

# Misiones, Argentina

Engaging smallholder farmers  
to protect jaguar habitats



Mid-year update 2024

# Misiones, Argentina



## Project status

Over 115 hectares under restoration

More than 250 000 trees protected & growing



**Misiones, Argentina, is lush with subtropical evergreen rainforest and contains the largest remaining tract of Interior Atlantic Forest, home to one of the biggest sub-populations of jaguars.**

Around 50% of the native forest is unprotected, and is surrounded by a mosaic of plantations and pasturelands. Our restoration here with Fundación Vida Silvestre is engaging smallholder farmers to restore farmland into forest patches, while connecting the Yabotí Biosphere Reserve with the Piñalito and Cruce Caballero Provincial Parks.

All activities are proceeding according to plan, and we've exceeded our original target to engage 49 farmers. The new group of 31 farmers who will be participating in the project



These are “cabaças” or gourds, used as cups to drink yerba mate. It's the most popular beverage in Argentina, well above coffee and tea, and is drunk in more than 90% of households.



is now fully set up. Like the first cohort of 24 farmers recruited in 2022, they'll devote around 4 ha of farmland each to agroforestry systems to grow a popular cash crop, yerba mate, and the restoration of forest patches.

During the first six months of this year, the project team visited their farms to plan the supplies they'd need and start preparing the ground for the agroforestry plots. Two training sessions were provided, one on yerba mate management and harvesting, and the other on soil preparation (above).

All activities are weather-dependent, as it continues to rain heavily in San Pedro, but by

now the farmers have received their native seedlings, and limestone to enrich the soil's pH levels has also been distributed. At the end of July yerba mate planting began, with the field team providing technical support, and in late August and early September the native trees will be planted, both for agroforestry and full restoration planting. The team will be paying close attention to the weather, as there is potential for frosts during these months.

The first 24 families who joined the project in 2022 are being monitored and visited by the field team that continues to provide technical support to their agroforestry activities.



**You'll receive an annual update in March. Meanwhile, stay up-to-date with our interactive [Misiones map](#), and check out the photos on [Flickr](#).**

**You can find an overview of all communications assets and guidance on how to communicate about your partnership with WeForest [here](#).**



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