ResCA
RESILIENT CENTRAL AMERICA

Semi-Annual Progress Report

8th Semi-Annual Progress Report
April 2020 – September 2020
Climate and Food Security in Central America

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Eighth Semi-Annual Progress Report, April 2020 - September 2020

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<td>ASPROCHIT</td>
<td>Sacapuliteca Association of Onion Producers (Guatemala)</td>
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<td>BFD</td>
<td>Belize Fisheries Department (Belize)</td>
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<td>BMP</td>
<td>Best Management Practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BWWSFA</td>
<td>Belize Women’s Seaweed Farming Association</td>
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<td>CAC</td>
<td>Central American Agricultural Council, SICA</td>
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<td>CAES</td>
<td>Cooperative of Agricultural Services of Esquipulas (Nicaragua)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBD</td>
<td>United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity</td>
</tr>
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<td>CDRO</td>
<td>Association of Cooperation for Rural Development in Western Guatemala (Guatemala)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRFM</td>
<td>Caribbean Fishery Management Council Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism</td>
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<tr>
<td>CENAOS</td>
<td>Oceanographic and Seismic Atmospheric Studies Center (Honduras)</td>
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<td>CIAT</td>
<td>International Center for Tropical Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COCODE</td>
<td>Development Community Council (Guatemala)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COINACHI</td>
<td>Chiquitano Integral Agriculture Cooperative Union (Guatemala)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMURES</td>
<td>Corporation of Municipalities of the Republic of El Salvador (El Salvador)</td>
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<td>COPECO</td>
<td>Permanent Contingency Commission of Honduras (Honduras)</td>
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<td>COPECAFE</td>
<td>Integrated Coffee Savings and Credit Cooperative (Guatemala)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COPECO</td>
<td>Permanent Contingency Commission (Honduras)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRFM</td>
<td>Caribbean Fishery Management Council Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRS</td>
<td>Catholic Relief Services – United States Conference of Catholic Bishops</td>
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<td>CSA</td>
<td>Climate Smart Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>DICORER</td>
<td>Regional Coordination and Rural Extension Directorate, MAGA (Guatemala)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DICTA</td>
<td>Directorate of Agricultural Science and Technology (Honduras)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EEZ</td>
<td>Exclusive Economic Zone(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENADE</td>
<td>National Businessmen Meeting (Guatemala)</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>FDM</td>
<td>Fishery Development Model (Belize)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEDEARROZ</td>
<td>National Federation of Rice Growers (Colombia)</td>
</tr>
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<td>FIAES</td>
<td>Environmental Investment Fund of El Salvador (El Salvador)</td>
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<td>FIP</td>
<td>Fishery Improvement Project (Belize)</td>
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<td>FOAG</td>
<td>Water and Agriculture Fund (El Salvador)</td>
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<td>FONAGRO</td>
<td>National Fund for Agriculture (Guatemala)</td>
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<td>FUNDAECO</td>
<td>Foundation for Ecodevelopment and Conservation (Guatemala)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FUNDEMAS</td>
<td>Foundation for the Business Development of El Salvador (El Salvador)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIMBUT</td>
<td>Inter-institutional Group for Forest Monitoring and Land Use (Guatemala)</td>
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<td>HAS</td>
<td>Healthy Agricultural Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>IDEAM</td>
<td>Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (Colombia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IICA</td>
<td>Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (Central America)</td>
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<tr>
<td>INAB</td>
<td>National Forest Institute (Guatemala)</td>
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<tr>
<td>INACOP</td>
<td>National Cooperatives Institute (Guatemala)</td>
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<tr>
<td>INDE</td>
<td>National Electrification Institute (Guatemala)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAGA</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (Guatemala)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARN</td>
<td>Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (Guatemala)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARPLESCA</td>
<td>Regional Management Plan for the Caribbean Spiny Lobster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------</td>
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<tr>
<td>MPA</td>
<td>Marine Protected Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>MZSP</td>
<td>Sustainable Landscape Zoning Map (Guatemala)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAMA</td>
<td>Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>NICACENTRO</td>
<td>Multi-sectorial Dairy Cooperative of Nicaragua (Nicaragua)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NFC</td>
<td>National Fishermen’s Cooperative (Belize)</td>
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<tr>
<td>OIRSA</td>
<td>Regional International Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health, SICA</td>
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<tr>
<td>OMAS</td>
<td>Municipal Office of Water and Sanitation (Guatemala)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSPESCA</td>
<td>Regional Unit for Fisheries and Aquaculture, SICA</td>
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<tr>
<td>PICSA</td>
<td>Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMACC</td>
<td>Municipal Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (Guatemala &amp; Honduras)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PMP</td>
<td>Performance Monitoring Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROCARIBE</td>
<td>Foundation for the Integral Promotion of the Caribbean Region (Central America)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROLECHE</td>
<td>Association of Milk Producers of El Salvador (El Salvador)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PPCSL</td>
<td>Placencia Producers Cooperative Society Ltd. (Belize)</td>
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<td>RAICES</td>
<td>Restorative Agriculture in Critical Ecosystems (El Salvador)</td>
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<td>ResCA</td>
<td>Resilient Central America, Program for Climate and Food Security in Central America</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAG</td>
<td>Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (Honduras)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE-COSEFIN</td>
<td>Executive Secretary for Finance Ministers in Central America</td>
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<td>SEDUCA</td>
<td>Training and Agribusiness Development Service, SAG (Honduras)</td>
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<td>SICA</td>
<td>Central American Integration System</td>
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<tr>
<td>TNC</td>
<td>The Nature Conservancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>UACC&amp;CR</td>
<td>Agro-Environmental, Climate Change and Risk Management Unit, SAG (Honduras)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCC</td>
<td>Climate Change Unit, MAGA (Guatemala)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTAM</td>
<td>Municipal Agricultural and Technical Unit (Guatemala)</td>
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<td>WECAFC</td>
<td>Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission, FAO</td>
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Executive Summary

To advance the goals of the Resilient Central America (ResCA) program, we have achieved the following results in the April 2020 to September 2020 semester reporting period. Regarding climate change adaptation, this semester we trained a total of 1141 people; 990 men (86.8%) and 151 women (13.2%). We also strengthened 30 institutions; 1 from the public sector at the national level; 8 from the public sector at subnational level and 21 local organizations. With collaborating institutions and stakeholders, 8 policies were proposed at the sub-national level. We achieved the adoption of 7 policies; 3 at the sub-national level and 4 at the national level. We also achieved the implementation of 6 policies; 5 at the sub-national level and 1 at the national level.

At the end of the second semester of Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20-SA2), the cumulative numbers on climate change adaptation are as follows. During the 4 years of implementation, we have trained a total of 6,273 people (4,194 men and 2079 women), thus exceeding the Life of Project (LOP) Target of 2,600 people trained. We have also strengthened a total of 100 institutions, also exceeding the LOP Target of 20 institutions. Finally, we have proposed 41 policy instruments and promoted the adoption of 37 while implementing 24 for a total 102; exceeding the LOP Target of 33 policies (see Table 1).

On sustainable landscapes, this semester we trained 1142 people; 594 men (52%) and 548 women (48%). We strengthened 12 local organizations. With collaborating institutions and stakeholders, 29 policy instruments were proposed; 8 were adopted and 20 implemented.

At the end of FY20-SÁ2, the cumulative numbers on sustainable landscapes are as follows. During the 4 years of implementation, we have trained a total of 7914 people (6,093 men and 1,821 women). Thus, the LOP Target of 100 people trained has been well exceeded. We have also strengthened 33 institutions, exceeding the LOP Target of 10 institutions. We have engaged in proposals of 48 policies, achieved adoption of 82 and the implementation of 63, for a total of 193. This represents 96.5 % of the LOP Target of 200* instruments (see Table 1).

