



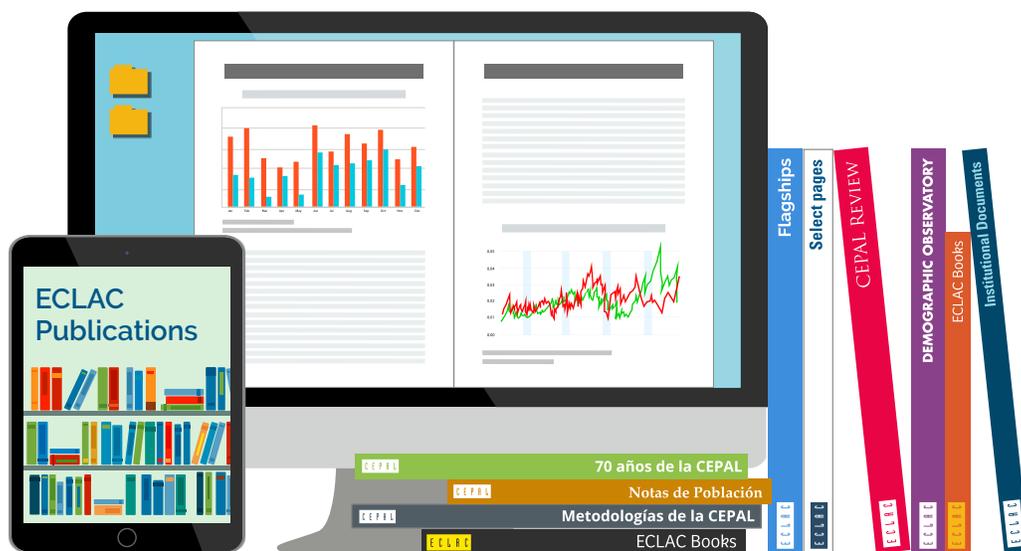
Comprehensive Development Plan
for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras
and south-southeast Mexico



United Nations

Volume 2

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Comprehensive Development Plan

for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras
and south-southeast Mexico

Volume 2



United Nations

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Regional directors and representatives of the following funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system also participated in the preparation of this document: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) / World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Food Programme (WFP), as well as the Development Operations Coordination Office (DOCO) and the United Nations Resident Coordinator Offices in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

The support, comments and contributions of the national authorities of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico in the different stages of the preparation of this document are gratefully acknowledged.

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This document is a translation of an original that did not undergo formal editorial review.

United Nations publication
LC/TS.2021/8
Distribution: G
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Printed at United Nations, Santiago
S.20-00526

This publication should be cited as: *Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Comprehensive Development Plan for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-southeast Mexico*, vol. 2 (LC/TS.2021/8), Santiago, 2021.

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Foreword

The main purpose of this document is to address the structural causes of northward migration from the countries of northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) and south-southeast Mexico. This process is associated with factors such as poverty, inequality, unemployment and the impact of natural disasters. The scale and severity of the situation have only increased with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

It is therefore urgent to implement concrete strategies, policies and projects to make migration an option, not a necessity imposed by deprivation.

This means undertaking specific actions aimed at achieving economic growth with employment and attaining greater well-being, with a comprehensive vision and in the framework of a new development pattern.

On 1 December 2018, on the occasion of the inauguration of President Manuel López Obrador of Mexico, the Presidents of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico signed a declaration in which they laid the foundations of understanding for a new relationship between the four countries through a Comprehensive Development Plan. The four signatory countries expressed their willingness to deepen cooperation on development and migration to make human mobility a choice rather than an obligation, and requested technical support from the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in the design and implementation of the initiative.

Although this approach was already relevant at the end of 2018, now, in the light of the difficult lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is even more valid and more urgent.

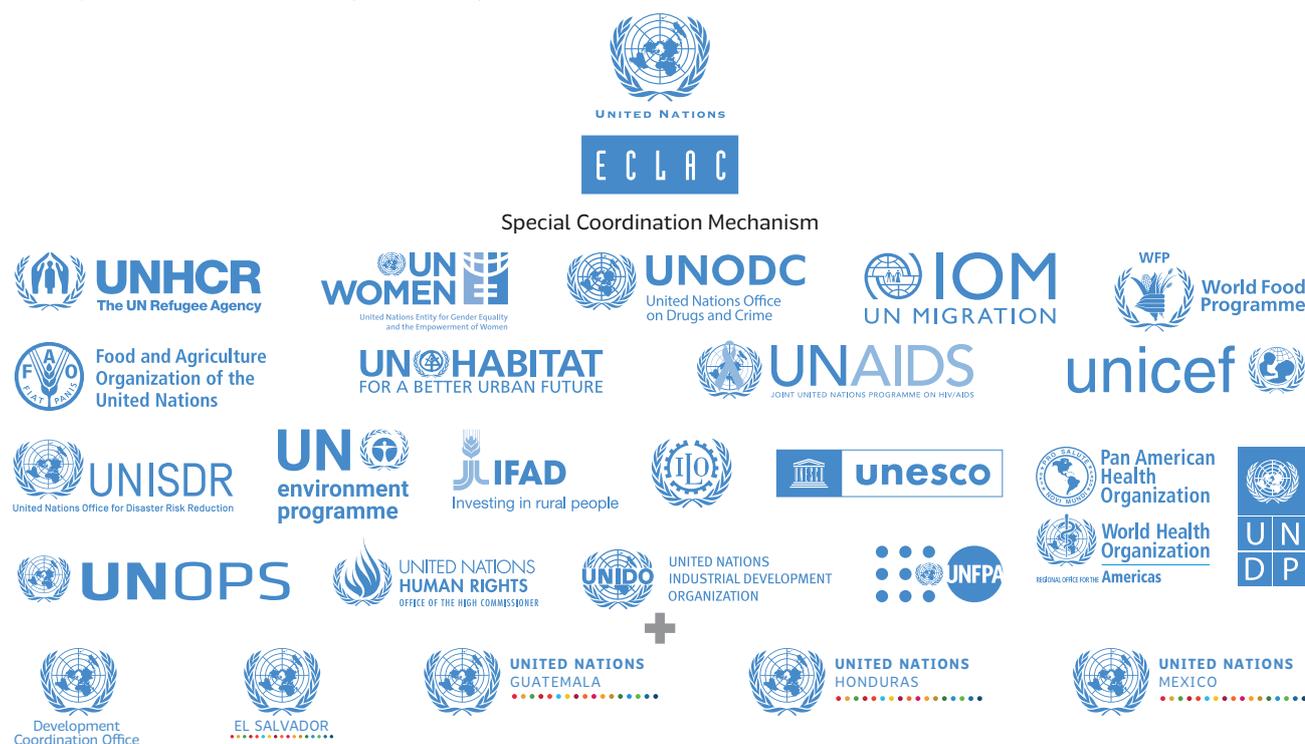
In accordance with this mandate, ECLAC prepared a comprehensive proposal with guidelines for action based on local, national and subregional realities. The aim of the Comprehensive Development Plan is to contribute to ensuring that migration

in these countries is safe, orderly and regular and, at the same time, to tackle its structural causes in order to enhance people's well-being and ensure that human mobility is a free choice.¹

On 20 May 2019, ECLAC submitted a Comprehensive Development Plan proposal centred on three components: analysis of the economic, social and environmental situation; identification of areas of opportunity; and formulation of policy recommendations. These recommendations were grouped under four pillars: (i) economic development; (ii) social well-being; (iii) environmental sustainability, climate change and adaptation, and disaster risk reduction; and (iv) comprehensive management of the migration cycle. The first phase of this initiative was implemented in constant consultation with the national authorities and with contributions from a number of institutions, in particular funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system (see the following diagram).

Diagram

Funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system that contributed to the Comprehensive Development Plan for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-southeast Mexico



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

¹ The objectives of the Comprehensive Development Plan are compatible with those of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: to mitigate the adverse and structural factors that hinder people from building and maintaining sustainable livelihoods in their countries of origin, to reduce the risks and vulnerabilities migrants face at different stages of migration by respecting, protecting and fulfilling their human rights and providing them with care and assistance; to address the legitimate concerns of transit and destination States and communities; to create conducive conditions that enable all migrants to enrich societies; and to facilitate their contributions to sustainable development at local, national, regional and global levels. See United Nations, *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration* (A/RES/73/195), 2019 [online] <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/73/195>.

On 12 September 2019, the Secretary-General of the United Nations established a special coordination mechanism, chaired by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, to facilitate effective and integrated support by the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to the Governments of the four countries. This document forms part of that mandate and seeks to streamline the process and to prepare an implementation agenda based on proposals stemming from the countries' needs and the experience of different regional and international institutions, in accordance with international human rights laws, with a view to influencing the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. The jointly prepared set of proposals is at the heart of this initiative, providing the impetus and realism that the Plan requires.

This document incorporates the contributions to the Comprehensive Development Plan on which the United Nations system is working or that it proposes to take forward. There are both individual actions and actions coordinated between two or more funds, programmes or specialized agencies. Individual actions include: (i) those that are currently being implemented and are related to Comprehensive Development Plan proposals; (ii) actions and programmes that will come into operation in the 2020–2021 period, have financing and possess significant synergies with Comprehensive Development Plan objectives; and (iii) new projects to be incorporated into the set of proposals as they come on stream. In the case of coordinated actions, funds, programmes and specialized agencies at the regional level will form issue-based coalitions around the four Comprehensive Development Plan pillars.

Since its inception, the Comprehensive Development Plan has recognized the importance of the efforts and outcomes of the integration process deployed in Central America, in particular by the regional bodies and institutions of the Central American Integration System (SICA). For decades, Central America has been making significant efforts and has been allocating resources to deepen ties and promote integration between the countries in the subregion, which has resulted in the emergence of various institutions and spaces for dialogue and cooperation. In addition, the Central American regional space has mechanisms for liaising and cooperating with its neighbours, especially Mexico, such as the Tuxtla Mechanism for Dialogue and Coordination, the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project and the Alliance for Prosperity in the Northern Triangle.² The Comprehensive Development Plan is aligned with these efforts and builds synergies in such areas as cooperation on trade facilitation, energy integration and managing the risk of extreme weather events.

History has shown that the Central American countries are capable of building agreements with innovative integration processes, as well as of entering into cooperation commitments with other Latin American countries, in particular Mexico. This new, ECLAC-coordinated, collective proposal wholeheartedly embraces the spirit of the Contadora Act for Peace and Cooperation in Central America and the principles of

² In 1996, the Tuxtla Mechanism for Dialogue and Coordination was formalized as a space for political dialogue, the consolidation of peace and democracy and the promotion of cooperation between Mexico and the Central American countries. Subsequently, the Puebla-Panama Plan, which in 2008 became the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project, consolidated the spirit of cooperation between Central America and Mexico and Belize, Colombia and the Dominican Republic subsequently joined it. Since 2008, within the framework of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Tuxtla Mechanism for Dialogue and Coordination, the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project has become a space for cooperation that facilitates the exchange of experiences and good practice, consensus- and capacity-building and the identification of resources to tackle regional priorities.

the Esquipulas Accords, with an emphasis on peace, justice, solidarity, development, international cooperation and respect for the sovereignty of States. Those two eras of diplomacy should serve as inspiration for the new relationship that El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico are seeking to forge in order to address jointly the development challenges of the twenty-first century, including human mobility.

In recent years, human mobility (migration and forced displacement) from northern Central America has been at its most dramatic and complex, with the number of migrants in transit, returnees, unaccompanied minors and asylum-seekers having increased, as has the number of complete families and high-visibility caravans transiting through those countries and Mexico. Faced with this reality, which has raised human mobility to the highest priority on political and development agendas, the United Nations system is seeking to coordinate and generate actions that help to address the migration cycle comprehensively (origin, transit, destination and return), from a perspective that is not only humanitarian, but also economic, social, environmental, and centred around human security and human rights.

In parallel, on 14 August 2019 the nine state governments of Mexico's south-southeast region (Campeche, Chiapas, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Puebla, Quintana Roo, Tabasco, Veracruz and Yucatán) signed the Oaxaca Pact. Within the framework of the National Conference of Governors (CONAGO) and its Commission for the Comprehensive Development of the South-Southeast Region, these states will coordinate to attract growth and development and to mitigate poverty. The Oaxaca Pact provides for the creation and rehabilitation of railway, road connectivity, port and energy infrastructure projects. As the Comprehensive Development Plan is aligned with and complements and boosts the Oaxaca Pact, the Plan's actions in Mexico will focus on these nine states.

On the occasion of the inauguration of President Alejandro Giammattei of Guatemala on 15 January 2020, the ECLAC Executive Secretary reported on the Comprehensive Development Plan's progress to the President of Guatemala and the foreign ministers of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. In bilateral meetings with the ECLAC Executive Secretary, the countries' presidents and foreign ministers appointed institutions and officials to prioritize Comprehensive Development Plan projects and programmes in their respective countries. Subsequently, ECLAC officials visited the four countries and worked with the designated officials and their staff to establish linkages between the Comprehensive Development Plan and national development plans, Government plans and national goals and priorities. High-level officials in each country prioritized, selected and developed the initiatives contained in the Comprehensive Development Plan.

The proposals in the Comprehensive Development Plan are innovative responses designed to renew and strengthen the relationship between northern Central America and the states of south-southeast Mexico. The proposals relaunch and scale up regional integration, building on existing achievements.

Effective implementation of the regional, national and local projects in the Comprehensive Development Plan will be a result of the actions of: national and local governments; regional integration institutions; private-sector and civil-society representatives; funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system; international financial institutions; and donors of the funds needed to implement this agenda.

Against this backdrop, this document charts a path towards an economically efficient, socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable style of development that meets the pressing demands generated by long- and short-term situations. It fosters economic development in countries of origin to enhance people's well-being, founded on a human security and human rights approach. The proposal identifies innovative responses based on renewing and strengthening the relationship between northern Central America and Mexico, relaunching and scaling up integration. Adopting this perspective, the Comprehensive Development Plan:

- Incorporates a human rights and human security approach (employment, income, education, social protection, public safety and livelihoods).
- Puts people's human rights at the centre.
- Strengthens national efforts and priorities.
- Proposes development policies for lagging areas.
- Values, protects and capitalizes on the subregion's natural wealth and cultural diversity for the benefit of its population.
- Explores synergies and promotes regional integration.
- Includes human mobility within a vision of sustainable development.
- Incorporates a comprehensive view of the migration cycle (origin, transit, destination and return).
- Re-examines matters relating to governance, institution-building and the creation of safe spaces in the cities and places of origin and the transit spaces of migrants in order to analyse and address them.

The pre-pandemic diagnosis already revealed the structural problems posed by economic development, welfare and social protection, environmental degradation and vulnerability to disasters, as well as the strong pressures that all this implies for forced and unsafe migration. As mentioned earlier, all these factors have worsened in the current context, where neither events, nor possible exit scenarios, nor the final toll of this major crisis can be predicted.

The complex reality of human mobility in this subregion stems from economic reasons, violence, the pursuit of family reunification and pressures arising from global warming. It encompasses regular migration, irregular migration, internal displacement and the movement of unaccompanied minors, refugees and asylum-seekers. It is not a short-term phenomenon but rather a structural condition.

As all the indicators show, these structural determinants have worsened and deepened as a consequence of the pandemic, to levels that would have been difficult to predict just a few months ago. It is therefore no exaggeration to point out that a social process with the characteristics of a humanitarian crisis is now compounding the already complex mobility phenomenon.

In his presentation of "Policy Brief: The impact of COVID-19 on Latin America and the Caribbean," António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, warned that the entire region is experiencing the worst economic, health, social and humanitarian

crisis in a century.³ That is the scale of the challenge that lies ahead. For the four countries involved in the Comprehensive Development Plan, this would lead to a sharp decline in economic growth, a significant increase in poverty and extreme poverty, violence and greater inequality, as the ECLAC COVID-19 Observatory in Latin America and the Caribbean has been pointing out.⁴

Just to give an idea of the depth and momentum of the process we are experiencing, ECLAC has estimated that the economies of all four countries will experience negative growth in 2020: -8.6% in El Salvador, -2.5% in Guatemala, -8.0% in Honduras and -9.0% in Mexico.⁵ This weak economic performance is expected to be accompanied by a sharp increase in poverty throughout this subregion: 6.5 percentage points in El Salvador, 3.0 percentage points in Guatemala, 4.2 percentage points in Honduras and 7.6 percentage points in Mexico.⁶ All this is compounded by the fact that, even before the health crisis, these countries had the highest poverty rates in Latin America and the Caribbean. Historically, several of the nine Mexican states involved in the Comprehensive Development Plan have had the highest poverty rates in the country.

