



# ASTILLERO VERDE

A SHIPYARD FOR COASTAL COMMUNITIES



## A REGENERATIVE PURSUIT

We are restoring vulnerable coastal ecosystems while fostering the sustainable development of the communities that depend on them.

# CONTEXT

## COASTAL COMMUNITIES IN THE GULF OF NICOYA

AstilleroVerde is based in Punta Morales, a small coastal town in the Gulf of Nicoya, located within the Bellbird Biological Corridor. Punta Morales is a fishing community with barriers to access to employment, education, and services, that is suffering from the consequences of the Anthropocene.

## THE PROBLEM

### FISHING: AN ACTIVITY AT RISK

Fishing is no longer a financially viable activity for all due to overexploitation and pollution.

### LIMITED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

With one of the lowest social development indexes in the country, Punta Morales sees most of its population lacking marketable skills. Additionally, there are very few industries and services in the area. This translates into high rates of unemployment, migration, and other social issues.

### ECOSYSTEM DEGRADATION

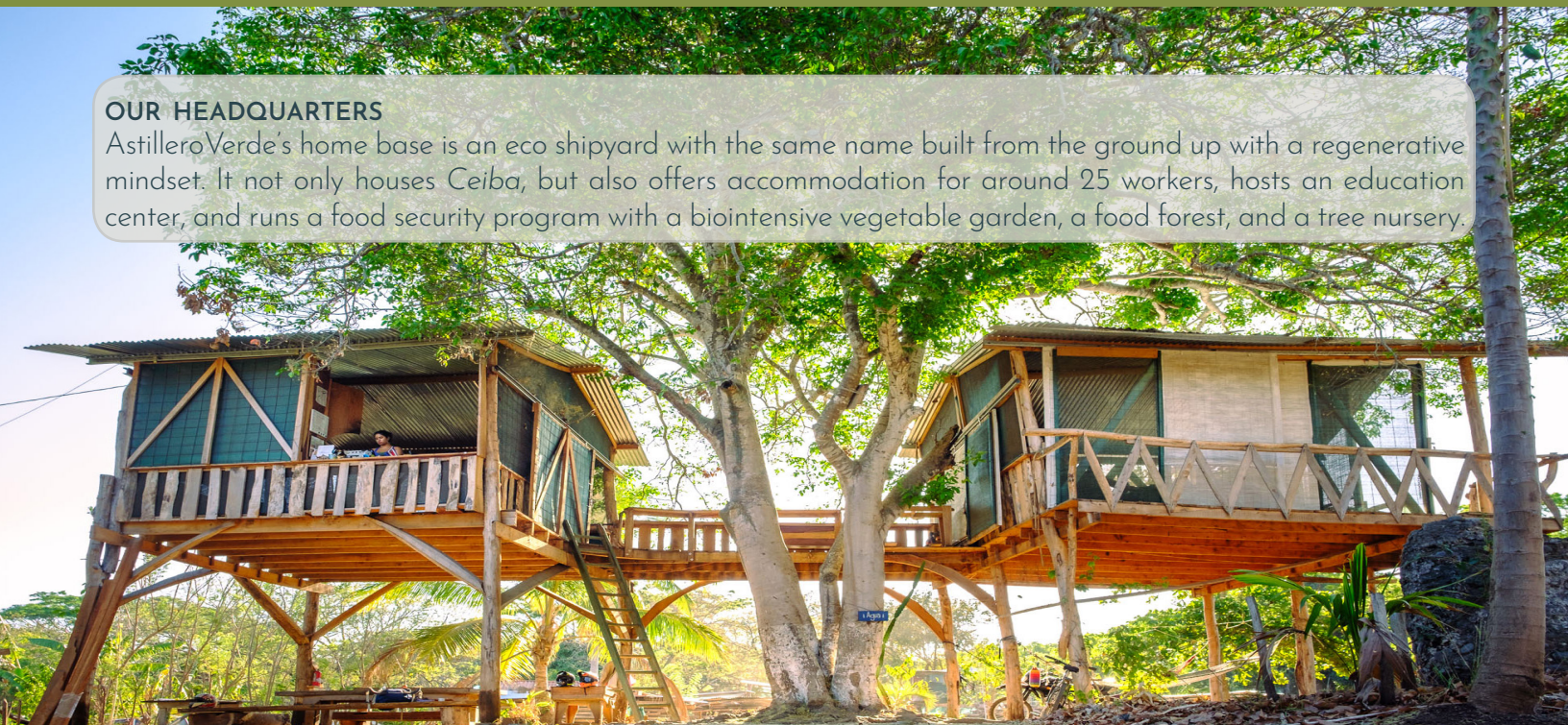
Mangroves and tropical dry forests are two of the most threatened ecosystems in the world. Climate change, deforestation for cattle ranching and monocultures, as well as unsustainable logging practices are amongst the main causes of forest and biodiversity loss.



