



**INTERNATIONAL UNION  
FOR CONSERVATION  
OF NATURE**

**REGIONAL OFFICE FOR  
MEXICO, CENTRAL  
AMERICA AND THE  
CARIBBEAN**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2020**



**INTERNATIONAL UNION  
FOR CONSERVATION  
OF NATURE**

**REGIONAL OFFICE FOR  
MEXICO, CENTRAL  
AMERICA AND THE  
CARIBBEAN**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2020**





# Contents

<b>I.</b>	Message from the Regional Director.....	<b>6</b>
<b>II.</b>	Overview of IUCN.....	<b>8</b>
<b>III.</b>	Responding to the challenges of 2020 .....	<b>10</b>
<b>IV.</b>	Completing the cycle of the Union Programme.....	<b>14</b>
<b>V.</b>	Contributions to the IUCN Programme 2017-2020 .....	<b>30</b>
<b>VI.</b>	Members and Commissions contributing to the Union .....	<b>44</b>
<b>VII.</b>	Comments from the IUCN Councillors .....	<b>58</b>
<b>VIII.</b>	Alliances that contribute to the Union.....	<b>60</b>
<b>IX.</b>	Annual financial summary .....	<b>62</b>
<b>X.</b>	Knowledge products .....	<b>64</b>
<b>XI.</b>	IUCN ORMACC work team.....	<b>68</b>
<b>XII.</b>	Acronyms .....	<b>70</b>

# I. Message from the Regional Director



**Dr Grethel Aguilar Rojas**  
Regional Director  
IUCN Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean  
HUB ORMACC-SUR

© IUCN / Priscilla Mora

**2**020 was a year of challenges where together – Secretariat, Members, Commissions and partners – have developed new capacities of adaptation and tested their creativity. The region continues to struggle with the COVID-19 pandemic, hurricanes, and fires. IUCN stands in solidarity with all vulnerable communities, especially those who are already suffering from the results of environmental degradation.

In this report, we share with you the achievements that together we have reached during the year demonstrating the deep commitment and solidarity of IUCN's teams, Members and partners. We continued supporting communities in these uncertain times reiterating our commitment to conserving nature for a healthy planet and people.

This year also represented the closing of a programmatic cycle as we complete the final phase of the IUCN Programme 2017-2020, with outcomes that strengthen the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Aichi Targets. The work accomplished also shows that in the frame of the One Programme approach and shoulder to shoulder with our Constituents, governments, civil society organisations, experts and partners, we are capable of achieving conservation goals that benefit people and nature.

This report presents the results obtained in 2020 and the outcome of four years implementing the IUCN Programme 2017-2020. We share experiences and lessons learned when implementing actions and policies that advance biodiversity conservation and promote environmental governance.

We welcome 2021 firmly convinced that IUCN will continue working for the benefit of people and nature in Latin America and the Caribbean region. As IUCN, we reaffirm our commitment to the vision of a just world that values and conserves nature, and call to continue weaving opportunities in one of the most biodiverse regions of the planet.



“In this report, we share with you the achievements that together we have reached during the year demonstrating the deep commitment and solidarity of IUCN’s teams, Members and partners.”



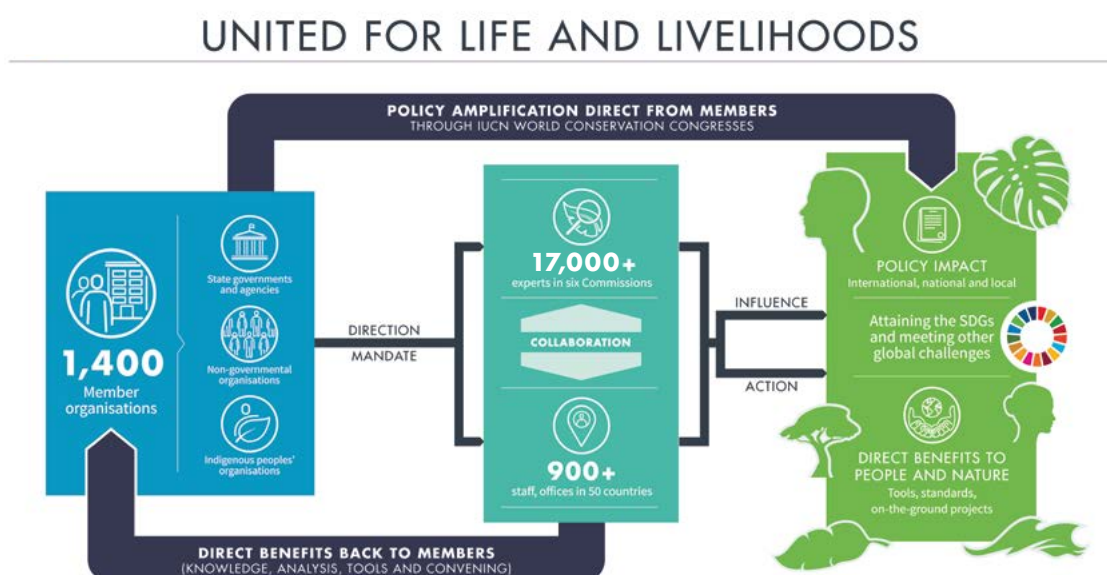


## II. Overview of IUCN

**IUCN is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.**

**C**reated in 1948, IUCN has evolved into the world's largest and most diverse environmental network. It harnesses the experience, resources and reach of its more than 1,400 Member organisations and the input of some 17,000 experts. IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it. Our experts are organised into six commissions dedicated to species survival, environmental law, protected areas, social and economic policy, ecosystem management, and education and communication.

The ability to convene diverse stakeholders and provide the latest science, objective recommendations and on-the-ground expertise drives IUCN's mission of informing and empowering conservation efforts worldwide. We provide a neutral forum in which governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities, indigenous peoples, faith-based organisations and others can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges.



Source: IUCN, 2020



© IUCN / Dave Elliot, Trinidad and Tobago

By facilitating these solutions, IUCN provides governments and institutions at all levels with the impetus to achieve universal goals, including on biodiversity, climate change and sustainable development, which IUCN was instrumental in defining.

Combined, our knowledge base and diverse membership make IUCN an incubator and trusted repository of best practices, conservation tools, and international guidelines and standards. As one of the only two environmental organisations with official United Nations Observer Status, IUCN ensures that nature conservation has a voice at the highest level of international governance.

IUCN's expertise and extensive network provide a solid foundation for a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects around the world. Combining the latest science with the traditional knowledge of local communities, these projects work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people's well-being. They also produce a wealth of data and information, which feeds into IUCN's analytical capacity.

Through their affiliation with IUCN, Member organisations are part of a democratic process, voting Resolutions, which drive the global conservation agenda. They meet every four years at the IUCN World Conservation Congress to set priorities and agree on the Union's work programme. IUCN congresses have produced several key international environmental agreements including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the World Heritage Convention, and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. We continue to help these conventions strengthen and evolve so that they can respond to emerging challenges.

Our Member organisations are represented by the IUCN Council – the governing body. Headquartered in Switzerland, IUCN Secretariat comprises around 950 staff in more than 50 countries.



# III. Responding to the challenges of 2020

## **IUCN dealt resiliently with the impacts of emergency situations in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean in 2020: COVID-19, forest fires and hurricanes.**

**D**uring a year as unique as 2020, conservation efforts faced important challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with confinement mandatory, airports closed and in-person events cancelled. All sectors of society were affected, including IUCN, and in our region, the scenario was impacted as well by forest fires and hurricanes.

In its aim to continuing working for the conservation of nature and the well-being of populations in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, IUCN responded vigorously,

integrating containment measures in its operations to deal with the emergencies. Using a comprehensive approach to maintain achievements while coping with the uncertainties of COVID-19, IUCN reaffirmed its commitment to acting with integrity and transparency, demonstrating resilience.

Supported by donors and strategic allies, IUCN confronted the crisis through adaptive management and mitigation, taking maximum advantage of information and communication technology and tools. It also strengthened strategic partnerships with key actors on the ground, including Member organisations, government authorities, municipalities, indigenous peoples' organisations, youth networks and women's groups.

From the early stages of the crisis, IUCN prioritised the health of its staff and the communities and individuals who play an integral part in implementing our programme every day worldwide. The first step was to adapt to the new reality by formulating a business continuity plan at regional level and action plans for each project underway. This entailed establishing protocols, assessing risk and taking measures to continue field actions and knowledge development.

## Mitigation actions promoted in the region

**The mitigation approach involved actions to support partners, beneficiaries and communities enabling them to cope with the harsh conditions imposed by the pandemic.**

- ✓ In coordination with the Municipal Water Company of the Municipality of Guatemala (EMPAGUA) and thanks to the support of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), a campaign carried out to supply potable water in vulnerable areas of Guatemala City. More than 350 tank trucks containing 956,000 gallons of water were sent out, benefitting 26,000 people.

**Video: Water supply campaign** 



© IUCN/ Nadya Recinos



© IUCN

- ✓ The BIOPAMA programme launched a call to award Rapid Response Grants to respond to risks and direct impacts associated with the pandemic in 15 Caribbean nations. Funds are for rapid response to risks and direct impacts associated with the pandemic and emergency situations affecting the management and governance of protected or conserved areas, increasing resilience to the pandemic's main impacts and maintaining the livelihoods of local communities.

- ✓ The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) endorsed a 10% increase in the budget allocations to beneficiaries of the Small Grants Programme run by the Coastal Biodiversity project, to attend emergency needs caused by COVID-19 in Motagua (Honduras-Guatemala), La Mosquitia in Honduras, and Río Paz (El Salvador and Guatemala). Thanks to USAID's decisive support, up to 10% of the total amount allocated to each organisation will cover organizations' needs, such as the acquisition of biosafety equipment for protection while doing fieldwork, provisioning of food, preventive medicines, among others. Through the Small Grants Programme, twenty community groups, companies and organisations received US\$ 233,324 in total to implement biocommerce initiatives and sustainable landscape management.

- ✓ The German cooperation through the German Development Bank (KfW) redirected funds to attend the health crisis by providing emergency kits with hand sanitizer and face masks for institutions in charge of the Selva Maya protected areas in Belize, Guatemala and Mexico. Equipment and resources were also provided to attend other environmental contingencies such as forest fires, strengthening actions on the ground, management and the mobilisation of park rangers in each of the three countries.



© CONAP - Petén, Guatemala



## Adaptation actions to cope with the crisis

**The adaptation approach entailed measures to readjust and maintain operations in the region. The actions implemented are summarised below.**

- ✓ In-person activities were replaced by video calls, webinars, online seminars and surveys, and formal courses given virtually, with the following highlights:
  - The **Course on Water Governance in Central America** organised with the Central American Commission for the Environment and Development (CCAD), the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), and IUCN Environmental Law Centre, thanks to support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).
  - The course on international policies and legal frameworks related to natural resources and protected areas management, rights-based approach, ecosystem approaches and practical tools for implementing international commitments and recommendations, developed by the IUCN Environmental Law Centre in coordination with the Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean (IUCN ORMACC).
  - The **regional Course on Indigenous Peoples, Territory and Governance of Natural Resources in Central**, with the support of Bread for the World and the Ford Foundation, in association with the University of the Autonomous Regions of the Nicaraguan Caribbean Coast (URACCAN) and the Central American Indigenous Council (CICA).

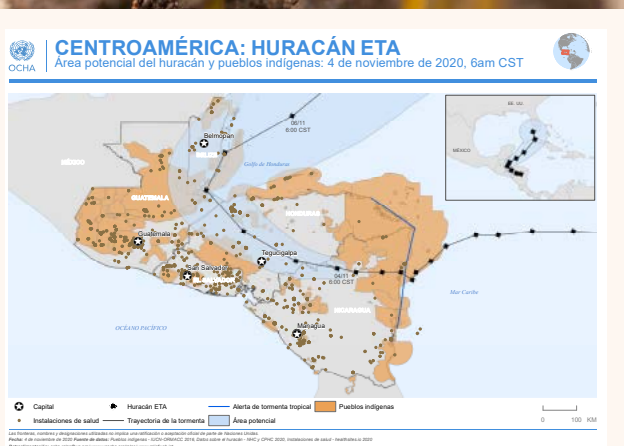
- ✓ The participation of indigenous leaders in La Moskitia, Honduras, has been maintained through virtual sessions by providing Internet services as strategy to ensure their involvement.

- ✓ In the Caribbean, the Plastic Waste Free Islands project designed a print and video package to **train local consultants** in collecting information about plastic and other waste management in order to conduct a quantification and flow analysis of sectoral material in Grenada, Saint Lucia and Antigua and Barbuda, with the support of the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD).



- ✓ Communication campaigns were promoted through social media, including one promoting prevention measures necessary to fight Covid-19 in Spanish and Miskitu, as part of actions promoted by the Coastal Biodiversity project in La Moskitia in Honduras in collaboration with GOAL. An awareness-raising campaign was also launched in Guatemala, on the use of water resources in times of pandemic.





© IUCN / Paul Aragón, Mexico

### Map of Indigenous Peoples: useful tool in times of crisis

The Map of Indigenous Peoples, Protected Areas and Natural Ecosystems of Central America, produced by IUCN in 2016, once again demonstrated its usefulness and versatility over time. When tropical depressions and hurricanes affected the region in 2020, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) used the map to show the trajectory of Hurricane Eta.

<https://reliefweb.int/map/nicaragua/centroam-rica-hurac-n-eta-rea-potencial-del-hurac-n-y-pueblos-indigenas-4-de-noviembre>



Emergency situations generated new challenges in all spheres during 2020. Given this reality, IUCN reaffirmed its commitment to the mission of sustainable development and working together to ensure a healthy planet with healthy people, and working innovatively to continue providing technical assistance, training and investments for biodiversity conservation and economic development.



## IV. Completing the cycle of the Union Programme

**D**uring 2020, IUCN completed the last phase of the IUCN Programme 2017-2020, promoting its management and convening capacity under the One Programme approach, shoulder to shoulder with Constituents.

This last year of the programmatic cycle brought important results consistent with its Value Proposition, contributing to the global environmental agenda through experiences and lessons about the optimal development of actions and

policies to conserve biodiversity and promote environmental governance, on behalf of human well-being.

Three interlinking Programme Areas have been promoted during the four years of this cycle: **1)** Valuing and conserving nature, **2)** Promoting effective and equitable governance of natural resources and **3)** Nature-based Solutions to address societal challenges.



During 2020, IUCN ORMACC sought strategic outcomes in **Programme Area No. 1 – Valuing and conserving nature**, by building capacity in terrestrial and marine-coastal conservation, waste management, and comprehensive management of key protected areas and biodiversity. Other major actions in knowledge management included the development of several databases, information platforms and technological tools, with updated information and evidence for decision making and capacity building.

Contributing to **Programme Area 2** – several participatory and inclusive processes and mechanisms were promoted to strengthen natural resource **governance** and formulate environmental policies protecting the local and regional rights of indigenous peoples and prioritised social groups, primarily connected with water and forest management in key conservation areas and other arenas. This also included formal education, technical training and alternative communication media.