If the outlook was already complex before the pandemic, now it is even more serious, making the need to act even more urgent. There is a real risk that the post-pandemic period will confront us with less dynamic economies, more impoverished populations and more polarized societies— and this risk should not be underestimated.

We therefore consider the human security approach underpinning the Comprehensive Development Plan to be of the greatest importance— only with a comprehensive vision (that places people at the centre and allows them to access essential livelihoods and meet their various human needs, while guaranteeing them a life free from violence and helping to build a culture of peace) will it be possible to achieve development objectives and, in so doing, transform human mobility from a necessity to a free choice.

The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare our weaknesses and this global event has revealed that a style of development based on deepening inequalities, increasingly insecure social reproduction, environmental degradation and weakened multilateralism and international cooperation is unsustainable.

This awareness underlies the different assumptions that the world will not and should not be the same after the pandemic and that, consequently, it is high time to discuss the foundations of a new regime of accumulation, a different welfare and social protection system, a new global environmental agreement and a global, regional and subregional governance commensurate with the challenges we face as a species and as a planet.

A closer look reveals that these are the objectives defined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, whose validity and relevance is evident, although the conditions for achieving them have now become much more complex and adverse. It is important to emphasize that this is a crisis of uncertain outcome.

³ See United Nations, “Policy Brief: the Impact of COVID-19 on Latin America and the Caribbean”, 2020 [online] https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sg_policy_brief_covid_lac.pdf.

⁴ See Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), “COVID-19 Observatory in Latin America and the Caribbean: economic and social impact”, 2020 [online] <https://www.cepal.org/en/topics/covid-19>.

⁵ See Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean 2020 (LC/PUB.2020/17-P), Santiago, 2020.

⁶ See Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), “Addressing the growing impact of COVID-19 with a view to reactivation with equality: new projections”, *Special Report COVID-19*, No. 5, 2020 [online] https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/45784/S2000470_en.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y.

There is a range of possible futures that depend on the immediate responses of Governments and society to the pandemic, as well as on its long-term consequences. This is the time to consider how to use economic stimulus packages in rebuilding economies and society to support a long-term change towards greater social equality and towards sustainable and inclusive practices. By taking a short-term approach, we are gambling with the long term future. How we recover is just as important as the recovery itself. The following assertion by the United Nations in the policy brief presented by the Secretary-General in July 2020 is therefore of paramount importance:

Recovery from the pandemic should be an occasion to transform the development model of Latin America and the Caribbean while strengthening democracy, safeguarding human rights and sustaining peace, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.⁷

This can be summed up in the concrete and powerful proposition:

In Latin America and the Caribbean, building back better implies building back with equality.⁸

While these assertions are important for the whole of Latin America and the Caribbean, they are of particular relevance to the four countries involved in the Comprehensive Development Plan because many of the structural problems requiring solutions are both widespread and concentrated in these particular countries.

We start from the premise that signs of exhaustion of the prevailing style of development (including increasing flows of migrants and refugees) were there before the pandemic and that its serious economic and social effects will persist afterwards. COVID-19 has intensified and accelerated a crisis that had been evolving for years.

Although common challenges are observed across the subregion, the magnitude of the effects will differ and, to a large extent, will reflect each country's response to containing the health crisis and tackling the consequences of a socioeconomic crisis exacerbated by the external shock stemming from a crisis in the economic and environmental model. The effects will also be influenced by such factors as each country's economic structure, institutions and history and the way in which it is integrated into the global economy.

However, one cannot fail to note that it is very difficult to find solutions and ways forward solely within the framework of national structures. Deepening international cooperation and strengthening integration are crucial to designing a new development model. The Comprehensive Development Plan therefore brings together the four countries as a subregion that needs to strengthen its ties, cooperation and integration, particularly with south-southeast Mexico.

It is important to reassess the role of integration at a time of far-reaching changes that are shaking the foundations of the economy, society and international relations. These changes call for more and better integration and a framework of respect for multilateralism and international rules that facilitate achievement of the SDG targets and the economic and social development of small economies such as

⁷ United Nations, "Policy Brief: the Impact of COVID-19 on Latin America and the Caribbean", 2020 [online] https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sg_policy_brief_covid_lac.pdf.

⁸ United Nations, "Policy Brief: the Impact of COVID-19 on Latin America and the Caribbean", 2020 [online] https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sg_policy_brief_covid_lac.pdf.

those in Central America. Such changes also pose challenges for large economies such as Mexico's, with respect to their relations and integration policies with the rest of Latin America, Central America and the Caribbean, specifically with El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Reinterpreting the role of integration begins with identifying the changes and challenges that will face the subregion after the COVID-19 pandemic. The position of the countries in the subregion is doubly weak in the new environment: on the one hand, they are very open economies that have succeeded in becoming deeply integrated into global production processes through trade and investment; on the other hand, they are small economies with little room for manoeuvre. This makes integration and multilateralism necessary and vital paths for the subregion.

To state that the pandemic has exposed structural problems is also to acknowledge that any analysis of its consequences and implications should not be limited to its short-term effects. These effects are varied and, in many respects, serious. However, at this critical juncture, the focus should not be solely on short-term effects and impacts. It is also necessary to resist the temptation to consider the pandemic as a blip or brief hiatus, rather than as the manifestation of an extreme situation demanding a shift in direction, a turning point in the face of what is increasingly considered as a crossroads facing our civilization. In the short term, it is essential to envision and remember the long term.

When delivering the 18th Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture on 18 July 2020, the Secretary-General of the United Nations made a powerful appeal, in light of the consequences of COVID-19, to tackle the inequality pandemic, to build a new social contract and to endow society with a new global deal for what can be called a new era.

In the words of the Secretary-General:

COVID-19 is a human tragedy. But it has also created a generational opportunity.

An opportunity to build back a more equal and sustainable world.

The response to the pandemic, and to the widespread discontent that preceded it, must be based on a New Social Contract and a New Global Deal that create equal opportunities for all and respect the rights and freedoms of all.

This is the only way that we will meet the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda— agreements that address precisely the failures being exposed and exploited by the pandemic.

A New Social Contract within societies will enable young people to live in dignity; will ensure women have the same prospects and opportunities as men; and will protect the sick, the vulnerable, and minorities of all kinds.⁹

⁹ United Nations, "Secretary-General's Nelson Mandela Lecture: "Tackling the Inequality Pandemic: a New Social Contract for a New Era" [as delivered]", 18 July 2020 [online] <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2020-07-18/secretary-generals-nelson-mandela-lecture-%E2%80%9Ctackling-the-inequality-pandemic-new-social-contract-for-new-era%E2%80%9D-delivered>.

In the same spirit, he makes an urgent appeal:

Let's face the facts. The global political and economic system is not delivering on critical global public goods: public health, climate action, sustainable development, peace.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought home the tragic disconnect between self-interest and the common interest; and the huge gaps in governance structures and ethical frameworks.

To close those gaps, and to make the New Social Contract possible, we need a New Global Deal to ensure that power, wealth and opportunities are shared more broadly and fairly at the international level.

A new model for global governance must be based on full, inclusive and equal participation in global institutions.

Without that, we face even wider inequalities and gaps in solidarity —like those we see today in the fragmented global response to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁰

All the signs are that the pandemic is bringing us to the end of a way of producing, exchanging, distributing and consuming, to the exhaustion of a style of development, of the regime of accumulation. That is what we mean when we say that we are facing a new era.

In the subregion, the regime of accumulation (the set of norms, institutions, regulations and social relations around which the processes of production, circulation, distribution and consumption are structured during a historical period and with a certain technology base) has been characterized by a number of factors, with differences and nuances between countries, including: high concentration of property, wealth and income; strong trends towards financialization; growing and, in some cases, disadvantageous integration into the global economy and hyperglobalization; great structural heterogeneity; a marked trend towards primarization, extractivism and low production diversification; strong prevalence of capital over labour and deterioration of the functional distribution of income; high market power of companies and propensity for oligopolization; persistence of rentier and concentration practices; large overlap between political power and economic power; weak and inadequate taxation, with many regressive components; lax environmental regulations; a highly fossil fuel-reliant energy mix; and inadequate, fragmented, hierarchical welfare and social protection systems prone to commodification and residualism.

This is the structure underpinning the culture of privilege, which, in recent years (as demonstrated by the COVID-19 pandemic) has shown increasingly that it leads to poor economic growth, high inequality, persistent poverty and environmental degradation, four factors that constitute structural causes of human mobility. That is why the future needs to be different— and so does the style of development.

The three dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) are interrelated and interdependent. That is why a comprehensive development proposal is being discussed. The environmental dimension should not

¹⁰ United Nations, “Secretary-General’s Nelson Mandela Lecture: “Tackling the Inequality Pandemic: a New Social Contract for a New Era” [as delivered]”, 18 July 2020 [online] <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2020-07-18/secretary-generals-nelson-mandela-lecture-%E2%80%9Ctackling-the-inequality-pandemic-new-social-contract-for-new-era%E2%80%9D-delivered>.

continue to be considered as an externality but as an integral part of the economic and social model, that is to say, a component just as important as the other two. Therefore it is not enough to consider solely the impact of the style of growth on the environment; we must also examine how the environmental dimension can be turned into a new engine of economic growth and development, in what ECLAC has called a big push for sustainability. As stated in the 2030 Agenda, the environmental dimension forces us to rethink and redefine existing models of production and consumption and their interrelationships. Simply put, development either will or will not be sustainable.

It should be made clear that the COVID-19 pandemic and other epidemic crises that have been experienced in recent times are related to such factors as the destruction of tropical forests, trade in wild species and patterns of intensive agrifood production with high concentration and confinement of animals. Faced with the urgent need for a speedy economic recovery, there is also the risk of pursuing growth at any cost without incorporating, or discounting, the imperative of sustainability. Here, too, in short-term decisions we are gambling with the long term.

One of the many lessons learned from COVID-19 to date is that it has revealed the limitations and weaknesses of social policies and social protection systems in ensuring people's well-being and guaranteeing their rights, eliminating and preventing poverty and providing a set of certainties and assurances to enable people to fulfil their life plans and aspirations. The pandemic has exposed the precarious conditions in which tens of millions of people in the subregion live, in terms of work and income, effective access to fundamental rights (starting with health), safe water and adequate housing, all of which are basic conditions to meet health recommendations.

The welfare regime is considered as the set of relationships, norms, institutions, rights and regulations that embody the social compact during a historical period, through which access to well-being is (or is not) provided, or is provided to differing degrees, by a complex and interdependent interaction between the State, the market, households, communities and non-state public actors.

The key elements for defining the nature of a welfare regime are: the degree to which the basic requirements of human needs are recognized as rights; the degree of universality in effective access to and accreditation of the quality of services, entitlements and benefits; the degree of de-commodification and de-familiarization of welfare components; substantive equality between women and men; de-feminization of social service provision and access; the degree of alignment between the existing level of economic development and people's standard of well-being; compliance with the principles of progressivity and maximum mobilization of resources; guaranteed attention to requirements at the different stages in the life cycle and the creation of intergenerational equity; consistency with the changing structure of social risks; strong recognition for social and cultural diversity; and the degree to which it does (or does not) reduce inequality, poverty, precariousness, discrimination, exclusion, hierarchization and stratification.

The pandemic has exposed the deep-seated weaknesses and failings of prevailing welfare and social protection systems in this subregion, which, with major differences between countries, are characterized by weak or, at best, fragmented universalism owing to the persistence of corporate schemes and to a growing trend, in recent

decades, towards commodification and residualism. Key aspects of welfare, such as care, also continue to be highly feminized and family-based, with a rigidly gendered division of labour.

They have been exposed as regimes that: have failed to facilitate steady progress towards social equality and poverty eradication; in essence, are not founded on a rights-based approach; and maintain wide social, gender, ethnic, territorial and age-group gaps. Taken as a whole, they lead to inadequate enjoyment of social rights, low social mobility, high levels of precariousness and limited social protection, as the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted.

All this shows that the economic, social and environmental factors behind the escalation of migration, refugee and internal displacement processes not only persist but have worsened. Recent information on deteriorating living conditions in the Central America Dry Corridor and other regions points not only to the intensification of human mobility but also, as noted earlier, to a burgeoning humanitarian crisis.

Therefore, the central tenet of the Comprehensive Development Plan is the need for a new type of development for the subregion from the perspective of sustainability, human security and human rights. The Plan comprises 29 policy recommendations and 114 specific project proposals grouped into the aforementioned four pillars: economic development; social well-being; environmental sustainability, climate change and adaptation, and disaster risk reduction; and comprehensive management of the migration cycle

Following the rationale of the 2030 Agenda, the Comprehensive Development Plan considers the four pillars as interdependent, which is why it has been designed as a coordinated set of proposals rather than as a collection of initiatives. It aims to serve as a link between the short term and the long term, between the fastest possible improvement in people's living conditions and the creation of a new style of development, a different welfare and social protection regime, guaranteed sustainability and human mobility consistent with the rights-based approach. The Plan is therefore also part of this subregion's contribution to compliance with the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

As stated earlier, this Comprehensive Development Plan is the result of rich dialogue, lively interaction and deep deliberation between ECLAC, the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and the national Governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, as well as the subnational governments of the nine states of south-southeast Mexico involved in the Plan. Although the presidents of the four countries commissioned ECLAC to draw up the document in December 2018, the end product is the result of a collective effort involving multiple actors, where many voices were heard and a wide range of contributions were collected. All this enhanced the Comprehensive Development Plan and made it more all-encompassing.

To operationalize the Comprehensive Development Plan, this document makes project proposals available to the Governments of the countries, Central American regional integration institutions, funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and potential donors, to initiate implementation of this cooperation and development strategy for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-southeast Mexico.

It is no exaggeration to say that we are at a turning point. The decisions made during these crucial months are likely to determine the path countries will take in the coming years, if not longer. Diagnosis, recommendations and inputs, as well as proposals prepared jointly with Governments, are the backbone of the Comprehensive Development Plan for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-southeast Mexico.

However, they are just means to achieving the key aims: to improve economic performance; to enhance social well-being; to guarantee sustainability; and to ensure voluntary human mobility with full respect for human rights. After the pandemic, it will be crucial to strive to rebuild better, in a different way and, above all, with equality at the centre.