*The LOP Target for Indicator EG13.3 was modified from 250 to 200 in the 9-month No-Cost Extension approved on August 28, 2020.
To ensure quality control, TNC underwent a review in this semester of all indicators in the LOP and has updated the following:

1. Updated in the 8th SAR from 1508 to 1391 as the numbers reported by CRS in FY18 in the 4th and 5th semiannual reports were counted incorrectly.
2. Updated in the 8th SAR from 2935 to 3020 due to an error in counting for FY18.
3. Updated in the 8th SAR from 50 to 55 to more accurately reflect 11.3 from the 6th SAR for three partners (CIAT, CRS, TNC Belize).
4. Updated in the 8th SAR from 881 to 989 as some of CRS’s training participants in the 3rd SAR were accidentally not included.
5. Updated in the 8th SAR from 88 to 87 as one policy was double counted as adopted and implemented by CRS in the 6th SAR.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>LOP TARGET</th>
<th>FY17</th>
<th>FY18</th>
<th>FY19</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>CUMULATIVE TOTAL (SEP 2020)</th>
<th>PROGRESS TOWARDS THE LOP TARGET (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EG11.1 Number of people trained in climate change adaptation supported by USG assistance</strong></td>
<td>2,600</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1,391(^1)</td>
<td>3,020(^2)</td>
<td>1,852</td>
<td>6,273</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EG11.2 Number of institutions with improved capacity to assess or address climate change risks supported by USG assistance</strong></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EG11.3 Number of laws, policies, regulations, or standards addressing climate change adaptation formally proposed, adopted, or implemented as supported by USG assistance</strong></td>
<td>33</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>55(^3)</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EG13.1 Number of people trained in sustainable landscapes supported by USG assistance</strong></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>989(^4)</td>
<td>2,778</td>
<td>4,147</td>
<td>7,914</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EG13.2 Number of institutions with improved capacity to address sustainable landscapes issues as supported by USG assistance</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EG13.3 Number of laws, policies, regulations, or standards addressing sustainable landscapes formally proposed, adopted, or implemented as supported by USG assistance</strong></td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>87(^5)</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>96.5 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Updated in the 8th SAR from 1508 to 1391 as the numbers reported by CRS in FY18 in the 4th and 5th semiannual reports were counted incorrectly.
\(^2\) Updated in the 8th SAR from 2935 to 3020 due to an error in counting for FY18.
\(^3\) Updated in the 8th SAR from 50 to 55 to more accurately reflect 11.3 from the 6th SAR for three partners (CIAT, CRS, TNC Belize).
\(^4\) Updated in the 8th SAR from 881 to 989 as some of CRS’s training participants in the 3rd SAR were accidentally not included.
\(^5\) Updated in the 8th SAR from 88 to 87 as one policy was double counted as adopted and implemented by CRS in the 6th SAR.
Objective 1

TRADE AND ACCESS TO MARKETS

ResCA seeks to link producers (farmers and fishers) to global and regional demand for “cleaner” and more sustainable agricultural products through interventions such as building traceability and validation mechanisms into supply chains, as well as promoting policy and regulatory reform that supports creation of and producer connection to sustainable supply chain initiatives. Encouraging regional and global market demand for goods produced through climate-smart agricultural is key to the Program’s long-term success. Supporting governments to promote policies and extension services to establish Climate Smart Agricultural practices and verify sustainable sourcing of crops and fish is critical to proliferation of climate-smart approaches at national levels, ensuring they are linked to and supported by market demand for environmentally friendly crops and fish. This semester, we achieved the following outcomes per country.
• In July, TNC organized the 4th Fisheries Improvement Project (FIP) Steering Committee meeting via Zoom. During this meeting, Blue Ventures presented summary outcomes of their fisher community needs assessment report, and market updates were heard from both National and Northern fishermen cooperatives. Additionally, the activities of the newly launched FIP Communications Taskforce were presented, economic recovery opportunities were discussed, and it was decided that the Marketing and Finance Taskforce would be the next to be launched of the 4 priority Taskforces tackling the FIP workplan.

• In August, the TRACE system became fully operational at the National Fisherman’s Cooperative. This is the consumer-facing side of the Tally electronic traceability system, whereby end consumers can scan a QR code on the product and find out information about the origins of the product, such as where and how it was caught. This represents a huge step forward in achieving consumer-driven incentivization of sustainable fishing practices in the Belize lobster fishery.
El Salvador – RAICES

- In April, despite the COVID-19 quarantine, 11 samples of coffee were collected from small producers and were sent to the San Carlos Dos cooperative to carry out quality and cupping tests, where they obtained high scores (average cupping score of 83.6). The information was needed to respond to the interest from an international buyer in the USA.

- In April, the San Carlos Dos cooperative (SCD) shipped another container of Blue Harvest “Cosecha Azul” coffee for the Falcon Coffees warehouse based in London, UK. Despite the adversities of the global market in April, the cooperative was able to schedule additional shipments through the summer, including a container of micro-batches of coffees with special fermentation processes that will go to South Africa and the UK.

- In June, the North Cacahuatique Intermunicipal Association (AICN) adopted newly redrafted bylaws to provide citizens with access to loans which makes it feasible to implement support and investment plans that are prepared in the context of the FOAT. This form of investment is a step away from dependence on external assistance.

- With project team support and co-financing with CRS private funds, the San Carlos Dos cooperative obtained the Fair-Trade Certification. Fairtrade Standards are designed to aid the sustainable development of some smaller producers and agricultural workers in third world countries. It implies supporting eco-friendly farming practices. By having this certification, the cooperative is obliged to implement certain environmentally friendly practices.
El Salvador – FUNDEMAS

- FUNDEMAS established a partnership with Central Izalco from CASSA Group, one of the most important sugar mills in El Salvador, to implement conservation and restoration practices in the landscape of its sugarcane production. Currently, demonstration plots of the crop are being developed with an agroecological model in which Best Agricultural Practices are being promoted with producers, technicians and senior management of the mill.
A standard based on a study of Geospatial modeling of current and projected agroclimatic aptitude under climate change scenarios was proposed to key decision makers of the Western Highlands. This instrument will contribute to a sustainable landscape in the Western Highlands by identifying the most suitable areas for the cultivation of agriculture and to ensure food security and products that can be exported to international markets. Agriculture is the most important economic sector in Guatemala; yet the Western Highlands tend to produce crops that are reserved for household consumption. Access to new markets will contribute to the economic improvement of this region.
During this semester, TechnoServe collaborated with the microfinance lender FDL to implement a strategy to promote financial products that farmers can access to invest in improving their operations. In the last report, 27 credits were facilitated by the Project, worth USD $96,649.70. In this reporting period, the project facilitated 2 loans worth USD $3,581.44. To date, the Project has facilitated loans to 29 farmers worth USD $100,231.14. While the value of loans facilitated by ResCA Nicaragua falls below initial targets, it is still an achievement since most agricultural lending has ceased since the start of the socio-political and economic crisis in April 2018 and continued amidst the COVID-19 pandemic starting in March 2020.
Objective 2

INCREASED SUSTAINABLE AND CLIMATE RESILIENT PRODUCTIVITY

ResCA seeks to establish agricultural policies, strategies, and practices that sustainably increase productivity and decrease pressure to expand into new, forested areas that would release CO2; fisheries and mariculture practices that improve the resilience of fish stocks and their resilience to climate change; and new sources of finance (or facilitate access to current sources of finance), such as agricultural credit and innovative business models. It will also add more value to farm and fisheries products locally to make continued proliferation of these practices possible. This semester, we achieved the following outcomes per country.
In April, TNC Belize and partners Future of Fish and Blue Ventures, held a fishery impacts review meeting with stakeholders to the Belize Spiny lobster Fishery Improvement Project and Fishery Development Model (FIP+FDM). Having compiled diverse information on the social, economic and ecological impacts of COVID-19 on the industry, these were shared with the group, as well as potential mitigation measures. The meeting was attended by representatives of government, industry and NGOs participating in the FIP. Resulting outcomes are to form the focus of the FIP Communications Taskforce as they work towards sensitising the wider stakeholders to the impacts and mitigation strategies to ensure the FIP continues to strive towards sustainability of this fishery.

In July, TNC and partners held the 1st FIP Communications Taskforce meeting via Zoom, representing the first meeting of the first of 8 taskforces to be launched to support the implementation of the Belize Lobster FIP. The group agreed on communication priorities relating to the impacts of COVID-19 on Belize’s fisheries, and developed strategies, timelines and assigned roles for building awareness of market impacts and solutions/ COVID impact mitigation measures, so as to empower stakeholders to make good decisions in a highly unstable time for the industry.
In April, CRS and ACUGOLFO held several meetings with ADEL-Morazán, who is conducting the study for RAICES. The results obtained in the research were reviewed and two business models were presented, showing that the model in which the center provides technical assistance and agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, etc.) is a more viable option. We visualize the center as a strategy to promote good agricultural practices in the territory.

In June, the Association of Water Board Directors of the municipality of Osicala convened, thanks to the efforts of RAICES. A diagnosis of the 10 systems that comprise it will be carried out and financing proposals will be prepared for an upcoming meeting for AECID projects. Also, the reforestation of trees in recharge areas was organized for this July. Additionally, the mayor of the municipality announced that he would give legalization to the entity.
• In July, CRS and ACUGOLFO made a presentation of the FOAG model and experiences in the webinar “Financing Opportunities and Keys to Success to Promote Climate Adaptation” organized by IICA for the region.