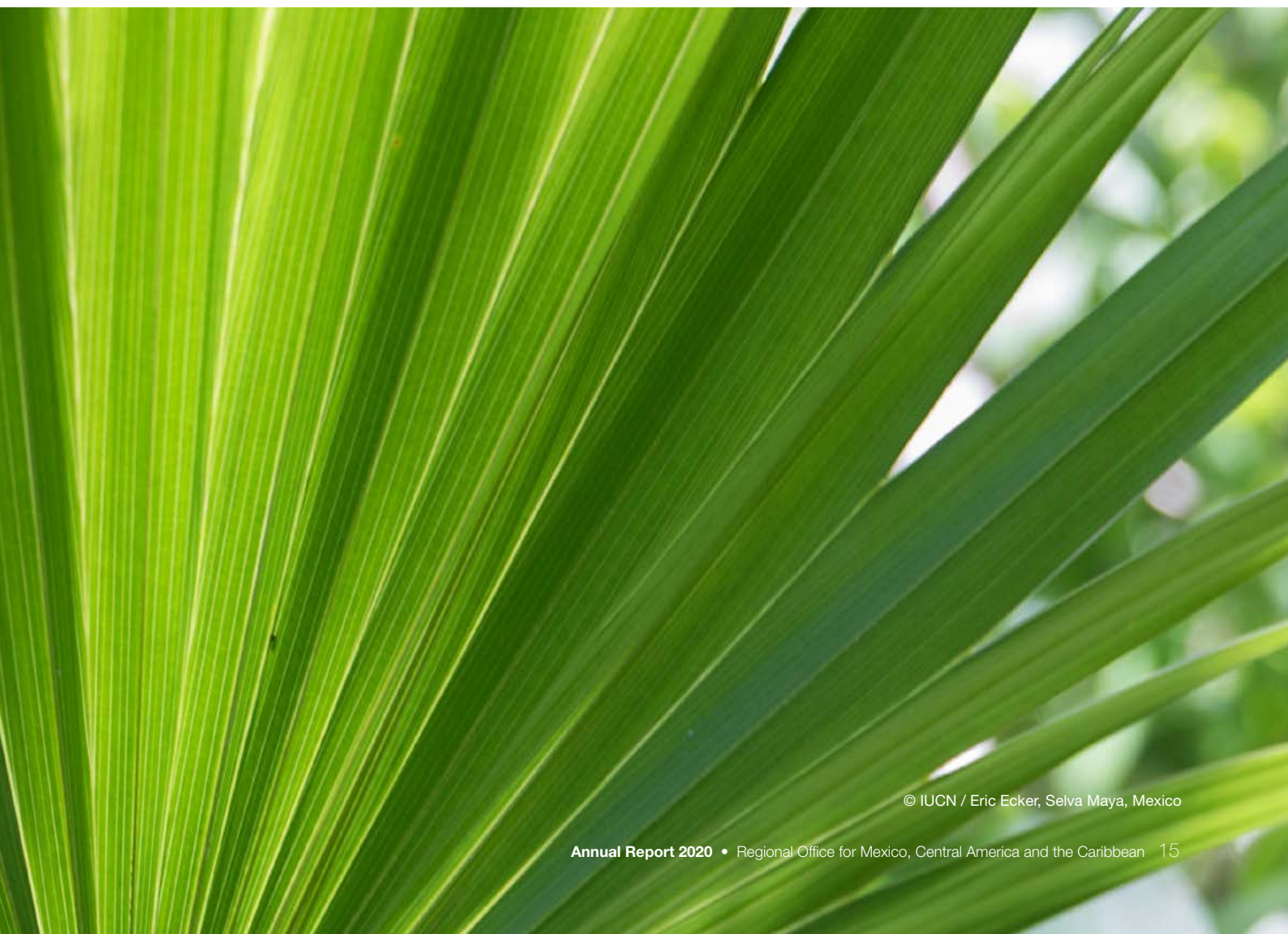
In support to **Programme Area 3 – Nature-based Solutions** through mechanisms like Restoration

Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM), planning instruments and public-private investment were used to generate business models advancing biodiversity conservation and sustainable ecosystem management. Actions on the ground were also driven to implement strategies and plans for restoring productive landscapes (marine-coastal, forest and water) and climate change mitigation and adaptation through an ecosystem-based approach.

### Key results 2020

The following section summarises IUCN ORMACC's main results during 2020, involving different modalities of interaction among its Constituents: Members, National and Regional Committees, Commissions, strategic partners and donors.

Results are organised according to the three programme areas and offer a representative sample of Constituents' shared priorities in tackling the region's growing socio-environmental challenges, driving knowledge management, strengthening intersectoral coordination and socio-political scaling in transition to the Union Programme 2021-2024.











## Programme Area 1

### Valuing and conserving nature

#### ► Promoting governance and protected areas management in the Caribbean

The BIOPAMA programme is strengthening protected area management and governance in 15 Caribbean countries through better use and follow-up of information and capacity building.

In 2020, BIOPAMA expanded data about four Caribbean nations' protected areas entered into the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) – [www.protectedplanet.net](http://www.protectedplanet.net). The PAME (Protected Areas Management and Effectiveness) tool was also developed for Saint Lucia to improve management of its protected areas.

Through BIOPAMA's action component, four contracts were formalised to assign grants that support field activities strengthening management and governance of protected and conserved areas.

BIOPAMA is an initiative of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States financed by the European Union's 11th European Development Fund.

#### Four contracts for medium and small grants were formalised with:

- *Fondo MARENA and Sur Futuro*, IUCN Member organisation in the Dominican Republic, will receive a three-year medium grant (EUR 400k).
- *Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine (FoProBiM)*, IUCN Member organisation in Haiti, will receive a one-year small grant (EUR 92k).
- *Ya'axché Conservation Trust* in Belize was assigned a 10-month small grant (EUR 63k).
- The Bahamas National Trust, IUCN Member organisation, received a seven-month small grant (EUR 50k).

#### ► Comprehensive work toward meeting a global challenge: the Selva Maya conservation

After a two-year participatory process, the Selva Maya Comprehensive Strategy 2030 was consolidated. This is a strategic planning instrument to guide work and facilitate decision making on biodiversity conservation, management and sustainable development of Meso-America's largest tropical forest, uniting the efforts of governments, civil society, cooperation agencies and other relevant stakeholders.

Investments were also made in equipment such as observation towers and ranger posts to assist control and surveillance in Selva Maya, contributing to the well-being of park rangers and technical personnel working on the ground.

Another important achievement in 2020 was the study of forest cover in Selva Maya, which also describes the methodology used to determine changes in forest cover from 2017 to 2018 through remote sensing with Sentinel II satellite images. Results are reflected in two maps that will serve as the basis for measuring recovery of forest cover in the region.

These actions were possible with the support of the protected areas agencies of Belize, Guatemala and Mexico, with the support of the German cooperation through the German Development Bank (KfW).



© IUCN / Eric Ecker, Sian Ka'an, Mexico



© IUCN / Joao Sousa



© IUCN / Joao Sousa

### ► Quantification and Material Flow Analysis: the experience of Antigua and Barbuda

IUCN undertakes a plastics quantification within the Caribbean and Pacific regions to identify the life cycle of seven plastic types within Plastic Waste Free Islands project three target sectors: tourism, fisheries and waste management.

In 2020, IUCN finished the study involving waste collection and sorting in homes and local businesses in Antigua and Barbuda through contracting local volunteers, in support to the Solid Waste Management Authority within the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment.

This is the most extensive and comprehensive plastic waste study undertaken to date in the Caribbean region. The data collected will be used to design innovative solutions effectively tackling plastic waste generation and plastic pollution.

### ► IUCN prepares to launch its first national project in the Caribbean

In May 2020, IUCN signed an agreement for a GEF project to support the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis in improving environmental management, through the transformation of degraded forest landscapes into sustainable agricultural and agro-forestry production areas.

Over the course of the year, implementation advanced toward addressing development drivers with competing demands, causing adverse impacts on land and other natural resources. The project also aims to reorient all sectors of the economy toward policies and practices of resource use that, together, can offer the population economic opportunities while simultaneously sustaining ecosystem services and biodiversity.

### ► Linking Central American Landscape Programme

In 2020, the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD) endorsed implementation of the **Linking Central American Landscape Programme** in the frame of cooperation between the German Government through KfW and the Central American Integration System (SICA), with IUCN's technical accompaniment and in coordination with CCAD.

IUCN has moved ahead in structuring the programme, which will promote conservation, sustainable management and restoration of large landscapes with high economic, ecological and cultural value. The programme is implemented in five shared landscapes: Landscape 1 (Guatemala – Belize – Honduras), Landscape 2 (Guatemala – El Salvador), Landscape 3 (Honduras – Nicaragua), Landscape 4 (Nicaragua – Costa Rica) and Landscape 5 (Costa Rica – Panama).







© IUCN / Franklin Espinoza, National Park  
Celaque Mountain in Honduras

## ► Advances in nominating Honduran protected areas to the Green List Standard

Central America continues to advance its agenda for incorporating protected areas in IUCN's Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas. In Honduras, the CONECTA+ project has promoted strengthening of the national and local governance framework for the arid-moist biological corridor, with an emphasis on protected areas and productive systems contributing to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. This project is implemented by UNDP with GEF financing and executed under the leadership of the government agency MiAmbiente+, an IUCN Member.

As the result of publicising the Global Green List Standard, three organisations that co-manage Honduran protected areas expressed interest in applications for Celaque National Park, Cerro Azul Meambar National Park and Jilguero Water Production Zone.

Articles were posted on the Panorama platform for the nomination and certification process of Celaque National Park, showing that the protected areas provide natural solutions for many challenges, such as climate change and food and water security.

<https://panorama.solutions/es/node/5914>



In 2020, the Green List Expert Assessment Group (EAGL) for Honduras was formed of seven professionals with extensive experience in protected areas management and administration, global environment, and community development related particularly to indigenous peoples.

The Honduras EAGL began the process of formation and adaptation of the Global Green List Standard to the jurisdictional context, as well as evaluating requests from protected and conserved areas to be added to the Green List.



## Programme Area 2

# Effective and equitable governance of natural resources

### ► Establishment of online radio: *Radio Voces Originarias Panamá*

During the year IUCN worked on strengthening protection for the local and regional rights of Indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples of Central America, and improving natural resource governance in indigenous lands and territories under pressure or threatened by the expansion of extractive and energy industries in Panama.

*Radio Voces Originarias Panamá* is a digital radio initiative led by the board of the entity coordinating Panama's indigenous peoples (*Coordinadora Nacional de Pueblos Indígenas de Panamá – COONAPIP*). It employs a rights-based approach contributing to the implementation of certain actions of the “*Panamá Indígena*” communication strategy and territorial policy dialogue on lands, territories, natural resources, biodiversity, climate and extractive industries. Some of the broadcasts are in Spanish and others in one of the languages of the Guna, Ngäbes, Bugles, Emberá, Wounaan, Naso and Bribri indigenous peoples.

This effort is part of the cooperation agreement to strengthen the communication processes of Panama's indigenous peoples as a means of promoting defence and respect for their rights. IUCN supported the effort with funds from Bread for the World and the Ford Foundation, through *Asociación Centro de Estudios y Acción Social Panameño (ACEASPA)*, IUCN Member organisation, and COONAPIP. This allows COONAPIP to strengthen its proposals concerning respect for and the exercise of indigenous rights in Panama in relation to their lands, natural resources, health and education.

<https://coonapippanama.org/radio/>



© IUCN / Nadya Recinos, Guatemala City Valley

### ► Water security in Guatemala

The Water Security Programme of the Guatemala Metropolitan Region (*Programa de Seguridad Hídrica de la Región Metropolitana de Guatemala – PROSEHIGUA*) is formulating a water security strategy for reliable and acceptable quantity and quality of water supplied to the populations of Guatemala City Valley. The intervention is framed within the strategic sphere of AECID's Cooperation Programme Fund for Water and Sanitation. Actions are concentrated in rural and peri-urban zones and aimed at reducing pockets of poverty and inequality.

In 2020, PROSEHIGUA formulated the programme's socialisation and awareness strategy (*Estrategia de Socialización y Sensibilización del Programa*), and conducted an economic appraisal of ecosystem services, mapping and identification of forest landscape restoration opportunities important for water capture, filtration and recharge in the *Valle de Guatemala* aquifer.

It also arranged for translation of the tool “Spring: Managing groundwater sustainability” into Spanish (*Acuíferos: gestión sostenible de las aguas subterráneas*), to complement the WANI tools that will be used as reference and academic material during 2021 for the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) training plan emphasising groundwater.



## ► Strengthening indigenous territorial leadership

With technical and financial support from IUCN through Bread for the World and the Ford Foundation, in association with University of the Autonomous Regions of the Nicaraguan Caribbean Coast (URACCAN) and Central American Indigenous Council (CICA), in 2020 a regional **virtual course** was set up, called **Indigenous Peoples, Territory and Natural Resource Governance in Central America**.

The course opened with 50 young people (23 men and 27 women) representing indigenous and Afro-descendants in Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Panama, Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Based on a rights-based approach, students strengthen their leadership and the internal management, influencing and natural resource governance capacities of indigenous and Afro-descendant organisations in Central America.

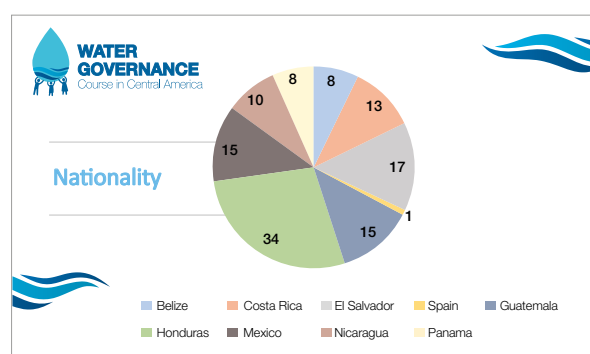
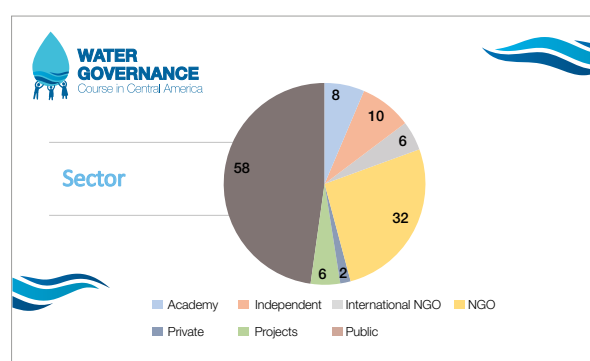


© IUCN / Paul Aragón, Bilwi, Nicaragua

## ► Water governance in Central America

Processes improving governance of shared watersheds were strengthened in 2020, through capacity building and the promotion of leaderships, mainly in the basins of the Goascorán River, between Honduras and El Salvador, and Sixaola River shared by Costa Rica and Panama.

In coordination with CCAD, FLACSO and the IUCN Environmental Law Centre, the virtual Course on Water Governance in Central America was held, with more than 122 students participating (64 men and 58 women). These included public officials responsible for management and decision making about water resources, members of organisations and projects involved in water management and platforms, groups, committees and commissions administering shared basins.





## Programme Area 3

# Nature-based Solutions to address societal challenges








© IUCN / Erick López, Punta de Manabique, Guatemala

### ► Sustainable use of coastal biodiversity

IUCN promotes the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Central American marine and coastal ecosystems through productive initiatives fostering rootedness and strengthening local self-management capacity. This work is possible thanks to the cooperation of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the joint work of a consortium headed by IUCN in association with GOAL and five local partners in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

The strategy focusses on biocommerce, a conservation tool that provides social, economic and environmental benefits from sustainable use of the natural resources on which marine-coastal communities depend. Biocommerce interrelates with another three strategies – governance, communication, and gender and social inclusion – to reach the specific objectives of enhancing evidence-based education and research capacity, improving the livelihoods of local communities, strengthening governance mechanisms and increasing the use of good landscape management practices to conserve biodiversity.