Alicia Bárcena

*Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission
for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)*

*Coordinator of the Special Coordination Mechanism
to support implementation of the Comprehensive Development Plan
of the Northern Countries of Central America and Mexico*

General and specific objectives

Create a sustainable development space across El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-southeast Mexico
Enhance well-being and make migration a choice rather than an obligation



Promote initiatives to improve economic performance, attract investment, increase trade, foster income generation and boost the creation of decent, worthwhile work, first and foremost in the territories that are more predisposed to migration



Promote universal access to social rights and well-being for equality



Promote sustainability, resilience to climate change and comprehensive risk management, to mitigate the impact of climate change as a driver of migration

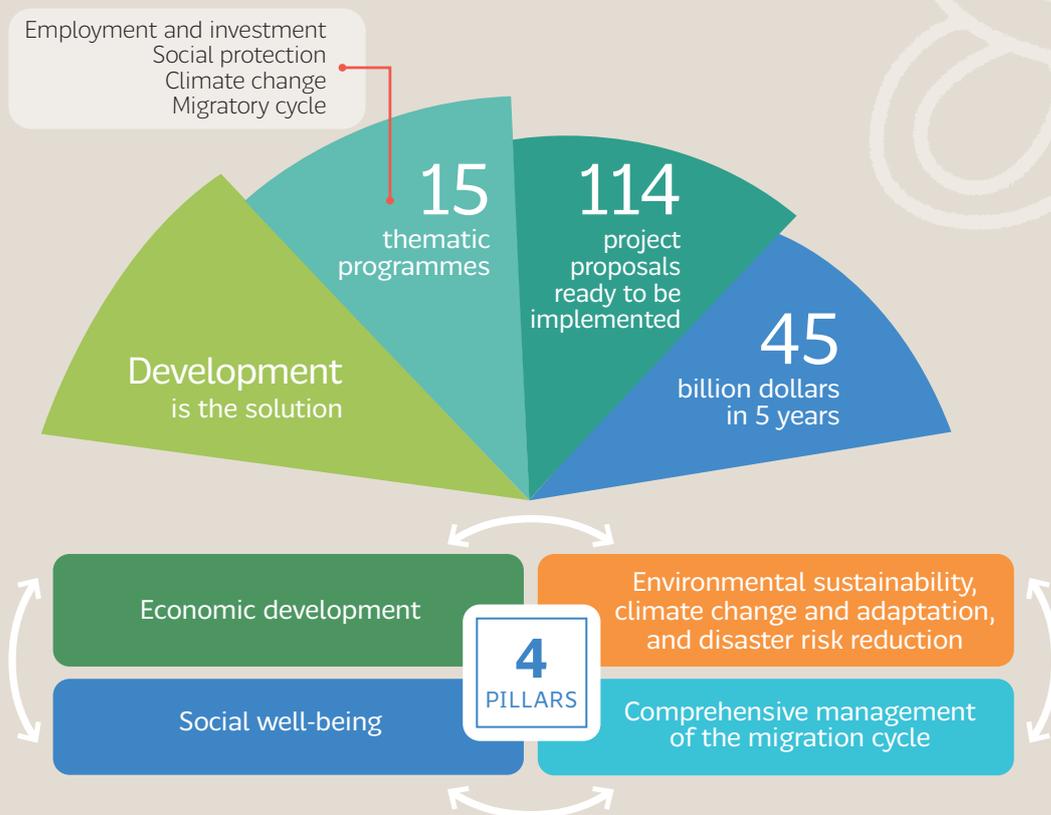


Guarantee the fundamental rights, care, protection, security and dignity of people throughout the migration cycle (origin, transit, destination and return), fostering safe, orderly and regular migration

Geographic coverage of the Comprehensive Development Plan for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-southeast Mexico



Comprehensive Development Plan for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-southeast Mexico



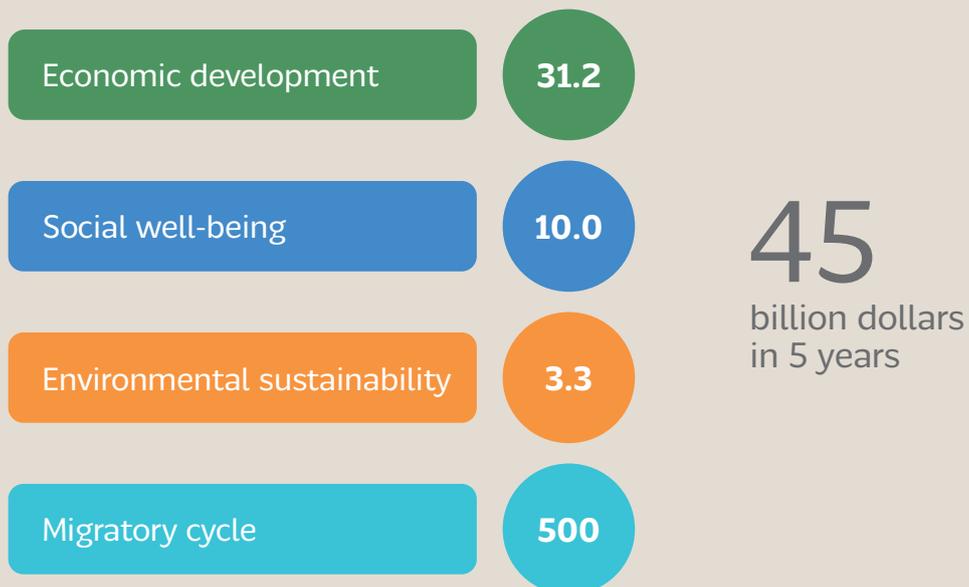
An innovative plan

- Driving force: the political commitment of the four governments
- Joined up proposal by the entire United Nations system
- Economic, social and environmental sustainability
- Territorial dimension that recognizes historical and cultural affinities
- Human security approach
- Rapid response in a period of high uncertainty
- Synergies between ongoing initiatives and new proposals

Actions at all levels: examples of project proposals



Resource mobilization billion dollars



Pillar 1 **promoting economic development**

5 programmes and 49 proposals



Enabling infrastructure

22

proposals



Territorial development

11

proposals



Promoting trade and regional integration

3

proposals



Macroeconomics for development

1

proposal



Productive development

12

proposals

Pillar 2 **moving towards social well-being**

5 programmes and 27 proposals



Social and labour inclusion

10

proposals



Lifelong health

2

proposals



Life-skills

4

proposals



Violence prevention and culture of peace

8

proposals



Comprehensive child development

3

proposals

Pillar 3 **response to climate change**

3 programmes and 16 proposals



Knowledge, data and tools generation

2

proposals



Resilience-building to prevent disaster displacement

6

proposals



Climate change and nature-based solutions

8

proposals

Pillar 4 **a comprehensive management of the migration cycle**

2 programmes and 22 proposals



Comprehensive national responses

8

proposals



Regional actions

14

proposals

A coordinated response by the United Nations system



UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC

Special Coordination Mechanism



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



UN WOMEN
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



IOM
UN MIGRATION



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



UNAIDS
JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS



unicef



UNOPS



World Food Programme



UN environment programme



UNISDR
United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



UNHRC



unesco



UNEP



Pan American Health Organization



IFAD
Investing in rural people



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



UNFPA



UNDP



World Health Organization Americas



Development Coordination Office



EL SALVADOR



UNITED NATIONS GUATEMALA



UNITED NATIONS HONDURAS



UNITED NATIONS MEXICO

An initiative aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Seeking synergies and coordinated actions with the countries at the centre and the support of the subregional integration institutions





1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PILLAR

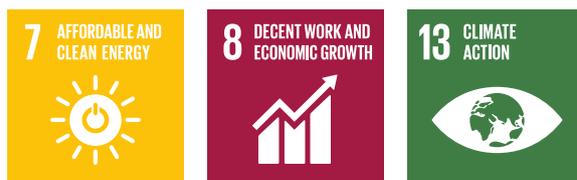
A. Enabling infrastructure development programme

No.	Name of proposal
1.1	Connecting Mexico to the Electricity Interconnection System for the Countries of Central America (SIEPAC) and second SIEPAC circuit
1.2	Gas pipeline between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America
1.3	Logistic corridors, co-modal integration and development
1.4	Universal access to electricity generated by renewable energy sources in the countries of Northern Central America and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico
1.5	Pacific Plan, El Salvador (*)
1.6	North-south rail link, Guatemala (*)
1.7	Development of rural roads, Guatemala (*)
1.8	Modernization and improvement of drinking water and sanitation services, Honduras (*)
1.9	Road infrastructure logistics, Honduras (*)
1.10	Strategic investments for the energy subsector, Honduras (*)
1.11	Development of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec: multimodal interoceanic corridor (*)
1.12	Autonomous solar panel infrastructure for pumping water in rural communities, State of Campeche (*)
1.13	Reconstruction of interregional feeder roads, State of Chiapas (*)
1.14	Modernization and expansion of Port Chiapas, State of Chiapas (*)
1.15	Highway between Acapulco International Airport and the new tourist development on the Pacific coast, State of Guerrero (*)
1.16	Rehabilitation of the market area of the Margarita Maza de Juárez Wholesale Market, State of Oaxaca (*)
1.17	Highway to the Papaloapan basin bypass for the city of Tuxtepec, State of Oaxaca (*)
1.18	Access road to the new Port of Frontera, State of Tabasco (*)
1.19	Industrial and logistical infrastructure for trade with Central America, State of Tabasco (*)
1.20	Multimodal cabotage terminal in Alvarado, State of Veracruz (*)
1.21	Distributed power generation project, State of Yucatán (*)
1.22	Improving connectivity and mobility conditions in the most underdeveloped municipalities, State of Yucatán (*)

(*) Projects prioritized by the Governments of the Northern Central American countries, the Government of Mexico, or the states of South-Southeast Mexico.

Proposal 1.1

Connecting Mexico to the Electricity Interconnection System for the Countries of Central America (SIEPAC) and second SIEPAC circuit



Implementing agencies:

Directing Council of the Central American Regional Electricity Market (CDMER), which comprises the Ministers of Energy or their representatives, and Mexico's Secretariat of Energy (SENER).

Geographical coverage:

The territorial scope of this project covers the six Central American countries, primarily the countries of Northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras).

Number of beneficiaries:

Around 42 million people in the Central American subregion connected to the electric grid. The countries' productive sectors will also benefit.

Main topics:

- Energy integration and electricity interconnection in Mesoamerica
- Economic development
- Lower electricity prices
- Improved security and reliability of the electricity supply
- Diversification of the energy supply matrix through clean, renewable energy

Context

The infrastructure of the Electricity Interconnection System for the Countries of Central America (SIEPAC) is a network of some 1,800 km and one 230 kV circuit built by the Central American countries between 2006 and 2014 to support the optimal, rational and efficient development of electricity resources in the subregion and to secure the benefits of the development and coordinated operation of an interconnected electricity grid. The electrical interconnection between Mexico and Guatemala began commercial operations in late 2010. It comprises a 400 kV line with a length of 103 km (32 km on the Mexican side and 71 km in Guatemala), and the transmission towers are equipped to receive a second circuit.

The electrical interconnection project between Mexico and SIEPAC will improve the security, continuity and competitiveness of the electricity service in the Central American countries and Mexico, particularly as regards the three Central American countries addressed by the Comprehensive Development Plan.

Along with the construction of the second SIEPAC circuit, this will enable the benefits of the Regional Electricity Market to reach all the inhabitants of the region's countries, which is one of the goals of the SIEPAC Framework Treaty for the Central American Electricity Market. It will also bolster the security and continuity of the electricity supply, particularly during emergency situations (for example, at times of drought, tropical storms and other extreme events).

The efficiency and competitiveness of the electricity markets will improve as energy is allowed to flow from the nodes and regions where it is cheaper to produce to those where it is more expensive, with the resulting drop in production costs and energy prices. Clean energy that cannot be used in a country at a given time can be sent to neighbouring countries, thereby allowing reductions in the use of fossil fuels and in payments made to import them (lower dependence on foreign energy sources). All of this furthers the pursuit of SDG 7 by increasing the share of renewable sources in the energy mix; it also reduces the generation of greenhouse gases, provided that the operating regulations are adapted to ensure that renewables compete with conventional thermoelectric energy on appropriate terms.

Under the current conditions, of all the Central American countries, only Guatemala is able to trade in electricity with Mexico. Due to operational security restrictions, an increase in the level of transactions between Mexico and Guatemala requires opening links between Guatemala and Honduras and between Guatemala and El Salvador.

This problem has been discussed in great detail by the technical agencies of the Central American Regional Electricity Market (MER). At the fifteenth Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Tuxtla Mechanism for Dialogue and Coordination,¹ the following matters were among those agreed upon in connection with the energy sector: (i) to instruct the competent institutions and agencies to develop a suitable framework for cooperation between the new Mexican Electricity Market and MER, providing the construction and adaptation of complementary infrastructure for integrating Mexico into SIEPAC, and (ii) to instruct the agencies responsible to define a working agenda to harmonize the regulatory arrangements in order to allow international energy flows between Mexico and the countries of Central America.

Objective

Improve the security, continuity and competitiveness of the electricity service in the Central American countries and Mexico, particularly the four countries involved in this Comprehensive Development Plan.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Determination of users, rates, connection points and existing capacities of the Mexico-SIEPAC electricity system.	Design of the Mexico-SIEPAC electricity market (% progress).	Design and approval of the Mesoamerican electricity market in Mexico and the countries of Central America.	6 months
Pre-investment studies finalized and approved.	Pre-investment studies (% progress).	Production of engineering feasibility studies for the Mexico-SIEPAC electricity interconnection. Production of engineering and feasibility studies for the second SIEPAC circuit.	12 months

¹ Comprising the nations of Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama. The Summit took place in Guatemala on 26 June 2015.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Regulatory and institutional harmonization of the Mexican and SIEPAC electricity markets.	Regulatory adjustments and interfaces approved (% progress).	Regulation and institutional framework for the development of the SIEPAC-Mexico electricity market approved.	26 months
Funding for construction work.	Funding approved for the construction of the second SIEPAC circuit and Mexico-SIEPAC interconnection (% progress).	Approval of funding for the construction of the second SIEPAC circuit. Approval of funding for the Mexico-SIEPAC interconnection.	32 months
Construction of the second SIEPAC circuit and the infrastructure for the Mexico-SIEPAC interconnection.	Construction and launch (% progress, km of lines built, km of equipment for the second SIEPAC circuit, km of new rights of way, number of substations).	Acquisition of missing rights of way, contracting and performance of works, launch. 1800 km of works for the second SIEPAC circuit and 225 km for the Mexico-SIEPAC interconnection, plus the necessary substations (new and expanded).	32 to 68 months

Main activities

- Finalization and approval of the design for the electricity market between Mexico and the countries of Central America.
- Creation or adaptation of the agencies and ad hoc mechanisms for regulating transactions and overseeing the electricity market between Mexico and the SIEPAC countries.
- Studies into the feasibility, climate-event resilience and engineering of the Mexico-SIEPAC electrical interconnection.
- Studies into the feasibility, climate-event resilience and engineering of the second SIEPAC circuit.
- Regulatory harmonization of the Mexican and SIEPAC electricity markets.
- Construction and launch of the electrical interconnection between Mexico and the SIEPAC countries.
- Updating of the feasibility and engineering studies of the second SIEPAC circuit (around 1,800 km).
- Construction and launch of the second SIEPAC circuit.

Project governance

An ad hoc Executing Unit for the execution of the Mexico-Central America interconnection project will be established.

The second SIEPAC circuit will be implemented and overseen by the SIEPAC Network Ownership Company (EPR), a multinational body with offices in each of the Central American countries' capitals.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Both projects (the Mexico-SIEPAC interconnection and the second SIEPAC circuit) will provide the basic infrastructure for the Clean Energy Corridor of Central America, an initiative that has been proposed by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

Duration

A duration of seven years has been estimated (from 2020 to 2026).

Budget: US\$ 530,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Connecting Mexico to SIEPAC and second SIEPAC circuit.	National electricity transmission plans and programmes. National electricity generation plans and programmes.	Regional transmission expansion plan (prepared by the Regional Operator Entity and approved by Regional Commission for Electricity Interconnection (CRIE) and the Directing Council of the Central American Regional Electricity Market (CDMER)).	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).	Plan of the Alliance for Prosperity (United States Agency for International Development, Department of State and Department of Energy). Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID), Mexico, European Union, Germany, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), World Bank, Andean Development Corporation (CAF).	Private companies that will participate in project design, engineering and construction.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.2

Gas pipeline between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America



Implementing agencies:

Energy ministries, energy regulatory agencies (electricity and hydrocarbons) and possible participation by state-owned electrical companies.

Geographical coverage:

This project's main territorial coverage is the six Central American countries (around 500,000 km²), with a particular focus on the countries of Northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, around 242,000 km²).

Number of beneficiaries:

The direct beneficiaries will be the countries' productive sectors (particularly those industries that make intensive use of energy) and electricity service users (through the development of combined-cycle power plants).

Main topics:

- Diversification of the energy mix
- Energy security
- Economic development
- Infrastructure

Context

The Central American countries are net importers of hydrocarbons, which heightens the economic and social impact of oil shocks and has a particularly pronounced impact on the three countries that make up the Central American Northern Triangle. In the current energy context, the international development of natural gas offers an energy source that can serve as a transitional link towards gradual diversification away from oil, which would reduce the Northern Central American countries' vulnerability to fluctuating oil prices.