• In July, ACUGOLFO, with the support of CRS, and in coordination with the municipalities and producers, has started the process of establishing 75 home gardens in the intervention municipalities. This action is framed in the Food Security Action Plan 2020 promoted by CRS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The gardens are designed to reinforce the nutrition and health of families.

• In July, CRS and ACUGOLFO held a meeting of the Municipal Council in Gualococti (where the municipal plan was developed), to make the respective modifications in the activities and the budget according to the expectations of the council and the municipal mayor. The modifications are yet to be reviewed and approved.
In June, ResCA partner CDRO developed a virtual training process aimed at community leaders and youth, to be trained as "agro-environmental promoters specializing in sustainable landscapes." The workshop aims to generate opportunities for intellectual growth for better decision-making capacity and efficient and sustainable management of the natural resources of the western highlands of Guatemala, as well as inside their communities. In this training process, five virtual classes were developed, and each of the modules includes activities that the student must carry out on the platform and replicate within the service of their communities. The coordination, facilitation and institutional support for the training and certification process is through the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources MARN, the University Center of Totonicapán CUNTOTO USAC - University of San Carlos of Guatemala and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food MAGA. Currently, 141 people from the municipalities and departments of the western highlands of Guatemala are participating in the process, who are also attending to the project and are leaders in each of their communities.

In August and September, ResCA FUNDAECO trained 268 people, thus strengthening 4 entities (2 municipalities, 1 cooperative and 1 community association), made up of agricultural producer partners, technicians and environmental promoters from the Mam and Kanjobal, region of the Limón, Azul, and Quisil micro-basins, municipalities of Todo Santos Cuchumatanes and San Juan Ixcoy Huehuetenango. This highlights the 10 municipal environmental technicians and promoters, who were the first to be trained in the Sustainable Landscape module, supported within the process of training and strengthening entities in the Mayan language of their region, Mam and Kanjobal. The aim is for them to have a greater understanding of the subject of Sustainable Landscape and socialization to the communities of the region of Huehuetenango.
Honduras

- In April, CIAT participated as part of the "XL Forum on Climate Applications to Food and Nutrition Security” of the System of Central American Integration (SICA). CIAT participated in the webinars: "Resampling of the seasonal forecast to generate inputs for crop modeling" and "Crop modeling to generate agroclimatic services.” AquaCropV6.0 Webinar AquaCropV6.0

- In May, ResCA partner CIAT held videoconferences with the Participatory Agroclimatic Committees of Comayagua, Santa Bárbara, Olancho and West region, as part of the Institutional Strengthening, and in coordination with the Agro-Environment Unit for Climate Change and Risk Management (UACC & GR) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG). Agroclimatic technical recommendations were discussed and Participatory Agroclimatic Newsletters were prepared by region, as well as guidelines for dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Agroclimatic Newsletter Intibucá

- In May, CIAT, in collaboration with the Agro-Environment Unit for Climate Change and Risk Management (UACC & GR) of the Secretary of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG), ResCA Honduras CIAT held a videoconference for technicians and farmers to socialize, from an agroclimatic perspective, on the first production cycle for La Mosquitia in the department of Gracias a Dios. In addition, a cultivation modeling exercise was presented in AquaCrop V6.0 for rice according to the rain forecast for that season. This initiative was carried out for the first time in the area to set a precedent for the formation of a Participatory Agroclimatic Committee. Climatic Perspective La Mosquitia

- In May, CIAT held a videoconference with technicians from different organizations in the Mosquitia region, in coordination with the Agro-Environment Unit for Climate Change and Risk Management (UACC & GR) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG). As part of the Institutional Strengthening, the objective of the videoconference was the construction of agroclimatic technical recommendations and the preparation and dissemination of the First Participatory Agroclimatic Newsletter for the La Mosquitia region, as well as guidelines for dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Bulletin.
• Between May and June, CIAT facilitated 3 sessions of the certified course "Coffee Growing and Climate Change", organized by the Honduran Coffee Institute IHCAFE and the Technological University of Honduras UTH. The virtual trainings consisted of a total 45 community leaders from coffee producing areas on the topics of climate change scenarios, PICSA climate services and climate-smart coffee - CSC - for coffee-producing ecoregions in Honduras. Twenty four participants completed the course requirements and prepared agroclimatic bulletins focused on the cultivation of coffee in the communities where each participant resides. CIAT Investigation.

• In July, CIAT initiated a monitoring survey to be carried out on food production and security in the context of COVID-19 in the production cycle of the first 2020 in communities in the department of Intibucá. The objective is to know the afflictions on food production and provide technical support to the beneficiaries of the ResCA project.

• In July, as a follow-up on the Institutional Strengthening process, CIAT held a virtual workshop with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG), with the purpose to train on crop models, review the current status of the Participatory Agroclimatic Committees and prepare the Participatory Agroclimatic Newsletters for the last 2020 production cycle (August-October).

In July, as part of the institutional strengthening process and increased resilience capacities in the communities, CIAT, in coordination with the Agro-environment, Climate Change and Risk Management Unit (UACC & GR) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG), the Participatory Agroclimatic Committees of El Paraíso and Comayagua were developed virtually. The committees analyzed the climatic perspective for the season, and carried out crop modeling for basic grains with the AquaCropV6.01 and CropWat8.0 programs for the generation of technical recommendations for the 2020 production cycle. Agroclimatic Committee El Paraíso

• In August, CIAT, in coordination with the Agro-environment, Climate Change and Risk Management Unit (UACC & GR) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG), and as part of the institutional strengthening
process to increase resilience capacities in the communities, the virtual Participatory Agroclimatic Committees were developed in the Western Regions, Gulf of Fonseca, Intibucá, Olancho and Gracias a Dios. The climatic perspective for the season was analyzed to carry out crop modeling for basic grains with the AquaCropV6.01 and CropWat8.0 programs to establish optimal sowing windows in each crop. The effort resulted in the generation of an informative video and newsletters with technical recommendations for the 2020 production cycle. Agroclimatic Newsletter Gulf of Fonseca Region

• In August, as part of the institutional strengthening process, CIAT developed a virtual webinar: “Interface for the automation of climate forecasts in Honduras: Application of R-Shiny software.” This tool will be used for generating more accurate climate forecasts and for automating predictive areas in the Climate Predictability Tool (CPT). Members of five different institutions in charge of generating climate information in Honduras attended the event and it directly strengthened the capacity of the Center for Oceanographic, Seismic and Atmospheric Studies (CENAOS) of the Permanent Contingency Commission (COPECO)

• In August, the CIAT team adapted the PICSA methodology to marine coastal ecosystems created by the University of Reading in (Participatory Climate Services for Agriculture). The application of this adaptation was carried out in the El Venado community, located in the Gulf of Fonseca in Honduras, where the main livelihoods are artisanal fishing, bivalve harvesting, artisanal cultivation of fish and shrimp, and the conservation of the Turtle Golfina (Lepidochelys olivácea). Learn more about the experience: Blog PICSA Marine Coast

• In September, CIAT carried out a digital survey for the gender committee of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, as a follow-up to the monitoring process in the management of climate change public policies. This
information will be used for the adaptation of a guide for the inclusion of gender in climate-smart agriculture initiatives in Honduras.

- In September, CIAT developed a virtual training on the methodology in "Integrated Participatory Climate Services for Agriculture" (PICSA), in coordination with the Honduran Coffee Institute (IHCAFE). 24 young technical community leaders in coffee cultivation were trained and learned the skills for managing local climate information.

- In September, within the framework of the Municipal Adaptation Plan, the mayor's office requested technical support from CIAT for recovery management, after the emergency of the landslides that affected at least 10 kilometers of the Opalaca Reserve. An application to access information was designed and socialized with the prioritization matrix of the Municipal Plan.

- Likewise, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG) through their Climate Change Unit and their Directorate of Agricultural Science and Technology (DICTA), received conventional rain gauges at their research stations, as well as manuals and video tutorials designed to build capacity for rainfall data collection and improve their data quality. Support for DICTA also included the donation of the instrument “Guide for Integrating Sustainability in the Private Sector” and support for the validation of biofortified sweet potato varieties.
In April, technicians from Technoserve carried out an assessment and feasibility study to develop water systems in our partners’ cattle farms with the support of water system design specialists, where they considered the quality of the water sources in the dry season. This water system will be able to “boost planting areas, a community garden and increase the quantity of livestock” - Don Freddy Guzmán, owner of the Los Deseos farm, in Caño Blanco, Boaco.
PROGRESS REPORT OBJECTIVE 2

COVID-Response

- *Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic within the months of reporting, we have included some updates about COVID-Response within the objective two of Increased Sustainable and Climate Resilient Productivity.*

- In April, CRS carried out a webinar, titled “Food Security before COVID-19 - Strategies for Morazán,” to share institutional approaches on the topic and search for potential synergies. It included the participation of 30 people belonging to 13 entities, both local and national. The participants decided on creating a coordination space and a WhatsApp group to exchange information.