## ► Main achievements in the conservation of coastal biodiversity

-  Launch of the Small Grants Programme: Funding was awarded for 20 projects of communities and local organisations, 15 for biocommerce and five for landscape restoration, to develop initiatives involving sustainable management of landscape and biocommerce. US\$ 260,315 were allocated altogether, benefitting more than 700 people.
-  Preparation of the technical proposal for the creation of the Cuyamel-Omoa-Punta de Manabique Sustainable Biological Corridor in the Motagua site (Guatemala-Honduras), as well as the corridor's strategic plan, a technical document establishing the necessary strategies, lines of action and work programmes for the corridor.
-  Endorsement of the Guatemalan Government for the management of more than 20 hectares of mangrove on the Pacific coast. Leasing contract to *Asociación de Conservación y Rescate de Vida Silvestre* (ARCAS), IUCN Member organisation, for the management of 22.5 ha of mangrove in the Hawaii Multiple Use Zone. Management plans can now be established with the participation of communities earning a livelihood from the mangrove, while also permitting work on conservation, control and surveillance activities. This in turn opens access to the PROBOSQUE Forest Incentives Programme of the National Forestry Institute of Guatemala (INAB).
-  Establishment of three technical cooperation agreements with: 1) *Instituto Científico de Investigaciones Aplicadas al Ambiente y Desarrollo* (ICIAAD), to create a fishery recovery zone in Las Lisas, on Guatemala's Pacific coast; 2) *Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli*, to support the implementation of initiatives funded by the project's Small Grants Programme, as well as formulation of the Cuyamel-Omoa-Punta de Manabique Sustainable Biological Corridor; and 3) the German Agency for Development Cooperation (GIZ), to implement plans for mangrove restoration and management of marine-coastal protected areas at the Paz River site.
-  Signature of a cooperation agreement with Guatemala's Technical Training Institute (INTECAP), Honduras's National Institute of Vocational Training (INFOP) and El Salvador's Institute for Vocational Training (INSAFORP), to develop training plans in tourism, fish processing and apiculture, as part of the implementation of the project's Small Grants Programme.



## ► National Restoration Strategy of Belize

Belize considers landscape restoration a primary strategy to restore goods and services and contribute to climate change mitigation actions, and an opportunity to join global commitments to the Bonn Challenge.

Through the application of ROAM, in 2020 two consultation platforms were formed: the national restoration roundtable and a steering committee to ensure the representativeness of gender perspective across the landscape restoration process. National priorities are set through these platforms to generate the technical inputs necessary for defining the country's National Landscape Restoration Strategy.

A map was prepared of areas with restoration opportunity under the “ridge to reef” approach, so that current soil use can be identified. Once restored through reforestation, best agricultural practices and silvopastoral systems, the land will provide a series of ecosystem goods and services for the population and safeguard the world's second largest reef ecosystem.

Belize has prioritised a total 130,000 hectares for the 2020-2030 period, a formal commitment acquired under the global Bonn Challenge initiative. The object is to implement reforestation practices on 44,000 hectares of forested areas in and outside-protected areas and restore 6,000 ha of degraded and deforested riparian forest. Restoration will also improve management of 80,000 ha of agricultural landscape through good farming practices and silvopastoral systems.

The actions promoted in Belize have received support from several projects funded by German cooperation through KfW, as well as GEF, CCAD and GIZ. The aim of this type of collaboration is to join efforts and work together to formulate Belize's Landscape Restoration Strategy.

## ► Strengthening the resilience of livelihoods to climate change in the Guatemala highlands

Actions taken in the Guatemala highlands aim to reduce the impacts of climate change on the hydrological cycle in selected watersheds, through best land-use practices. This will help improve water recharge and production as well as the resilience of both populations and ecosystems. Support is provided by the Green Climate Fund and the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) with co-financing from the Government of Guatemala through PROBOSQUE.

In 2020, the Small Grants Programme of the Resilient Highlands project was launched and the first cycle was opened. Medium and small grants will be provided to first- and second- tier base organisations to promote ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) on 10,000 ha, and directly benefit women, specifically women heads of household.

The Grant Fund Manual, a handbook on the grant fund, was completed during the year, incorporating forecasts from meteorological and hydrological information systems as criteria for selecting adaptation activities. The project's impact assessment was also designed, and experiences in adaptation to climate change were shared at a forum on ecosystem-based adaptation.



The infographic is only available in Spanish.



IUCN / Tony Nello. El Chayote protected areas overlooking the Great Metropolitan Area of Costa Rica

## ► Economic benefits of restoration: LandScale standard in Costa Rica

IUCN implements the LandScale standard in the Río Grande sub-basin, which supplies Costa Rica's Greater Metropolitan Area, in alliance with the **Agua Tica** water fund. Along with its relevance for water security in this region, the pilot landscape encompasses the second most important coffee-producing zone in the country, in the Western Central Valley.

In 2020, the initial assessment of the pilot landscape was completed with LandScale, generating a baseline of environmental, social, governance and production indicators. Possible uses were identified and LandScale value propositions were defined for key stakeholders in the region (Agua Tica, water suppliers, buyers of coffee, meat and milk).

Using LandScale, an action plan was also prepared to facilitate alignment among different landscape initiatives, such as the Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) in the coffee and livestock sectors.

IUCN supported the LandScale Secretariat in consultation processes for the 0.1 version of the standard, to revise and adjust the tool based on comments and feedback. This led to the 0.2 version published in October 2020, reflecting multiple IUCN tools (STAR, ecosystem typology v0.1, among others). IUCN ORMACC also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with FUNDECOR, IUCN Member organisation, representing Agua Tica, to use the Standard as the water fund's monitoring tool.

## ► National Restoration Strategy of the Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic joined the Bonn Challenge in 2018, committing to restore 70,000 ha by 2020 and 120,000 ha by 2030 (190,000 ha in all). In this context, IUCN and GIZ signed a collaboration agreement so that IUCN could provide technical support and implement ROAM as orientation for the government and to achieve the national restoration goal.

Through the application of ROAM, in 2020 two consultation platforms were formed that will generate technical inputs for

defining the National Landscape Restoration Strategy: the national restoration roundtable and the technical committee steering gender perspective in restoration processes.

The first draft of the restoration opportunities map was prepared under the “ridge to reef” approach, based on lessons learnt in the counterpart process carried out in Belize.





© IUCN / Gerardo Audiffred, State of Oaxaca, Mexico

## ► Nature-based Solutions for low-emission rural development in the State of Oaxaca

Nature-based Solutions (NbS) focussed on landscape restoration are an important means to recover functionality through rational natural resource use promoting low-emission rural development. In collaboration with the Government of the Mexican State of Oaxaca, IUCN has promoted sustainable development under an approach of functional and productive landscape restoration, in the frame of initiatives promoted by the Governors' Climate and Forest Task Force (GCF Task Force).

Applying ROAM and based on principles defined together with local actors, in 2020 a territorial management tool was developed to support implementation of the different public policy instruments defining the Oaxaca State Government's framework of climate and environmental action. Based on this analysis, of the 1.6 million hectares in a state of degradation (18% of the state's territory), 1.3 million represent restoration opportunities where a minimum level of productivity is identified, making it possible to estimate production yields and sufficient economic returns for the population.

In addition, six technological packages were developed for sustainable production models (agroforestry with agave, cornfields interspersed with fruit trees for warm and temperate climates, agroforestry with arabica coffee, agroforestry with robusta coffee and silvopastoral system) simultaneously pursuing various objectives: financial

profitability, sustainable cash flow, diversification of investment risk, food security, carbon capture and better habitat for biodiversity.

A frame of reference was also prepared for NbS implementation in Oaxaca to support planning and identification of restoration opportunities in areas with greater potential impact on sustainable development goals. The analysis determined that only 50.4% (0.7 million hectares) of restoration opportunities, or 42.9% of the initial potential (degradation map) concretely represent NbS to tackle multiple challenges, such as economic development, food security, water security, human health and climate change mitigation and adaptation, placing nature and people at the centre of the solution.

### Implementation scheme and financing mechanism

In coordination with the Interinstitutional Roundtable for the Productive Restoration of the Landscape, a proposal was developed for an implementation scheme that includes forming a portfolio of investment prospects through pilot projects, as well as a financing mechanism so that public and private resources can be mobilised through a financial vehicle (private trust) and platform of technical assistance.



## ► Mangrove restoration in the Caribbean

IUCN is promoting the sustainable restoration of mangrove forest in the British Virgin Islands, affected as a consequence of two, category 5 hurricanes that swept the islands in September 2017 (Irma and Maria). The aim is to ensure the resilience of communities exposed to future disasters arising from climate change.

Potential mangrove restoration zones were identified by analysing Sentinel-2 satellite images taken at different points in time (2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020). Maps were prepared showing mangrove cover and zones with naturally occurring mangrove recovery on the four main islands (Tortola, Anegada, Virgin Gorda and Anegada). According to the analysis, up to approximately 85% of mangrove forest has recovered naturally at some sites, such as Paraquita Bay in Tortola.

The second phase of mangrove restoration in 2021 will combine evidence-based science, situation appraisal, local knowledge, natural disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.



Pre-selected sites for mangrove restoration. Southeast sector of Anegada Island, the red lines represent sites where there is a devastated mangrove, the green lines where there is mangrove in natural recovery. The yellow triangles are the pre-selected sites for mangrove restoration. Note to the northeast of the island the ecosystems of salty lagoons, site nesting of migratory and local birds.



© IUCN / Milena Berrocal, Mangrove forest in the Paraquita Bay sector, Tortola Island.



## ► Strengthening capacities for NDC implementation in Central America

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are the main means through which governments communicate, internationally, the steps they will take to address climate change in their own countries and adapt to its impacts, and the support they require to adopt low-carbon pathways and build climate resilience.

Working together with the Guatemalan Environmental Ministry, IUCN Member organization, and in coordination with the World Bank, IUCN has been following up on the roadmap for NDC implementation in Guatemala. In 2020, the field of action was expanded to Central America by fostering a sharing of experiences among government agencies responsible for planning, implementing, monitoring and funding adaptation measures, as well as civil society, international and private organisations that support NDC implementation in each nation.

Good practices and lessons learnt in the countries that have made progress in the different areas were identified. A document was produced summarising the results and indicating country needs to update and implement NDCs. This will be presented to the donor for possible support in the future.

An information note was also prepared in Spanish and English summing up lessons learnt, key messages and recommendations for updating, planning and execution of the NDC component of adaptation, to be published shortly by the World Bank.



© IUCN / Paul Aragón, Guatemala

## ► Incubator for protecting nature

Together with a group of specialists in law, business, finance, protected areas and governance, IUCN works with associated sites around the world to identify and implement economic and sustainable financing strategies in protected and conserved areas. This programme has been named the Incubator for Nature Conservation (INC).

Three of the 12 global sites associated with the INC programme since 2017 are located in Guatemala: the Bocas del Polochic Wildlife Refuge, Sierra de las Minas Biosphere Reserve and Sierra del Lacandón National Park. Currently these areas are co-administered by *Fundación Defensores de la Naturaleza* (FDN), IUCN Member organisation.

A document completed in 2020 describes the conditions and context of the financial mechanisms identified as having potential to be implemented or strengthened for these protected areas in Guatemala. In addition, a proposal was formulated to implement at least two of these mechanisms for Bocas del Polochic Wildlife Refuge and Sierra del Lacandón National Park, along with a document evaluating best planning practices and financial management of FDN.

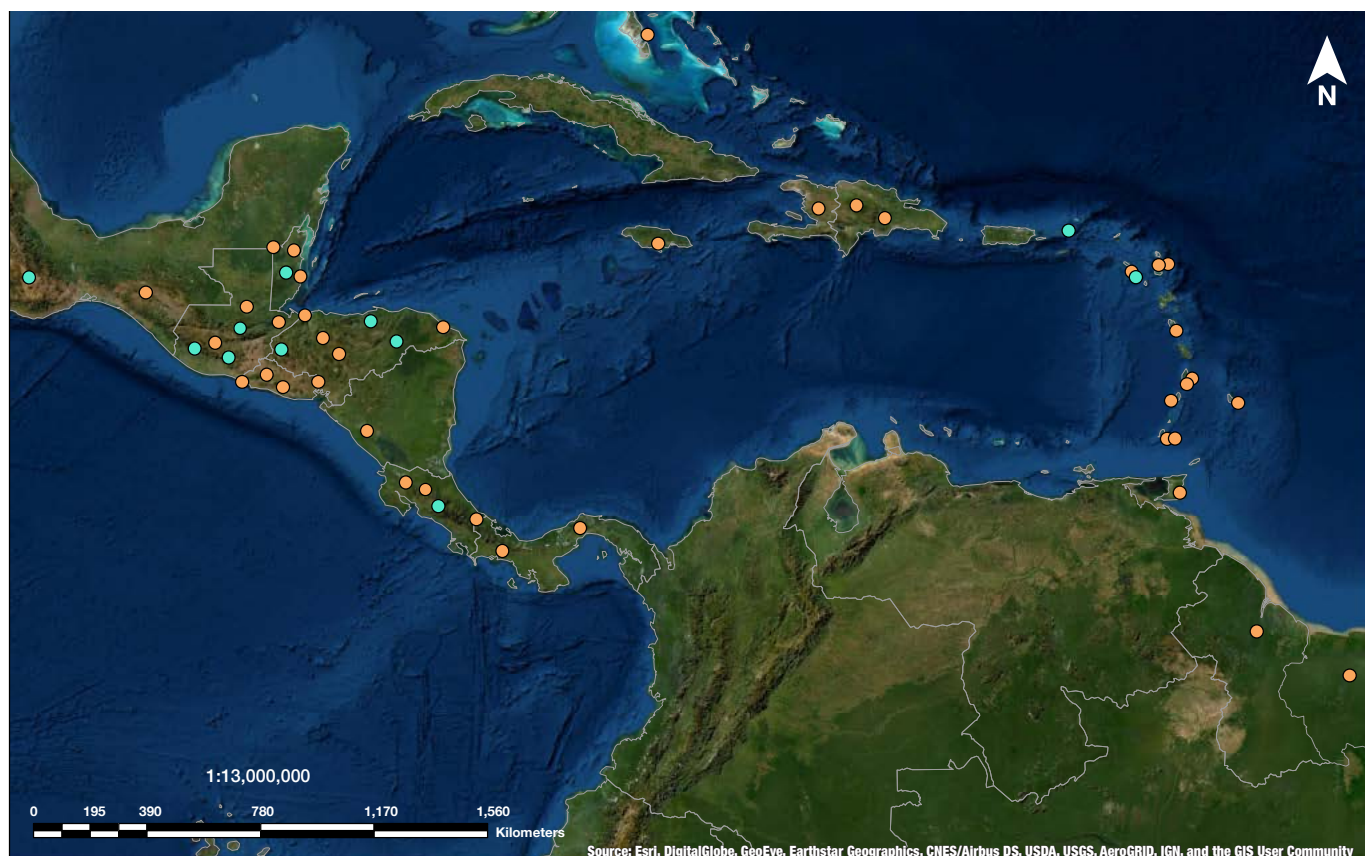
## ► Ecosystem-based adaptation in the management of basins, biological corridors and productive landscapes

In 2020, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) approved a new project to scale up and reinforce ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) measures in rural areas of Guatemala, Costa Rica and Ecuador.

