

Location ▼

**Location #1**

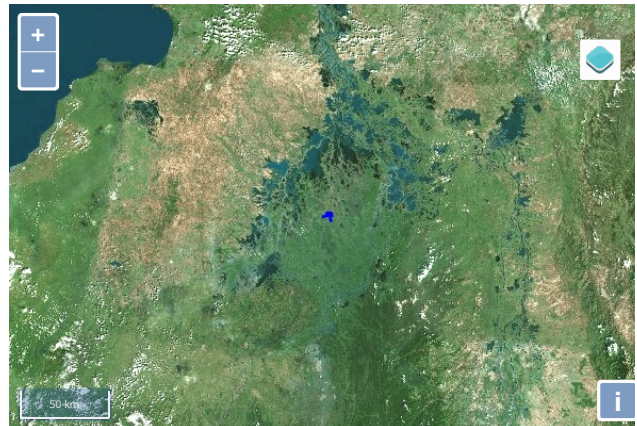
Spatial accuracy level  
Location

Coordinates  
Ovejas, Ovejas, Sucre, Colombia



Latitude  
Longitude  
Facility name  
Target country  
Contract area

8.6486  
-74.7723  
La Europa  
Colombia



Comment on location

The polygon shows, according to cadastre data, all the holdings located in the Municipality of Sucre in the State of Sucre with the name "La Europa". It seems that, the once as a unit Finca Europa, has been turned into smaller fragments. This was usually done to obtain more credits from the governments and subsidies for irrigation districts. Although satellite pictures show a clear oil palm plantation, the cadastre georeferenced holdings are not continuous. The land size, according to cadastre data is around 800 hectares. This might have small georeferentiation problems and the lack of some fragments, therefore, the smaller size.

General info ▼

**Land area**

Intended size (in ha)  
Size under contract (leased or purchased area, in ha)  
Comment on land area

943  
[2012] 943  
  
The Defensoría del Pueblo Report refers 943

hectares in the sales contracts (each one for 12 hectares). About the land in production there is not an specific reference about the size in operation Source: See Defensoría del Pueblo: Informe de Riesgo N° 009-12 (Page 16)

## Intention of investment

Intention of investment  
Comment on intention of investment

[2018-01-11] Food crops, Livestock  
In the source (video) the peasants refer that Arepas Don Juancho produce corn. There is also presence of livestock owned by Arepas Don Juancho, which is polluting the water sources and damaging peasant's fields. Source: See PBI Colombia report See <https://www.colectivodeabogados.org/> Destruyen-cultivos-pertenecientes

## Nature of the deal

Nature of the deal  
Comment on nature of the deal

Outright Purchase  
This case is being investigated because "Arepas Don Juancho" bought land in 2008 (800 ha) at very low prices to several producers but never changed the title because the property in which such lands are located (La Finca Europa) can be sold only partially. This Finca has been declared indivisible because it is part of the group of properties land restitution program in Colombia. Right now is an "Outright Purchase" but it is being investigated if it was legal.

## Negotiation status

Negotiation status  
Comment on negotiation status

[2008] Concluded (Contract signed)  
There are sales contract but there are no changes in the Deeds, because it would be illegal. That's one reason because it is being investigated.

## Implementation status

Implementation status  
Comment on implementation status

[2018, current] In operation (production)  
There is an ongoing legal process around the process of land acquisition by Arepas Don Juancho in the Finca La Europa. There have been some violent events, clashes and threats involving the peasants, the company managers, paramilitary groups and the official authorities. There are still 11 families residing in the area and several more are still working their lands but have to travel from the urban areas of the town. It is not clear which area is currently operated by the company.