The energy sector's use of natural gas to generate electricity makes sense not only on account of the current low prices caused by the abundance of the resource across the world, but also because it can reduce electricity generating costs through increased energy efficiency (between 55% and 60% for a natural gas combined-cycle plant compared to between 30% and 40% for a coal- or oil-fired thermoelectric

plant). While natural gas is still a fossil fuel and still generates emissions, it produces fewer polluting gases than coal or oil per unit of energy (between 40% and 50% less than coal and between 25% and 30% less than other fossil fuels) and it emits practically no solid particles; as a result, it is suitable for use in the home (for cooking and heating), in internal combustion engines and in the combined generation of electricity and useful heat (steam or hot water). Although Central America's greenhouse gas emissions account for only a very low percentage of the world total, they should be reduced not only in the interests of global cooperation but also to address the need to adopt more efficient and cheaper consumption technologies.

The use of gas pipelines makes the conveyance of natural gas more efficient, safer and cheaper compared to water or ground transportation; rather than contradicting the actions of other Central American Integration System (SICA) countries, however, the proposed network of gas pipelines complements them, including the operations of “virtual pipelines” following the launch of the first combined-cycle generating facility in Panama (August 2018), which will provide an energy transportation base for cabotage between the countries of Northern Central America and those of the subregion's south (Panama, Costa Rica and Nicaragua), with generous possibilities of complementarity with ports in the south-eastern states of Mexico. Finally, the construction and operation of the pipeline will contribute to the creation of jobs (which will be determined in the pre-investment study) and the economic spillover will increase with the economies generated in services relating to the pipeline's operation and maintenance in different areas of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

Objective

Introduce natural gas and diversify the supply of hydrocarbons for the Northern Central American countries, in order to raise the efficiency of thermoelectric generation and of industrial processes that make intensive use of energy, reduce the use of coal and oil derivatives and bolster the energy transition and competitiveness of the countries in question.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goals	Period
New national and regional regulatory frameworks for the development of natural gas.	Number of countries adopting national regulatory frameworks for natural gas.	3 countries (Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala).	21 months
	Number of countries adopting principles for the development and regulation of the regional natural gas market.	4 countries (Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico).	30 months
Improved and strengthened institutional framework for natural gas in the 4 countries.	Number of countries approving and ratifying the Mexico-Guatemala-El Salvador-Honduras Framework Treaty for the supply of natural gas.	4 countries: adoption by the four presidents and parliamentary ratification.	36 months
	Number of countries creating national natural gas regulatory agencies and regional companies engaged in the construction, management and regulation of the pipeline and the gas market.	4 countries: at the national level. Creation of regional supervisory and regulatory agencies.	42 months
Job creation during the construction and operation of the gas pipeline.	Number of direct and indirect jobs during construction of the regional pipeline.	6,000 direct jobs during the construction phase.	48 months after pipeline construction
Generation of new industrial developments.	Number of direct and indirect jobs in the industry.	20,000 jobs in other sectors.	72 months

Main activities

- Creation of a Mexico-Guatemala-El Salvador-Honduras Joint Commission for the development of future gas pipelines and the supply of natural gas, and analysis of future gas pipelines in Mexico and the gas supply in Mexico, in order to determine the volumes of natural gas exportable via pipelines to Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador and the dates when those resources will become available.
- Negotiation, discussion and signature of a Framework Treaty among the countries, and the national commitments necessary to make the project a reality.
- Development of an institutional framework for the regional natural gas market and of national and regional regulatory frameworks for the natural gas trade.
- Production of pre-investment, pre-feasibility and feasibility studies and detailed engineering plans for the gas pipelines in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.
- Obtaining funding; drafting and signing supply contracts; issuing tenders for reserved capacity and gas supply; issuing tenders for works projects; and obtaining rights of way for building the main and branch pipelines.
- Promoting, coordinating, overseeing and monitoring the development of the future natural gas market in south and south-east Mexico and the other three CDP countries.

Project governance

An ad hoc Executing Unit for project execution will be established.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Possible synergy with the Mesoamerica Project (PM) and with the initiative for the electrical interconnection of Mexico with the countries of Central America (Mexico-SIEPAC). It is hoped that Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) will fund the pre-investment studies.

Duration

A duration of eight years is estimated.

Budget: US\$ 1,670,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Gas pipeline between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America.		Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project (Mesoamerica Project).		Mexican Agency for International Development (AMEXCID). United States Agency for International Development (USAID).	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI).	Energía del Pacífico (EDP, in Acajutla, El Salvador). Industrial chambers and thermoelectric generators in the countries. During tendering, construction and launch.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.3

Logistic corridors, co-modal integration and development



Implementing agency:

Ministries of Public Works and Transport of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, along with Mexico's Secretariat of Communications and Transport.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico (plus the remaining countries involved in the Mesoamerica Project).

Number of beneficiaries:

Potentially the entire population of the four participating countries and the remainder of the region.

Main topics:

- Infrastructure
- Transport
- Logistics
- Regional value chains

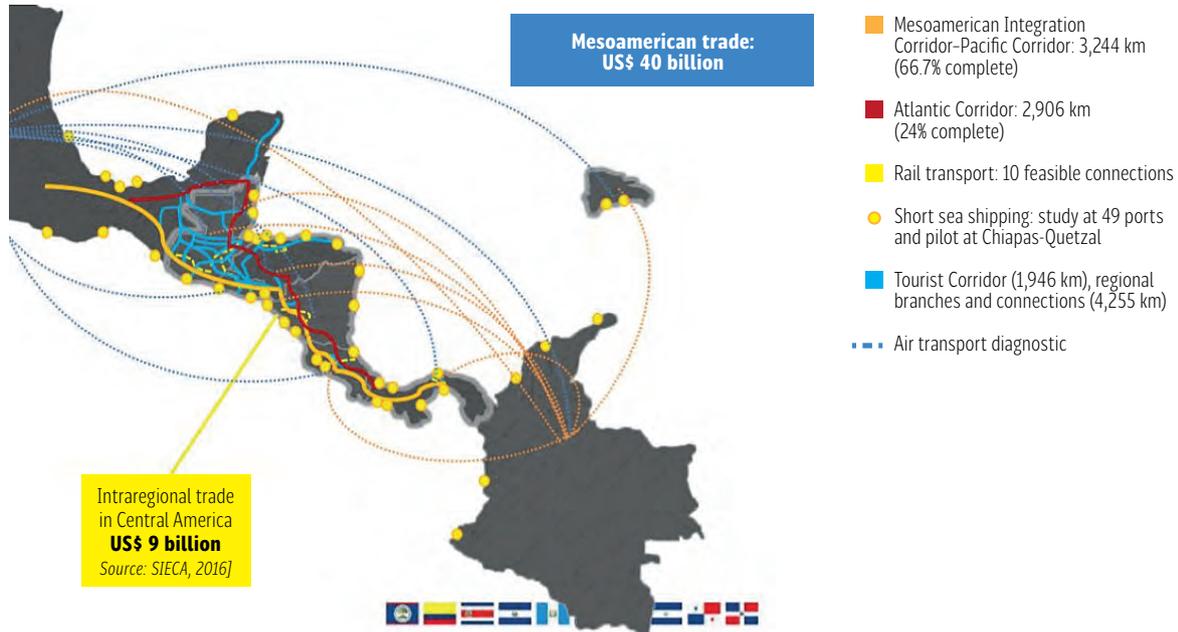
Context

Logistics plays a key role in production, trade and distribution. To evolve towards a more sustainable development model, policies for the provision of infrastructure and logistics must be modified to create the conditions for improving connectivity and territorial cohesion, to bolster connections between modes of transport and to reduce the logistics costs and negative externalities generated by the activity. Coordinated actions —for both the provision of infrastructure and the operation of logistics services within an expanded subregional framework— will help create additional new business opportunities, increase employment and general well-being and lead to the emergence of a network of more efficient and resilient services.

Numerous national, subnational and multilateral actions are currently under way in the region for the development of logistic corridors by road, rail and sea. Crossing Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America, they represent investments estimated at more than US\$ 2.255 million that could benefit intraregional commerce that is estimated to be worth more than US\$ 9 billion, as shown on map 1.

Map 1

National, subnational and multilateral actions for the development of logistic corridors in Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of information from the Executive Directorate of the Mesoamerica Project.

Together with those infrastructure developments, Central American Integration System (SICA) recently adopted the Central American Regional Framework Policy on Mobility and Logistics, an initiative developed with support from ECLAC. This regional instrument provides an institutional framework for actions intended to allow mobility and logistics to serve as a driver of social inclusion, through the implementation of priority initiatives, programmes and projects with a high impact on competitiveness, development and regional integration in the areas of physical infrastructure, process facilitation and technological uptake. It involves a significant number of the actors identified above, with which the implementation of the Framework Policy will be an effective tool in coordinating subnational actions and the funding and operation of subregional logistics and in bringing about the regulatory convergence of regional integration processes.

Objective

Encourage the coordination of investments and regulations related to the design, construction and operation of infrastructure and logistics services to bolster the dynamism of the subregion's economies through the creation of an expanded logistics market and the countries' productive integration.

This proposal has the following specific objectives:

1. Strengthen the existing institutional mechanisms for the incorporation of a perspective of co-modal logistics, subregional investments, the operation and regulation of logistics services in an expanded subregional market, the reduction of the activity's negative social and environmental externalities and increased resilience.

2. Set the foundations for expanding and improving connectivity and process facilitation within the countries to increase the dynamism of their economies through lower costs and reduced transport times for products and persons.
3. Coordinate subregional actions and investments in infrastructure and logistics services to promote the sustainable productive integration of the countries.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Strengthened institutional mechanisms for the design, funding, operation and regulation of subregional infrastructure and logistics services.	Number of transport ministries adopting measures for the design, funding, operation and regulation of subregional infrastructure and logistics services.	4 (1 per country in the subregion)	36 months
Reduced costs of logistics to support the increased dynamism of national economies and higher quality productive chains in the subregion.	% reduction of logistics costs in the subregion's interregional trade, using the 2018 operational parameters as the baseline.	30%	60 months
Subregional transport mix modified for greater efficiency and lower carbon use in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.	% reduction in logistics costs, using the 2018 operational parameters as the baseline. % of fossil fuels in the total ton/km transported between the subregion's countries.	30% %	60 months
Resilient infrastructure improved and expanded for more and better connectivity with the territory.	% of infrastructure investments taking resilience measures into account within the total investments made in economic infrastructure.	30%	60 months
Strengthened and safer logistics and mobility services.	% reduction in road accidents and physical security (thefts) in the subregion's logistic chains, using 2018 as the baseline.	25% reduction in both	60 months

Main activities

- Assist the institutional development of the subregion's ministries of transport and public works in the design, funding, operation, regulation and evaluation of public policies for mobility and logistics that promote the development and convergence of the different regional integration initiatives existing in the subregion.
- Design and execute a subregional plan for reorienting the subregion's transport mix towards more efficient, competitive and carbon-free options.
- Coordinate a subregional infrastructure plan with coordinated actions and joint funding for the construction, renovation and maintenance of the various road and rail corridors that cross the subregion.
- Adopt subregional actions to reduce the rates of road accidents, drug trafficking and theft along the main transport corridors.
- Begin technical work towards the ratification of transport-related international agreements and conventions by the subregion's countries.
- Establish a technical assistance programme to improve logistics services in the subregion and speed up the subregion's implementation of transport-related international agreements and conventions.

Project governance

The transport ministries of the Mesoamerican region have created the Regional Technical Commission on Transport (CTRT), which is responsible, along with the Executive Directorate of the Mesoamerica Project, for coordinating technical actions related to the corridor's development. The Commission's political decisions are adopted by the ministers at official meetings, when documents for multilateral funding are also signed. There is no regular schedule for those meetings, although they are generally held in parallel to those of the Sectoral Council of Transport Ministers of Central America (COMITRAN) to capitalize on synergies. SIECA is a part of the Inter-Institutional Technical Group (GTI), on which ECLAC, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) and other subregional agencies are also represented.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The four countries belong to the Tuxtla Mechanism for Dialogue and Coordination and to the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project, which brings together the six economies of Central America (plus Belize), Colombia, Mexico and the Dominican Republic; accordingly, they all have national actions that are in line with this proposal.

The Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) has a mandate from the Sectoral Council of Transport Ministers of Central America (COMITRAN) and resources from various sources of cooperation for the implementation of the Central American Regional Framework Policy on Mobility and Logistics, which was developed in recent years with close institutional support from ECLAC. Thus, one important task will be to coordinate Mexico's participation with SIECA.

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) have financial and technical resources to support different infrastructure and services measures and investments for these corridors in the region.

Duration

Programme implementation will take 60 months. The final four months will be spent on monitoring the results and on defining proposals for its expansion across Central America and/or Mesoamerica.

Budget: US\$ 6,215,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
<p>Creation of a regional fund for comprehensive disaster risk management (FODE).</p> <p>Risk management to protect public investments.</p> <p>Productive integration: promoting regional value chains between the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico.</p> <p>Expanding trade between the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico: trade facilitation.</p> <p>Harmonization of standards and reduction of technical barriers to trade: equalling capacities among the countries.</p> <p>Promotion of locally based road maintenance.</p> <p>Infrastructure programme for the territorial development of underprivileged areas.</p>	National Infrastructure Development Plans.	Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA). Mesoamerica Project	ECLAC	Preparation of the Indicative Regional Master Plan for the Central American Regional Framework Policy on Mobility and Logistics (Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)-SIECA). Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), European Union.	Logistics infrastructure funding programmes (IDB). Regular infrastructure funding programme (CABEI). Support for implementation of the Five Priority Trade Facilitation Measures (IDB, SIECA).	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.4

Universal access to electricity generated by renewable energy sources in the countries of Northern Central America and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico



Implementing agencies:

El Salvador: National Energy Council (CNE), Hydroelectric Executive Commission of Río Lempa (CEL) and municipal governments; Guatemala: Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM), National Electrification Institute (INDE) and municipal governments; Honduras: Secretariat of Energy, National Electric Energy Company (ENEE) and municipal governments; Mexico: Secretariat of Energy (SENER), Federal Electricity Commission (CFE), Universal Electricity Service Fund (FSUE) and municipal governments. Universities in each country.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the south and south-east of Mexico (586,500 km²).

Number of beneficiaries:

Directly, 15 million people (around 3.2 million homes will be equipped with solar panels and/or will be connected to the main grid over 11 years between 2020 and 2030 and calculating 4.6 individuals per household) and around 60,000 direct jobs. Renewable energy training for 200 professionals and 5,000 technicians in rural areas.

Main topics:

- Universal electricity access
- Small-scale use of solar energy
- Productive uses of energy
- Promotion of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises for the sale, installation, operation and maintenance of renewable energy systems and associated services
- Sustainable management of renewable resources (watersheds, forests and biodiversity)
- Renewable energy
- Training of technicians and professionals

Context

The absence of energy services means that populations do not have access to modern sources of energy: they are forced to use candles, kerosene, lanterns and wood for lighting and have no other sources of energy for other purposes such as charging telephones, television, refrigerators, water pumps, and so on. In 2018 it was estimated that around 5.6 million people were without electricity in the Comprehensive Development Plan's four countries (2.1 million in Honduras, 1.9 million in Mexico, 1.3 million in Guatemala and 0.2 million in El Salvador). Given their distance from substations and distribution transformers, their geographical dispersion and the low levels of potential demand, providing those populations with electricity (known as the “last mile” connection) is costly and generally not commercially attractive for the electricity distribution companies that control the concessions in those territories (as is the case in El Salvador and Guatemala). The absence of modern energy services is one of the factors that drive migration to other locations in search of better living conditions.

New models must therefore be designed to further the provision of electricity services for both lighting and other productive, domestic and community uses, with the social participation of communities in the provision of energy services and capitalizing on the technological developments that make distributed generation through solar panels and the creation of micro-networks a viable proposition. The establishment of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), municipal companies and voluntary joint-ownership associations (such as rural cooperatives) will encourage the adoption of decentralized solutions made possible by those community associations.