The initiative will be implemented by a consortium led by GIZ, with the participation of the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) and FUNDECOR, both IUCN Member organisations, along with other partners. This is a joint effort of the two IUCN regional offices for Latin America, ORMACC and SUR, which will launch operations in 2021.

# Projects 2020

## IUCN ORMACC



● Regional projects

● National projects



# V. Contributions to the IUCN Programme 2017-2020

## Innovations in responding to challenges and opportunities in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean

© IUCN / Patricia Ugalde, San Marcos, Guatemala

IUCN interventions in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean prioritised in the Regional Action Plan have been strategic for the successful implementation of the IUCN Programme 2017-2020 and its contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Below is a summary of the main innovations making it possible to address the region's challenges and opportunities during this period.



► **Intersectoral collaboration** was stepped up with institutions such as agriculture, fishing and tourism ministries, as well as water-governing bodies, agricultural and livestock trade groups, municipalities, academia and the private sector, to promote comprehensive approaches to nature conservation compatible with productive actions.



► The **region's international positioning** was strengthened by publicising its interventions and outcomes in the frame of global initiatives and commitments such as the Bonn Challenge, the International Marine Protected Areas Congress, the III Latin American and Caribbean Congress of Protected Areas (CAPLAC 3), the Sub-regional Meeting on the Action Plan for World Heritage (UNESCO), the World Water Forum, COP14 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Pre-COP25, and others.



► **Processes to scale up initiatives, tools and results** were expanded in two ways:

**1)** larger-sized projects with investments to generate impacts; and **2)** more regional interventions allowing IUCN to be better positioned for influencing in the region.



► Action was reinforced in **coastal and marine zone management**, integrating attention to coastal populations and ecosystems, particularly in the Caribbean

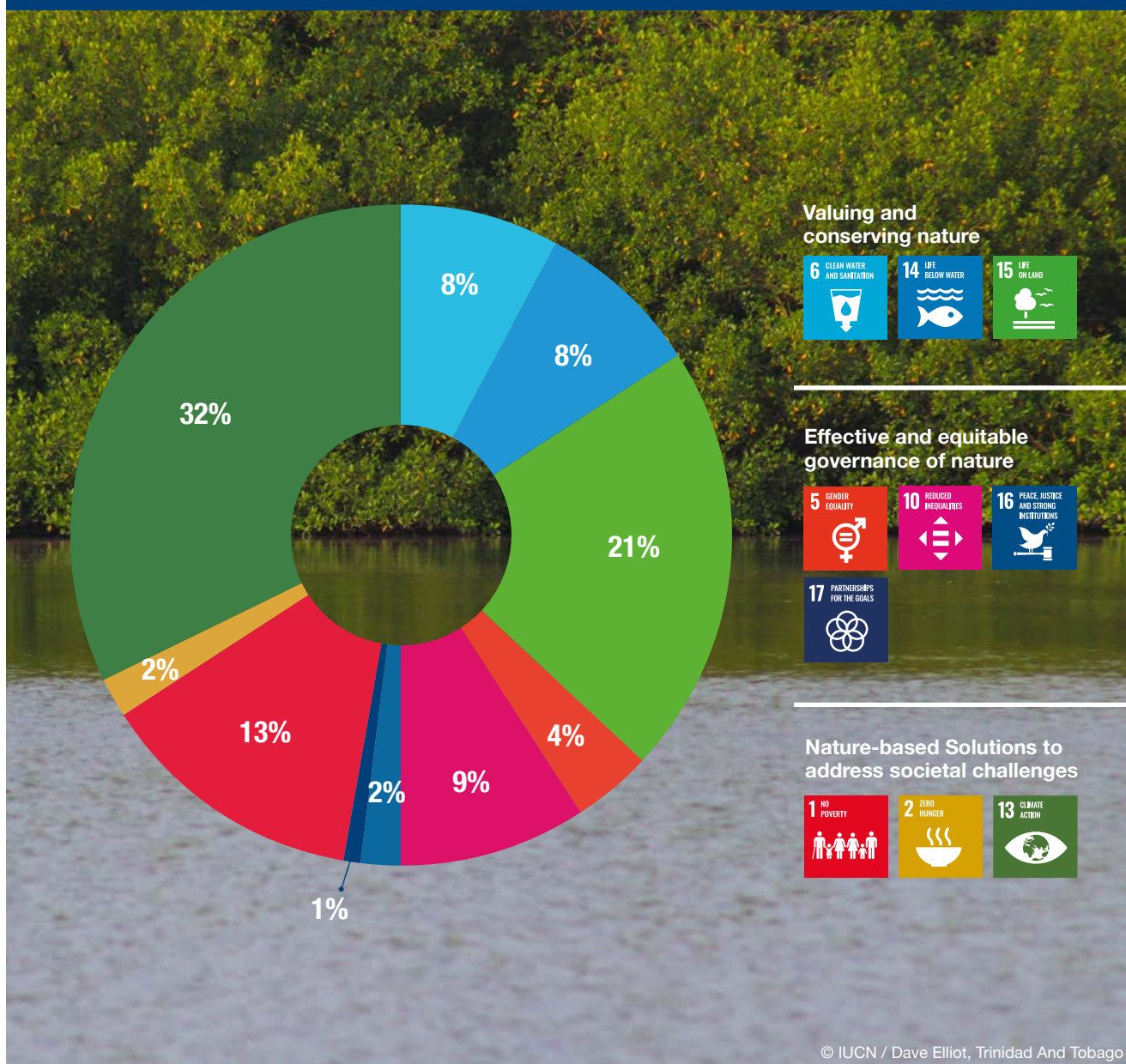
and Northern Triangle of Central America, thus contributing to SDG 14. These actions laid the foundation to generate information and bolster policies, regulations and activities that support national and regional priorities concerning the blue economy.



► **Tools for valuing services and ecosystems at landscape level, and urban and peri-urban landscapes and watersheds in Guatemala and**

**Costa Rica.** This recognises the growing urbanisation of Central America and the pressing need to address water security and the impacts of natural disasters. Such tools define governance practices, structures, dynamics, and public-private partnerships for investment in support to decision making.

## ORMACC – IUCN PROGRAMME 2017-2020: CONTRIBUTION TO SDGs





These achievements were possible thanks to joint work with the Membership, which rose from 107 to 118 Members between 2017 and 2020. It should be noted that of the total Indigenous Peoples' Organisations that are IUCN Members worldwide, 26% are in our region. The great priority given to our Constituents is reflected in the high percentage of projects during the 2017-2020 period that involve Members (96%) and Commissions (35%).

**107 Members in 2017** → **118 Members at the end of 2020**

Membership in Commissions has also grown, from 500 in 2018 to more than 800 in 2020.



In this period, several joint actions of the Secretariat and Constituents (Members, National and Regional Committees and Commissions) laid the foundations for IUCN's positioning in the region. Some of the most relevant examples:

- ✓ The Regional Conservation Forum (2019) afforded Commissions opportunity to publicise and share achievements and work priorities at regional and global level.

- ✓ This region was the venue for the first global meeting of Indigenous Peoples' Organisations, organised together with the global IUCN Commission on Environmental, Social and Economic Policy (CEESP). One of the agreements arising from this meeting was the request to the IUCN Council for a designated councillor for indigenous peoples' issues. Regional leadership was prominent, with Ramiro Batzin, Director of Asociación Sotz'il and Chair of Guatemala's National Members Committee, nominated to the position.

- ✓ Organisation of the III Latin American and Caribbean Congress of Protected Areas (CAPLAC 3) with the World Commission on Protected Areas. <https://www.areasprotegidas-latinoamerica.org/documentos-finales/>

- ✓ The Commission on Ecosystem Management, along with the Regional Members Committees of Mesoamerica and the Caribbean and the Secretariat, organised virtual events on the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions.

During this period, and particularly in the final year of Programme 2017-2020, the region faced extreme situations and events: **the COVID-19 pandemic, forest fires and hurricanes**. IUCN ORMACC acted in a timely and efficient manner to mitigate impacts and adapt its actions to the demands of the context, fulfil its mission and increase the resilience of the most vulnerable populations.

- ▶ In the **insular Caribbean and Northern Triangle of Central America** (Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador), more than EUR 650,000 of competitive funding was made available to support communities, indigenous peoples and civil society organisations working in coastal areas and protected areas, to attend urgent needs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. In La Mosquitia of Honduras, communication campaigns on COVID-19 prevention were culturally adapted and directed to indigenous peoples.



- ▶ In the **metropolitan and peri-urban area of Guatemala City**, campaigns were carried out to supply water, benefitting more than 26,000 people.



- ▶ To confront the **emergency caused by forest fires affecting Selva Maya**, one of Central America's largest areas of forest, protective gear and technological applications were provided so that park rangers and decision makers of protected areas could effectively attend and monitor field emergencies in time.







## Programme Area 1 Valuing and conserving nature

During the 2017-2020 period, IUCN ORMACC was able to concretise the entire continuum of programme goals:



**Strategically, significant strides were made in the insular Caribbean, in emblematic forests critical for biodiversity in the region (Selva Maya) and in coastal and marine zones of Central America.**



### 1.1. Knowledge and information about nature and its biodiversity for decision making and awareness raising

- ▶ The BIOPAMA's Caribbean Gateway, a regional observatory and hub for research on protected areas, is used to facilitate decisions about effective management of biodiversity and the 269 marine and 519 terrestrial protected areas extending some 209,226 km<sup>2</sup>.
- ▶ The Caribbean has standardised methodology for creating registers of marine and terrestrial biological resources, supporting Access and benefit-sharing deriving from genetic resources. <http://www.abscaribbean.com/sites/default/files/5-Standardized%20methodology%20for%20Caribbean%20ABS%20Registers-2019.02.28.pdf>
- ▶ In support to the circular economy in the Caribbean, the plastics cycle in tourism, fisheries and households was quantified for the purpose of waste management and to define guidelines and regulations in Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada and Saint Lucia.
- ▶ The **Environmental Information System** (<https://iucn.cr/arcgis/home/>), a public-access website, was consolidated. It contains more than 32 thematic maps on the situation of the region's natural resources and an inventory of climate adaptation projects in Mesoamerica. In particular, the Map of Indigenous Peoples, Protected Areas and Natural Ecosystems in Central America has been referenced in several internationally important publications such as: Landmark, Local Biodiversity Outlook and NatGeo, as well as *Servicio Jesuita para Migraciones de Costa Rica* (information to reduce risks to migrants in the region).
- ▶ In support to decision making by entities that regulate fishing in Guatemala, the maximum yield for sustainable commercial shrimping was estimated, thanks to biological monitoring, making it possible to define the limit of fishing effort.

- ▶ Monitoring of mammals, crocodiles and birds in the Gulf of Fonseca (El Salvador-Honduras) served to update information after more than 15 years without a similar exercise, and contributed key data about species biodiversity and the extent of its conservation, for wetlands management.

© IUCN / Eric Ecker, Selva Maya, Sian Ka'an, Mexico



## 1.2. Progress in design, adjustments and application of policies and instruments for effective management and biodiversity conservation

- ▶ **Green List Standard:** the IUCN's Green List Standard for Protected and Conserved Areas was adapted to improve protected areas management effectiveness in Belize, Guatemala and Mexico.

The Green List Standard allowed decision makers in the three countries to agree on common criteria based on science and technical elements, to harmonise assessment of protected areas management effectiveness in Selva Maya, the largest tropical forest in Mesoamerica.

- ▶ **The Selva Maya Comprehensive Strategy 2030** is a regional planning instrument enabling the three countries that share Selva Maya to make decisions about biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources.
- ▶ **Nagoya Protocol:** Legal and contractual tools were generated to promote fair access to genetic resources and

the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization. As a result:

- Two countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Kitts and Nevis) ratified the Nagoya Protocol.
- The countries have a Guide on Formulating Contracts to promote fair access and equitable and inclusive sharing of benefits derived from genetic resources of biodiversity.  
<http://www.abscaribbean.com/sites/default/files/Business%20Model%20for%20ABS%20in%20the%20Caribbean%20Region.pdf>

- ▶ **Tools to regulate fishing:** rules on species management and closed seasons based on current pressure were established through consensus, impacting more than 100,000 ha of marine areas in the Guatemalan Caribbean.



### 1.3. Improving effective governance for the management of ecosystems and protected and conserved areas

#### ► **Harmonising protected area management**

**effectiveness in Selva Maya:** the first Regional Expert Assessment Group for the Green List (EAGL) in Latin America was established. This advisory group is formed of outside, multidisciplinary specialists in protected areas of Belize, Guatemala and Mexico. It aims to promote continuous improvement of management effectiveness and governance in the Selva Maya protected areas.

A national EAGL was also established in Honduras with professionals in the fields of protected areas management, community development and administration of territories with indigenous peoples.

- **Guiding World Heritage Sites:** through ORMACC, IUCN advised on the design of the Action Plan for World Heritage in Mexico and Central America (PAMAC) for

the 2018-2023 period, as guide for management and attention to the region's world heritage in the frame of the World Heritage Convention.

#### ► **Investing in capacity building and protected areas management and governance in the Caribbean.**

- More than 160 professionals making up the network of protected areas professionals (CREW Network) strengthened their capacities in 15 Caribbean countries.
- In the frame of the BIOPAMA programme, EUR 1.5 million were allocated to national organisations in 15 Caribbean countries, including IUCN Members in Haiti, Belize and the Dominican Republic, to improve protected areas management effectiveness and governance.



© IUCN / Dave Elliot, Trinidad and Tobago





## Programme Area 2 Effective and equitable governance of natural resources

During the 2017-2020 period, **agreements and protocols** were established under the rights-based approach and gender equality to regulate natural resource management in areas inhabited or used by indigenous peoples, as well as in national and shared watersheds. In this way, the needs of indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants and rural communities were addressed in vulnerable areas of the region.

IUCN promoted communication and awareness **campaigns as a strategy to reach broad target publics in the region, including young people** located especially in coastal areas of the Northern Triangle and Insular Caribbean, as well as capacity building through CCAD. Efforts aim to better position the countries in regional and global initiatives, particularly in relation to water resource management and landscape restoration.



### 2.1. Awareness-raising based on evidence and good governance practices in vulnerable, biodiverse ecosystems

**Educational campaigns and training geared** to young people, technicians and indigenous peoples' organisations to raise awareness about environmental themes, regulations and guidelines for biodiversity management, with culturally mediated proposals.

Highlights:

- ▶ Anti-Litter campaign in Antigua and Barbuda and campaigns for legislation banning single-use plastic and styrofoam in Grenada, on radio and television, in cinemas and along public roads.

- ▶ Campaigns on commemorative dates or about issues related to management of coastal biodiversity, with the participation of youth and families and publicised in coastal areas of Central America.
- ▶ The course on Indigenous Peoples, Territory and Governance of Natural Resources in Central America, for capacity building related to legal and governance themes and territorial dynamics.