OUR MISSION IS TO FOSTER A PARADIGM SHIFT THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE FUTURE OF COASTAL COMMUNITIES AND ECOSYSTEMS THROUGH PROGRAMS THAT FOCUS ON FOREST RESTORATION, FOOD SECURITY, EDUCATION, AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING.

### OUR HEADQUARTERS

AstilleroVerde's home base is an eco shipyard with the same name built from the ground up with a regenerative mindset. It not only houses Ceiba, but also offers accommodation for around 25 workers, hosts an education center, and runs a food security program with a biointensive vegetable garden, a food forest, and a tree nursery.





A FOR PROFIT WITH A TRIPPLE BOTTOM LINE



**AstilleroVerde is both the physical home and the nonprofit branch of SAILCARGO INC.,** an emissions-free marine cargo company dedicated to prove the value of clean shipping.

AstilleroVerde is a beacon for sustainable wooden shipbuilding offering professional training and meaningful jobs in the community, while supporting education and delivering annual tree-planting programs to fulfill **SAILCARGO INC. social and environmental responsibilities.**



*"Seeds become saplings, become towering trees, become a sailing ship, and we turn to the seeding."*

Nikky Blythe-Wood - Reforestation Program Coordinator 2020

### SUSTAINABLE HARVESTING



### SHIPBUILDING IN A "GREEN SHIPYARD"



### TREE PLANTING PROGRAMS

SAILCARGO INC. supports sustainable forest management in Costa Rica by sourcing all their wood from ethical forestry operations and partnering with FUNDECOR, a NGO facilitating the sustainable timber supply chain by connecting farmers, millers and purchasers and promoting Integrated Landscape Management.

SAILCARGO INC. is building Ceiba, a sustainably-constructed vessel that will carry cargo, 100% emission-free, and it is doing so in a leading environmentally-conscious shipyard, that boasts rustic but robust buildings that have a minimal impact, has its own food security program and offers professional training and meaningful jobs to the community.

SAILCARGO INC. commits to direct 1% of the build fund for each ship and 1% of the annual profits of each working vessel to AstilleroVerde, in order to offset the impact of its operations and give back to the community and land that has supported its growth. AstilleroVerde has planted 5,000 trees so far in the surrounding landscapes.

# TIMELINE

INCREASING OUR IMPACT EVERY YEAR

Since its inception AstilleroVerde has been a model for ecologically- and socially- regenerative practices that have a direct positive impact in the surrounding communities and ecosystems. As an emergent non profit, we are proud to be expanding sustainably, building on the knowledge and experience gathered, refining our programs, and increasing the scale of our impact.



## 2018

ASTILLEROVERDE IS FOUNDED.  
PARTNERSHIP WITH AMIGOS OF COSTA RICA &  
CRUSA FOUNDATION.  
CONSTRUCTION OF THE 1ST OFFICE BUILDING.

## 2019

1ST SMALL BOAT BUILDING COURSE.  
CONSTRUCTION OF THE EDUCATION CENTER.  
2ND SMALL BOAT BUILDING COURSE.  
1ST COMMUNITY VET DAY.  
EXTENSION OF THE OFFICE BUILDING.