- In April, ResCA Guatemala established a COVID-19 crisis response network with local partners to support producers in the Western Highlands. The network includes a database on the impacts of the emergency on the communities, transferred relevant information to partners, and guides and supports ways to approach the government to mobilize agricultural products to the market. A visibility campaign is also being conducted for our producers since, despite the pandemic, all Guatemalans are allowed access to food. This network is expected to be a key player in emergency relief and in the recovery phase.

- In April, ResCA Honduras carried out a rapid assessment in the departments of Intibucá and Choluteca by conducting calls with local farmers to understand their worries and the effects they perceive related to the COVID-19 pandemic. They expressed multiple concerns, emphasizing the issue of food security and the mobility restrictions that mayors have imposed, which are economically affecting the agricultural sector, and their occupations.

- In April, as part of the Institutional Strengthening process and contributions to combat the emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic at the local level, ResCA Honduras developed an instructional infographic of the biosecurity measures that farmers should take in order to avoid contagion in their farms and homes.

- In April, ResCA Honduras hosted a virtual presentation of the National Climate Perspective for the first 2020 production period (April - August), as part of the institutional strengthening process and to provide support to the emergency of the COVID-19 pandemic, in collaboration with INFOAGRO and COPECO-CENAOS. More than 200 participants attended. Perspective Presentation

- In April, ResCA Honduras, in coordination with the Agro-Environment Unit for Climate Change and Risk Management (UACC & GR) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG), CIAT held videoconferences with the Participatory Agroclimatic Committees of Gulf of Fonseca, El Paraíso and Intibucá. Participants discussed agroclimatic technical recommendations and prepared Participatory Agroclimatic Newsletters by region, as well as guidelines for dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. MAP Intibucá Videoconference
• In May, due to the COVID-19 crisis resulting in significant impacts to Belize’s fisheries, a thorough revision of the strategy for implementing the Belize Spiny lobster Fishery Improvement Project and Fishery Development Model (FIP+FDM) was conducted. TNC and its partners Future of Fish and Blue Ventures have completed a FIP workplan reprioritization exercise to adapt to emerging short- and mid-term socioeconomic needs in the fishery resulting from the crisis, while continuing to ensure ecological and socioeconomic resilience to climate change.

• In May, the 3rd FIP Steering Committee meeting was held via Zoom. Topics covered stakeholder capacity impacts from the COVID-19 crisis, and how the FIP+FDM can help the fishery during this difficult time. TNC and the FIP coordinator presented on impacts of COVID-19 on industry and on fishers. The committee agreed to prioritize the launch of 4 of the 8 FIP taskforces to best meet the urgent new needs of the fishery, focused on communications, tech-based enforcement, marketing & finance and cooperative membership retention.

• In May, CRS held an in-person and virtual meeting of FOAG-CE members with the goal of updating the actions and investments planned in the framework of the new context for COVID-19. It is worth noting that 200 demonstrative parcels of good agricultural practices will be established in the recharge area. Also, the municipality of Chilanga has taken a big step towards a more sustainable agricultural policy, by paying attention to the soil analyses that ResCA carried out, and will replace sulfate (which acidifies the soils) with formula 18-46-0 in the delivery of fertilizers to producers this season.

• In May, following the COVID-19 emergency, CRS sent 13 messages with technical recommendations prepared to provide remote assistance to basic grain farmers; either with printed sheets or, mainly, via WhatsApp. The topics were: soil analysis, liming, germination test, soil pests, planting density, first fertilization, green manures, corn earworms, zinc-based foliar fertilization, second fertilization, Apichi organic pest control method, source of fertilizers and, finally, defoliation and sprouting of the cornfield.

• In June, the combination of tropical storms Amanda and Cristóbal in El Salvador and first days of June, affected the country’s agriculture. In the 100 demonstrative plots of corn and canavalia beans that have been established for the first harvest this winter, there is an estimated total loss of 7% of the plots and 30% in slight damages, reflected by the decrease in the growth of corn and canavalia bean. The farmers also observed an unusual proliferation of pests such as the armyworm and the cutworm, which could impact final yields.

• In July, TNC Belize organized an institutional strengthening consultancy with National Cooperative via an inaugural Zoom meeting with partners from the Centre for Applied Development Studies (CADS), and the Toledo Institute for Development and Environment (TIDE), followed by a physical meeting at the cooperative at the end of July, during which all of TNC’s COVID-19 related guidelines and precautions were strictly adhered to. TNC is supporting this work as it directly aligns with many objectives of the Belize Lobster FIP+FDM, including upgrading financial management technology strengthening financial management systems,
manufacturing adjustments and local market assessment, and strengthening governance and communications within the cooperative sector.

- In August, amidst the government reopening of operations, ResCA partner FUNDEMAS, in alliance with FUNDAZUCAR and PROLECHE, designed an awareness campaign that was launched in September to prevent COVID-19 amongst sugarcane producers and ranchers. The campaign consists in delivering informative material, such as posters and brochures, on the symptoms of COVID-19, how to properly use a mask, and washing hands, among other precautions.
Objective 3

AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

ResCA seeks to establish systems of agricultural and fisheries management that are compatible with environmental management goals, such as multi-stakeholder alliances to adopt landscape-scale analysis of environmental, social, and economic values, in order to improve the efficiency of and plan scaling of private and public resources for agricultural development; seascape-scale management of resilient fisheries and their important habitats, such as replenishment zones; consortia of producers, companies, and governments that make the contributions of these systems part of national commitments to emissions reductions.

In this regard, the Program supports local and national governments to develop and implement sustainable agricultural plans and policies that emphasize the promotion of public goods; policy and regulatory changes that establish national development and productive priorities favoring growth of Climate Smart Agricultural practices and access to markets for sustainable goods; the establishment of government-sponsored standards for landscape- and seascape-scale planning to identify climate-smart priorities for subsidies, extension, market development, and producers; as well as access to good practices related to land use planning for public and private
The successful single-coop-level demonstration at the end of January 2020 of electronic traceability linked to the FisheriesApp fishery visualization tools developed in collaboration with Vericatch Solutions Inc. has gathered increased interest from the Belize Fisheries Department (BFD) and from National Fishermen Cooperative Society Ltd. (“National”) beyond the initial support for its replication in Northern Cooperative. BFD and National now have provided written endorsement for TNC to facilitate replication of Tally in all four seafood producers in Belize, and subsequently link fisheries landings data outputs from both fishing cooperatives and both private seafood companies to FisheriesApp to enable BFD to conduct real-time analysis of fishery landings data.

At the end of June, on June 29th, ResCA Belize, in celebration of Caribbean Fisher Folk Day 2020, TNC awarded Mr. John Thomas the Fisher of the Year award in partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). Julie Robinson, TNC Belize’s Country Director, appeared live on Love TV’s Morning Show to explain how Mr Thomas won according to 2020’s theme “Maximising Fisheries Value Chains - The Core of the Blue Economy”.

In June, TNC and its partners Future of Fish and Blue Ventures launched the first of eight FIP Task Forces by hosting the 1st FIP Communications Task Force Codesign Workshop via Zoom. Task Force members were introduced to the roles and responsibilities of this implementation body, in preparation for developing and executing the communications activities in the workplan for the Belize Spiny lobster Fishery Improvement Project and Fishery Development Model (FIP+FDM).

During this reporting period, TNC Belize held a Seaweed Cultivation Training Course to 14 people, including Turneffe Fishers, Government Representatives and NGO Managers, to impart skills to new trainers on theoretical and practical knowledge of the cultivation of edible seaweed in Belize.
El Salvador

El Salvador – RAICES

- In June, the entities that make up the Cacahuatique-East Water and Agriculture Fund (FOAG) met to review the 63 logo proposals received in a public contest and the winning logo was selected, thus resulting in this final design for the governance mechanism that ResCA helped establish: Final Logo. Additionally, the following media outlets covered this brand unveiling:
  - https://www.facebook.com/454616821314623/posts/2872079822901632/?vh=e
  - https://www.facebook.com/105580304122538/posts/279480986732468/

- In July, during the event "Responses to COVID-19: Our food and our water security exist on the ground," the Water Fund (FOAG) - Cacahuatique East announced the activities underway. Representatives of FOAG and invited guests attended the event, such as the Eastern Environmental Judge, the Forestry Basin and Irrigation Directorate-Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), National Civil Police (PNC), Health Unit, SEPRODET / Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and community leaders. Media outlets covered this event. FOAG release Media Coverage:
  - https://www.facebook.com/454616821314623/posts/2901232823319665/
  - https://www.facebook.com/telemascanal14/videos/825173678011966/
In March, CRS held a training for 12 people at the Water Forum on the impact of climate change on agriculture and the work ACUGOLFO has carried out in the territory to generate better conditions for adaptation.