The provision of energy in rural areas will serve not only to provide household lighting, but also to power schools, health centres, churches, community centres and municipal offices, yielding numerous cross-cutting benefits that cover the vast majority of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Those challenges underscore the need to train human resources —particularly women, indigenous populations and young people— on topics related to renewable energy and modern energy services (encouraging local job creation and discouraging migration to the United States) and to promote robust research into the renewable energy topics with the greatest impact for the development of the Northern Central American countries. One of the biggest challenges facing the sustainable provision of energy services in rural areas is the absence of resources and capacities in those sectors and their high dependence on technicians and solutions from urban areas, which increases repair times and costs. Training and the strengthening of technical capacities in areas without electricity is therefore crucial: not only to ensure universal access to energy services, but also to guarantee their sustainability and growth in the medium and long terms. The areas where extensive research and training are needed include the following:

- Small-scale solar energy
- Development of small-scale renewable energy projects
- Development and management of micro-networks
- Identification and design of projects to make productive use of energy in rural areas and indigenous communities
- Sustainable use of biomass
- Business initiatives and management of energy companies for rural development

More renewable energy professionals and human resources will help attain the goal of ensuring universal access to energy services by providing technicians in rural areas and entrepreneurs with training on renewable energy topics for the creation of microenterprises and small companies and the provision of microfinance facilities. In this way, rural energy services will no longer be solely dependent on professionals in urban areas and the value chain for rural energy services will be strengthened.

At the same time, increased energy production using renewable, clean sources will help ensure greater energy security and lower rates of greenhouse gases in the Northern Central American countries, which are net importers of hydrocarbons.

Objectives

Provide universal access to modern electricity services, reducing dependence on kerosene, battery lamps and candles, for domestic, community and productive uses in the Northern Central American countries and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico by 2030 or earlier.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Implementation of pilot solar energy projects	(a) Number of individuals trained	(a) 2,000	2–5 years
	(b) Number of households with solar panels	(b) 200,000	
	(c) Number of schools and health centres with solar panels	(c) 10,000	
Productive uses of energy and job creation	(a) Number of rural small businesses and microenterprises using renewable energy	(a) 5,000 small companies	More than 5 years
	(b) Number of energy service companies, cooperatives, municipalities and other associations	(b) 100	
	(c) Direct jobs	(c) 50,000	
Local use of renewable sources de energy	(a) Number of micro-, mini- and small-scale renewable energy projects	(a) 300 Only for solar energy 200 electrical systems with micro-networks and 20,000 connected households	More than 5 years
	(b) Penetration of distributed generation	(b) 50% of rural homes and 10% of urban homes with solar panels (3.2 million households equipped with solar panels)	
	(c) Energy generated (TWh) and reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions	(c) Annual generation of 10 TWh of electricity and an annual reduction of 4 million tons of CO ₂ equivalent	
Training for technicians in the countries of Northern Central America	Number of technicians trained	5,000 technicians trained	3 years
Training for professionals in the countries of Northern Central America	Number of professionals trained	200 professionals trained	3 years

Main activities

Short term (three years, 2020–2022):

Activity 1. Design and implementation of a training programme on distributed solar generation, hydroelectricity and distributed generation.

Activity 2. Creation and execution of a series of pilot projects to install 200,000 solar panels in homes, schools and health centres in the four CDP countries. The homes and community facilities will be in rural areas, emphasizing populations not connected to electricity distribution networks and preferably those related to agro-rural project profiles.

Activity 3. Preparation of a strategy for universal access to electricity through renewable sources of energy in the countries and for the distribution of solar panels in the Northern Central American countries and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico between 2023 and 2030.

Activity 4. Design of microcredit mechanisms to fund solar photovoltaic systems and other productive uses that can create energy-related business initiatives, and determination of the proportions of each installation to be funded by the users and by the government.

Activity 5. Organization of community meetings and focus groups to identify priorities and establish cooperatives and associations responsible for the operation and maintenance of the solar systems and for supporting the creation of energy-related business initiatives.

Activity 6. Support for the drafting of rules and regulations for the incorporation and operation of cooperatives and associations.

Activity 7. Production of feasibility and engineering studies and construction of small-scale hydroelectric, solar, wind and biogas projects, generating 1,000 MW.

Activity 10. Forging of partnerships with research centres, universities, specialized centres and electrification cooperatives in other countries, to create a network of professionals and technicians in the region to share experiences and learning.

Activity 11. Creation of a service centre for customers, service providers and the general public, to learn about and address problems in the field with specific rural electrification projects and the development of renewable energy projects to raise awareness and understanding of the problem and its solutions. Preparation of work plans for the centre and establishment of branches in key rural areas of each country.

Medium-long term (years 4 to 10):

Activity 8. Execution of projects (identified under Activity 3) for universal electricity service coverage.

Activity 9. Tendering, contracting and construction of small hydroelectric, solar, wind and biogas projects generating 1,000 MW, in the four CDP countries.

Activity 10. Construction of micro-networks for micro- and small-scale renewable energy projects to serve isolated communities, and extension of transmission lines and distribution networks to support the rural electrification programme.

Activity 11. Energy ministries and electricity sector regulatory authorities will analyse and approve additional works projects (transmission and subtransmission of electricity and necessary substations) to complement this universal electricity coverage programme.

Project governance

Energy ministries, state electricity companies and municipal authorities will approve the ad hoc governance mechanism in each country and, most particularly, at the community level. This could be conducted through national electrification commissions. For the training activities, efforts will be made to secure the coordination of the SICA countries' recently created Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SICREEE). An international organization will oversee the design of the training programme.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

At the national level, the creation of national committees, led by the Ministries of Energy, is proposed. At the regional level, the leadership of the Central American Integration System (SICA), through its Sectoral Council of Energy Ministers, is proposed. In each country, the project offers synergies with

national development plans and electrification plans, with the various organizations involved (state, municipalities, NGOs, private sector, local development committees and cooperation agencies) and with cooperation agencies already involved in ongoing initiatives. With the support of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and international cooperation funding, SICA created the Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SICREEE); efforts will be made for this Centre to be given responsibility for the renewable energy training of technicians and professionals in rural areas of the countries of Northern Central America.

The following are some of the synergies identified: (a) the initiative of the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Humanistic Institute for Development Cooperation (HIVOS) for universal access to modern energy services (electricity and cooking fuels); (b) the SICA countries' Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SICREEE), implemented with support from UNIDO, from the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), a United States foreign aid agency that supports anti-poverty initiatives and programmes, and from multilateral development banks (Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) and World Bank) and cooperation agencies.

Duration

The estimated execution period is 10 years, divided into two phases: 2020–2022 and 2023–2030. A midterm evaluation will be conducted in 2026. For the training component, plans for the first year include producing the project document, identifying partners (universities, technology centres, evaluation of their resources, instructors) and drafting the first work plan and annual operational plan (AOP). Over the next three years, 5,000 technicians and 200 professionals will receive training.

Budget: US\$ 4,871,890,000 (with US\$ 20,100,000 allocated to training).

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
<p>Programme to encourage the productive use of remittances through improved financial inclusion.</p> <p>Training of technicians and professionals to support the "Great Deployment of Renewable Energy in rural areas of the countries of Northern Central America".</p> <p>Infrastructure programme for the territorial development of underprivileged areas.</p>	<p>National Development Plans.</p> <p>National Electrification Plans.</p>	<p>Initiative for universal access to modern energy services for the SICA countries.</p>	<p>German Agency for International Development (GIZ).</p> <p>Humanistic Institute for Development Cooperation (HIVOS).</p> <p>European Community (EC).</p> <p>United States Agency for International Development (USAID).</p> <p>The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC).</p> <p>Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID).</p>	<p>IDB, World Bank, CABEL</p>		
<p>Training of technicians and professionals to support the "Great Deployment of Renewable Energy in rural areas of the countries of Northern Central America".</p>		<p>The SICA Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SICREEE) (SICA), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and cooperation agencies from Austria, Spain, the Nordic countries, the European Union, Portugal, Sweden and other countries).</p>				

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.5

Pacific Plan, El Salvador



Implementing agencies:

Port of La Unión

For El Salvador: Autonomous Port Executive Commission (CEPA); and for Costa Rica: Costa Rican Pacific Ports Institute (INCOP).

Port of Acajutla

Autonomous Port Executive Commission (CEPA).

International Airport of the Pacific

Autonomous Port Executive Commission (CEPA).

Pacific Train

Autonomous Port Executive Commission (CEPA) of El Salvador, responsible for the administration of ports, airports and railways.

Geographical coverage:

Port of La Unión

- Eastern region of El Salvador, specifically the Department of La Unión.

Port of Acajutla:

- Immediate area: city of Acajutla.
- Area of influence: El Salvador as a whole.

International Airport of the Pacific

According to the Cuscatlán Plan, the International Airport of the Pacific is to be located in the east of the country; nevertheless, there are locations in El Salvador that could be taken used as a reference, such as:

- Alternative 1: El Tamarindo landing strip (Jagüey), Department of La Unión.
- Alternative 2: El Icacal landing strip, Department of La Unión.
- Alternative 3: Bahía de la Unión landing strip, Department of La Unión.

However, a consulting company's opinion will be sought to validate those alternatives or to propose others, as relevant, taking into consideration the guideline referred to above.

Pacific Train

Coverage to be defined according to the results obtained from the pre-feasibility study to be conducted at the national level, and the feasibility of the most attractive segments.

Number of beneficiaries:

Port of La Unión

- Importers and exporters: 2,445 exporters, and 15,867 importers in El Salvador (2018).
- Population in the eastern region: 1,353,275 people. Usulután: 386,632; San Miguel: 499,971; Morazán: 209,947; La Unión: 267,725.
- El Salvador: Total population: 6,642,767 (2017).
- Central America: Total population of Central America: 49,371,333 people: Belize: 387,879; Costa Rica: 5,003,000; El Salvador: 6,427,479; Guatemala: 17,613,245; Honduras: 9,417,167; Nicaragua: 6,351,956; and Panama: 4,170,607.
- Other countries in the region (potential market expressing interest in the multimodal ferry):
- Mexico: 129.2 million inhabitants.
- Dominican Republic: 10.77 million inhabitants.

Port of Acajutla

Direct beneficiaries:

1. Importers.
2. Exporters.
3. Consignment agents.

Indirect beneficiaries:

1. Consumers of goods imported by sea.
2. General population

International Airport of the Pacific

- Direct beneficiaries: 330,000, according to the Cuscatlán Plan.
- Indirect beneficiaries: 1,190,881 people living in the four departments of the eastern region.
- Inhabitants of the central and western regions interested in travelling to the International Airport of the Pacific.

Pacific Train

- National population: 6.4 million people in El Salvador.
- Export companies with an annual volume of US\$ 5.89 billion.
- Import companies with an annual volume of US\$ 10.5 billion.
- Annual tourism: 2.7 million people.

Main topics:

- Infrastructure
- Connectivity
- Ports
- Railways
- Airports

Context

In accordance with the vision of President Nayib Bukele, a series of strategic projects are being undertaken to catalyse the country's economy and build confidence among domestic and overseas investors. Some of the Government's main projects aim to make El Salvador the main logistics development centre in Central America.

The Pacific Plan is one of those. It comprises the network of national ports (different dynamics to be developed at the Port of La Unión and the expansion of the Port of Acajutla), the International Airport of the Pacific in the east of the country and the Pacific Train. Together, they seek to create an infrastructure of logistical connectivity to position El Salvador in the global commercial market, taking full advantage of its strategic geographical position at the centre of the Americas.

The Pacific Plan covers a comprehensive strategy that includes the development of logistics infrastructure, tourism, education, technology, agriculture, security, transport and mobility: in other words, a series of components intended to optimize resources and convert the country's coastal strip into a hub for development.

The Cuscatlán Plan states that “connectivity with the rest of the world is a priority to ensure competitiveness. Thus, the efficiency of the logistics chain must be ensured, and laws that are in line with the current competitive world must be enacted. For El Salvador to be competitive, its ports and airports must have first-class infrastructure in order to give the nation a high added value. The infrastructure of port and airports has an enormous direct economic, social and business impact through the activities that take place there, along with an indirect impact created by the commercial and logistic activities pursued in the areas where they are located”.

Port of La Unión

Implementation and operation of the ferry at the Port of La Unión.

The Port of La Unión is located in the Department of La Unión, 186 km from San Salvador. It has a static capacity of 750,000 TEUs and covers an area of 462,390 m², with 820 m of berthing space.

The ferry project is intended to identify short-distance maritime connections to move import and export cargoes. This project was launched with Costa Rica as the first strategic partner; it will allow the activation of the Port of La Unión and enable it to become an economic catalyst for the eastern region, providing solutions for the logistics industry and for the Salvadoran and regional business sector.

The process of overseeing people, cargo, vehicles and ships at the Port of La Unión will be jointly carried out by the Autonomous Port Executive Commission (CEPA), the General Customs Directorate of El Salvador (DGA), the Directorate-General for Migration and Alien Affairs (DGME), the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), the International Quarantine Treatment Service of the International Regional Organization for Plant and Animal Health (SITC-OIRSA), the National Civilian Police (PNC) and the Maritime Port Authority (AMP).

Port of Acajutla

The Autonomous Port Executive Commission (CEPA) plans an expansion of its facilities, including docks, access gates, cargo storage areas and the relocation of administrative offices to align the flow of documents with the physical flow of the port's work. The following stages are planned as part of this process:

1. Pre-port: includes the relocation of administrative offices in areas outside the port and the completion of 179 parking positions for cargo transport, 60 of which have already been built.

2. Expansion and improvement of the access gate to the Port of Acajutla to resolve the container traffic bottleneck typically found there. The primary scope of the project is to widen the container gate to four lanes and provide sufficient parking to prevent chronic overcrowding.
3. Construction of a container terminal that, in conjunction with the current facilities, will be able to handle up to 818,000 TEUs a year.
4. Construction of a new multipurpose dock to maximize the efficiency of operations and enable the port to handle up to 6,245,700 metric tons of bulk cargo and general break-bulk cargo.

International Airport of the Pacific

The public infrastructure component of the Cuscatlán Plan states that connectivity is a central pillar of economic, social and human development. The first public infrastructure was built in El Salvador between 1915 and 1929 to address the arrival of automobiles in the country; today, the country has an urgent need to build agile, modern road connections. Time has passed and road infrastructure has grown at the rate of change: more industry, increased services and higher demand for housing. This gave rise to the need for more construction work and for an institutional framework responsible for its planning and execution, which has changed and evolved. There are still pending tasks in this area, and they affect imports and exports, connectivity, local economic development, access to goods and services and other issues. Those limitations dramatically impact the population's quality of life, well-being and human development. There is a need for better highways, street lighting and a world-class airport. This project is part of the public infrastructure component of the Cuscatlán Plan, the priority lines of which are related to the areas requiring urgent attention that must be included in the execution of the National Plan.

Pacific Train

The Pacific Train project covers several phases, beginning with pre-investment, which will enable work to begin on the pre-feasibility of the national rail system. This phase will identify the priority segments that offer the greatest benefits for trade and the public. It will also indicate the stages in which it should be carried out. After obtaining data on the most attractive segments for beginning implementation of the rail system, the feasibility evaluations for each segment will be carried out. These will yield precise data on the technical solutions for the best routes, project infrastructure, suitable rolling stock and propulsion types, along with costs and financial, technical, environmental, social and economic analyses.

Objective

Port of La Unión

- Contribute to economic development in the country's eastern region.
- Offer a regional interconnection logistics solution that will create investment opportunities.
- Serve as an economic catalyst to create new jobs in the eastern region.

Port of Acajutla

- Strengthen all aspects of the Port of Acajutla as a multipurpose port to provide a powerful logistical tool for maritime commerce for all Salvadoran importers and exporters, ensuring them streamlined solutions at competitive prices.
- Develop sufficient facilities for the successful operation of a pre-port and multiple access gates to the installations to allow up to 120 containers per hour to be dispatched.

- Develop an automatic container terminal to service ships of up to 6,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) with the capacity for up to 150 containers per hour.
- Develop a multipurpose terminal for vessels of up to 50,000 DWT.
- Maximize, without overcrowding, the use of all the port's berths.

