



Introduction

Sociocultural indicators are a tool that gathers information beyond the economic representation of an activity and relates data on the social and cultural aspects of a community, aimed at decision-making and strengthening public policy. They not only include figures but also contain perceptions and other qualitative information, with the goal of generating a better understanding of the environment, community, and territory, in order to recognize changes and facilitate the generation of response actions.

Context and Research Objective

The Atrato River, declared a subject of rights by ruling T-622 of 2016, has become the focus of state and institutional actions aimed at addressing the needs of the communities settled in that territory. One of these requirements is the strengthening of local systems for the multiplication and production of quality seeds, prioritized by the communities due to their importance in the food and nutritional sovereignty and security of their members, through the identification of cultural, social, and cosmogonic processes surrounding seed production and conservation.

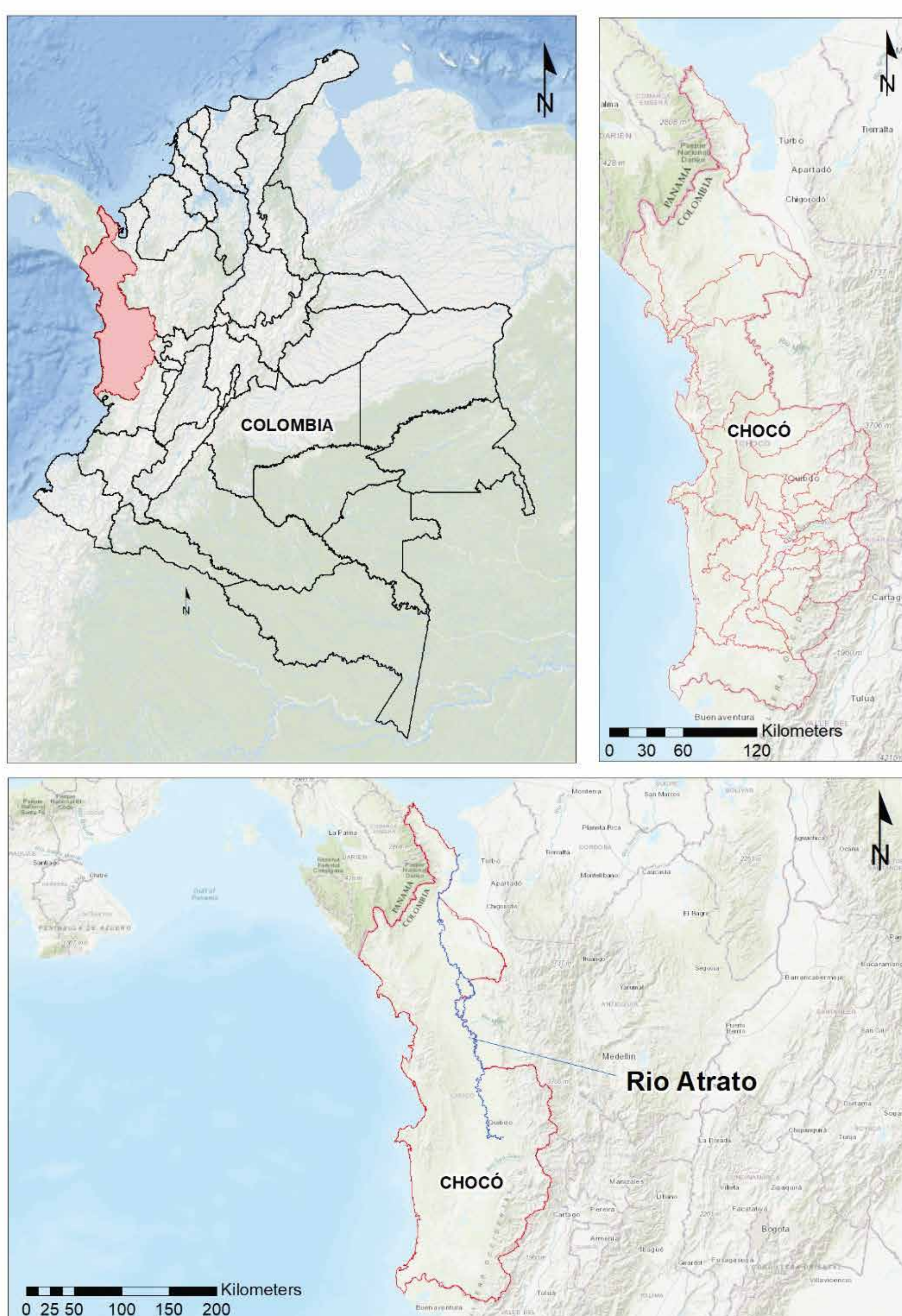
Research Question

How do sociocultural indicators help describe the intangible relationship between the Atrato River communities and the productive systems present in their territory?