## Purchase price

Purchase price  
Purchase price currency  
Purchase price area type  
Comment on purchase price

800000  
Colombian Peso (\$)  
per ha  
There were different purchase prices. Nevertheless several sources mentioned this value per hectare. It was mentioned that several peasants wanted to sell due to life threats and did not want to return to their lands. Besides that, the buyer was willing to pay on cash, which is quite unusual (and suspicious) Sources: <https://verdadabierta.com/la-mula-la-europa-y-la-otra-alemania/>

## Contract farming

Contract farming

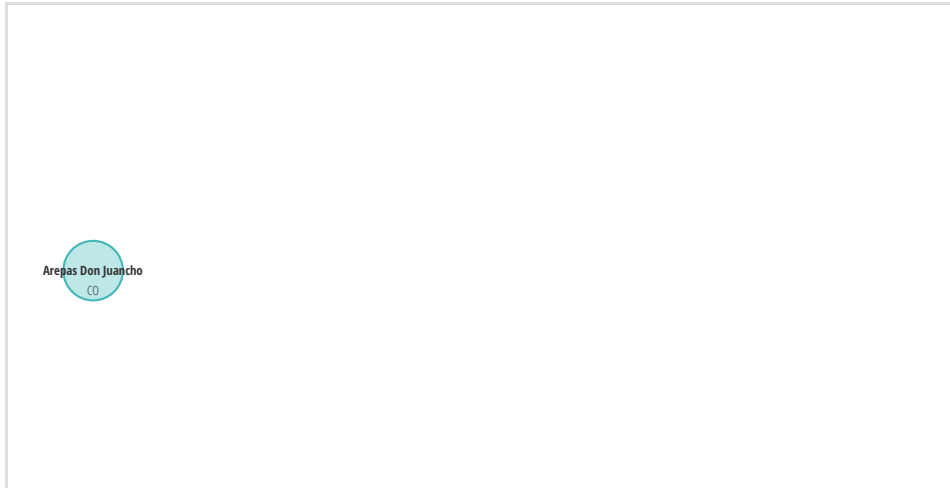
No

## Operating company

Operating company  
Comment on investment chain

Arepas Don Juancho (#37322)  
At the beginning the people didn't identified correctly the name of the company (Sometimes they call it Arepas Don Pancho). But investigations indicate the company Arepas Don Juancho

**Network of parent companies and tertiary investors/lenders.** Please right-click the nodes to get more details.



### Legend

- ← Is parent company of
- ← Is tertiary investor/lender of
- Left-click to reveal related parent companies and tertiary investors/lenders.
- Right-click on investors to get more information.  
Left-click to hide related parent companies and tertiary investors/lenders.

### Data sources

#### Data source #1

Data source type	Media report
URL	<a href="http://www.eltiempo.com/archivo/documento/CMS-4913389">http://www.eltiempo.com/archivo/documento/CMS-4913389</a>
File	
Date	2009-01-01
Comment on data source	"Masiva compra de tierras a víctimas en Montes de María y Catatumbo; las pagan por debajo de su valor", by Marisol Gómez Giraldo, eltiempo.com, 29 de marzo de 2009

#### Data source #2

Data source type	Personal information
Includes in-country-verified information	Yes

#### Data source #3

Data source type	Research Paper / Policy Report
URL	<a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=njMX7G9TAKw">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=njMX7G9TAKw</a>
File	
Date	2011-12-10
Comment on data source	Contravía- This video relates the violence in Finca La Europa because the peasants have been attacked and the case is being investigated because They accuse Arepas Don Pancho like author.

#### Data source #4

Data source type	Research Paper / Policy Report
URL	<a href="http://sisat.defensoria.org.co:8097/subsitio/doc/historicoAdvertencia/IR2012PD">http://sisat.defensoria.org.co:8097/subsitio/doc/historicoAdvertencia/IR2012PD</a>

File [12%20SUCRE-Ovejas.pdf](#)  
Date 2012-06-25  
Comment on data source Defensoria del Pueblo - Page 16. Explain the number of hectares acquired by Arepas (984 has in sales contracts)

#### Data source #5

Data source type Media report  
URL [http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/ARTICULO-WEB-NEW\\_NOTA\\_INTERIOR-11933320.html](http://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/ARTICULO-WEB-NEW_NOTA_INTERIOR-11933320.html)  
File [📄](#)  
Date 2012-06-09  
Comment on data source The source explains the Arepas Don Juancho owner is a misterious man (sometimes call him Guillermo Vélez or Gabriel Vélez,) He paid 200,000 Pesos per hectare