International Airport of the Pacific

- Provide the eastern region of El Salvador with an air connection to build a hub for economic development, encourage the growing demand for foreign passengers, develop international tourism and catalyse the Port of La Unión.
- Construct and begin operating, by 2023, an international airport in the eastern region of El Salvador as a new hub for development in that part of the country.
- Develop a competitive Airport Plan for the eastern region of the country, taking into account the future potential for passenger traffic.
- Increase air traffic through new transportation routes into the eastern region, benefiting thousands of Salvadorans who live abroad.
- Create new sources of employment in the airport industry.
- Catalyse the development potential of the eastern region and once again position it as a central pillar of the national economy.
- Promote a project for inclusion, social responsibility and local development, in which all the surrounding municipalities can participate and influence decisions affecting the new airport and its development areas.
- Capitalize on the potential for hotels, ecotourism, archaeology, gastronomy and sport offered by the eastern region.
- Strengthen national security through air navigation and drug control technologies.
- Implement the project in accordance with national and international rules and regulations (International Air Transport Association (IATA), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Airport Consultative Committees (ACCs).

Pacific Train

- Reactivate the national rail system through modern, effective and sustainable management models, offering efficient, safe, sustainable and low-cost transportation services for passengers and goods.
- Integrate the country into a multimodal logistics system in the region (road, sea and air) and with the railways of Mesoamerica, in order to promote exports to North and South America, thereby reducing the maintenance costs of the road network, promoting sustainable development, increasing the competitiveness of the economies of Central America and contributing to their development.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Ports network: Port of La Unión and Port of Acajutla

	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
1 NO POVERTY 	Help reduce poverty levels through formal jobs.	Percentage of households living in poverty in the municipalities of the eastern region.	Reduction of at least 10% in multidimensional poverty in the ports network.	5 years
2 ZERO HUNGER 	<p>End hunger, ensure food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture through the corporate social responsibility of the ports network.</p> <p>Provide sustainable agricultural management for the communities, to ensure that families have the foodstuffs they need for sustenance and trade.</p>	<p>Percentage of farmers involved in sustainable agriculture programmes promoted by the corporate social responsibility of the ports network.</p> <p>Percentage of production taken up by the communities participating in the corporate social responsibility programme of the ports network.</p>	<p>50% of producers participating in sustainable agriculture programmes.</p> <p>50% of output taken up by producers.</p>	5 years
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 	<p>Contribute to health programmes conducted by assistance centres in Sonsonate and La Unión.</p> <p>Health campaigns or other initiatives for port staff and users.</p>	<p>Number of contributions to health programmes.</p> <p>Number of health campaigns carried out at the ports.</p>	At least 4 health campaigns (2 at each port).	5 years
4 QUALITY EDUCATION 	Carry out initiatives such as “My New School” and assist centres of learning with programmes such as “Know Your Port”, to strengthen students’ awareness and ownership of the ports network and its activities.	Increase in the percentage of students visiting the ports network in one year.	5%	5 years
5 GENDER EQUALITY 	<p>Contribute to establishing a balance in gender equality, through recruitment programmes and the maintenance of equitable labour relations.</p> <p>Creation of programmes to promote the economic autonomy of women living in the ports network’s area of operations.</p>	<p>Percentage of women working at the ports network.</p> <p>% wage gap between men and women.</p> <p>% of women participating in economic autonomy programmes.</p>	<p>50% of the workforce are women.</p> <p>100% reduction of the wage gap between men and women.</p> <p>50% of women participating in economic autonomy programmes.</p>	5 years
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION 	Contribution to corporate social responsibility programmes to ensure clean water and sanitation.	Wells to provide clean water at the ports network	2 wells built (1 at each port)	5 years
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 	Sustainable energy management, autonomous solar project to supply electricity.	Proportion of energy generated autonomously compared to amount obtained from the electricity grid.	Ports equipped with at least one solar panel project (1 at each port).	5 years
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 	<p>Creation of new jobs at the port based on the local population, and creation of local business initiatives for port services.</p> <p>Attraction of new investments, and creation of small businesses and microenterprises among the population and communities based on the ports’ activities.</p>	<p>Percentage of local employees.</p> <p>Number of local companies (providing goods and/or services) established annually through the ports’ catalysing effect.</p>	Increase in the numbers of local employees as a proportion of total employees.	5 years

Ports network: Port of La Unión and Port of Acajutla (concluded)

	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 	Develop the port industry at the country's ports network, by constructing infrastructure and implementing innovative sustainability actions as part of the project.	Number of port service industries created locally compared to the port service industries established prior to the project.	2 sustainable port infrastructures (1 at each port).	5 years
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	Help to reduce economic inequalities by contributing to the development of competitive wages in the port industry.	Number of specialized jobs created in the port industry in the country's ports network.	100 specialized jobs.	5 years
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	Establish sustainable community development programmes.	Number of programmes implemented.	8 programmes implemented (4 at each port).	5 years
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 	Quantify the volumes of waste handled.	Amount of waste reprocessed as a proportion of total waste generated.	More waste reprocessed than sent to landfills.	5 years
13 CLIMATE ACTION 	Help reduce indirect levels of carbon dioxide equivalent generated.	% reduction in carbon dioxide per year.	More autonomously generated energy used than energy supplied directly by the grid.	5 years
14 LIFE BELOW WATER 	Conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.	Compliance with International Maritime Organization (IMO) regulations and Annex I, "Regulations for preventing oil pollution from ships", of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL).	100%.	5 years
15 LIFE ON LAND 	Contribute to programmes to introduce protective measures for fauna and flora found within the ports network's area of influence.	Number of programmes implemented.	At least 4 programmes implemented (2 at each port).	5 years
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	Maintenance of the institutional framework, by establishing programmes to audit and examine the enforcement of instruments.	Number of non-compliances per audit.	100% compliance with applicable national and international regulations.	5 years
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 	Definition of the ports network's strategic stakeholders, and maintenance of interconnections to streamline processes.	Number of agreements signed per year.	Creation and maintenance of a Technical Panel involving the ports network's strategic stakeholders.	5 years

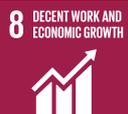
International Airport of the Pacific

	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
	Help reduce poverty levels through formal jobs.	Percentage of households living in poverty in the municipalities of the eastern region.	Reduction of at least 10% in multidimensional poverty in the eastern region.	5 years
	Through the airport's corporate social responsibility programme: Provide sustainable agricultural management for the communities, to ensure that families have the foodstuffs they need for sustenance and trade.	<p>Percentage of farmers involved in sustainable agriculture programmes promoted by the airport's corporate social responsibility programme.</p> <p>Percentage of production taken up by the communities participating in the airport's corporate social responsibility programme.</p>	<p>50% of producers participating in sustainable agriculture programmes.</p> <p>50% of output taken up by producers.</p>	5 years
	Contribute to the development of the airport to create health infrastructure and public spaces for recreation. Reduce crime rates.	Number of health centres created in 5 years.	At least 2 health centres.	5 years
	Carry out initiatives such as "My New School" and strengthen both vocational and professional centres of learning with degree courses related to airport operations and to the businesses created to provide the airport with goods and services.	Total vocational, technical, and professional degree courses created to cover the demand for human resources in the eastern region.	Minimum of 5 degree courses created.	5 years
	Contribute to establishing a balance in gender equality, through recruitment programmes and the maintenance of equitable labour relations. Creation of programmes to promote the economic autonomy of women living in the ports network's area of operations.	<p>Percentage of women working at the ports network.</p> <p>% wage gap between men and women.</p> <p>% of women participating in economic autonomy programmes.</p>	<p>50% of the workforce are women.</p> <p>100% reduction of the wage gap between men and women.</p> <p>50% of women participating in economic autonomy programmes.</p>	5 years
	Creation of a drinking water plant. Construction of infrastructure to harvest rainwater, and construction of a wastewater treatment plant.	Drinking water project for the communities in the area of direct influence built.	Drinking-water project built and operational.	5 years
	Sustainable energy management. Solar panel project for autonomous generation.	Proportion of energy generated autonomously compared to amount obtained from the electricity grid.	The airport has an operational solar panel project.	5 years
	Attraction of new investments. Creation of new jobs at the airport based on the local population. Creation of local business initiatives for airport services.	<p>Number of local companies (providing goods and/or services) established annually through the airport's catalysing effect.</p> <p>Local employees as a proportion of total employees.</p>	More local employees than employees from beyond the area of influence.	5 years

International Airport of the Pacific (concluded)

	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 	Develop the airport industry in the eastern region of the country, by constructing infrastructure and implementing innovative sustainability actions as part of the project.	Number of airport service industries created locally compared to the airport service industries established prior to the project.	1 sustainable airport infrastructure.	5 years
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	Help to reduce economic inequalities among the population of the eastern region. Creation of specialized job with competitive wages in the airport industry.	Number of specialized jobs created in the airport industry in the eastern region of the country.	100 specialized jobs.	5 years
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	Establish sustainable programmes for communities.	Number of programmes implemented.	4 programmes implemented.	5 years
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 	Introduction of awareness programmes for the population to make better and more responsible use of natural resources. Quantify the volumes of waste handled.	Amount of waste reprocessed as a proportion of total waste generated.	More waste reprocessed than sent to landfills.	5 years
13 CLIMATE ACTION 	Help reduce indirect levels of carbon dioxide equivalent generated.	% reduction in carbon dioxide per year.	More autonomously generated energy used than energy supplied directly by the grid.	5 years
14 LIFE BELOW WATER 	Ensuring that communities in the area of direct influence do not dump waste in bodies of water, through sustainability programmes.	Percentage of waste in the area of direct influence compared to amount of waste prior to the project.	70% of waste not dumped in the area of influence.	5 years
15 LIFE ON LAND 	Contribute to programmes to introduce protective measures for fauna and flora found within the airport's area of influence.	Number of programmes implemented.	At least 2 programmes implemented.	5 years
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	Maintenance of the institutional framework, by establishing programmes to audit and examine the enforcement of instruments.	Number of non-compliances per audit.	100% compliance with applicable national and international regulations.	5 years
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 	Definition of the project's strategic stakeholders, and maintenance of interconnections with synergies for obtaining given goods or services.	Number of agreements signed per year.	Creation and maintenance of a Technical Panel involving the project's strategic stakeholders.	5 years

Pacific Train

	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
	Contribute to the reduction of poverty levels through new formal jobs.	Percentage of households living in poverty at the development hubs that depend on the train.	Reduction of at least 10% in multidimensional poverty in municipalities adjacent to the train.	5 years
	Contribute to lower costs for basic shopping-basket products through rail connectivity. Making consumer products more accessible for the public.	Number of rail lines between departments and productive zones.	Operational rail system transporting national and regional cargo.	5 years
	Contributing to the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions by adopting electric trains to carry passengers and reduce the number of vehicles on the roads.	Operational rail system transporting passengers.	A rail line transporting a million passengers per year.	5 years
	Contributing to education through the creation of new skills and the implementation of new technologies in a modern, technology-based mode of transport.	Educational programmes for railway skills created.	5 new training programmes created.	5 years
	Equal numbers of men and women among the staff of the rail system.	Progress towards 50:50 male and female staff.	50:50 male and female staff.	5 years
	A rail system that does not pollute the country's wastewater and solid waste deposits.	Wastewater treatment plants and deposits for classifying solid waste.	100% of wastewater treated and 50% of solid waste recycled.	5 years
	Contributing to the electricity lines used to drive the railway, to be shared with nearby households.	An electricity network on the right of way with more capacity than is needed to drive the railway.	10% surplus energy within the network.	5 years
	<p>Salvadoran personnel from different departments in the country properly trained to perform all the railway-related activities to be carried out.</p> <p>Attraction of new investments.</p> <p>Promotion of national trade and increased exports.</p> <p>Developed cities served by the train, with formal businesses that make use of the rail system and conduct trade by rail.</p>	<p>Salvadoran personnel from different departments in the country properly trained to operate the system.</p> <p>Increased numbers of registered national companies and increased annual exports.</p> <p>Operation of an internships programme for university students within the rail system operating company.</p> <p>Annual GDP.</p> <p>Increased number of formal businesses using the rail system to transport cargo.</p>	<p>5% increase in gross domestic product (GDP).</p> <p>100% Salvadoran personnel, from at least 14 of the country's departments.</p> <p>120 internships per year.</p> <p>Railway transporting 20% of domestic cargo.</p>	5 years

Pacific Train (concluded)

	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 	A modern system rail, using efficient and environmentally friendly propulsion technology, with infrastructure designed in accordance with quality standards and suited to market demands.	An operational, modern, safe, and efficient rail system.	Environmentally friendly rail system operating, with zero accidents.	5 years
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	Contribute to the connectivity of inhabited areas to provide an equal number of opportunities to populations in rural and urban areas.	Conveyance of passengers from dormitory towns to business and commercial districts.	A rail service that connects two large population centres of more than 500,000 people with another industrial area.	5 years
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	Construction of a train designed as a sustainable project in harmony with nature that facilitates communications between cities and their development.	Percentage of green areas included in the train's construction. % of carbon dioxide emissions of the train.	Train promotes harmony among the population, facilitates connections and transports cargo. 0% carbon dioxide emissions within the rail network.	5 years
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 	System of renewable energies and energy generation within the rolling stock and its infrastructure, in order to generate its own means of propulsion.	Solar panels installed on the rolling stock and on the infrastructure in place along the rail network.	Autonomous generation of 50% of the energy needed to fuel the rail system.	5 years
13 CLIMATE ACTION 	A system rail fuelled by clean energy and using renewable energy in its stations, yards and workshops.	Generation of minimal levels of carbon dioxide emissions and low rates of consumption from the regular electricity grid.	0% carbon dioxide emissions within the rail network.	5 years
14 LIFE BELOW WATER 	Rail system operations that do not generate untreated waste, with the lowest possible impact on the environment.	Water treatment plants and waste classification deposits to generate reusable waste.	Treatment given to 100% of the wastewater and 100% of the waste generated by the rail system's operations.	5 years
15 LIFE ON LAND 	A rail system with the lowest environmental impact in noise and carbon dioxide levels, to protect wildlife, fauna and people living in the vicinity of the rail project.	A system rail fuelled by clean and renewable energies, with measures to protect wildlife.	50% of energy consumed generated by solar energy, and protective barriers for wildlife along the right of way.	5 years
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	A safe rail system that allows passengers to travel without violence, environmental pollution, risks of theft and accidents.	% of incidents within the rail system.	0% thefts or attacks per year on the rail system.	5 years
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 	Construct the rail system to interconnect the region, primarily Guatemala, to transport cargo and passengers and facilitate regional trade.	An operational system that connects with Guatemala to carry cargo to the Pacific ports.	Exporting 50% of the goods that currently leave the country by the Anguiatú border crossing.	5 years

Main activities

Port of La Unión

- The multimodal ferry project entails two phases: first, conveyance of maritime cargo, and second, conveyance of passengers.

Port of Acajutla

- Securing funding.
- Final engineering design.
- Preparation of tender documents.
- Contracting of construction company(ies).
- Contracting of oversight and quality assurance company(ies).
- Contracting of supply companies.
- Performance of those contracts.
- Implementation of environmental compensation measures.
- Reception of works and supplies.
- Project launch.

International Airport of the Pacific

- Preparation of pre-investment studies.
- Management of funding negotiations.
- Preparation of documents for competitions or tenders, as applicable.
- Environmental impact study completed.
- Preparation of project design and engineering plans.
- Implementation of the project (investment phase).
- Preparation of plans and manuals for the sustainable operation of the airport.

Pacific Train

- Pre-investment phase.
- Pre-feasibility study of the national rail system.
- Feasibility studies of the priority segments.
- Investment phase.
- Planning for the implementation of the project's final design.
- Development and implementation of the project under a suitable management model.

Project governance

Port of La Unión

With the administration of the Autonomous Port Executive Commission (CEPA).

Port of Acajutla

Autonomous Port Executive Commission and the Maritime Port Authority (AMP).

International Airport of the Pacific

Autonomous Port Executive Commission and the agency recommended by the project studies.

Pacific Train

Autonomous Port Executive Commission and the agency recommended by the project studies.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Port of La Unión

Implementation of the multimodal ferry will promote the development of national and regional logistics.

Port of Acajutla

The project will contribute to the country's economic growth in a close relationship with the Pacific Train, Airport of the Pacific and ports network projects.

- The Autonomous Port Executive Commission (CEPA)

Agency charged with managing, operating and running the Port of Acajutla

- Ministry of Public Works (MOP)

Lead institution for the project.