In April, ResCA completed an assessment with producers from the Caserío Los Mata, Chilanga, to better understand its limitations to implement more sustainable agricultural practices, as well as to map the water and natural resources of the area, a strategic step undertaken, as this falls within the critical recharge area for water supply in three municipalities.

In April, ResCA El Salvador RAICES discussed strategies to make an efficient investment, especially in the purchase of fertilizers with six mayors of the Inter-Municipal Association of Cacahuatique Norte (AICN) and with two mayors in Chilanga and Yoloiaquín. Municipalities are expected to buy based on fertilization recommendations that consider soil analysis, and according to their financial possibilities. Another achievement is the consensus in asking producers to implement certain best practices in exchange for receiving the agricultural package. AICN members will also make a collective purchase to reduce costs.

In April, ResCA El Salvador RAICES prepared a draft of the annual 'Vermicompost Manual' to support the operation of the three vermicompost factories once they are ready, and for future ones that may be built.

In May, the municipal councils of Villa El Rosario, San Antonio, San Isidro and Gotera approved to substitute the sulfate in the agricultural packages that they distribute to the producers, as a result of an exposition that ResCA El Salvador RAICES carried out. Instead, they will buy fertilizers that do not acidify the soil. They will also establish 40 demonstration plots with good practices, with the support of four leading producers (or promoters) to train in the new techniques.

In May, in the municipalities of Gualococti, San Antonio and El Rosario, canavalia bean seeds were delivered by ResCA El Salvador RAICES to producers who are committed to planting corn plots using good agricultural practices for soil conservation. Canavalia is a legume that has excellent results in nitrogenous soil, protecting it from erosion, keeping it moist and discouraging the use of herbicides. In the first sowing, 100 demonstration plots have been established in the territory.

In May, ResCA El Salvador RAICES conducted an analysis with four producers from El Caserío Los Mata, Chilanga, to better understand their limitations on implementing the management and
operation of four apiaries. The producers will be supported with basic equipment to expand and manage the apiaries, and a series of strengthening trainings will take place. In return, they will reforest an area with fruit trees so that the bees have more access to flowering. It is noteworthy that they are located in the recharge area of the main sources of Chilanga.

- In May, ResCA El Salvador RAICES began the process of applying foliar to plots of corn and canavalia beans, as the second step in the fertilization recommendations. The process lies within the framework of the 100 demonstrative plots of good agricultural practices for soil conservation that have been established for the first harvest this winter. Canavalia is a legume that has excellent results because it nitrogenizes the soil, protects it from erosion and controls weeds, thus conserving moisture, helping crops during periods of drought and favoring the infiltration of water into the soil. All these elements make for a better harvest.

- In June, ResCA El Salvador RAICES led actions with the mayors of the Inter-Municipal Association of Cacahuatique Norte (AICN) to continue the 2020 work plan of the FOAG. Work began on the agricultural technique contracted by the Water and Agriculture Fund (FOAG) - Cacahuatique Norte to promote and strengthen restoration through good agricultural practices.

- In June, ResCA El Salvador RAICES delivered Cuba-22 grass to 42 producers of basic grains in the Caserío Los Mata (Chilanga), a strategic area for water recharge supply in three municipalities. Most producers will establish vegetative barriers in the corn plot, with two positive impacts: a) to diminish erosion and increase infiltration, and b) to give a feeding alternative to livestock, and producers can leave stubble on the ground to enrich and protect it.

- In July, ResCA El Salvador RAICES promoted a plan by the Water and Agriculture Fund (FOAG) in Gualococti to establish 262 demonstration plots of good practices in corn, beans and grass crops in five municipalities of North Cacahuatique. The strategy will count on the support of the agricultural technique of the FOAG and a network of 20 promoters. The information was shared within the framework at a meeting of the Cacahuatique Norte Intermunicipal Association (AICN). All producers have already received inputs and have signed their letter of commitment to implement good practices. In addition, the meeting was made up of mayors and members of their municipal councils and leaders of civil society. This responds to a modification of the statutes, promoted by RAICES, to extend the meetings of the AICN to the social actors of the territory.

- In July, ResCA El Salvador RAICES, following up on the Municipal Plan for Agriculture and Water, the mayor of Osicala finalized the selection of the 51 producers and the four promoters who will establish 51 demonstration plots of corn with good practices in the municipality, as well as the delivery of seeds of canavalia, grasses for vegetative barriers and the fertilizers identified according to soil analysis. These plots make up the 262 plots of the FOAG-North.

- In July, ResCA El Salvador RAICES reported progress in the establishment of 200 demonstration plots in the water recharge zone of the three municipalities for the Water and Agriculture Fund of Cacahuatique East in Chilanga. The inputs were delivered to the producers (appropriate fertilizers,
canavalia, grass for vegetative barriers and shade trees) and the 18 promoters who will provide support were established. The producers were trained and signed a commitment agreement to incorporate good practices.

- In July, the municipal council of Arambala approved changing the purchase of fertilizers for corn farmers after listening to ResCA El Salvador RAICES arguments about the impact of ammonium sulfate on the acidification of the soil in the area. A significant amount of the purchase of ammonium sulfate and 16-20-0 has been changed to improved urea, a less harmful compound. Measures were taken for the mayor’s office to support, for the first time, coffee growers from the ACDR association with at least 1qq of improved urea.

- In July, ResCA El Salvador RAICES formalized groups in various municipalities with a total of 137 producers, 85 men and 52 women. The nine savings groups (SILC) have accumulated a total of $9,630.00 USD as of May 2020. Five groups have made 67 loans with an accumulated portfolio of $3,910.00 USD, which have been used mostly to purchase agricultural inputs for corn and bean harvesting. In addition, three groups were organized to make a collective purchase of fertilizers, thus investing an additional $3,861.49 USD. One of the groups used a loan to buy the fertilizer. The savings groups (GAAPS) allow for organizational strengthening, a culture of savings and investment, and facilitate the scaling up and the adoption of good agricultural practices.

- During this last reporting period, 61 people received trainings on financial education, soil and water conservation, and the current state of coffee soils. Another 18 institutions were strengthened through water resource management trainings, agricultural demonstrative work and technical assistance, and have enacted bylaws, developed project proposals to build better infiltration work, set up new management instruments, and modified/developed statues, ordinances and environmental plans that will improve water security and agricultural practices. Additionally, 9 water operators implemented the RECOSAMCIBA Plan using FOAG resources to acquire 880 new infiltration pits, cover the maintenance of 60 previous pits, dig 1000 new trenches and plant 800 forest trees donated by the mayor’s office. A total of 23 other policies were either proposed, adopted or implemented, including municipal agriculture and water plans, environmental diagnostic studies, capacity building strategies, soil and water protection and improving the quality of coffee.
El Salvador - FUNDEMAS

- In May, the ResCA-FUNDEMAS project implemented a series of agricultural practices, resilient to climate change in the cultivation of sugarcane, in the Department of Ahuachapán (El Salvador). With the arrival of the rainy season, the planting of green manures (vigna beans) began in the demonstration plots in coordination with the sugarcane producers in the northern area of Ahuachapán and in the Ingenio La Magdalena, complying with agricultural protocols in the framework of COVID-19.

- In June, the ResCA-FUNDEMAS project delivered mulatto grass seed to establish pastures for the division of paddocks which increase their resistance to climate change and to provide better nutritional values for livestock. The delivery took place within the framework of ResCA-FUNDEMAS with approximately 100 ranchers from the El Arco Cooperative and other ranchers from the northern area of Ahuachapán. In addition, technical workshops took place with small groups of ranchers, in compliance with COVID-19 protocols.

- In July, the ResCA-FUNDEMAS project held a workshop with sugar cane producers from Arabá de Romero in Atiquizaya, Ahuachapán in coordination with ILM and a neighboring Agricultural Restoration project led by CRS in the region. In this meeting, it was agreed to extend the best practices of the agroecological model by 25 blocks, which will have the technical support of the Ingenio La Magdalena and the technical assistance of the projects ResCA and RAÍCES. This effort aims to improve the production of five sugarcane producers, the soil conditions and the agroecosystem in the area.