#### Data source #6

Data source type Company sources  
URL <http://es.unibrander.com/colombia/3655519CO/arepas-don-juancho.html>  
File [📄](#)  
Comment on data source This portal shows the name of the titular of Arepas Don Juancho: Juan Guillermo Velez Jaramillo

#### Data source #7

Data source type Media report  
URL <http://viacampesina.org/es/index.php/temas-principales-mainmenu-27/derechos-humanos-mainmenu-40/2183-colombia-denuncia-de-intento-de-homicidio-contra-lider-campesino>  
File [📄](#)

#### Data source #8

Data source type Media report  
URL <http://www.peaceobservatory.org/es/1056324682/finca-la-europa>  
File [📄](#)

#### Data source #9

Data source type Media report  
URL <http://www.verdadabierta.com/predios-a-bajos-precios/4350-la-europa-y-su-misterioso-comprador>  
File [📄](#)

#### Data source #10

Data source type Media report  
URL <http://www.elespectador.com/entrevista-de-cecilia-orocho/decidimos-asumir-esta-lucha-y-vamos-hasta-el-final-articulo-352223>  
File [📄](#)

#### Data source #11

Data source type Media report  
URL <http://www.colectivodeabogados.org/?>  
File [📄](#)  
Destruyen cultivos pertenecientes

#### Data source #12

Data source type Media report  
URL <http://movimientos.org/es/content/colombia-denuncia-de-intento-de-homicidio-contra-l%C3%ADder-campesino>  
File [📄](#)

#### Data source #13


Data source type Media report

URL <https://pbicolombia.org/2018/01/11/starting-over-in-la-europa/>  
File   
Publication title Starting over in La Europa  
Date 2018-01-11  
Includes in-country-verified information Yes


#### Data source #14

Data source type Media report  
URL <https://verdadabierta.com/la-mula-la-europa-y-la-otra-alemania/>  
File   
Publication title La Mula, la Europa y la otra Alemania  
Date 2010-09-01

#### Data source #15

Data source type Media report  
URL <https://colombia2020.elespectador.com/pais/me-pueden-matar-en-cualquier-momento-andres-narvaez-lider-social-de-sucre>  
File   
Publication title "Me pueden matar en cualquier momento": Andrés Narváez, líder social de Sucre  
Date 2018-09-22  
Comment on data source Interview and an article on one of the social leaders. He had recently suffered several assassination attempts in the town near La Europa and in the farm itself.

#### Data source #16

Data source type Media report  
URL <http://comitepermanente.org/index.php/mision/2-uncategorised/344-informe-caso-la-europa-ovejassucre>  
File   
Publication title INFORME CASO LA EUROPA- OVEJAS (SUCRE).  
Date 2012-11-13  
Comment on data source An extensive report on the case of La Europa and different denunciations on several assassination attempts by unknown armed groups (possibly reduction of the previously demobilized paramilitary groups). Those groups are targeting persons leading land restitution processes.

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### Local communities / indigenous peoples

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#### Consultation of local community

Community consultation Other  
Comment on consultation of local community The land was bought to the smallholders. But a share of the buyers claim for the reversing the process. They are declaring that the price paid was low and illegal. But other group of buyers don't want to come back to the land

#### How did the community react?

Community reaction Mixed reaction  
Comment on community reaction The land was bought to the smallholders. But a share of the buyers claim for reversing the process, declaring that the price paid was low and illegal. In fact the land cannot be sold because it is a part of the colombian restitution program. The sale contract exists but the Deeds haven't changed, it couldn't be possible in a legal form.

#### Presence of land conflicts

Presence of land conflicts Yes  
Comment on presence of land conflicts There is presence of armed groups threatening

the peasant leaders so that they stop their claims on the land. There have been several assassination attempts (some of them successful). There have been disagreements between the managers of the company and the group of peasants that want to remain in the land.

