The effects of climate change worsen the state of the environment in El Salvador because of deforestation, soil degradation, and water imbalance. Due to its geographic location and its economic and social status, El Salvador is one of most vulnerable and highest risk countries in terms of environmental variability, especially in less favoured areas due to its environmental and economic conditions, where climate change effects can have major impacts.

In 2011, El Salvador was the fourth most affected country by extreme climate events, and by 2014 the agricultural sector represented 57.8% of total greenhouse gas emissions at a national level, which contribute to rising global temperatures.

The ‘Harvesting Resilience’ project is an initiative by the Business Foundation for Social Action (FUNDEMAS) with the support of The Nature Conservancy (TNC), whose purpose is to develop resiliency in the sugar cane and livestock ranching sectors through improved sustainable agriculture practices, as well as strengthen public-private alliances, and increase sustainable production and conservation throughout the value chains.
**WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THE SUGARCANE SECTOR**

- **Intervention in Sugarcane Farms**: 6 farms under co-management with CRS partners.
- **Developing Joint Actions** with the agro-industrial sector (CASSA group and the La Magdalena business) and small-scale producers.

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**ACHIEVED EFFORTS**

1. **Strengthen and/or Influence Policies** related to sustainable agriculture production to restore productive landscapes.

   - Signed agreements between FUNDEMAS and associates* from the dairy and sugar sectors to promote good productive practices and drive sustainable agricultural models.
   - El Refugio, Atiquizaya, Ahuachapán, Jujutla and San Francisco Menéndez.

2. **Generate and/or Strengthen Alliances** to develop better agricultural practices in all sectors: promoting sustainability and resilient landscapes.

   - Development of demonstration plots for the implementation of sustainable agroecological practices.

3. **Strengthen the Potential for Sustainability** of agricultural producers: to optimize water use, improve soil management and sustainable agriculture management practices.

   - Conventions with regional associations to replicate sustainable practices between their livestock and agricultural associates.

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**PRACTICES FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCY**

- **Manual and mechanical weed control**.
- **Green harvesting**.
- **Organic fertilization and green manure**.
- **Use of non-herbicide ripening agents**.

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**OBJECTIVES**

1. Strengthen and/or influence policies related to sustainable agriculture production to restore productive landscapes.

2. Generate and/or strengthen alliances to develop better agricultural practices in all sectors: promoting sustainability and resilient landscapes.

3. Strengthen the potential for sustainability of agricultural producers: to optimize water use, improve soil management and sustainable agriculture management practices.

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*FUNDAZUCAR, AGRAS, ASILECHE/PROLECHE*
**WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THE SUGARCANE SECTOR**

**ACHIEVED EFFORTS**

- Intervention in **SUGARCANE FARMS**
  - Developing joint actions with the agro-industrial sector (CASSA group and the La Magdalena business) and small-scale producers

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**WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY**

**Intervention in**

- **DEMONSTRATIVE LIVESTOCK FARMS** of small-scale producers*

**POSITIVE IMPACTS**

- **STRENGTHENED PRODUCTION OPPORTUNITIES**
  - Sustainable management of natural resources
  - Improved local economies and agricultural ecosystems

- **SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES**
  - Reduction of GHG’s and carbon footprint
  - Reduced use of heavy machinery in cultivation fields
  - Increase in local employment
  - Increase of organic materials and better physical and chemical soil conditions

- **IMPROVES CLIMATE RESILIENCY**
  - Foraging banks
  - Conservation of silage and bovine feed
  - Use of improved, drought-adapted pastures
  - Hedgerows and division of pastures

- **SUSTAINABLE VALUE CHAINS**

- **IMPLEMENTATION OF TECHNOLOGIES FOR WATER EXTRACTION AND STORAGE**

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*own less than 30 livestock units*
ABOUT FUNDEMAS

The Business Foundation for Social Action (FUNDEMAS), is a non-profit organization whose objective is to integrate the Corporate Social Responsibility (RSE) and sustainability of businesses with national initiatives.

FUNDEMAS promotes values, policies, and practices that benefit partners, communities, the environment, and its value chain, achieving sustainable businesses with higher competitiveness, while generating improved sustainable, economic, and social development in El Salvador.

ABOUT ResCA

Resilient Central America (ResCA) is an initiative that seeks to improve the livelihood of agricultural farmers, livestock farmers, and fishers in Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, as well as at the regional level in collaboration with the Central American Integration System (SICA). ResCA works in alliance with producers, researchers, the public and private sector, in order to develop productive and healthy ecosystems that will be more resilient to climate change, thus conserving natural resources that support food production, and strengthening the local economies. ResCA is a four-year program financed by the Department of State of the United States, aligned with the multi-donations platform AgroLAC 2025, and lead by The Nature Conservancy (TNC).

#WeAreResCA

For more information:

@ResilienteCA  www.resilientcentralamerica.org