- Ministry of Finance

Institution responsible for providing FOSEP with funds for the feasibility study and, if the business model of the feasibility study indicates that the project should be carried out through public investment, providing the funds for its execution.

- Office of the President (CAPRES)

Institution responsible for overseeing compliance with the objectives set out for project development in the Cuscatlán Plan.

- Exports and Investment Promotion Agency of El Salvador (PROESA)

Institution responsible for providing support on topics related to projects funded through public-private partnerships (PPP).

- Maritime Port Authority

Lead agency for port operations.

International Airport of the Pacific

Synergies must be attained with the following institutions and, in addition, with all those that contribute to the execution of projects under the Cuscatlán Plan:

- The Autonomous Port Executive Commission (CEPA)

Institution responsible for providing logistical support for the operations of the new airport.

- Ministry of Public Works (MOP)

Lead institution for the project.

- Salvadoran Pre-Investment Studies Fund (FOSEP)

Institution responsible for funding the Airport of the Pacific feasibility study.

- Ministry of Finance

Institution responsible for providing FOSEP with funds for the feasibility study and, if the business model of the feasibility study indicates that the project should be carried out through public investment, providing the funds for its execution.

- Office of the President (CAPRES)

Institution responsible for overseeing compliance with the objectives set out for project development in the Cuscatlán Plan.

- Exports and Investment Promotion Agency of El Salvador (PROESA)

Institution responsible for providing support on topics related to projects funded through public-private partnerships (PPP).

- Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)

Institution responsible for overseeing compliance with aeronautical measures and standards to be implemented for the project.

Pacific Train

To be arrived at with the following institutions:

- Central American Bank for Economic Integration.
- World Bank.
- Inter-American Development Bank.
- United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

Duration

Port of La Unión

- With Costa Rica: 7 months (approximately).
- With Panama: 3 months.
- Period: indefinite, because it is a long-term national project.

Port of Acajutla

- 5 years.

International Airport of the Pacific

- Estimated pre-investment phase: 22 months.
- Estimated time for investment execution: 24 months.

Pacific Train

The Pacific Train is to be built from the ground up, based on a critical analysis of the state of the former national rail system and a projection towards a modern and efficient rail system; the national-level pre-feasibility study is therefore estimated to take place during the first half of 2020. The feasibility phase is planned to end in late 2020. Implementation will begin in 2021.

Budget: US\$ 502,578,525*

(*) Budget of the Pacific Train still to be determined.

Proposal 1.6

North-south rail link in Guatemala



Implementing agencies:

Guatemala: 1. Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing, 2. Quetzal Port Company (EPQ), 3. Santo Tomás de Castilla Free Industrial and Trade Zone, 4. Guatemalan Railways (FEGUA), 5. Santo Tomás de Castilla National Port Company (EMPORNAC), 6. Champerico National Port Company (EPNCH), 7. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINEX), 8. Ministry of Defence (MIDDEF), 9. Interior Ministry (MINGOB), 10. National Council for Protected Areas (CONAP), 11. Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), 12. State Secretariat for Strategic Intelligence (SIE), 13. Superintendency of Tax Administration (SAT), 14. Ministry of Culture and Sport (MICUDE), 15. Institute of Anthropology and History (IDAEH), 16. Ministry of Labour (MINTRAB), 17. Office of the Ombudsman for Human Rights (PDH), 19. Office of the Attorney General of the Nation (PGN).

Support institutions:

Central American Integration System (SICA), civil society, municipal governments, Departmental Urban Development Council (CODEDE), Coordinating Committee of Agricultural, Commercial, Industrial and Financial Associations of Guatemala (CACIF), NGOs and national legislatures.

Geographical coverage:

Guatemala comprises 22 departments, with a total surface area of 108,890 km². This intervention will cover eleven departments: Zacapa, Chiquimula, Jutiapa, San Marcos, Quetzaltenango, Retalhuleu, Mazatenango, Escuintla, Guatemala, El Progreso and Izabal.

Number of beneficiaries:

Population of Guatemala (14,901,286 inhabitants),¹ who will benefit from growing economic, commercial and tourism flows. The project could potentially benefit the population of Chiapas and other states in south-east Mexico, as well as El Salvador.

Main topics:

- Rail infrastructure
- Transport and connectivity
- Economic development
- Tourism promotion

¹ According to Guatemala's 2018 Housing and Population Census (<https://www.censopoblacion.gt/cuantossomos>).

Context

Infrequent rail operations in Guatemala and the abandonment of this mode of transport mean that trade, transportation and tourism have fewer options for mobility, which constrains their economic potential.

The 2020–2024 General Government Policy implements the National Innovation and Development Plan (PLANID)² of Guatemala,³ the first pillar (Economy, Competitiveness and Prosperity) of which sets, as one of its sectoral objectives, “establishing a strategic, functional infrastructure base to support economic activity and job creation”. One of the strategic actions associated with this objective is the correct upkeep of the strategic road network connecting the ports and border regions, together with the highways that interconnect the country’s main tourist centres.

Objectives

Renovate and use the country’s existing rail network infrastructure to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, capitalizing on Guatemala’s geographical position, to expand economic activities and tourism in the coastal regions and attract international trade.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Increase the volume of merchandise conveyed by the rail network.	Millions of metric tons of cargo.	4 million metric tons of cargo.	8 years
Renovation and construction of track.	Kilometres of railway track renovated and built.	749.70 km.	8 years
Construction of multimodal transport centres.	Number of multimodal transport centres built.	2 centres.	8 years

Main activities:

- Pre-investment studies, including feasibility studies and studies of the railway’s potential market, use of existing track and social and environmental impact.
- Network design.
- Renovation of existing rail track and construction of new rail track.
- Construction of multimodal transport centres.
- Plan, budget and operation and maintenance programme for the rail network and multimodal transport centres.

Project governance

The pre-investment studies will recommend the best governance model for project construction and execution. In line with the experiences of other regional initiatives involving integration projects, it is estimated that the project will require: (a) design of the model for the operation and governance of the railways, (b) determination of the execution model to be used: concession, public-private partnership or public investment, (c) incorporation of the company (or companies) responsible for the funding, execution and operation of the railway and multimodal transport centres, and (d) legal and regulatory framework for the rail system and multimodal transport centres (updates and amendments, or a proposal for regional

² Dr. Alejandro Giammattei (President, 2020–2024), National Innovation and Development Plan (PLANID) 2019.

³ Eddy Coronado and Andrea Orozco, “Alejandro Giammattei presenta plan de gobierno y asegura que Guatemala no será un ‘saco roto’”, Prensa Libre, 16 January 2020 [online] <https://www.prensalibre.com/guatemala/politica/alejandro-giammattei-presenta-plan-de-gobierno-y-asegura-que-guatemala-no-sera-un-saco-roto/>.

rail transport regulatory frameworks). A modern design for the operation of this mode of transport and a solid legal framework will be essential in ensuring the certainty of this initiative's investments, both public and private. Mechanisms for resolving disputes should be established, giving precedence to regional legislation over domestic laws.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Synergies could be possible with the Mexico-Guatemala rail interconnection project,⁴ with the proposal of the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN) for a project to connect Mexico and Panama by rail⁵ and with the regional transport initiatives pursued by the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) and its specialized agencies (including its meetings of ministers of economic affairs and transport, COMIECO and COMITRAN, respectively).

Duration:

- Pre-investment studies: 1 year.
- Network design: 1 year.
- Renovation and construction of track: 7 years.
- Relocation of human settlements: 3 years.
- Start of rail network operations: 8 years.
- Start of operations of the multimodal transport centres: 8 years.

Budget: US\$ 7,485,000,000.

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion:

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Proposal 1.2 Gas pipeline between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America.		Central American rail system development and modernization plan (Central American Parliament (PARLACEN), Central American Integration System (SICA)).				
Proposal 1.3 Logistic corridors, co-modal integration and development.						
Proposal 1.41 Development of intermediate cities: tourist hubs on the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. Improved marketing conditions for small and medium-sized producers through the surfacing of rural roads.						

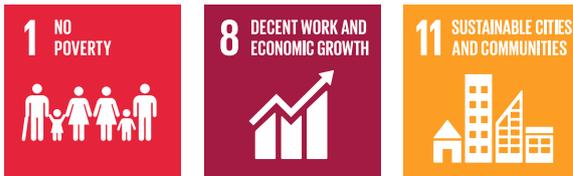
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

⁴ Miguel Ángel Samayoa, "Interconexión ferroviaria México-Guatemala", Ferrovías Guatemala/Exporail 2019, 2019 [online] <https://amf.org.mx/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/GUATEMALA.pdf>.

⁵ Infobae, "El tren con el que se busca unir a México y Panamá para impulsar la economía de Centroamérica", 31 July 2019 [online] <https://www.infobae.com/america/mexico/2019/07/31/el-tren-con-el-que-se-busca-unir-a-mexico-y-panama-para-impulsar-la-economia-de-centroamerica/>.

Proposal 1.7

Development of rural roads in Guatemala



Implementing agencies

- Core institutions: 1. Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing (MICIVI), 2. Interior Ministry (MINGOB), 3. Ministry of Defence (MINDEF), 4. Departmental Urban Development Council (CODEDE), 5. departmental governments, 6. local governments.
- Support institutions: 1. Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), 2. Presidential Executive Coordination Secretariat (SCEP), 3. Municipal Development Institute (INFOM), 4. Central American Integration System (SICA), 4. civil society, 5. Congress, 6. National Urban and Rural Development Council (CONADUR), 7. Tourism Chamber (CAMTUR), 8. Guatemalan Exporters Association (AGEXPORT), 9. National Competitiveness Programme (PRONACOM), 10. National Council for Protected Areas (CONAP), 11. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINEX), 12. Ministry of Economic Affairs (MINECO), 13. Guatemalan Tourism Institute (INGUAT), and 14. communities.

Geographical coverage:

Guatemala comprises 22 departments, with a total surface area of 108,890 km². This initiative covers the municipalities that make up the following departments: 1. San Marcos, 2. Huehuetenango, 3. Quiché, 4. Alta Verapaz, 6. Totonicapán, and 7. Petén.

Number of beneficiaries:

The target population covers 5,572,159 inhabitants. The direct beneficiaries are the communities of the departments of San Marcos, Huehuetenango, Quiché and Alta Verapaz; in addition, the inhabitants of the neighbouring departments are considered indirect beneficiaries.

Main topics:

- Economic development
- Safe infrastructure
- Mobility
- Interconnectivity
- Accessibility
- Social impact
- Development of the domestic market
- Employment

- Partnering
- Competitiveness
- Entrepreneurship
- Social development

Context

Comprehensive rural development must be seen as a priority for national development. The living conditions of rural populations must be improved and their capacity for resilience must be increased, in order to ensure them their livelihoods and make them sustainable.

This requires structural changes to allow small-scale producers access to assets, inputs, training and technical assistance, on a permanent, specialized and systematic basis and with a presence in their territories, together with access to credit and support for agricultural and non-agricultural marketing.

Accordingly, the provision of road infrastructure (allowing access to services, facilitating connections between rural territories and encouraging their external trade and communications) is vitally important in ensuring comprehensive rural development.

Actions will therefore be needed to improve connections in Guatemala's road and transport system, specifically its rural roads, as a strategy to interconnect the network with the departmental highways, to progressively strengthen the economic ties of small-scale producers in those areas and to promote recreation areas with the potential to become tourist attractions. Those areas include colonial cities, the altiplano, the Maya World, the Caribbean and Pacific coasts, mountain ranges and the east of the country.¹ Many of Guatemala's tourist destinations are connected to protected areas, which can be either privately or State owned. Community groups and associations can set up private tourist areas and promote their development.

Guatemala's road network is classified into four types: Central American routes (CA), national routes (RN), departmental highways (RD) and rural roads (CR); 2018 figures indicate an approximate total length of 17,440,225 km, with rural roads accounting for 26.08%.

Length of the road network of the Republic of Guatemala by surface type, 2014–2018

(Thousands of kilometres and three-place decimals to indicate metres)

Year	Total kilometres	Length of the road network			
		Type of surface			Rural roads
		Paved	Asphalt	Dirt roads	
2018	17 440.225	308.950	7 149.311	5 433.113	4 548.851
2017	17 202.515	308.950	7 145.941	5 343.413	4 404.211
2016	17 062.110	308.450	7 114.070	5 266.280	4 373.310
2015	16 951.000	308.450	7 110.941	5 136.693	4 394.916
2014	16 860.680	234.450	7 185.941	5 027.863	4 412.426

Source: General Directorate of Roads.

¹ This topic is explored in greater depth in the "Riches for All" component of the 2032 National Development Plan K'atun: Our Guatemala.

Length of the road network of the Republic of Guatemala by road classification and departments, 2018

Total kilometres	Road classification						Rural roads
	National routes			Departmental highways			
	Paved	Asphalt	Dirt roads	Paved	Asphalt	Dirt roads	
17 440.23	44.00	1 858.90	1 008.80	50.95	3 360.23	4 424.31	4 548.85

Source: General Directorate of Roads.

According to information from the General Directorate of Roads, the total length of the national and departmental dirt road network is 5,433,113.00 km, which could be included in this programme's interventions.

Objectives

Improve the beneficiary rural populations' access to markets and public services to bolster trade in their produce through improved road infrastructure.

- Improve rural access on a sustainable basis, improving the interconnections of rural communities.
- Help reduce rural poverty and construct social cohesion through improved physical access in rural areas.

Two phases have been defined for this initiative:

- **Preparatory phase:** Establish criteria for selecting priority municipalities for intervention, ensuring that they reflect the actions provided for in sectoral, departmental and municipal planning instruments where the interventions are to take place. Conduct a diagnostic assessment of the current rural road situation in the priority municipalities. Prepare the pre-investment studies needed to ensure the viability and feasibility of the interventions.
- **Execution phase:** Securing funds, and execution, design and implementation of the road conservation programme.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Establishment of a management model for the decentralized road network, with support and active participation at the local level.

The economy, competitiveness and prosperity pillar of the General Government Policy sets the sectoral objective of creating the appropriate conditions and a good business climate for encouraging increased investment and improving levels of competitiveness, by strengthening rural support infrastructure for MSMEs through the construction of rural roads.

Strategic Objective GGP 4.1.2.3: Develop conditions to promote and strengthen micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and the cooperative sector.

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Through 2024, maintenance of a score of 3.5 on the Tourism Competitiveness Index (3.5 in the 2017 edition) of the World Economic Forum.	Ratio between promotional investment and the number of non-resident visitors entering the country. Verification rate of tourism companies (%). Percentage of visitors served by parks or archaeological sites.	By 2030, preparation and implementation of policies for promoting sustainable tourism that create jobs and promote local culture and products.	
By 2024, reductions of 27.8 percentage points in poverty and extreme poverty, with an emphasis on the priority departments. (From 2014 to 2032 in: extreme poverty*/poverty**/Alta Verapaz: 53.6 to 38.71* /29.50 to 21.3, Sololá: 39.9 to 28.82*/ 41.10 to 29.7, Totonicapán: 41.1 to 29.68*/36.40 to 26.3, Huehuetenango: 28.6 to 20.66*	Development and Poverty Indexes.		
By 2024, an increase of 5.8 percentage points in formal employment (from 30.5% in 2018 to 36.30% in 2024).	Employment rate/Unemployment rate		

Main activities:

In coordination with the Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing (MICIVI) and other competent agencies, the municipalities will prepare a diagnostic assessment of the current conditions of their rural roads, prioritizing those areas with higher rates of poverty and extreme poverty and also taking into consideration the potential of small and medium-scale producers and the potential for tourism.

Subsequently, resources are to be secured, in coordination with other government entities with responsibilities for rural roads.

- Preparatory phase: The initial or preparatory phase covers the diagnostic assessments and the identification of priority rural roads:
 - Preparation of the priority criteria for interventions, and preparation of the diagnostic assessment to justify the investment to be made; identification of the priority areas and communities and of the infrastructure development measures to be implemented; and consensus-building with the authorities and inhabitants of each municipality.
 - Preparation of the pre-investment studies needed to ensure the viability and feasibility of the intervention.
 - Design and implementation of the road conservation programme in conjunction with the Road Conservation Executing Unit (COVIAL), to ensure the correct maintenance of the stretches of road where interventions take place.
- Action phase: Promote institutional coordination with the corresponding ministries and local governments:
 - Negotiate financing, either with funds from the municipality or from agencies with responsibilities for executing projects of this kind; Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing (CIV) secures the investment necessary for the design, formulation and execution of the selected projects.
 - Monitor the results and implement the road conservation programme.

