

BARRANQUILLA

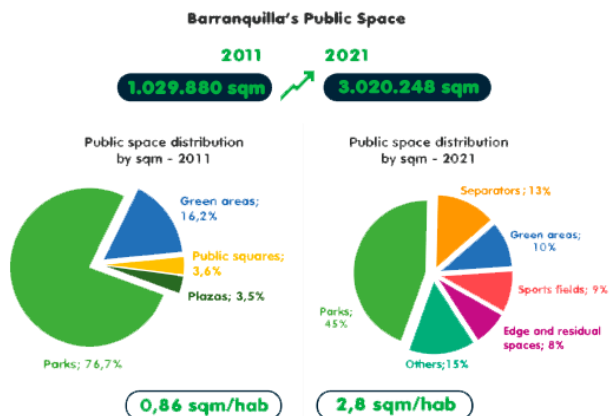
"TODOS AL PARQUE"



TODOS AL PARQUE

Barranquilla is the fourth largest city in Colombia, it is located in the Colombian Caribbean region with an area of 154 square kilometers and a population of 1.3 million inhabitants in the District and more than 2.2 million in the metropolitan area. The city has direct access to the Magdalena River to the East and the Caribbean Sea to the North. Its location and proximity to the Magdalena River have positioned the city as a port and commercial hub with an important role in the internationalization of the country's economy.

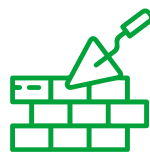
Barranquilla has undergone a significant economic and social transformation in the past 14 years. The city's urban development and regeneration strategies have become a national example of public space recovery and solving structural problems such as canalizing streams and expanding roads. The city has managed to recover public parks and green areas, increasing effective public space from **0.86 m² per inhabitant to 2.8 m² per inhabitant** in 10 years, with over **3 million** square meters of public space.



"TODOS AL PARQUE"

The "Todos al Parque" programme consists of the renewal and creation of public space that guarantees universal access to a public park system for Barranquilla's citizens. The strategy has focused on the recovery of existing parks, their maintenance, and the coordination of social activities, creating a system of parks of different intervention levels; local, district, and metropolitan. This program has been implemented for more than a decade (since 2011) and is considered one of the main success stories of public management, not only in Barranquilla but at a regional and national level.

One of the main factors for the success of the "Todos al Parque" program has been its design by contracting and execution phases.



288 interventions have been carried out in parks, green areas, boulevards, and roundabouts.



More than **1.9** million square meters of public space in the city have been recovered.

RECOVERED PARKS

The different phases of the project were accompanied by a process of learning and sophistication of the interventions to consolidate a system of parks that went from being made up of small neighbourhood parks to metropolitan-scale interventions such as the Gran Malecon, the arborization of the city, the creation of urban forests, and the recovery of degraded ecosystems through eco-parks in the Ciénega de Mallorquin.



93% Improvement in accessibility to public spaces

Parks within **8 min** walking distance

Impact of "Todos al Parque":

Having urban amenities like a park has multiple benefits that improve the quality of life of its citizens:



Keys for Success:



1

Accessibility and Equity: The park system created by the program improved accessibility to a public space, with 93% of households having a park within an 8-minute walk. It strengthens climate resilience by increasing green areas by planting over 135,000 trees in the city.

2

Governance and Participation: Citizen participation in the program generates social capital in neighborhoods, creating empathy and trust with institutions. Participation is evident in citizens' sense of belonging to recovered parks. This interaction improves transparency and communication between stakeholders.

3

Economic: Park recovery impacted economic sectors, especially real estate, raising property values around parks. This increased confidence in the institutional framework and tax payment culture, leading to more public resources for social investment, benefiting district finances.

4

Perception and Behaviours: Park recovery decreased criminal activity, reducing thefts by 20% (within 100m radius), 15.4% (within 150m radius), and 9% (within 200m catchment area) between 2011 and 2020. Parks now host cultural events, local business fairs, and provide recreational spaces during pandemics. They increase social cohesion and provide space for citizens to congregate.