## 2020

BLACKSMITHING & TOOL MAKING COURSE.  
ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES.  
3RD SMALL BOAT BUILDING COURSE.  
LOFTING WORKSHOP.  
IMPLEMENTATION OF A VEGETABLE GARDEN.  
SEASON 1 OF TREES *for* SEAS.

## 2021

START OF BREAD BAKING WORKSHOPS.  
2ND COMMUNITY VET DAY.  
CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ACCOMODATION FOR STAFF.  
DEVELOPMENT OF A TREE NURSERY.  
RECEIVED DONATION OF 2HA OF LAND (CAMARITA).  
START CAMARITA RESTORATION PROJECT.  
SEASON 2 OF TREES *for* SEAS.  
PARTNERSHIP WITH PLANT FOR THE PLANET.

# TREES *for* SEAS

REFORESTATION AND LAND STEWARDSHIP

TreesForSeas reforestation program is developing a model for carbon sequestration, ecological restoration, and community empowerment, planting trees in threatened ecosystems within the **Bellbird Biological Corridor** while offering employment and education to a low-income community.

## The Bellbird Biological Corridor

**664 km<sup>2</sup>**

Multiple vulnerable ecosystems, such as the mangroves, the tropical dry forest and the cloud forests.

Home to

**50%**

of the species of terrestrial vertebrates of Costa Rica.

**50%**

of its area has been deforested for cattle ranching, monocultures, and hardwood lumber.

AstilleroVerde aims to plant 12,000 trees by 2023, when SAILCARGO INC.'s first ship, Ceiba, becomes operational, proving that shipbuilding can be a regenerative industry.

SEASON 1 | 2020 | Pre-Montane Moist Forest  
**2,000 trees of 31 native species planted.**  
**2 full-time and 5 seasonal jobs created.**  
Ongoing monitoring and care.

SEASON 2 | 2021 | Tropical Dry Forest  
**3,000 trees of 20 native species planted.**  
**2 full-time and 4 seasonal jobs created.**  
Ongoing monitoring and care.