Geographical Location

Municipalities: Lloró, Carmen de Atrato, Vigía del Fuerte, Río Sucio.

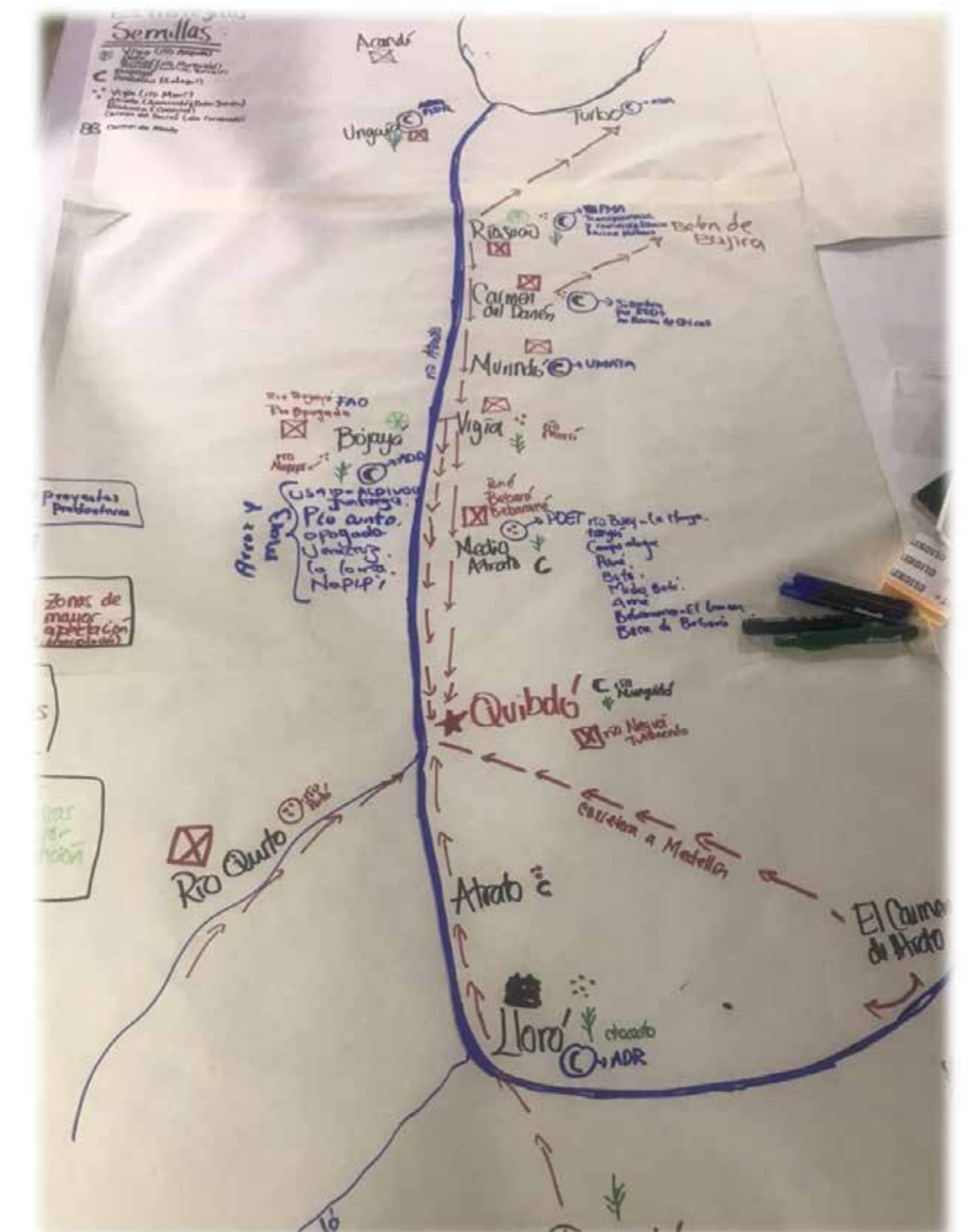
Population: Community Councils of Black Communities and Peasants.