- In July, the ResCA-FUNDEMAS project carried out the practice of incorporating green manures in the cultivation of sugar cane, with the aim of improving its nutrition and development. This activity included the participation and monitoring of the Agricultural Management of Ingenio La Magdalena and representatives of the El Jicaro Cooperative.

- In August, the ResCA-FUNDEMAS project initiated reforestation workshops with a conservation approach in the north and south of Ahuachapán with the support of more than 400 volunteers from the producer communities, ADESCOS, Water Boards, local governments, the Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation (ISTA) and CRS partners in the region. More than 80,000 fruit, forest and timber trees have been planted.

- In August, the ResCA-FUNDEMAS project planted two forage banks with the species of madrecacao in two cattle farms. Between both farms, more than 11,000 specimens have been planted. This practice will promote bovine nutrition and the reconversion of the agricultural landscape of the farms with native species, which require little maintenance work.

- During this reporting period, the “Best Agricultural Practices Manual” and “Bottleneck Analysis of the Sugar Sector were finalized”, validated, presented and adopted by key actors of the sugar sector. Additionally, the “Livestock Benchmark for El Salvador” knowledge management product developed by CIPAV, which was carried out with a significant sample of livestock farms at a national level with the support of PROLECHE and ISTA, was presented and validated by PROLECHE members of the Board of Directors representing 10 milk producers in the country.
In April, ResCA Guatemala partner ASOVERDE developed a vermiculture manual for agricultural producers, which will help generate organic fertilizer to improve the quality of the products and minimize the use of chemical fertilizers. ASOVERDE also carried out a training process for 55 agricultural producer partners, technicians and environmental promoters from the Altiplano Region, highlighting what has been strengthened with the vermiculture manual and the production of fertilizer for four institutional entities.

In May, ResCA Guatemala partner CDRO generated a Regulation for prescribed agricultural burns within the municipality of Olintepeque Quetzaltenango, in accordance with the processes and actions of control and prevention of forest fires during summer season, and the good agricultural management of post-harvest organic waste such as the case of maize cultivation. ResCA delivered 100 copies of these Regulations to community leaders, and to the water committees of the 8 communities of the municipality.

In May, ResCA Guatemala partner CDRO carried out the preparation and delivery of the Regulations for Prescribed Agricultural Burning under the coordination of the municipal forestry office and authorities of the environment council of the municipality of Olintepeque, who will ensure compliance with the regulatory provisions of the farmers of each of the communities, since in recent years the number of forest fires has increased due to bad practices of agricultural burning, damaging at least an average of 100 hectares (247 acres) of the municipal forest in the last four years.
In May, ResCA Guatemala partner CDRO generated a municipal and community methodology as part of the water management actions of the Salinas River basin, as well as to improve the irrigation water capacity of agricultural crops in the communities of Paraje León and the municipality of Santa María Chiquimula. The methodology will be used for the measurement of river flow for this area of the municipality. It is considered a tool that will provide our agricultural partners with the estimation of water flows and planning for the measurement of the quantity and capacity of water in the distribution of agricultural crops.

In June, ResCA Guatemala partner ASOVERDE installed nine drip irrigation systems, supplied with rainwater catchment and nearby surface water sources, which reduces the vulnerability of agricultural crops during the periods of drought, in the community of Chipaca Chichicastenango Quiché. The project lies within the framework to strengthen the network of demonstration sites for climate change adaptation in the Western Highlands of Guatemala.

At the beginning of July, ResCA Guatemala with local partners established a total of 200 hectares with best agricultural practices with climate change adaptation actions, such as mini irrigation systems, soil conservation and diversification of at least 10 different crops for export. 444 families have benefitted from these agricultural plots with best practices for productive and quality improvement, in the municipalities of San Juan Ostuncalco Quetzaltenango, the municipalities of Sacapulas, Chichicastenango, and Uspantan of Quiche.

In July, ResCA Guatemala partner ASOVERDE, in line with the establishment of the network of climate-smart agriculture sites in the Western Highlands, generated a training workshop for agricultural producers from three cooperatives in the communities of Chipaca I and II from Chichicastenango Quiche. Ten agricultural producers participated in the Solanaceae crop management and pruning management of tomato and Chile pepper crops under controlled conditions of macro tunnels. The ten trained people have replicated the workshop in their communities with 100 other agricultural producer partners with the technical support of ASOVERDE, for a total of 110 trained people. The workshop will support the preparation and training of agricultural producers in the establishment and management of the project of macro tunnels with tomato crops in the Chipaca I and II communities of Chichicastenango Quiche.

In July, ResCA Guatemala partner ASOVERDE consolidated a network of climate-smart agriculture sites in the Western Highlands by establishing four diversified demonstration plots as a measure for climate change adaptation with macro tunnels of 45 square meters each. Each macro tunnel has a rainwater harvester with a capacity of 1,111 liters connected to a fertile irrigation system, which guarantees a high-quality production level and yield in at least three tomato crops per year. The sowing was carried out at a density per macro tunnel of 111 tomato piles of the Retana variety, with a production capacity per harvest of 1,600 pounds with a value of Q 6,660.00 ($ 865) per macro tunnel. These four diversified demonstration plots were established with agricultural producer partners from the Chipaca Chichicastenango Quiche communities. These four successful experiences will help other agricultural producers replicate this activity in their communities for economic benefits and increased local resilience.
In August, ResCA Guatemala partner ASOVERDE, in coordination with the network of climate-smart agriculture sites in the Western Highlands, established 17 diversification demonstration plots as a measure for climate change adaptation, introducing fruit trees such as peach, granadilla, and hass avocado, under an agroforestry contour system, with an average fruit density of 50 trees per plot. Each diversified plot has a rainwater harvester with a capacity of 1,111 liters connected to a Fertilizer Drip Irrigation system which will guarantee a high quality production level and yield in at least one harvest a year with an average peach production of ½ quintal per tree (150 units), granadilla of 1 quintal per tree (400 units), and hass avocado of 40 pounds per tree (80 units). These 17 diversification demonstration plots were established with agricultural producer partners from the Chipaca communities Chichicastenango Quiche, and thanks to their successful experience, will help other agricultural producers to replicate this activity in their communities for the economic benefit of their families and to increase local resilience.

In August, ResCA Guatemala partner ASOVERDE established 22 hectares of new forest in the hydrological recharge zone with the native species pine, *Pinus maximinoii*, ileum *Alnus jorulensis* and cypress *Cupressus lusitanica*. These hectares were entered into the Guatemalan forest incentive programs, which will disburse approximately US $40,000 to the small owners of these lands in the next 6 years. This activity has 34 beneficiaries, among them 30 men and four women from the municipality of San Juan Cotzal, a department of Quiche in the Western Highlands of Guatemala. These new reforested areas will improve infiltration, reduce erosion and landslides by enhancing ecosystem services for climate-smart agricultural activities.

In September, ResCA Guatemala partner ASOVERDE and TNC produced a manual for horticultural practices and systematized the construction of artisanal greenhouses called macro-tunnels to produce vegetables in the Western Highlands of Guatemala.

During this reporting period, ASOVERDE trained a total of 38 people to improve their capacity to adapt to climate change and resilience in rural communities of the Western Highlands of Guatemala.
In May, ResCA Honduras delivered seeds to establish family gardens, in addition to trainings, as a follow-up to previous PICSA trainings. In other communities, the priority practice was to raise chickens with practical training on making homemade concentrates to feed the chickens in a balanced way. The trainings provided two infographics for farmers with the necessary information and to facilitate its dissemination. Both practices aim to provide food security and other alternatives to the agricultural practices carried out in the area. Infographic 1, Infographic 2.

In June, ResCA Honduras carried out trainings to prepare homemade concentrates for bird feeding, to the group of women who carry out the “Poultry Community Farm,” as part of capacity building for community organizations and as a follow-up to the implementation of prioritized adaptation practices in the communities.

In July, ResCA Honduras carried out the first "chain pitch" of the Community Poultry Farm. 11 members benefitted with a breeding stock of 11 birds to each start their own "dual-purpose poultry farm". The main shed will maintain a breeding stock of 22 hens and two roosters to benefit more members of the community.

In July, ResCA Honduras carried out a monitoring exercise for food production in diversified gardens. This action was prioritized in the local planning process based on climate information.
• In August, ResCA Honduras carried out the validation of a sweet potato farm in two community plots in the villages of Santo Tomas and Los Naranjos in the department of Intibucá. 13 people participated in the planting of the validation plots, including farmers, technicians and one member of the municipality of San Juan.