© IUCN / Derek Galon, Grenada



## 2.2. Rights-based governance at national and sub-national level



**Instruments and tools were designed for effectively applying the rights-based approach and gender equality through participatory and inclusive processes with local communities, indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants.**

- Two bio-protocols for consultation and regional guidelines on free, prior and informed consent were designed, validated and applied in the territories of representative indigenous peoples, such as Bosawas (Nicaragua), La Mosquitia in Honduras and the Lachuá eco-region (Guatemala).
- Agreements were reached to regulate shared management of natural resources and the effective participation of indigenous peoples:
  - Progress toward the recognition, management and good governance of natural resources took place in the **Muskitia of Honduras (Karatasca Lagoon), Nicaragua and community councils of indigenous peoples in Guatemala**. In the case of Muskitia, the agreement reached among five indigenous territorial councils was approved by the Honduran Fishing and Aquaculture Bureau (DIGESPESCA). The pact protects flagship species, regulates management and extraction of fishery resources, and enables the indigenous territorial councils to generate revenue.
  - Lenca people of Honduras:** the Sectorial Committee of Lenca People, an entity bringing together 28 organisations, was consolidated based on experiences in the Goascorán river basin, through recognition of its own institutionality and participation in the Board of the Basin Council (*Gran Consejo de la Cuenca del Río Goascorán*).
  - Agreement between three territories of the Autonomous Region of the Northern Caribbean Coast and the Regional Government of Nicaragua**, which improved collection by the territorial governments.

Income rose

**40%**

thanks to  
fishery activity



- In Izabal, Guatemala, forty communities recovered and won legal recognition of their territories through influencing and inputs generated from applying free, prior and informed consent in support to *Defensoría Maya Q'eqchi' de Guatemala*.

**2,500** members of  
indigenous peoples benefitted



Recovery of more than  
**24.000 ha**



**Gender mainstreaming in institutional capacity-building and leadership instruments.**



© IUCN / Patricia Ugalde, Guatemala

- Gender perspective was applied in: **i)** guidelines to formulate and update protected area master plans, **ii)** Guatemala's REDD+ plan, **iii)** criteria for prioritising restoration opportunities in Belize, Honduras and Costa Rica by incorporating women's input for decisions, and **iv)** Women's Municipal Offices in the Trifinio region, for the development of municipal gender policies.





## Water governance at local level and in shared watersheds

- **Aquifer use and management.** In the Trifinio area (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras), information about the aquifer from specialised monitoring studies was incorporated in the **Geoportal del Plan Trifinio**, a digital platform for decision making by local managers. In addition, a network to monitor wells and the physiochemical and bacteriological quality of groundwater entered into operation with the municipalities so that pollution points can be identified.
- **The binational Sixaola river basin (Costa Rica and Panama) was the first Latin American watershed** to join the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) global network of basin entities working on climate change. The Sixaola Basin Commission is an innovative body seeking to improve dialogue and cooperation on water resource management, and has been implementing intersectoral initiatives for climate change adaptation.
- IUCN has worked alongside local and community stakeholders to **strengthen and formalise basin committees throughout the region.** Around 25 national and binational committees in the *Goascorán* river basin (Honduras and El Salvador) were strengthened; of these, 15 were legalised, including the Great Basin Council. These structures, along with the water administration boards, are the foundation for implementing mechanisms for compensating environmental services.



## 2.3. Strengthening of institutional frames and national and regional instruments to conserve nature, integrating governance and climate change



- **At national level**, thanks to IUCN support for policy and regulatory entities through technical inputs and dialogue facilitation, adaptation measures and NbS were integrated in **Guatemala's** Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), **Costa Rica's** National Policy on Adaptation to Climate Change, and **Honduras's** National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change.



- **At regional level**, IUCN has been active and recognised as technical cooperation agency supporting the initiatives of various sectors of the Central American Integration System and its global positioning, including: the AFOLU Initiative, Regional Water Agenda, Regional Environmental Strategy Framework 2021-2025, Centro Clima, with real-time climate information useful for the fishing sector (OSPESCA), the Regional Committee on Hydraulic Resources and others. In addition, with the launch of the *Soluciones AbE* online platform, professionals and practitioners of ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) have access to experiences, information and methodology for the design, implementation and evaluation of EbA solutions in the region. [www.solucionesabe.org](http://www.solucionesabe.org)



- **At global level**, IUCN ORMACC served as catalyst to boost the region's positioning on the world stage and in Latin America and the Caribbean, by facilitating the dissemination of relevant approaches and advances in such areas as: **Nature-based Solutions** and launching of the Global Standard, **Functional Landscape Restoration** (regional meetings of the Bonn Challenge), and the III Latin American and Caribbean **Protected Areas** Congress (CAPLAC 3).



## Programme Area 3 Nature-based Solutions to address societal challenges

During the 2017-2020 period, IUCN ORMACC deployed solutions simultaneously addressing the effects of climate change, food and water security, and social and economic inequality. To do this, it validated and implemented the landscape approach and watershed management to reverse degradation of ecosystem services and preserve biodiversity and conserved ecosystems (Programme

Area 1). Coordinating with governance actions at different levels (Programme Area 2), IUCN ORMACC promoted the design and application of practical tools (guides, standards, information) and actions on the ground, with concrete impacts on livelihoods, particularly in coastal and marine areas and zones affected by droughts and natural resource degradation.



### 3.1. Knowledge and evidence about NbS to address societal challenges

Between 2017 and 2020, IUCN ORMACC generated and validated, in participatory and intersectoral manner, standards, methodologies and information providing decision makers with elements for informed, science-based decisions, and to invest in and implement NbS.

- **The LandScale standard** that was designed and validated gives the stakeholders and investors associated with a landscape a common framework to assess the results of sustainability in different sectors and landscapes, and hence incentivise and compensate management of productive and conservation activities. Its application in the upper basin of the Greater Metropolitan Area of Costa Rica, permitted moving ahead in an integrated fashion on an appraisal of the situation and trends related to ecosystems and their biodiversity, human well-being, governance and production. Focussing on the regulation of water resources as critical element, local actors in public-private partnerships identified priority actions such as: implementing a water tariff at landscape scale, pilot basin management efforts with municipalities, and private investments in the coffee and livestock sectors.

**Public, private, academic and investor sectors recognised the LandScale standard's potential to operationalise landscape management and guarantee the provisioning of ecosystem services.**

- IUCN ORMACC went beyond national and sub-national application of Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology, to the landscape level, **generating economic and financial analyses, guides for restoration and a mapping of species for restoration.** This information not only assists governments and implementing agencies to prioritise investments and actions, but also, at **territorial scale**, helps identify restoration opportunities and their viability for water capture, infiltration and recharge of the Guatemala Valley Aquifer, as part of efforts **to improve water security in the metropolitan region of Guatemala City.**
- IUCN ORMACC generated **methodologies and guidelines to evaluate and guide ecosystem-based adaptation practices** in shared basins with high social and climate vulnerability, in response to its regional mandate and based on experiences in situ together with Members and partners. The aim of these guidelines is to address food and water security problems as priority. Tools such as the *Lienzo del Modelo AbE*, *Guía de Monitoreo y Evaluación de las medidas orientadas a la seguridad hídrica*, and the publication "Governance for Ecosystem-based Adaptation" are reference tools for the region.





© IUCN / Paul Aragón, Río Paz, El Salvador



### 3.2. Supporting the development of financial mechanisms and incentives and business models based on good governance

In this period, IUCN ORMACC took decisive and innovative steps to develop and implement financing schemes and mechanisms, incentives and business models utilising two strategies, both with a strong component of intersectoral governance and consensus:

**i) Capitalising on existing national schemes that can be scaled up** and implemented with rural communities.

- This is the case of the **rural savings and loans funds in the mid- and lower Goascorán basin**, whereby more than 4,000 members (44% women) and customers of 77 rural funds have benefitted from reimbursable and non-reimbursable funds (US\$ 600,000) generated through seed capital and the contributions of the members themselves. Families used this funding for productive activities to improve family consumption and income. Savings and loans funds mobilised by

rural entities, cooperatives, banks and other projects amounted to US\$ 1.5M.

- **In the binational coastal zones of Honduras and El Salvador**, more than 1,000 beneficiaries – partners and recipients of financial services – of around 50 rural savings and loan entities increased their capital (US\$ 227,000) and received seed money (more than US\$ 75,000). Of total beneficiaries, 45% are women engaged in productive alternatives. Thanks to the combination of technical assistance, market access and favourable financial conditions, producer and fisher families generated net revenues of over US\$ 800,000 in four years. The mechanism has been improved by incorporating agreements in which the beneficiaries commit to implementing productive options and sustainable practices that conserve natural resources. These agreements added up to more than US\$ 31,000 of financing.

**ii) Participatory designing based on spatial analyses, sustainable productive options and business models associated with NbS to productive landscapes restoration.**

Business models that combine financial, ecological and social benefits are vital to guide investments and technical assistance and meet the demand of local and national actors. <https://www.iucn.org/node/33411>.

Together with local and national stakeholders, IUCN ORMACC made strides in several areas:

- ▶ In **Mexico** the development of territorial management tools included the identification of restoration opportunities offering economic yields and returns. Technological packages were prepared for sustainable productive models in the form of agroforestry systems with agave, diversified staple grains or coffee and silvopastoral systems in the State of Oaxaca.
- ▶ Also in **Mexico, addressing the need for guidelines on sustainable palm oil cultivation**, and to move toward a process of jurisdictional certification and low-emissions development, around 620,000 ha were identified in the states of Chiapas, Campeche and Tabasco with optimal or sub-optimal potential for socio-economic viability and

having ecological-cultural importance. The outcome of the analysis suggests reducing the geographic scope of the Mexican palm oil sector's expansion policies. The limit defined would be more than sufficient to cover the supply shortage, even considering increased domestic demand for vegetable oils in the future.

- ▶ In **El Salvador**, practical guides were prepared with financial analyses of different priority restoration options (gallery forests and mangroves, coffee production systems, agroforestry system with staple grains, silvopastoral and agro-silvopastoral systems, agroforestry systems with cacao and management of green harvesting in sugar cane systems).
- ▶ **Guides and guidelines based on technical, financial and social criteria** constitute additional elements regarding financing mechanisms to promote public and private investments in **Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Costa Rica**, in particular. For example, in the State of Oaxaca, Mexico, a proposal formulated to support restoration of productive landscape includes the formation of an investment prospectus portfolio of pilot projects, and financing mechanisms to mobilise public and private resources through a financial vehicle (private trust) and platform of technical assistance.



© IUCN / Paúl Aragón, San Marcos, Guatemala





### 3.3. Actions for the management, protection and restoration of ecosystems, watersheds and landscapes

IUCN ORMACC helped generate local-level impacts, supporting on one hand the participatory design of guidelines and regulations for natural resource management, and on the other, implementation in situ of NbS.



#### Strengthening institutional, legal and management frames for the restoration, access, control and sustainable management of natural resources at national, sub-national and local level

- ▶ Mesoamerica has been a pioneer in globally driving the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, with IUCN playing a vital role in the formulation of the **national or sub-national restoration strategies and plans of Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Nicaragua**. Based on solid technical and financial information, these strategies enable countries to take decisions aligned with their national priorities, **Nationally Determined Contributions and adaptation plans**. Of the 6.5 million ha nations have pledged to the Bonn Challenge, some five million have been prioritised and assessed to implement concrete restoration options. The region's decision makers are using the scientific and technical information generated to guide their investments and actions in public and private arenas.
- ▶ **At local and territorial level**, major achievements included the definition, design and approval of management plans and programmes to conserve coastal and marine zones, with governance processes, technical support and multisectoral dialogue consolidated for this purpose.
  - For example, the **Guatemalan Government** gave its endorsement to community management of mangroves in the Hawáii Multi-Use Area on the Pacific coast, which will also give families access to the PROBOSQUE forest incentives programme; as well as recognition of the Amatique Bay fishery recovery zone in the Caribbean, to sustainably manage 27 species.
  - Also, in **El Salvador** the government officialised the national cetacean conservation programme, a legal tool that will help protect several cetacean species in the Pacific.



#### Adoption of Nature-based Solutions on the ground

- ▶ Some of the greatest impacts were recorded in areas highly vulnerable to and affected by the effects of climate change: **the Goascorán river basin in Honduras and six shared basins in Mexico and Central America**. Actions and investments allowed more than **30,000 families to adopt soil management practices, efficient irrigation, and sowing methods for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction**. On 300 referential farms in the Goascorán river basin of Honduras, improvements in soil conservation practices, especially for sustainable water use and protection, led to significant increases in yields of staple grains (92% for corn and 26% for beans), contributing to families' food security. These impacts were obtained through a combination of technical assistance, local governance mechanisms – basin councils and committees – and the settlement of disputes, particularly over water use, and support for the construction of community works respecting maintenance regulations.
- ▶ In **Guatemala's Lachuá eco-region, the agribusiness model of the cocoa value chain** associated with landscape restoration in a high-biodiversity area near the Laguna Lachuá National Park, a Ramsar site, became a benchmark in the goal of scaling up to 15,000 ha as part of the **National Cocoa Agrichain Strategy of Guatemala**. The innovative intervention model applied for more than 10 years generated changes in the business climate and value of agroforestry systems with cacao, from production to commercialisation, and includes support services, organisation, governance and financing (revolving funds and public investments amounting to over US\$ 1.7 million). This success demonstrated that it is possible for organised groups of small producers to manage a profitable production model that contributes to the recovery and conservation of biodiversity, through high-quality products commanding commensurately high prices. More than 500 producers saw their income rise from an annual average of US\$ 400 to US\$ 1,400, generating employment and environmental benefits.



**With the implementation of its 2017-2020 Programme, IUCN laid the foundations for the innovation and scaling of actions and investments agreed for the new Programme 2021-2024:**

- Based on the results and experiences generated, IUCN ORMACC alongside Guatemalan authorities, the **Green Climate Fund (GCF)** and the **Korean International Development Agency** began implementing one of the largest initiatives it has ever mounted and its first approved by the GFC. The project will involve scaling up to more than 130,000, mainly indigenous producers in the highlands, and employing gender perspective, the rights-based approach and practices of climate change adaptation toward water security in high-vulnerability zones. The early warning system will empower the rural population, allowing inhabitants to make decisions about their parcels using climate information about agricultural and forest management. These actions together with a robust programme of incentives, investments, financing and governance mechanisms will make it possible to restore and diversify more than 22,500 ha of recharge zones.
- As the Programme 2017-2020 finalised, large-scale initiatives for biodiversity in critical ecosystems of **Mesoamerica (Selva Maya, high-biodiversity landscapes in Central America and Mexican protected areas)** were formalised to address the management of more than 500,000 km<sup>2</sup> of protected areas and their connectivity.
- In response to the need for **integrating EbA measures** in the management of basins, biological corridors and productive landscapes, IUCN ORMACC and SUR together with their partners will scale up NbS in vulnerable zones of **Guatemala, Costa Rica and Ecuador**. In addition, ORMACC will work with the Government of **Saint Kitts and Nevis** on the first national-level project in the Caribbean, aimed at improving the sustainable management, planning and restoration of lands that combine productive areas and biodiversity conservation.