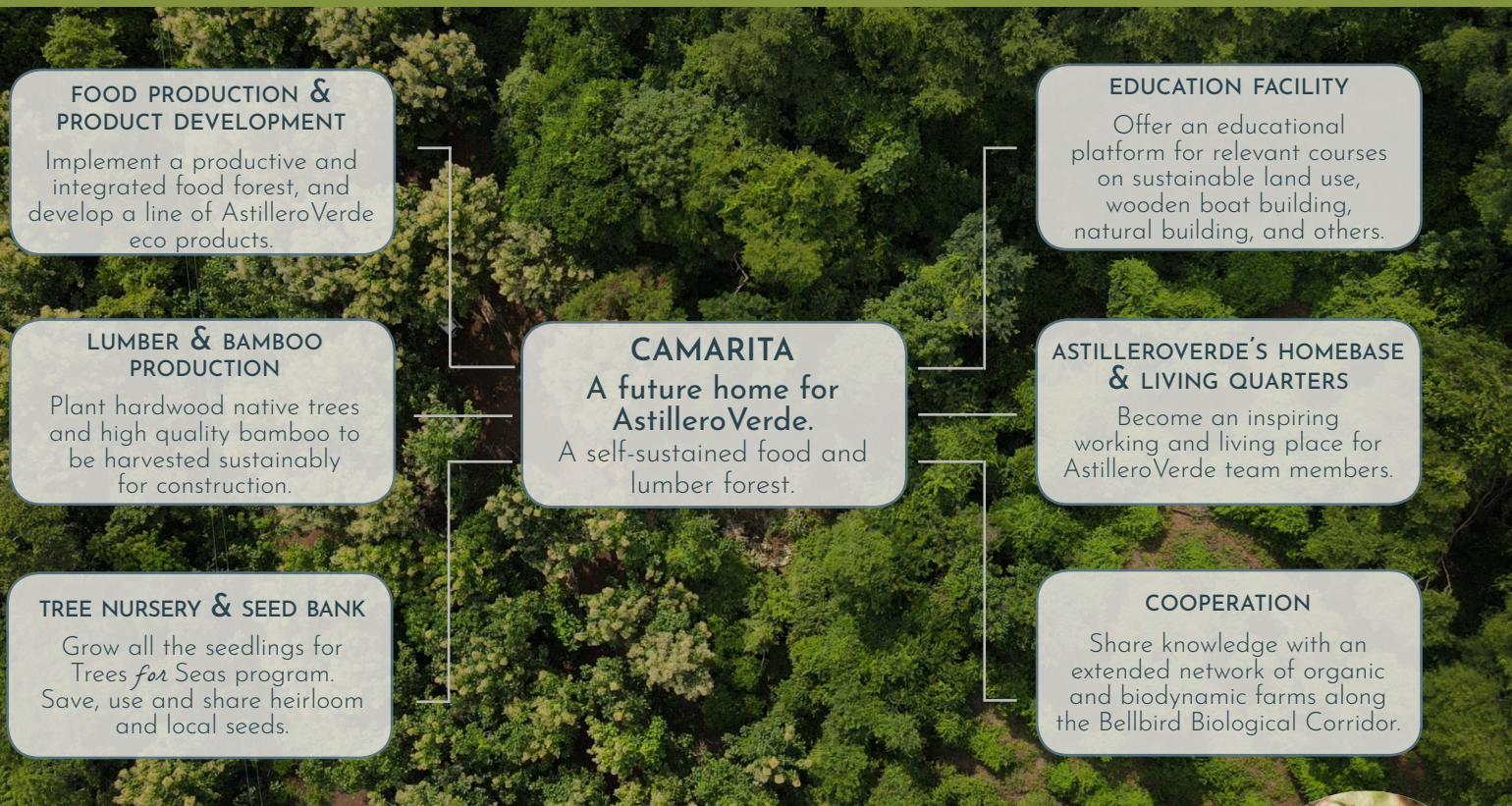
WATCH THE VIDEO [HERE](#)

READ THE **2021 PLANTING REPORT OVERVIEW** [HERE](#)

# CAMARITA PILOT PROJECT

## RESTORATION OF AN ABANDONED TEAK PLANTATION

Camarita is a 2ha piece of land that has been kindly donated to AstilleroVerde in 2021 for purposes of land restoration. This is an abandoned teak plantation, with a patch of secondary forest, 20min drive from AstilleroVerde. We have designed a multiyear restoration strategy for this land by means of an ancestral syntropic agroforestry system, drawing from the knowledge of the Bribri community, in the Talamanca region.



*"Coastal areas have been devastated with poor land management practices and they are one of the most vulnerable landscapes to the effects of climate change. Camarita provides a tangible example of how a monoculture can be transformed into a policulture where humans interact syntopically (in harmony) with all of its life-supporting systems."*

Fabricio Camacho - Camarita Restoration Project and Trees for Seas Program Manager.



## PHASE 1 | 2021-2022 | FIRST STEPS

HARVEST TEAK & PLANT BAMBOO • BEGIN EARTHWORKS & LANDSCAPING • DESIGN A WATER COLLECTION SYSTEM  
START A COMPOSTING SYSTEM • BUILD TREE NURSERY, DRY TOILETS, AND LIVING QUARTERS • RESEARCH FOR PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY • PLANT FOOD AND LUMBER SPECIES (MAY 2022) • STOCK SEEDS



# EDUCATION PROGRAMS

OFFERING FREE COURSES AND EDUCATIONAL EMPLOYMENTS

AstilleroVerde's Education Center was built in 2020 and has since then been a beacon for community development, offering free courses and workshops in different areas, **empowering a rural community** with barriers to access to employment, with life skills that can potentially give them alternative sources of income.