## Displacement of people

Displacement of people  
Number of households actually displaced  
Number of households displaced "only" from their agricultural fields  
Comment on displacement of people

Yes  
80  
68

The municipality of Ovejas has seen 24205 displaced people in the decades of conflict it suffered. Specifically to the case of La Europa 80 families are still working the land there, but only 11 leave there due to life threats. On some occasions, the ranches and houses of the people residing on the farm have been burnt down. They argue that the workers of Arepas don Juancho are responsible of that.

## Negative impacts for local communities

Negative impacts for local communities

Environmental degradation  
Socio-economic  
Eviction  
Displacement  
Violence

Comment on negative impacts for local communities

Due to the displacement and the impossibility to live on their lands, the peasants have to travel several hours to their fields. There is uncertainty on the ongoing legal process around the land rights of this farm.

## Presence of organizations and actions taken (e.g. farmer organizations, NGOs, etc.)

Presence of organizations and actions taken (e.g. farmer organizations, NGOs, etc.)

MOVICE

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### Former use



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## Former land owner (not by constitution)

Former land owner  
Comment on former land owner

Community  
The land was bought to the smallholders. But a share of them claim for the reversing the process declaring that the price paid was low and illegal. The land was allocated in a collective manner, which impedes the purchase of individual plots. Source: <https://www.elespectador.com/entrevista-de-cecilia-orozco/decidimos-asumir-esta-lucha-y-vamos-hasta-el-final-articulo-352223>

## Former land use

Former land use

Smallholder agriculture

## Former land cover

Former land cover

Cropland

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### Produce info



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## Detailed crop, animal and mineral information

Crops area  
Livestock area

Corn (Maize)  
Cattle

## Use of produce

Has domestic use

Yes

### In country processing of produce

In country processing of produce

Yes

Comment on in country processing of produce

The company seems to commercialize prepared food in Colombia.

### Guidelines & Principles

### Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT)

Application of Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT)  
Comment on VGGT

No

Land rights are not being respected. The company had confidential information from the INCODER (land institution by then) which might suggest corruption on the process. Land was bought under accurate values due to life threats. <https://verdadabierta.com/la-mula-la-europa-y-la-otra-alemania/>

### Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investments (PRAI)

Application of Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investments (PRAI)  
Comment on PRAI

No

Land rights are not being respected. The company had confidential information from the INCODER (land institution by then) which might suggest corruption on the process. Land was bought under accurate values due to life threats. <https://verdadabierta.com/la-mula-la-europa-y-la-otra-alemania/>

### Overall Comment

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Overall comment

Up until now (12/2018) the legal process around these lands has not been resolved. Some families are still living there, but under constant pressure of "unknown" armed actors. Several assassination attempts have occurred to human right activists and the leaders of the land restitution process. It seems that both company and peasants are simultaneously producing the land.

### History (10 versions)

June 17, 2019, 6:49 p.m.	✔	overwritten	This version	↔ Compare with previous version
Dec. 5, 2018, 7:02 p.m.	●	overwritten	👁 Show this version	↔ Compare with previous version
Aug. 17, 2016, 7:43 p.m.	●	overwritten	👁 Show this version	↔ Compare with previous version
Jan. 22, 2016, 5:44 p.m.	✔	overwritten	👁 Show this version	↔ Compare with previous version
Oct. 16, 2013, 10:56 p.m.	●	overwritten	👁 Show this version	↔ Compare with previous version
May 14, 2013, 8:27 p.m.	●	overwritten	👁 Show this version	↔ Compare with previous version
May 14, 2013, 8:27 p.m.	●	overwritten	👁 Show this version	↔ Compare with previous version
May 14, 2013, 8:26 p.m.	●	overwritten	👁 Show this version	↔ Compare with previous version
March 27, 2013, 6:18 p.m.	●	overwritten	👁 Show this version	↔ Compare with previous version
Feb. 15, 2013, 5 p.m.	●	active	👁 Show this version	First version

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**Comments** (0 comments)

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There are no comments to this deal yet.

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