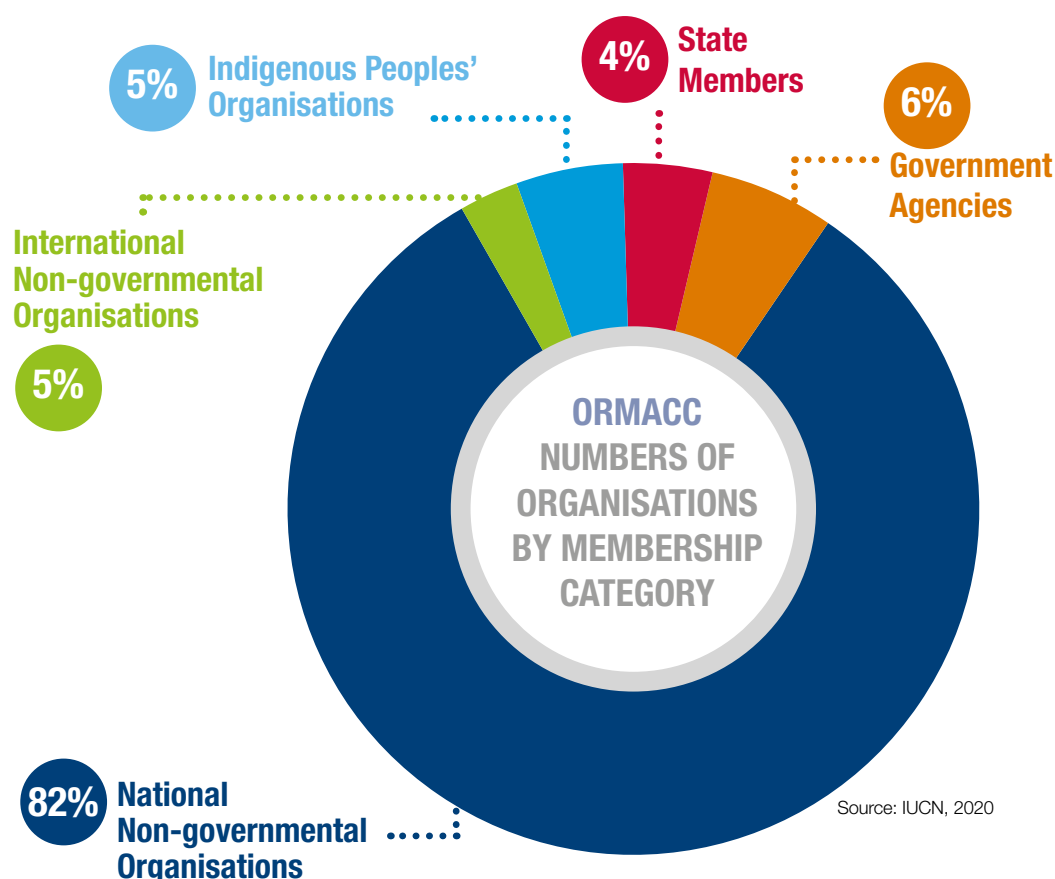


## VI. Members and Commissions contributing to the Union

**All of the IUCN Constituents, Members, Commissions and Secretariat, unite forces to coordinate joint actions for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development, and in this way contribute to the objectives and goals of the IUCN Programme 2017-2020 while strengthening the One Programme approach.**

### Our Membership

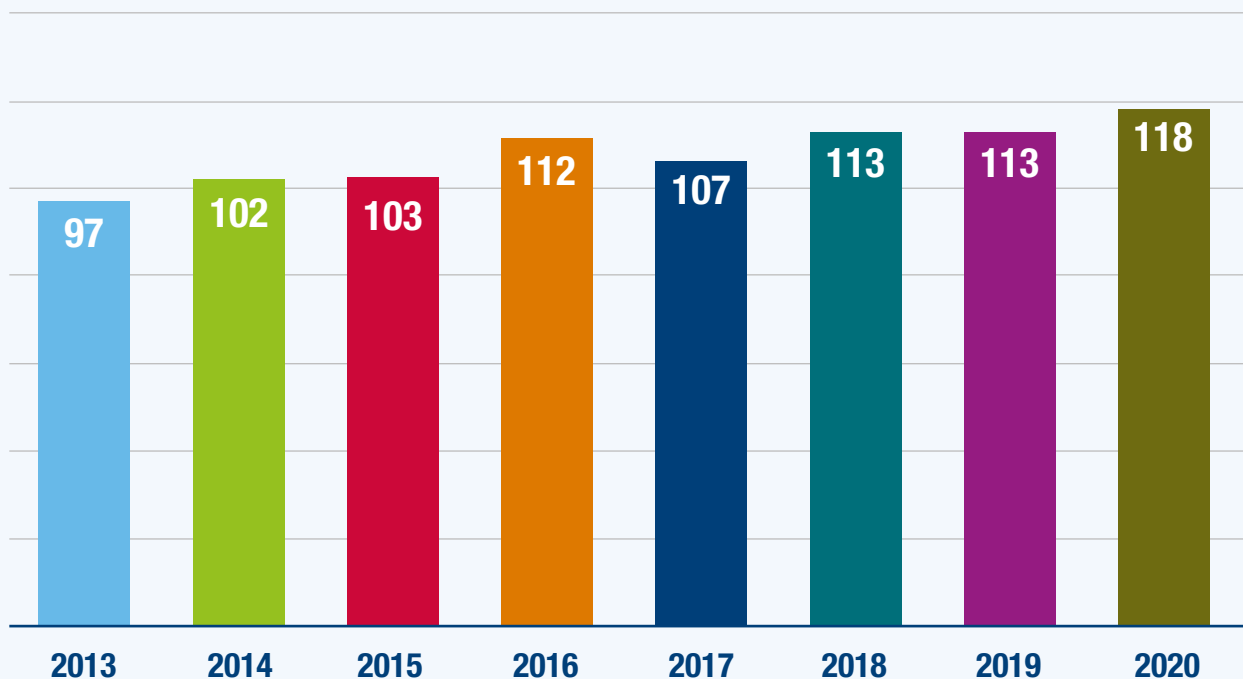
In 2020, regional Membership was comprised of 118 Members in 20 countries, 101 in Mexico and Central America and 17 in the Caribbean. Members in each of the IUCN categories are distributed as follows.



Membership has trended upward during recent years. The following image shows growth since 2013 in the region, with organisations contributing their capacities, experiences and areas of expertise to the achievement of IUCN's Mission and vision.

## MEMBERSHIP EVOLUTION IN MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### Active Members



Source: IUCN, 2020

## New Members

In 2020 we welcomed eight new organisations to the Membership of Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean.

### COSTA RICA

- Asociación Conservacionista Misión Tiburón
- Centro Rescate de Especies Marinas Amenazadas

### EL SALVADOR

- Fundación Salvadoreña para la Promoción Social y el Desarrollo Económico (FUNSALPRODESE)

### GUATEMALA

- Fondo para el Sistema Arrecifal Mesoamericano -MARFUND

### HONDURAS

- Proyecto Aldea Global

### MÉXICO

- Centro Intercultural de Estudios de Desiertos y Océanos A.C
- ECOPIIL ARTE CREA CONCIENCIA A.C.

### NICARAGUA

- Fundación COCIBOLCA



## List of Members 2020

Country	Organisation
<b>Bahamas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bahamas National Trust</li> </ul>
<b>Barbados</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies</li> </ul>
<b>Belize</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Belize Audubon Society</li> <li>Protected Areas Conservation Trust</li> <li>Association of Protected Areas Management Organizations</li> </ul>
<b>Bonaire</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance</li> </ul>
<b>Costa Rica</b> <b>IUCN State Member</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía</i></li> <li><i>Preserve Planet</i></li> <li><i>Programa Restauración de Tortugas Marinas</i></li> <li><i>Fundación MarViva</i></li> <li><i>Asociación Conservacionista de Monteverde</i></li> <li><i>Asociación Terra Nostra</i></li> <li><i>Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza</i></li> <li><i>Asociación de Organizaciones del Corredor Biológico Talamanca Caribe</i></li> <li><i>Centro de Derecho Ambiental y de los Recursos Naturales</i></li> <li><i>Asociación Costa Rica por Siempre</i></li> <li><i>Asociación Mesoamericana para la Biología y la Conservación</i></li> <li><i>Corporación Educativa para el Desarrollo Costarricense</i></li> <li><i>Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Cordillera Volcánica Central</i></li> <li><i>Asociación Centro Científico Tropical</i></li> <li><i>Fundación Neotrópica</i></li> <li><i>Asociación Conservacionista Misión Tiburón</i></li> <li><i>Centro Rescate de Especies Marinas Amenazadas</i></li> </ul>
<b>Cuba</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Fundación Antonio Núñez Jiménez de la Naturaleza y el Hombre</i></li> </ul>
<b>Curaçao</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caribbean Research &amp; Management of Biodiversity Foundation</li> </ul>
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Fundación para el Mejoramiento Humano - PROGRESSIO</i></li> <li><i>Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano</i></li> <li><i>Grupo Jaragua</i></li> <li><i>Centro para la Conservación y Ecodesarrollo de la Bahía de Samaná y su Entorno</i></li> <li><i>Fundación Sur Futuro, Inc.</i></li> <li><i>Instituto de Derecho Ambiental de la República Dominicana</i></li> <li><i>Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales</i></li> </ul>
<b>El Salvador</b> <b>IUCN State Member</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña</i></li> <li><i>SalvaNatura</i></li> <li><i>Asociación Salvadoreña Pro-Salud Rural</i></li> <li><i>Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales de El Salvador</i></li> <li><i>Fundación Salvadoreña para la Promoción Social y el Desarrollo Económico</i></li> </ul>
<b>Guatemala</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Fundación Defensores de la Naturaleza</i></li> <li><i>Asociación Amigos del Bosque</i></li> <li><i>Asociación SOTZ'IL</i></li> <li><i>Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre</i></li> <li><i>Fundación Solar</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>FUNDAECO -Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación para el Desarrollo Integral del Hombre y su Entorno</i></li> <li>• <i>Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales de Guatemala</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación para la Conservación de los Recursos Naturales y Ambiente en Guatemala</i></li> <li>• <i>Asociación de Reservas Naturales Privadas de Guatemala</i></li> <li>• <i>Asociación Ak'Tenamit</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación Laguna Lachuá</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación Patrimonio Cultural y Natural Maya -PACUNAM</i></li> <li>• <i>Alianza de Derecho Ambiental y Agua</i></li> <li>• <i>Asociación para la Protección de los Recursos Naturales Renovables</i></li> <li>• <i>Asociación de Desarrollo Productivo y de Servicios TIKONEL</i></li> <li>• <i>Instituto Nacional de Bosques</i></li> <li>• <i>Fondo para el Sistema Arrecifal Mesoamericano</i></li> </ul>
<b>Haiti</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine</i></li> </ul>
<b>Honduras</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Secretaría de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente (MiAmbiente+)</i></li> <li>• <i>Agencia para el Desarrollo de La Moskitia</i></li> <li>• <i>Comité para la Defensa y Desarrollo de la Flora y Fauna del Golfo de Fonseca</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación Hondureña de Ambiente y Desarrollo VIDA</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación para el Desarrollo Empresarial Rural</i></li> <li>• <i>Universidad de Ciencias Forestales</i></li> <li>• <i>Colegio de Profesionales Forestales de Honduras</i></li> <li>• <i>Asociación para el Manejo Integrado de Cuencas de La Paz y Comayagua</i></li> <li>• <i>Red de Manejo del Bosque Latifoliado de Honduras</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación Chito y Nena Kafie</i></li> <li>• <i>Proyecto Aldea Global</i></li> </ul>
<b>Jamaica</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>National Environment &amp; Planning Agency</i></li> <li>• <i>Environmental Foundation of Jamaica</i></li> </ul>
<b>Mexico</b> <b>IUCN State Member</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Fundación Mexicana para la Educación Ambiental A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Pronatura, A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>PRONATURA Península de Yucatán A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Pronatura Sur A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Faunam A.C. /PG7</i></li> <li>• <i>Fondo para la Biodiversidad CONABIO</i></li> <li>• <i>Instituto de Medio Ambiente y Comunidades Humanas de la Universidad de Guadalajara A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Herpetario de la Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México</i></li> <li>• <i>Reforestamos México A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Instituto de Derecho Ambiental, A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Forest Stewardship Council A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Centro Regional de Capacitación del Agua Las Yervas. Fundación de Apoyo Infantil Guanajuato, AC</i></li> <li>• <i>Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales</i></li> <li>• <i>Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación de la Naturaleza</i></li> <li>• <i>Instituto para el Desarrollo Sustentable en Mesoamérica</i></li> <li>• <i>BIOFUTURA A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Hombre Naturaleza A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Fondo Pro-Cuenca Valle de Bravo A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Espacios Naturales y Desarrollo Sustentable A.C.</i></li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Fondo de Conservación el Triunfo A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Fondo para la Comunicación y la Educación Ambiental A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación Biosfera del Anahuac A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Cooperativa AMBIO SC de RL</i></li> <li>• <i>ALTERNARE A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>PRONATURA Noreste A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Grupo Autónomo para la Investigación Ambiental A.C.</i></li> <li>• <i>Centro Intercultural de Estudios de Desiertos y Océanos A.C</i></li> <li>• <i>ECOPIL ARTE CREA CONCIENCIA A.C</i></li> </ul>
<b>Nicaragua</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Asociación de Cooperación Rural en África y América Latina</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación Reserva Esperanza Verde</i></li> <li>• <i>Asociación Club de Jóvenes Ambientalistas</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación Nicaragüense para la Conservación-Fundación COCIBOLCA</i></li> </ul>
<b>Panama</b> <b>IUCN State Member</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Fundación Parque Nacional Chagres</i></li> <li>• <i>Parque Natural Metropolitano</i></li> <li>• <i>Asociación Centro de Estudios y Acción Social Panameño</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación para la Conservación de los Recursos Naturales (Fundación Natura)</i></li> <li>• <i>Asociación Nacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación para la Protección del Mar</i></li> <li>• <i>Sociedad Audubon de Panamá</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación para la Promoción del Conocimiento Indígena</i></li> <li>• <i>Centro de Incidencia Ambiental de Panamá</i></li> <li>• <i>Fundación Amador – BIOMUSEO</i></li> <li>• <i>Dirección de Gestión Ambiental de la Alcaldía de Panamá</i></li> <li>• <i>Ministerio de Ambiente</i></li> </ul>
<b>Puerto Rico</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Para la Naturaleza</i></li> </ul>
<b>Saint Lucia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saint Lucia National Trust</li> </ul>
<b>Turks and Caicos Islands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turks and Caicos Reef Fund</li> </ul>

## National and Regional Committees

### National Committees

1. Belize
2. Costa Rica
3. Dominican Republic
4. El Salvador
5. Guatemala
6. Honduras
7. Mexico
8. Nicaragua
9. Panama

### Regional Committees

- Mesoamerican Regional Committee of IUCN Members
- Caribbean Regional Committee of IUCN Members









## 2020 Milestones

### JANUARY AND FEBRUARY



In January, the Plastic Waste Free Islands project was launched in Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia and Grenada, with the backing of the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the governments of the three countries and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

Memorandum of Understanding signed in February between IUCN ORMACC and FUNDECOR, IUCN Member organisation in Costa Rica, in the context of the LandScale-Costa Rica project.



Also in February, the IUCN National Members Committee of Costa Rica met with the country's Minister of Environment, Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, and the Director of the National System of Conservation Areas, Mrs. Grettel Vega, on matters related to the World Conservation Congress 2020.

### MARCH AND APRIL



In coordination with IUCN ORMACC, *Asociación Club de Jóvenes Ambientalistas*, IUCN Member organisation in Nicaragua, published an article for the World Conservation Congress Newsletter in March, as the region's contribution.

<https://www.iucncongress2020.org/es/noticias/todos-noticias/iniciativa-de-la-lista-roja-en-nicaragua-un-proceso-multisectorial>



In April, IUCN provided support to the "Discovering the IUCN World" initiative led by the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) and its Young Professionals Network (YPN), to promote and draw attention to actions they have undertaken. Success stories related to a project or research were shared in a contest with two winners.