• In August, in collaboration with the Agro-environment, Climate Change and Risk Management Unit (UACC & GR) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG), the Agroclimatic Newsletters were prepared and disseminated with technical recommendations for the 2020 production cycle for the western regions and the department of Intibucá, a result of the meetings with the Participatory Agroclimatic Committees. [Intibucá Newsletter / Western Region Newsletter](#)

• In September, in coordination with the HarvestPlus program, ResCA Honduras donated biofortified bean seeds to the project’s communities. 148 5-pound bags of the variety "Honduras Nutritivo" were delivered. Training was provided on the agronomic management of the crop for the 2020 planting season.
In April, 22 livestock producers, partners of the Nicacentro and San José (CASANJO) cooperatives, and partners of ResCA Nicaragua, received construction materials to build infrastructure on their livestock farms that will allow them to perform clean milking, build feeders and cells for water storage, thus, improving the quality of life of the animals and the management of the cattle herd for the producers. During this reporting period, five of the producers signed an agreement and work plan to formalize the collaboration between them and the ResCA project. This construction motivates and supports the cattle ranchers, and helps them build resilience to climate change and to the current crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In May, amidst the remote work realities, ResCA Nicaragua in conjunction with partner CIPAV Foundation created ‘The Veterinarian Hour’ within their shared WhatsApp group, a space enabled every Wednesday in which the specialists address a specific problem that interests the livestock producers. In this space, they share effective methods to solve animal health problems. Alongside this virtual training, ResCA Nicaragua also developed an application in Power Bi to evaluate the participation and learn about topics of interest to the ranchers. The feedback from this group has been very positive and allows for continued communication even at a distance.

In June, ResCA Nicaragua implemented 25 nurseries with vegetative material with the aim of establishing silvopastoral arrangements for the self-sustainability of their farms, as well as suppliers for the other cattle ranchers. For this work, seeds were delivered to 22 producers of model farms for forage hedges, protein banks and for the establishment of intensive silvopastoral systems. In total, 12 kilos of guacimo seed, 12 kilos of black timber seed and 15 kilos of leucaena seeds were delivered, which guarantee greater production of feed for livestock that can be used in critical times, depending on the management that each producer takes on based on their business vision. In addition, 35,000 polyethylene bags were delivered for the creation of these
nurseries, which are already being planted for later distribution. The delivery of these seeds is part of the strategy implemented by ResCA Nicaragua to make our associates climate change resilient, guaranteeing permanent and high quality food to improve milk production and quality.

• In June, ResCA Nicaragua held a webinar "Sustainable Cattle Ranching, the Option Against Pandemics" was successfully carried out by Dr. Enrique Murgueitio, executive director of the Center for Research on Sustainable Systems of Agricultural Production (CIPAV), who shared with the participants the keys to cope with their dairy production in the midst of a pandemic. The implementation of good productive practices, accompanied by an efficient management of livestock farms with a goal to protect and conserve the environment, were the pillars of the webinar, in which he addressed the benefits and the correct procedure to establish silvopastoral systems to improve milk production and quality.

• In July, the ResCA Nicaragua technical team extracted samples from 39 farms to understand the state and quality of the soils in livestock farms of ResCA producers. The farms were analyzed at Laquisa Laboratories, in León, where they determined the results of the samples examined. Eng. Saúl Rodríguez, specialist in livestock issues at the Center for Research on Sustainable Agricultural Production Systems (CIPAV), an allied organization of ResCA Nicaragua, was in charge of coordinating the extraction of soil samples in the 36 model farms, in addition to three other farms of an associated cooperative in the city of Boaco. Walther Navas, the livestock projects manager at Technoserve, said that for the establishment of pastures and forages for livestock feeding, the soil study must be carried out, and it is important to understand the level of acidity, nutrients and components that favor the cultivations. "We have up-to-date information on these soils and our associates will be able to know first-hand which cultivation is more appropriate for them to sow based on the analysis," he commented.

• In July, the ResCA Nicaragua technical team of ResCA Nicaragua has been receiving training from specialists from CIPAV (Center for Research on Sustainable Agricultural Production Systems) on different topics related to the sustainable development of livestock farms. Eliana Urbina, Carlos López Álvarez, Franklin Brenes and Maximiliano González, the field technicians of ResCA Nicaragua, have received specialized lectures on milk quality, pasture management, soil
analysis, soil acidity and the need for liming, management of water sources, and the management of virtual teaching platforms for livestock producers associated with ResCA. Walther Navas, livestock projects manager at Technoserve, highlighted the commitment of the executive organization to provide accurate and high quality information and training on each of the silvopastoral components to the associated producers, and to also provide supervision for the correct management of each one in the cattle farms. “Our producers are aware of the importance of implementing silvopastoral arrangements, as they not only improve their dairy production, they also provide greater availability of forage at different levels (creeping, shrub or trees), which turns into greater availability of food for the livestock, greater comfort for the animals due to shade in pastures, and therefore, less heat stress, greater milk production, and more resilient livestock ranchers in the face of climate change,” Navas assured.
In May, TNC’s Regional ResCA team held a series of meetings with corporate partner Grupo LaLa Nicaragua (May 20th) and Grupo LaLa Mexico (June 4th) to present results from the ResCA Nicaragua project and provide updates on a few of the initial advancements obtained thus far in the project. A follow up meeting with Grupo LaLa is scheduled virtually in the next reporting period.

In June, TNC’s Regional ResCA team initiated work to compile data and metrics for productivity, conservation and social indicators for all ResCA projects to provide more robust reporting to the Department of State. The team also underwent initial design for a roadmap for a regenerative ranching platform in Nicaragua by starting with a cost-benefit analysis for dairy production in Nicaragua.

In June, the ResCA Regional team held a series of discussions with partners in the region to discuss potential actors to invite to three policy webinars around coffee, climate change, gender, legislation to undergo in August-September with representatives from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras.
• In June, the TNC Regional team initiated an indicator analysis of the EG13-3 metric for laws, policies, regulations, standards, protocols for sustainable landscapes. After concluding seven of eight semester reports, EG13-3 was currently sitting at 54% but the team commissioned a diagnosis with their Public Policy Director to provide critical analysis of these policies at different scales and different levels of implementation.

• In July, TNC’s Regional team held discussions with the local partner for the National Milk Chamber in Nicaragua (CANISLAC) to discuss options for collaboration. CANISLAC is developing a National System for Milk Quality and has identified environmental criteria which need to be developed within their monitoring system underway with all cattle ranchers in Nicaragua.

• In August, TNC and IICA sponsored virtual dialogues on Coffee Resilient to Climate Change in Central America across three dates - August 19, 20 and 25. International experts with extensive experience in research and intervention in Central America presented on different aspects of environmental, economic and social resilience. The objective of this meeting was to create new alliances, promote innovative platforms and extend the scope of legislation and intra-regional projects to improve the resilience of the coffee chain, increase economic income and face the negative impacts of climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic in Central America.

• In August, TNC’s regional team in conjunction with former ResCA partner OSPESCA and an external consultant presented a proposal for a protocol to implement regional norms regarding Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (INDNR in Spanish). The protocol is intended to improve the implementation of national, regional and international regulations regarding IUU Fishing, through concerted efforts and the review of procedures carried out by national, regional or extra-regional actors, especially including the sanctions and effective prosecution of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities. See the note in Spanish here.

• In September, TNC organized an exploratory call with UNDP representatives in Colombia working on the PROCARIBE project of the Caribbean Lobster Management Ecosystem+ (CLME+), facilitated by OSPESCA. TNC presented the objectives of the ResCA program, the work in Caribbean Spiny Lobster and Seaweed Aquaculture and the team agreed to explore opportunities together in the coming months. UNDP, as an executing agency for GEF funding for Caribbean
marine projects, previously financed the Regional OSPESCA work in conjunction with TNC, yet no formal discussions ever occurred until September.

- During this reporting period, TNC Regional commissioned an analysis of the “Legal structures and business models for the FOAGS (water funds) in El Salvador”, which provides information on what enabling conditions in the legal environment can be incorporated, and it was formally presented to the El Salvador Institute of Municipal Development (ISDEM) and the Catholic Relief Services Regional Agricultural Unit.

**Communications**

- TNC published its Regional video launched on June 5, on World Environment Day, which invites the viewer to reflect on the situation in Central America, and to learn how the work of ResCA and its partners is implementing solutions to create Healthy Productive Ecosystems. [Video](#)

- TNC Regional also implemented strategic communication mini campaigns for ResCA Belize, ResCA Guatemala, ResCA Honduras, ResCA El Salvador, ResCA Nicaragua and ResCA Regional to highlight achievements of the programs’ implementation and to bring more awareness to the issues that ResCA is tackling in relation to sustainable landscapes.
STAFF UPDATES

• Moraima Guzmán – In April, 2020, Moraima officially transitioned over to the Conservation Assistant role leading the metrics and reporting of the ResCA Program, a position she had held in an interim role since Irene Farrow’s departure.