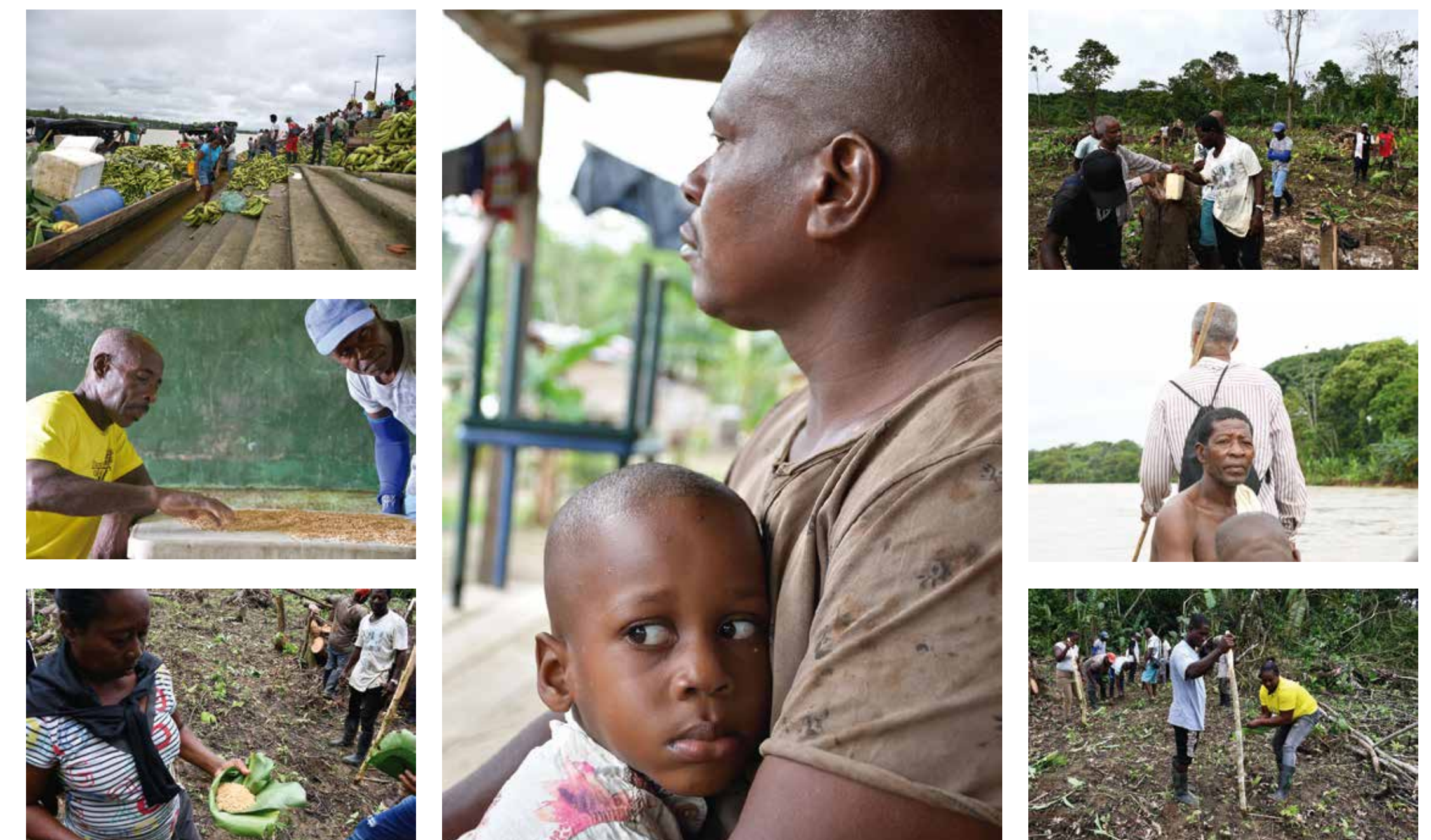
Methodology

Decolonial Ethnography was the chosen qualitative research strategy, which involved implementing **focus groups**, **informal dialogues**, and recording these in **field journals**, **observation guides**, **social mapping**, and **social photography**. The information has been analyzed through a hermeneutic-interpretive paradigm.

For the communities present in the Atrato River, the territory is the result of ongoing human action, based on concrete structures that are "the foundation of power." It is important to emphasize the inseparability between nature and society, considering them as a system of configurations of material and social objects mediated by social relations that modify and transform nature.



Social Mapping: Recognition of territories and species to be worked on. Prepared by the Guardians of the Atrato River.



Photographs by Juan Sebastian Valencia Sanchez

Conclusions

- The interaction that communities around the Atrato River basin have with their productive systems transcends their culture, worldview, education, and traditions.
- The holistic view of the productive system goes beyond the technical perspective by including additional elements beyond agronomic, sanitary, and economic factors, addressing the social dynamics of the communities.
- Sociocultural indicators can contribute to technical improvements in the development of public policies, incorporating aspects such as traditional knowledge and territorial and cultural views. This would facilitate their adoption and implementation in the territory.

References

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