a poor water service. Analyses of relationship between the lack of public services and the pressure exerted on the forest: fuel wood, getting building materials for housing (palms, stakes, etc.) and on wildlife, subsistence hunting and trade.

4. **Information for the plan of action:** In the documentation centres of the municipal and regional autonomous corporation; collect information on land use plans, declarations of municipal reserves, coverage of schools in rural areas, among other, that contribute to the action plan.

### Activities for June and July 2013:

1. Two field trips.
2. Planning workshops with children.
3. Identification of programmes for the plan of action that lead to the conservation of wildlife (reptiles); consistent with field observations and feedback from communities.



Left: Children of the village of Potrerillo. ©A.C. Estupiñan. Right: Children of the village of El Jabo. ©A.C. Estupiñan.



*Cnemidophorus lemniscatus*. ©Alejandro Cabrejo-Bello



*Leptodeira annulata*. ©Alejandro Cabrejo-Bello



Pseudoboa neuwiedii. ©Alejandro Cabrejo-Bello



Wetland of Mata de Palma municipality of El Paso, Cesar. ©A. Jaramillo