## MAY AND JUNE

The IUCN National Members Committee of Honduras coordinated a presentation on the IUCN's new Global Ecosystem Typology, given by José Courrau, Senior Advisor Protected Areas at IUCN ORMACC. The event, which took place in June, included the participation of Honduran government agencies, representatives of civil society and indigenous peoples' organisations.

*Para la Naturaleza*, IUCN Member organisation in Puerto Rico currently chairing the Regional Members Committee of the Caribbean, published an article in the June newsletter of the World Conservation Congress as the region's contribution, in coordination with IUCN ORMACC.

[https://www.iucncongress2020.org/newsroom/all-news/promoting-food-security-and-resistance-catastrophic-events-and-pandemics?utm\\_source=&utm\\_medium=&utm\\_campaign=202005-Congress-Post-Covid&utm\\_content=%20Promoting-food-security-Article](https://www.iucncongress2020.org/newsroom/all-news/promoting-food-security-and-resistance-catastrophic-events-and-pandemics?utm_source=&utm_medium=&utm_campaign=202005-Congress-Post-Covid&utm_content=%20Promoting-food-security-Article)



## JULY AND AUGUST

At the request of *Defensores de la Naturaleza*, IUCN Member organisation in Guatemala, a workshop was held on natural criteria for World Heritage nomination. José Courrau, Senior Advisor Protected Areas at IUCN ORMACC, was in charge of the workshop held in August to identify possibilities for nominating Sierra de la Minas Biosphere Reserve.



## SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

In September, IUCN ORMACC and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management, with the support of the Central American Commission for the Environment and Development (CCAD) and Mesoamerican Regional Committee of IUCN Members, organised a webinar on the IUCN's new standard for NbS. Ernesto Herrera, Chair of the Mesoamerican Committee, participated as speaker on the high-level panel, joining distinguished figures representing the private sector, the European Union and Central American Economic Integration System /CCAD.

**Foro Virtual**  
Estándar Global de Soluciones basadas en la Naturaleza (SbN): oportunidades y desafíos para México, América Central y el Caribe

**Parte I. El Estándar Global de SbN**

**Angela Andrade**  
Presidente Mundial de la Comisión de Gestión de Ecosistemas

**Tania Ammour**  
Gerente Regional de Programa IUCN ORMACC

**Rocío Córdoba**  
Presidenta de la Comisión de Gestión de Ecosistemas para México, América Central y el Caribe

**Salvador Nieto**  
Secretario Ejecutivo de la CCAD

**Andrea Meza**  
Ministra de Ambiente y Energía de Costa Rica

**Ernesto Herrera**  
Presidente Comité Mesoamericano de Miembros de la IUCN

**Alberto Menghini**  
Jefe de Cooperación de la Dirección de Unión Europea en Costa Rica

**Laura Ortiz**  
Fundadora y directora de propósito en SVX México

**Moderado por Ernesto Herrera**  
Representante para América Latina y el Caribe, Comisión de Gestión de Ecosistemas

22 de octubre 2020, 3:00 pm Costa Rica, 4:00 pm Panamá / México, 5:00 PM República Dominicana / Cuba / Puerto Rico  
Plataforma Zoom de la CCAD <https://bit.ly/3lzodcM>

**Parte II. Conversatorio**  
¿Qué oportunidades brinda el Estándar de SbN para sus acciones y decisiones de cara a los retos de la reactivación económica y social de la región?

At the request of the IUCN National Members Committee of Nicaragua, chaired by *Jóvenes Ambientalistas*, an IUCN ORMACC team gave a virtual presentation on ROAM. Representatives of the National Committee and Nicaragua's private sector participated in the event.

ARCAS, Member organisation in Guatemala, received endorsement from the State Reserve Areas Control Office of Guatemala (OCRET) for a 22.5 -hectare-lease of mangrove for protection and conservation to be entered into the forest incentives programme of National Forestry Institute (INAB), in the frame of the Regional Coastal Biodiversity project funded by USAID.



© IUCN

In October electronic voting took place on Motions, with 71 Members of IUCN ORMACC participating actively in the process.



## NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

In December, IUCN ORMACC and the Commission on Ecosystem Management, with the support of OECS, the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) and the Caribbean Regional Committee of IUCN Members, organised a webinar on the new IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions. Fernando Lloveras, Chair of the Regional Committee, participated as speaker on the high-level panel together with State ministers and other distinguished figures representing the Caribbean's private and tourism sector, OECS and CBF.



A new project was publicly launched in December, called "Strengthening of indigenous systems for sustainable food production as measures for resilience to climate change in Central America" (SIPRACC, for its name in Spanish), led by *Asociación SOTZ'IL* and *Fundación para la Promoción y el Conocimiento Indígena*, indigenous peoples' organisations and IUCN Members, as part of the EUROCLIMA+ Programme's Resilient Food Production component. Dr Grethel Aguilar, IUCN ORMACC Regional Director, and Vinicio Cerezo, Secretary General of SICA, took part in the event.

<https://www.facebook.com/Sotzil/videos/3525271600854541/>

## IUCN Commissions in the region

IUCN Commissions represent important platforms and work groups for the generation of science, research and actions contributing to conservation and sustainable development. The number of Commission members in

our region has continued to grow in recent years, along with actions contributing to the IUCN Programme 2017-2020. Currently there are more than 800 experts on the six IUCN Commissions.

### Number of Members in IUCN Commissions in the region, 2020

Commissions	Members in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean	Members in the Caribbean
 World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)	110	40
 World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)	42	10
 Species Survival Commission (SSC)	261	96
 Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)	70	18
 Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)	43	14
 Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)	89	18

Source: IUCN, 2020

**TOTAL**  
**615**  
Members

**TOTAL**  
**196**  
Members

## Joint actions with the IUCN Commissions

**IUCN ORMACC and IUCN Commissions in the region have continued their efforts during a time of challenges, but indisputably, have generated important achievements furthering IUCN's mission under the One Programme approach.**

### JANUARY

► From IUCN ORMACC, support was provided to the planning process of members of the **Commission on Education and Communication** in Costa Rica.

### MARCH

► Through *Fundación Naturaleza*, the Young Professionals Network of the IUCN's **Commission on Ecosystem Management** in El Salvador issued a call for applicants to the Young Researchers programme in that country. These grants support students and first-time researchers working in areas related to current conservation issues in El Salvador and Central America. The terms of the call were shared with the region's Members.

### APRIL

► IUCN supported the "Discovering the IUCN World" initiative, a social media campaign composed of infographics and led by the **Commission on Ecosystem Management** and the Young Professionals Network (YPN) to promote and draw attention to actions they have undertaken. There were two winners in a contest involving success stories in a project or research, shared with the greater IUCN community and general public.


► The **Commission on Ecosystem Management** organised the webinar titled "The social side of Nature-based Solutions: conflict, governance and art", in which Rocío Córdoba, Chair of the IUCN CEM in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, spoke about governance for ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change. Participating in the event were Members of the region, as well as the IUCN South America office.

### MAY

► The **World Commission on Environmental Law** held a series of webinars with prominent experts on environmental laws and policies around the globe. The third seminar, and the first in Spanish, took place in coordination with CCAD and was titled "Tools of environmental law in addressing global pandemics in the Americas".

Elvis Rodas, Minister of the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources of Honduras (IUCN Member organisation) and at that moment Chair of CCAD, gave a presentation called "Toward a green re-building: policy tools to prevent the next pandemic". Minister Rodas was accompanied by other distinguished panellists such as IPBS Chair Ana María Hernández; the Regional Coordinator of the World Conservation Society, Yovana Murillo; and Ricardo Lorenzetti, Minister of the Supreme Court of Justice of Argentina. The entire session is available at <https://www.iucn.org/commissions/world-commission-environmental-law/resources/webinars> 

### JULY

► As outcome of several months of work collaborating with ichthyologists in Central and North America, the University of Costa Rica, using data from its zoology museum and with the logistical support of the University's Sea Science and Limnology Research Centre and School of Biology, along with other outside entities, finalised assessments of most (98.5%) native fish species currently reported/listed in Costa Rican continental waters (263 species) as well as several other Central American species, and published these on the **IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™** website (<https://www.iucnredlist.org/>). 

► Currently they are working on a detailed document at the Central American level, to be published soon, to complement the technical files already published on the IUCN





© IUCN / Eric Ecker, Sian Ka'an, Mexico

website. This is an important effort contributing to the work done by the **Species Survival Commission**. It improves knowledge about the state of conservation of Costa Rican biodiversity and provides the foundations for developing and implementing management and conservation measures and to define research priorities.

## SEPTEMBER

► ORMACC and the **IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management** with the support of CCAD and the Mesoamerican Regional Committee of IUCN Members, organised a webinar on IUCN's new Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions.

► In September support was also provided by the **IUCN Commission on Education and Communication**, in the frame of the global initiative #NatureForAll and together with the Children & Nature Network and the Alana Institute, for the regional launch of the inspiring audio visual available in more

than 30 languages, titled "The Beginning of Life 2 Outside" to recognise and value the importance of connecting new generations with nature and its conservation. Download the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-DKMDrKAOTE>



## OCTOBER

► Coordinating with the **World Commission on Protected Areas**, IUCN ORMACC took part in celebrating the Day of the Protected Areas of Latin America and the Caribbean, on 17 October. A campaign was carried out on social media, available at the following links:

[https://twitter.com/uicn\\_conserva/status/1317450424266362882?s=20](https://twitter.com/uicn_conserva/status/1317450424266362882?s=20)

[https://twitter.com/uicn\\_conserva/status/1317539500445343745?s=20](https://twitter.com/uicn_conserva/status/1317539500445343745?s=20)



► IUCN ORMACC also contributed interviews with park rangers in the region for the commemorative video prepared by Peru's National Natural Protected Areas Service (SERNANP): <https://www.facebook.com/495708757199181/posts/2923788587724507/?d=n>



## NOVEMBER

► In 2020, IUCN ORMACC gave its support to request Members' participation in two online consultations led by the World Commission on Protected Areas. The process began in August with an online survey about local protected areas to delve more deeply into the concept of local protected areas, determine their importance in terms of national public policies and agreements and international pacts and commitments, and identify benefits to society at local level. The inputs from this consultative process will be useful for generating discussion in the future, and to explore interest and the relevance of forming a group on this theme in WCPA.

► In November, IUCN ORMACC disseminated another online consultation among Membership in Latin America and the Caribbean, in the frame of the Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA) a key partner of WCPA. The aim is to inform and validate a common definition for park rangers and develop a frame of work concerning values and codes of conducts for them. *Alianza Universal de Apoyo a los Guardaparques (URSA)*



## DECEMBER 2020

► Together with the **Commission on Ecosystem Management**, and supported by the OECS, IUCN ORMACC, the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund and Caribbean Regional Members Committee organised a webinar on the new IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions.



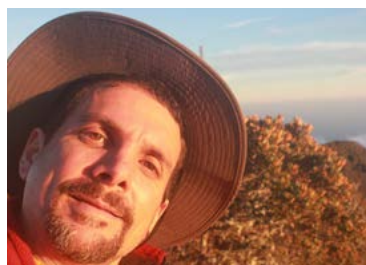


## VII. Comments from the IUCN Councillors



**Marco V. Cerezo Blandón**  
(Guatemala)

Photo: ©FUNDAECO



**Líder Sucre**  
(Panama)

Photo: © Líder Sucre

“Facing the future, we must remember that the global COVID-19 pandemic is the direct result of destroying natural ecosystems and of wildlife trade. The pandemic is a painful and tragic reminder that everything we do to nature will have dire consequences for humankind in the future. At the end of the pandemic – in two or three years – we may confront a world that is less equal, with less solidarity and greater poverty and unemployment, in a context of accelerated climate change.

This is why the next four years will be crucial and decisive: we must urgently “build a more just world that values and conserves nature” if we want to halt the plunge toward catastrophic scenarios. Driven by our Mission and our new Programme, we must speed up the pace and expand our ambitions, in order to protect the natural ecosystems remaining, minimise the impacts of our global economy and restore and renew the natural spaces that provide us with vital environmental services.”

“I think our central challenge will be to re-focus the broader public and decision makers toward the planetary challenge we face with climate change. We are coping with deep fatigue from the COVID-19 crisis, and a continual need to tackle its effects. We are facing an enormous desire for a complete return to “normal”. The task is to get the planet to use this crisis as transition to a new “normal”. Force ourselves to build a normal defined by dramatically greener economies, by countries more committed to reducing greenhouse gases. A “new normal” defined by dramatically less consumption and greater drive to safeguard threatened species and ecosystems on the planet and the services and benefits nature still gives us.

I want to underscore the challenge in relation to the broader public. IUCN is strong in many areas crucial for activating these changes, such as scientific consensus and solid proposals, and an extensive policy and influencing base. We must join our forces to those of others to make our message, our agenda, truly go beyond to a broader public. So that we conquer the public’s apathy, the fatigue, and capture their imagination with a vision that motivates broader sectors of the world population to tackle, with zeal, the global challenge of our times.”





**Sixto Inchaústegui**

(Dominican Republic)

Photo: © Sixto J. Inchaústegui



**Ramiro Batzin,**

Designated Councillor

Photo: © Azucena Flores/Sotz'il

“As of 2020 the world changed. It will never be the same. However, as in other circumstances, new challenges present new opportunities. For some years now, experts have been warning about the possibility of new pandemics coming along, like COVID-19. Now they can be ignored no longer. The cross-cutting element recognised as their origin, and others that could come, is the great impact caused by us, we humans, on the planet. Bringing us to an ever-greater recognition of the close relation between environmental health, animal health and human health. Even more so for insular states, which are always more sensitive to environmental impacts. Now more than ever we must put a stop to the crisis of biological diversity and climate change. The new IUCN Programme 2021-2024 must be reviewed and adapted in light of this new circumstance.”

“2021 is a year of crucial challenges for the future of humankind and the planet, due to the impacts of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic. Today more than ever, as IUCN we must stake on a more ambitious and sustainable Programme 2021-2024, with a rights-based approach that recognises indigenous systems of use, management and conservation of natural and cultural resources.


The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us we can transform when we see the urgency. That national economies could be shut down in an effort to halt the spread of this virus was inconceivable before, but has also underscored that we can have clean waters, skies and air with less pollution. This makes it vital to work together, unite our ideas, thoughts and efforts to develop *Útz K'aslema!* or good life for humanity, mother earth and thus the planet.”

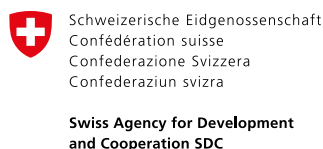
*“Matyox Chiwe”*

# VIII. Alliances that contribute to the Union

We are grateful for the trust and support received from our donor partners throughout 2020. Thanks to their vote of confidence, we were able to continue providing technical assistance, training and investments for the conservation of biodiversity and economic development of our countries and population.



Supported by:  
 Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety  
 based on a decision of the German Bundestag









# IX. Annual financial summary

**T**wenty-two projects were implemented over the course of 2020, with seven launching activities that same year. The total budget in 2020 amounted to US\$ 9.5 million; due to the pandemic less than US\$ 7 million were executed.

In Guatemala, the first project with the Green Climate Fund, “Building livelihood resilience to climate change in the upper basins of Guatemala’s highlands,” will be implemented during the next seven years with an investment of US\$ 23 million.

Honduras signed to continue the project, “Promoting respect for indigenous peoples and the exercise of their rights regarding extractive industries in Central America”, with a budget of US\$ 400,000 for implementation during two years, funded by the Ford Foundation.