*"What we want to do here is establish a scenario where we can be training people, paying them, and offering free courses, providing them with life skills that they ask for, that are relevant, and can give them a source of income."*

Danielle Doggett - CEO of SAILCARGO INC. and Co-Founder of AstilleroVerde

## COURSES OFFERED AT ASTILLEROVERDE

SMALL WOODEN BOAT BUILDING • LOFTING • BLACKSMITHING & TOOL MAKING • POST & BEAM CONSTRUCTION • ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE • COOKING • BREAD BAKING



WATCH THE BLACKSMITHING COURSE VIDEO [HERE](#)

WATCH THE BUILDING OF THE EDUCATION CENTER VIDEO [HERE](#)

MORE THAN  
**50**  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
HAVE BENEFITED SO FAR  
FROM OUR EDUCATION  
PROGRAMS

# JOB OPPORTUNITIES

PROVIDING APPRENTICESHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Fishing accounts for 90% of all the jobs in the area. However, being an activity carried out primarily by men, it leaves women economically dependent. Nowadays, local fisheries experience significant deterioration due to pollution and over exploitation and it is no longer a sufficient source of income on which to support a family. AstilleroVerde shipyard presents an alternative lifestyle, where **community members can develop different trades, in a multinational and multi skilled team, while being paid fair wages.**



*"This project reminded me that I can believe in myself, and that I am capable of being anything I want to be, and that there are no limits."*

Yamileth Espino

AstilleroVerde is creating a positive impact in the local economy by increasing opportunities for apprenticeships and professional training for Costa Ricans, **offering gainful employment for men and women**, in an inclusive environment, while **preserving traditional ship building skills** for future generations.



READ THE BLOG FROM DAVYS [HERE](#)  
READ THE BLOG FROM YAMILETH [HERE](#)

AT LEAST  
**50%**  
OF THE STAFF WORKING  
IN ASTILLEROVERDE ARE  
COSTA RICANS.



# COMMUNITY SUPPORT

THINKING GLOBALLY, ACTING LOCALLY

AstilleroVerde embraces the concept of “think global, act local”, by promoting small-scale, local actions, which have an important and direct impact on the daily lives of the members of our community.

## WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION OF PUNTA MORALES

Women’s associations are networks of solidarity between women. They help distribute economy fairly between all the women in the community, boosting women empowerment and fighting gender inequality.

**AstilleroVerde employs around 18 women**, on a rotational basis, to cook delicious meals for around 50 people.



## COMMUNITY VET DAYS

There is no veterinarian in Punta Morales. Due to this, as well as tight family budgets, many animals are left untreated, and are not getting spayed/neutered. Animal overpopulation has become a problem. **AstilleroVerde organizes Free Community Vet Days** helping community members to properly look after their loved pets.

**50 animals have been treated this year.**



## FOOD SECURITY

In a community with few employment opportunities, scarce services, and a poor public transportation network, access to healthy and nutritious food is not always possible.

**AstilleroVerde promotes food security through the regular donation of fruit trees and other edible species**, grown organically in our own tree nursery.



## REGENERATIVE PROVISIONING

AstilleroVerde supports small scale farmers, producers and sellers and chooses to **source as much as possible within the community**, boosting the local economy, and promoting a fair supply chain.

Some of the products we buy locally are: milk, cheese, butter, homemade snacks, fish, meat, honey, turmeric and pepper.





OUR PROGRAMS ARE ONLY POSSIBLE THROUGH KIND DONATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS LIKE YOURS.

Consider supporting a cause of your choice.

**DONATE >>**

*Thank You*

AstilleroVerde is a proud affiliate partner of Amigos of Costa Rica, which is a 501(c)3 organisation, allowing your donation to be eligible for a tax deduction in the United States.



# AstilleroVerde

in association with

## SAILCARGO INC.

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PARTNERING WITH



WE SUPPORT



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON  
**ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION**  
2021-2030

**DONATE  
TODAY**