• Pilar Lozano – In March, 2020, Pilar accepted a role with TNC’s Regional Team as a Strategy Associate and she completed her first semester with the ResCA team, helping consolidate metrics and lead contracts for service to support development of the projects.

BELIZE

• The primary challenge at the moment for this project is the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and how this has impacted Belize’s project, with low consumer demand to purchase lobsters at restaurants. The team is continuing to explore creative options for a domestic market or niche markets for consumers interested in bringing the restaurant experience to their homes. Also, plans to implement Tally at the second cooperative are on hold due to the ongoing economic impacts faced, yet the team still has plans to implement next year.

EL SALVADOR

CRS

○ Activities were closed during this semester with CRS finishing all ResCA objectives satisfactorily at the end of July. However, the COVID-19 pandemic hit their overall objectives at a difficult time as many municipalities were expected to invest in the Water and Agriculture Fund, yet due to attending to the health and safety of their citizens, investments in agricultural subsidies or water recharge projects were significantly minimized.

FUNDEMAS

○ Activities were impacted due to government lockdown, which affected the supply and demand of agricultural products, and therefore hit small and medium-sized producers hardest. In the case of livestock, many of the cattle ranchers, due to older age, have reduced production in order to minimize risk.
Proposed activities for the next reporting period

EL SALVADOR

FUNDEMAS

- The project will design and implement two observatories to monitor progress on the implementation of best practices in sugarcane and livestock and implement a training program for sugarcane and milk producers. A protocol for livestock production in Natural Protected Areas will be designed and presented as well as a protocol for sustainable milk production. Lastly, an international seminar to share best practices from other countries in sustainable sugarcane production and livestock will be organized.

NICARAGUA

- Farmer trainings will continue, both in person and virtual to continue strengthening capacities locally. A few studies will be commissioned for the investment profitability on the 36 model farms, a milk quality study on 300 farms and a forage availability study on 36 farms will be carried out. A partnership between the milk cooperatives and the National Livestock Federation is also expected to strengthen bull fertility for ranchers. Lastly, a training for cooperatives on resiliency in business plans is scheduled to occur towards the end of the next semester.
Proposed activities for the next reporting period

GUATEMALA

- The project will complete training processes for the 283 pending participants and strengthen the remaining 18 organizations. Lastly, the team anticipates an agreement on the Green Growth Compact (GGC) to be agreed upon in the first three months of the semester, which will set forth a 2030 vision for the Western Highlands. A computing platform with government agencies to identify forest fires will be up and running in the first three months and a proposal for the implementation of a financial mechanism for the protection of water resources nationally will be developed. TNC Guatemala anticipates closing activities at the end of the 2020 calendar year.

HONDURAS

- The implementation of PICSA will continue with monitoring and evaluation activities and municipal adaptation plans for climate change will continue.
- Lastly, in the upcoming period ongoing work will continue for the policy support for adaptation, to support the development of a resilience plan for the dry bean sector, linked to SAG’s Institutional Climate Change Adaptation Plan, the development of municipal adaptation plans, and development of the National Climate Service Framework.

BELIZE

- TNC plans to extend the single-coop demonstration beyond just improved fisheries management to pilot full-chain traceability that demonstrates linkage between quality and sustainability and channel high-quality product to premium markets interested in purchasing from high-performing FIPs. TNC is also aiming to pilot the sourcing of high-quality, sustainably caught seafood in Turneffe Atoll and adapt the electronic traceability as a means to diversify amongst the COVID-19 pandemic.
- TNC also plans to increase seaweed production in two sites – Turneffe and Placencia – in order to meet international market demand and also increase in fishers diversifying productive activities.

REGIONAL LEVEL

- The regional coordination plans to finalize the lessons learned document and a consolidated metrics set for full documentation of the program. The design of a platform for collaborative action is expected which will outline a post-2020 national vision for regenerative ranching in Nicaragua.
- The regional coordination aims to finalize an Ecosystem-based Adaptation analysis of agricultural practices and the impact on achieving climate resilience.
Annexes
## ANNEX 1
### PERFORMANCE MONITORING PLAN

### INDICATOR EG11.1 NUMBER OF PEOPLE TrAINED IN CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION SUPPORTED BY USG ASSISTANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(TYPE: OUTCOME) / UNIT</th>
<th>FY17</th>
<th>FY18</th>
<th>FY19</th>
<th>FY20</th>
<th>LOP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total number trained, males/females (m/f)</td>
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<td>8/2</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>2500</td>
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### INDICATOR EG11.2 NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS WITH IMPROVED CAPACITY TO ASSESS OR ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS SUPPORTED BY USG ASSISTANCE

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<th>FY20</th>
<th>LOP</th>
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</thead>
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### INDICATOR EG11.3 NUMBER OF LAWS, POLICIES, REGULATIONS, OR STANDARDS ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION FORMALLY PROPOSED, ADOPTED, OR IMPLEMENTED AS SUPPORTED BY USG ASSISTANCE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>(TYPE: OUTCOME) / UNIT</th>
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<th>FY18</th>
<th>FY19</th>
<th>FY20</th>
<th>LOP</th>
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</thead>
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<td>0/0/0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of measures at sub-national level proposed / adopted / implemented (p/a/i)</td>
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<td>25/14/13</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>12/3/0</td>
<td>31/18/16</td>
<td>41/37/24</td>
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### Notes

6 We updated this in the 6th semiannual report (from 1,618/814 to 1,577/769), as one training in El Salvador (Forum on "Women's Role in Water Resource Management and Administration, 3/22/2019) did not meet the definition for indicator EG11.1.

7 We updated this in the 8th semiannual report (from 3284/1906 to 3204/1928) as the numbers reported by CRS in FY18 in the 4th and 5th semiannual reports were counted incorrectly.

8 We updated this in the 8th semiannual report from 4/1/0 to 4/2/1 as one policy from TNC Belize had not been counted.

9 We updated this in the 8th semiannual report from 23/15/11 to 25/14/13 as some institutions in CRS that were counted incorrectly affecting the total in the 7th report. Numbers have been updated.
# ANNEX 1
PERFORMANCE MONITORING PLAN

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<th>RESULT</th>
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<td>SA1</td>
<td>SA2</td>
<td>TARGET</td>
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## INDICATOR EG13.1 NUMBER OF PEOPLE TRAINED IN SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES SUPPORTED BY USG ASSISTANCE

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<th>m/f</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total number trained, males/females (m/f)</td>
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## INDICATOR EG13.2 NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS WITH IMPROVED CAPACITY TO ASSESS OR ADDRESS SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES ISSUES SUPPORTED BY USG ASSISTANCE

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<th>Ng/sg/o</th>
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<td>Number of institutions strengthened, National governmental/ sub-national governmental/ other (Ng/sg/o)</td>
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<td>1/0/3</td>
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<td>1/0/20</td>
<td>2/5/26</td>
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## INDICATOR EG13.3 NUMBER OF LAWS, POLICIES, REGULATIONS, OR STANDARDS ADDRESSING SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES FORMALLY PROPOSED, ADOPTED, OR IMPLEMENTED AS SUPPORTED BY USG ASSISTANCE

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<tr>
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PMP FY20 SA2: [https://tnc.app.box.com/s/vqlh83n08ckxy5ialpl24jxij5ncb9](https://tnc.app.box.com/s/vqlh83n08ckxy5ialpl24jxij5ncb9)

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10. We updated this in the 8th semiannual report from 5/0 to 90/23 as a CRS training had not been counted. Please note this will affect the counting in the next 5 semiannual reports. Numbers have been updated.

11. We updated this in the 8th semiannual report from 7/1/40 to 6/41/40 as one policy from CRS has been double counted.

12. We updated this in the 8th semiannual report from 8/74/42 to 8/74/41 as we had assigned incorrectly one policy to OSPESCA.
OES-EGC Indicator Reporting Templates

- EG11 Climate Change Adaptation Indicators Reporting Template: https://bit.ly/3moVBW3
- EG13 Sustainable Landscapes Indicators Reporting Template: https://bit.ly/3oztR2X

BELIZE


GUATEMALA


EL SALVADOR

NICARAGUA
- Nicaragua EG11.1 Evidences: https://bit.ly/3e5mdIo
- Nicaragua EG13.3 Evidences: https://bit.ly/3e3BwSk

REGIONAL
- TNC EG13.3 Evidences: https://bit.ly/2HJI0cA

Project Spotlight – CIAT (Honduras)
- Project Spotlight: https://bit.ly/2Jbqm2q