In the Caribbean, a new GEF project began with the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis and will have an extensive impact on the region. Called “Improving

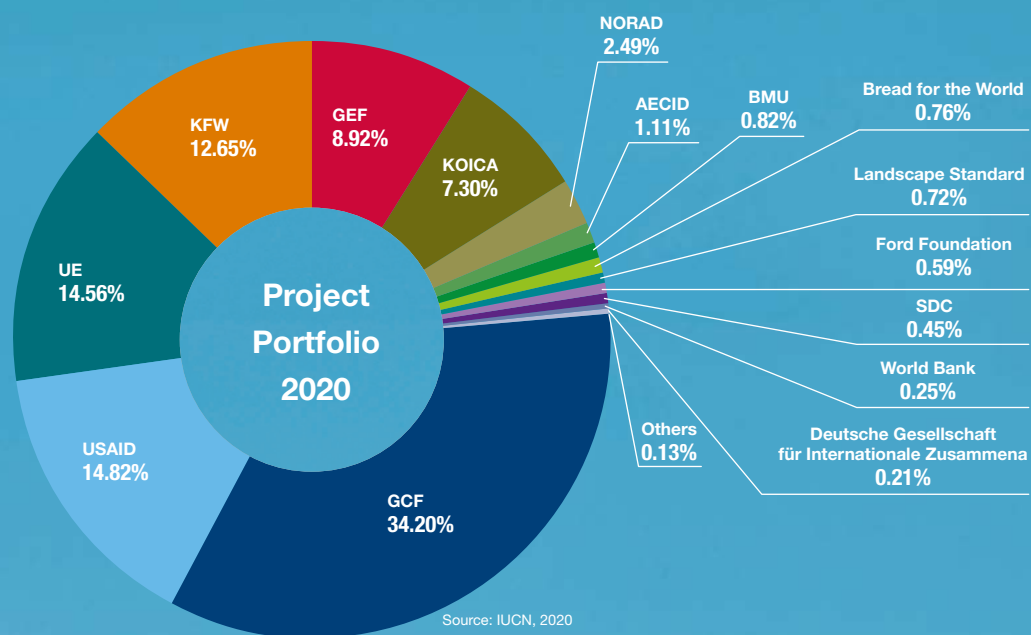
environmental management through sustainable land management,” the project will be executed during five years with a budget of US\$ 3 million.

At the end of 2020, two major projects were confirmed and will begin operating in 2021: **1)** “The Biodiversity Programme: Linking the Central American Landscape” with funding from the German Development Bank (KfW) for EUR 18.9 million during five years and in coordination with CCAD; and **2)** “Sustainable Financing for New Natural Protected Areas” with funding from KfW for EUR 10 million during five years, in coordination with Mexico’s Natural Protected Areas Commission (CONANP).

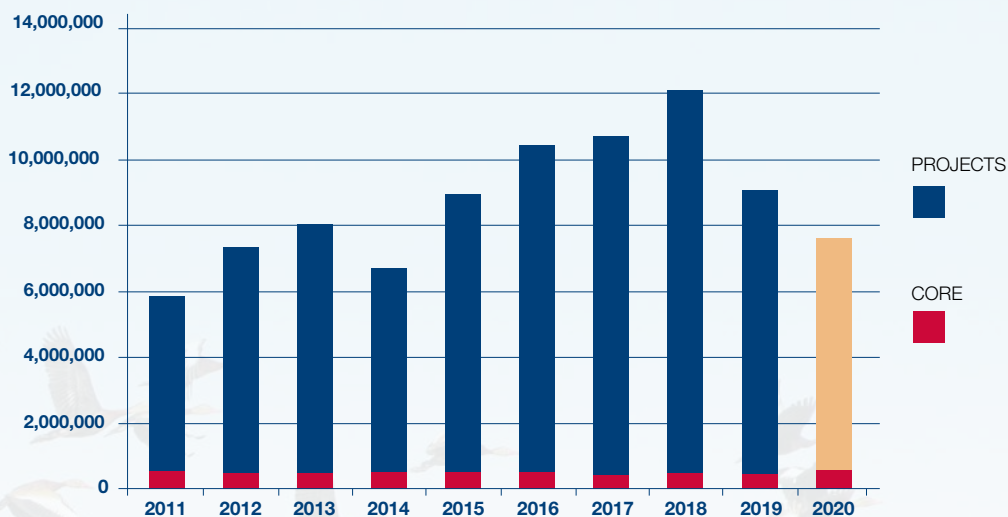
New donors and allies have joined the work IUCN promotes in the region together with its Members and Commissions. As 2020 comes to an end, we extend our sincere appreciation to the governments, international agencies and citizens supporting our mission, for their trust in us.

© IUCN / Paul Aragon, El Salvador





### IUCN ORMACC financial results in the last 10 years



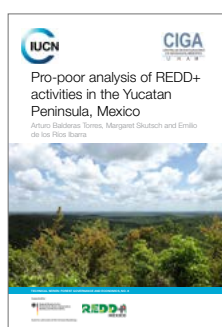
The projected budget for 2020 was estimated at US\$ 9.5 million. Despite the impact caused by the pandemic, an execution of more than US\$ 7 million was achieved.

Source: IUCN, 2020.

# X. Knowledge products

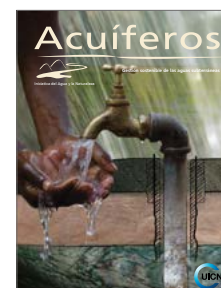
IUCN is one the main providers of information, knowledge and analysis on environment. Below we share a sample of the knowledge products generated in 2020.

## ► Publications



- **Pro-poor analysis of REDD+ activities in the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico**

<https://doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.CH.2020.19.en>



- **Acuíferos: gestión sostenible de las aguas subterráneas**

<https://doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.CH.2016.WANI.8.es>



- **Oportunidades de restauración funcional del paisaje en el Estado de Oaxaca, México**

<https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49259>



- **Especies para la restauración del paisaje forestal**

<http://iucn.cr/arccgis/sharing/rest/content/items/9127281fb5ae4748937b97600a43c1c3/data>



## ► Webinars



- **Tackling marine plastic pollution in the Caribbean:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9ObzjVGm3o>

- **Abordando la contaminación marina por plástico en el Caribe**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a16LfhAiPrg>



- **UICN AECID Campaña suministro de Agua Guatemala**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFGk5uQVkil>

- **Programa Seguridad Hídrica de la Región Metropolitana de Guatemala**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_3oxjTFZboU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_3oxjTFZboU)



- **Reviewing and Updating Guatemala's NDC: Identification of Priority Adaptation Measures**

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/video/2020/07/28/reviewing-and-updating-guatemalas-ndc-identification-of-priority-adaptation-measures>



- **Mensaje en el Día de la Mujer Rural**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0z8gdJJgDyQ>

- **Corredor Biológico Cacique Lempira**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifMLtEM2-44>



- **Importancia del Agua**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZztOBmUF10>

- **Los pueblos indígenas en Honduras y su rol en la conservación**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbaB\\_ElkBxc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbaB_ElkBxc)



- **Importancia de las Áreas Protegidas en Honduras**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4zO\\_4USqyaA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4zO_4USqyaA)

- **Historia de Éxito Parque Nacional Cerro Azul Meámbar PANACAM**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9mLZj77Uy4U>



- **Historia de Éxito Guajiquiro –Honduras**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NDolsYYsTEo>

- **Historia de éxito Corredor Biológico Cacique Lempira –Honduras**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4gUb99sugZY>

## ► Print



RESPUESTA A LA COVID-19  
México, América Central y el Caribe



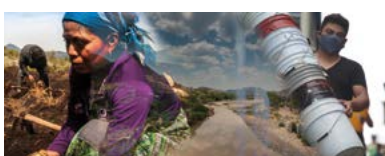
Respuestas resilientes a los impactos de la pandemia

- **Respuestas resilientes a los impactos de la pandemia**

[https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/content/documents/2020/iucn\\_informe\\_covid-19\\_final.pdf](https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/content/documents/2020/iucn_informe_covid-19_final.pdf)



COVID-19 RESPONSE  
Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean



Resilient responses to pandemic impacts

- **Resilient responses to pandemic impacts**

[https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/content/documents/2020/iucn\\_ormacc\\_covid19\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/content/documents/2020/iucn_ormacc_covid19_report_final.pdf)



- **Folleto: Oportunidades de restauración funcional del paisaje en Oaxaca**

[https://www.oaxacabajoenemisiones.mx/Docs/\(web%20booklet\)%20IUCN%20ROAM%20Oaxaca%202020.pdf](https://www.oaxacabajoenemisiones.mx/Docs/(web%20booklet)%20IUCN%20ROAM%20Oaxaca%202020.pdf)

## ► Virtual seminars

- **Foro virtual Estándar Global SBN: oportunidades y desafíos para México, América Central y el Caribe**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HtgprxB2vq8>



- **Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions: opportunities and challenges for the Caribbean Islands**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZG5guVONYPY>





## ► Others



- **Sitio web Oaxaca bajo en emisiones**  
**Página del proyecto**

[www.oaxacabajoenemisiones.mx/](http://www.oaxacabajoenemisiones.mx/)

- **Artículo en Panorama Solutions**  
**Monitoreo Biológico Participativo en la**  
**"Biosfera Cacique Lempira", Honduras**

<https://panorama.solutions/es/node/5914>

- **Radio Comunitaria: Radio Voces Originarias**

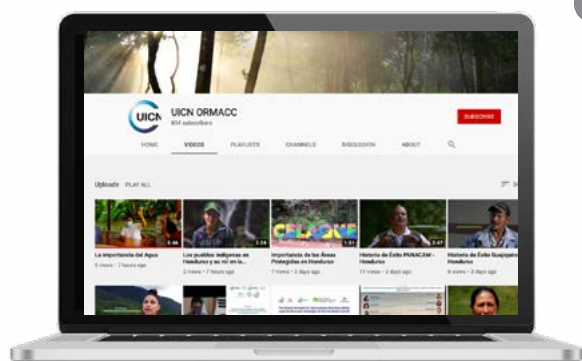
<https://coonapiippanama.org/radio/>

## ► Social media

**f 14.746**  
**followers**



**t 1.647**  
**fans**



**157.689**  
**views,**  
**734 subscribers**



**860**  
**followers**

# XI. IUCN ORMACC work team



© IUCN/ Nancy Arroyo





© IUCN/ Nancy Arroyo





## XII. Acronyms

<b>ACP</b>	African, Caribbean and Pacific countries
<b>AECID</b>	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
<b>ARCAS</b>	<i>Asociación de Conservación y Rescate de Vida Silvestre</i>
<b>BIOPAMA</b>	Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme
<b>CATIE</b>	Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Centre
<b>CBF</b>	Caribbean Biodiversity Fund
<b>CCAD</b>	Central American Commission for the Environment and Development
<b>CICA</b>	Central American Indigenous Council
<b>CONANP</b>	Mexico's National Protected Areas Commission
<b>COONAPIP</b>	<i>Coordinadora Nacional de Pueblos Indígenas de Panamá</i>
<b>DIGESPESCA</b>	Honduran Fishing and Aquaculture Bureau
<b>EAGL</b>	Expert Assessment Group for the Green List
<b>EbA</b>	Ecosystem-based Adaptation
<b>EMPAGUA</b>	Municipal Water Company of the Municipality of Guatemala
<b>FCAS</b>	Cooperation Fund for Water and Health
<b>FDN</b>	<i>Fundación Defensores de la Naturaleza</i>
<b>FLACSO</b>	Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences
<b>FoProBiM</b>	Fondation pour la Protection de la Bio-diversité Marine
<b>FUNDECOR</b>	<i>Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Cordillera Volcánica Central</i>
<b>GCF</b>	Green Climate Fund
<b>GCF Task Force</b>	Governors' Climate & Forests Task Force
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility
<b>GIZ</b>	German Agency for Development Cooperation
<b>ICIAAD</b>	<i>Instituto Científico de Investigaciones Aplicadas al Ambiente y Desarrollo de Guatemala</i>
<b>INAB</b>	National Forestry Institute of Guatemala
<b>INC</b>	Incubator for Nature Conservation
<b>INFOP</b>	National Institute of Vocational Training of Honduras
<b>INTECAP</b>	Technical Training Institute of Guatemala
<b>INSAFORP</b>	Institute for Vocational Training of El Salvador
<b>IUCN-ORMACC</b>	International Union for Conservation of Nature, Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean
<b>IWRM</b>	Integrated Water Resources Management
<b>KfW</b>	German Development Bank
<b>KOICA</b>	Korean International Cooperation Agency
<b>MARN-El Salvador</b>	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of El Salvador

<b>MARN- Guatemala</b>	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Guatemala
<b>MiAmbiente+</b>	Secretariat of Natural Resources and Environment of Honduras
<b>NAMA</b>	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
<b>NDC</b>	Nationally Determined Contributions
<b>NORAD</b>	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
<b>OCHA</b>	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
<b>OCRET</b>	State Reserve Areas Control Office of Guatemala
<b>OECS</b>	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
<b>OSPESCA</b>	Central American Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector
<b>PAMAC</b>	Action Plan for World Heritage in Mexico and Central America
<b>PAME</b>	Protected Area Management and Effectiveness tool
<b>PROBOSQUE</b>	Forest Incentives Programme
<b>PROSEHIGUA</b>	Water Security Programme of the Guatemala Metropolitan Region
<b>ROAM</b>	Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology
<b>SDC</b>	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SERNANP</b>	National Natural Protected Areas Service of Perú
<b>SICA</b>	Central American Integration System
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNECE</b>	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>URACCAN</b>	University of the Autonomous Regions of the Nicaraguan Caribbean Coast
<b>URSA</b>	Universal Ranger Support Alliance
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>WCS</b>	World Conservation Society
<b>WDPA</b>	World Database on Protected Areas



# Credits

Published by the IUCN Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, San José, Costa Rica

**Copyright:** © 2021 IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

The designation of geographical entities in this report, and the presentation of the material, do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IUCN concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or of its authorities, concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

**Photos on the front and back covers:** Eric Ecker, Derek Galon, Patricia Ugalde, Gerardo Audiffred, Paul Aragón, Dave Elliot, Carlos Palma, Milena Berrocal, Dale Benskin

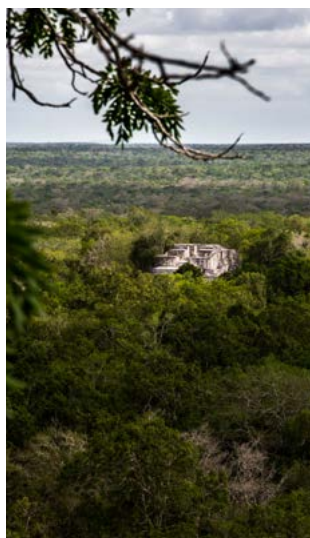
**Editing:** Nancy Arroyo Monge, Communication Unit

**Translation:** Leslie Simmons

**Design:** Tatiana Castro Caamaño








# Working for a just world that values and conserves nature



## INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE (IUCN)

Regional Office for Mexico, Central America  
and the Caribbean (ORMACC)  
P.O. Box: 607-2050  
San Pedro de Montes de Oca  
San José, Costa Rica  
Phone: +506 22 83 84 49  
[www.iucn.org/ormacc](http://www.iucn.org/ormacc)  
[ormacc@iucn.org](mailto:ormacc@iucn.org)

 @uicnormacc

 @uicn\_conserva

 youtube.com/uicnnes

 @uicn\_ormacc