Project governance

The project proposes the creation of a working team to be coordinated by the Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing (CIV), the Interior Ministry (MINGOB), the Ministry of Defence (MINDEF), the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), the Presidential Executive Coordination Secretariat (SCEP), the Departmental Urban Development Council (CODEDE), and departmental and local governments.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Duration

The initiative is planned for execution over a period of 36 months (3 years) according to the phases indicated above:

- Preparatory phase: 0–12 months.
- Action phase: 13–36 months.

Budget: US\$ 5,000,000

Proposal 1.8

Modernization and improvement of drinking water and sanitation services, Honduras



Implementing agencies:

National Water and Wastewater Service, municipal government and Community Development Institute for Water and Sanitation.

Geographical coverage:

Central District Municipality (MDC) in Honduras.

Main topics:

- Access to basic services
- Resilience to climate change
- Water management

Context

The national drinking water and sanitation sector has historically been managed by the National Water and Wastewater Service (SANAA), which is responsible for developing, financing, designing, constructing, operating and regulating those services in Honduras. Under the country's decentralization policies, however, efforts have been made to separate the sector's work at the national level, with the creation of sectoral planning agencies, the National Water Council and a service regulatory authority; as a result, responsibility for those services has been returned to 33 of the country's municipalities, including the Central District.

The challenges facing the sector at the national level are the result of the absence of the human and financial resources needed for the sectoral institutions to fully assume their responsibilities, with which only limited strategic sectoral planning actions have been carried out in pursuit of the coverage and funding objectives under the National Water and Sanitation Plan. The drinking water and sanitation regulatory authority does not have the capacity to serve all the country's 298 municipalities; at the same time, SANAA has not yet been given responsibility for four municipalities, including the Central District, on account of difficulties in financing labour liabilities and in consolidating its role as a provider of technical assistance.

The agency responsible for setting service policies in the Central District is the Municipal Water and Sanitation Commission (COMAS) which, through its Municipal Water and Sanitation Management Unit (UGASAM), plans and designs the necessary programmes and projects; it has also been providing support

for the transfer of those services from SANAA to the municipal authorities. Substantial progress has been made recently with consolidating the transfer of services in the Central District to the municipality in order to bolster the city's economic development.

The following projects are currently under way:

- Project to Strengthen Drinking Water Services in Tegucigalpa (US\$ 50 million, World Bank funding).
- Final Design of the Collection and Treatment Plant on the Choluteca River (US\$ 1.3 million, Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) funding).
- Maintenance and repair of the Rainwater, Wastewater and Drinking Water Hydrosanitary System of Tegucigalpa and Comayagüela (US\$ 15 million, funding from the Central District municipal government).

This project involves complementary investments to improve water production capacities and the efficiency of the distribution network.

Objectives

Help improve the quality of and access to drinking water and sanitation services in the Central District Municipality (MDC), through reforms to the water sector's regulatory framework and infrastructure programme to encourage the municipal consolidation of those services, thereby enabling the sector's governance to be improved in a context of climate change and ensuring an efficient and appropriate regulation, management and provision of water resources in order to attend to service demand.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals:

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Expand the coverage of the drinking water distribution system.	Increase (in percentage or absolute terms) of the number of individuals served.		
Expand the coverage of the sanitation system.	Increase (in percentage or absolute terms) of the number of individuals served.		

Main activities

- Launch of the new Municipal Water and Sanitation Service Provider
- Launch of a safety action plan for the Los Laureles and La Concepción dams, including the preparation of studies into the work to be carried out, risk assessment of the impact of climate change on the dams' structural integrity, security plans for emergencies and immediate minor repair work on the dams.
- Development of tools for improving watershed management and climate resilience.

Duration

5 years.

Budget: US\$ 90,300,000¹

¹ Investment of US\$ 66,300,000 in place, leaving a funding shortfall of US\$ 24,000,000.

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
<p>Universal access to health services that are appropriate, timely and nearby, particularly in municipalities and territories where people are more likely to migrate.</p> <p>Ancillary programme for climate change mitigation and adaptation and for the creation of green jobs.</p>	2018-2022 Strategic Government Plan.	Central American Integration System (SICA).	UN-Water	2018-2022 Strategic Government Plan.	Central American Integration System (SICA).	UN-Water

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.9

Road infrastructure logistics, Honduras



Implementing agencies:

- Honduras Strategic Investment (INVEST-Honduras).
- Secretariat of Infrastructure and Public Services (INSEP).

Geographical coverage:

Honduras.

Number of beneficiaries:

The Road Infrastructure Trust will create 40,000 sustainable jobs each year as of 2020, benefiting the country's 298 municipalities and, consequently, the entire population of Honduras, which currently numbers around 9 million people.

Main topics:

- Logistics
- Connection and access
- Integration

Context

The construction of an efficient road system has become one of the foremost pillars for the economic and social development of Honduras, at both the national and regional levels. In recent years significant investments in road infrastructure have been made under the 2010–2022 National Plan and the 2010–2038 Country Vision, with the aim of creating conditions to bolster Honduras's productivity and economic competitiveness.

In 2015 the economy, transport and finance ministers of Central America —members of the Council of Ministers for Economic Integration (COMIECO), Sectoral Council of Transport Ministers of Central America (COMITRAN) and Council of Ministers of Finance of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (COSEFIN), respectively— agreed to draw up a Central American Regional Framework Policy on Mobility and Logistics. That policy seeks to focus public action on the conveyance of passengers and goods rather than following an isolated approach to modes of transport. It defines not only sectoral lines of action

(maritime, airport, rail, ground transport, coordinated border management and urban logistics) but also cross-cutting axes for intervention (actions in the productive and commercial spheres, personal mobility).

Those efforts are complemented by the Plan of the Alliance for Prosperity in the Northern Triangle, in order to increase the dynamism of the productive apparatus and create economic opportunities. The instrument: (a) identifies strategic productive sectors, (b) prioritizes improvements to infrastructure, logistics and comprehensive trade facilitation, and (c) encourages focused investments in zones and regions with the potential to become catalysing hubs for development.

In line with the existing regional strategic frameworks, Honduras has a National Logistics Plan that identifies priority sectors, including textiles, agribusiness, light industry, forestry and tourism. In addition, it bolsters efforts with other strategic areas, such as updating the regulatory framework for cargo transport and the effective implementation of reciprocal transport regulations in the region, the preparation of national policies for transport and logistics, coordinated border management, with emphasis on the posts at El Florido (on the Guatemalan border) and El Poy and El Amatillo (on the Salvadoran border), international trade facilitation through improvements in quality and certification systems and the modernization of phytosanitary systems.

Significant progress with regional integration requires investments in expanding airport terminals, logistics platforms at airports, borders and road infrastructure, and actions for integrated border management and energy integration.

In road infrastructure, Honduras has made investments in the main Central American Integration Corridors, such as the Southern Corridor that connects the border crossings at El Amatillo (in El Salvador) and Guasaule (in Nicaragua), the Western Corridor that connects the city of San Pedro Sula with the Guatemalan and Salvadoran borders, the Eastern Corridor that connects Tegucigalpa with the border at Las Manos, and chiefly the Logistic Corridor, which is part of the highway integration initiative, intended to reduce transport costs through the construction, renovation and improvement of several corridors that traverse Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, complementing Honduras's port services and accelerating the conveyance of goods between the Atlantic and the Pacific, and thereby contributing to the goal of making the country an important logistics centre for the hemisphere.

Also during this year, execution of the Road Infrastructure Programme began, which will support the maintenance of roads that interconnect the country's municipal seats and tourist areas.

This project plans to supplement the investments made with an additional series of investments to bolster the potential of the corridors under construction.

Objectives

Promote the country's productive and social development through improvements to the primary road network (logistic corridors) and the secondary and tertiary networks (Road Infrastructure Plan), reducing travel times and vehicle and cargo operating costs and improving access to markets.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Reduced transport times.			
Reduced cargo times and costs.			
Percentage of the secondary and tertiary road network improved.			

Main activities:

The following are among the pending investments and those for which funds are still being identified:

- Road corridors (primary road network)
 - Concession of the Western Corridor, stage I of Highway CA-4, Chamelecón-Naco-La Ceibita-La Entrada, the aim of which is to connect with the investments made for a total of 118.6 km.
 - Installation and operation of speed radars and dynamic toll devices, to improve road safety for the public and help build Honduras's logistics sector through the transformation, simplification and harmonization of customs procedures, transparency, improved technology and infrastructure.
 - Improvement of infrastructure and services in the Department of Islas de La Bahía.
- Road Infrastructure Plan (secondary and tertiary road network): The investment programme covers regular conservation and routine maintenance, road repairs, surfacing of all municipal seat access roads, pothole work and road beds.

Project governance:

Possible synergies with other initiatives:

Duration:

Budget: US\$ 3,731.6 million¹

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

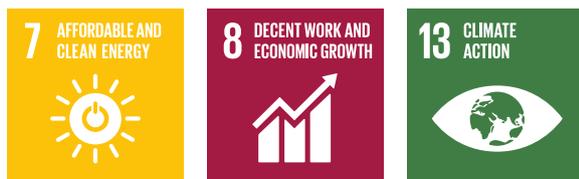
CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Logistic corridors, co-modal integration and development. Infrastructure for the territorial development of underprivileged areas.	2010–2020 National Plan, and 2010–2038 Country Vision.	Council of Ministers for Economic Integration (COMIECO) of the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA). Sectoral Council of Transport Ministers of Central America (COMITRAN), SIECA. Council of Ministers of Finance of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (COSEFIN), SIECA.	United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).		World Bank, Infrastructure Sector. Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI).	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

¹ Investment under way for US\$ 3,472.6 million, leaving a funding shortfall of US\$ 259 million.

Proposal 1.10

Strategic investments for the energy subsector, Honduras



Implementing agencies:

Ad hoc executing unit and the following Honduran institutions: Finance Secretariat, Secretariat of State for Energy, National Electric Energy Company (ENEE). Other supervisory and auxiliary institutions: an ad hoc transparency unit, the Electrical Energy Regulating Commission (CREE), and the System Operator (ODS, the agency responsible for operating the system and administrating the electricity market in Honduras).

Geographical coverage:

Honduras. This proposal has a nationwide scope (as regards both the sustainability of the electricity subsector and the introduction of natural gas).

Number of beneficiaries:

The planned direct beneficiaries are the country's electricity service users and its total population (around 8.8 million people in 2018), together with those economic activities that depend on a reliable and affordable electricity supply.

Main topics:

- Sustainable energy development
- Economic development
- The country's Electricity Transmission System
- Renewable sources of energy
- Conventional sources of energy
- Lower electricity prices
- Improved security and reliability of the electricity supply
- Repositioning of Honduras in the Central American Regional Electricity Market
- Regularization of public finances

Context

The electricity subsector is of vital importance to a country's economic and social development. The national electricity transmission system conveys energy from where it is produced (generating facilities) to where it is consumed, using high-tension transmission lines and substations in the country's main cities. Electricity enables productive activities to take place. Honduras is connected to the rest of

Central America by regional 230 kV transmission lines that are a part of the Electricity Interconnection System for the Countries of Central America (SIEPAC) regional system and that link the country with Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. Honduras is thus the only country in Central America with three crossborder electrical interconnections under that regional system. Each of the links has a nominal rating of 300 MW; that capacity, however, has been reduced by shortcomings in the national transmission systems. Honduras is one of the Central American countries with the gravest shortcomings in the development of its national electricity transmission network.

The General Electricity Industry Act, enacted in 2014, works for greater liberalization of generating and marketing activities through the creation of a wholesale market for electricity and, additionally, orders the transformation and divestiture of the National Electric Energy Company (ENEE) into a new corporate structure comprising three companies —(i) Generation, (ii) Transmission and Operation, and (iii) Distribution— subordinate to a Central ENEE Business Group. It also creates a System Operator (ODS) and a regulatory authority for the electricity subsector (the Electrical Energy Regulating Commission, CREE), which enjoys functional and budgetary independence.

In recent years, ENEE has faced a financial and institutional crisis; thus, under the Letter of Intent signed between the Government of Honduras and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 2019,¹ a series of measures were established, including the regularization of the finances of ENEE and its reorganization and strengthening, in order for it to attain sustainable management in the medium term (three years). That will require the enforcement of the General Electricity Industry Act, the strengthening of the regulatory agency, the implementation of effective oversight and regulatory mechanisms to improve the management of all activities within the industry's chain (production, transformation, transmission, distribution and marketing), and the periodic review of the rates charged final users and the cost of services related to the electricity service. All of this will help improve the governance of the electricity subsector, reduce both technical and non-technical electricity losses and implement transparent and efficient mechanisms for energy purchases and the expansion of the electrical infrastructure.

This requires the assistance of the national government and the possible recognition of public debt for unrecoverable expenditure, including onerous contractual commitments for energy purchases signed by ENEE, the transfer of which to final consumers could have caused social unrest.² A future renegotiation of those contracts must not be discarded. Other actions recommended by the IMF include refinancing the financial obligations of ENEE in order to replace its high-cost debt.

The institutional reforms of the energy subsector include a thorough corporate restructuring of ENEE. The restructuring of the electricity market is an essential part of the economic programme; the recently adopted Electricity Subsector Framework Act will be enforced, which aims at repairing and improving the sector's infrastructure and securing investment resources. The key element in the reform process is the creation of the System Operator, charged with managing the energy network and ensuring the reliable provision of electricity to residential, commercial and industrial consumers. The overarching aim is to build a more efficient, open and transparent sector and to encourage private investment.

¹ In financial terms, there are major challenges: in 2018 ENEE reported a deficit equal to 1% of gross domestic product (GDP), on account of problems in government management and persistent operating inefficiencies that led to a massive accumulation of debt, close to 11% of GDP, and the loss of the company's financial autonomy.

² It should be noted that electricity prices have been updated to reasonable levels, which has meant the reduction or elimination of social safeguards for vulnerable populations living in conditions of poverty. Compared to its neighbours in Central America—with the exception of the prices high-consumption industrial sectors are charged—Honduras's electricity prices have ceased to be the lowest in the region and are now among the most expensive. This has nevertheless translated into an improvement in the financial situation of ENEE, which was suffering the effects of electricity losses, government debt and the high prices set in energy purchase contracts entered into with private generators, many of which were based on renewable technologies. To provide an idea of the magnitude of the electricity losses, note that reducing them to 12% enabled increased energy sales and additional revenue of the order of US\$ 225 million a year. The above estimate uses a conservative value for the price of energy (12 cents of a dollar per kWh).

Currently (2018), 67% of the country's electricity output is generated using renewable sources of energy (35.7% hydroelectric, 11.3% solar, 10.5% wind, 6.5% agri-industrial biomass and 3.4% geothermal). Among these renewables, intermittent variable energy sources (IVES) account for 21.8% of the total. On account of the projects currently under construction, this mix of renewable technologies will remain unchanged over the coming years. That situation requires that attention be paid to the optimal mix of the country's electricity generation, taking account of natural variations in IVES, hydrology cycles and the frequency of dry years. Excessive expansion in the share of renewable technologies is not necessarily the cheapest option and, in addition, it can require major investments in reserve plants.

The country has a notable backlog in electrification, with an average coverage rate of 81% (2018). No electricity service is available in 19% of households (around 450,000 families), with a bigger shortfall in rural than in urban areas (33% and 15%, respectively). There is also a notorious level of underdevelopment in the infrastructure used for electricity transmission, subtransmission, transformation and distribution and in sales activities (metering, billing and customer service), which partly explains the high rates of electricity losses, both technical and non-technical alike, that totalled around 32% in 2018.

For many families, the regularization of the electricity service would mean earmarking a significant portion of their income for electricity bills, to the extent that in some surveys into the causes of migration, the inability to pay power bills has started to emerge as a recurrent cause of human displacement in search of better standards of living.³ That situation underscores the urgency of identifying sources of energy and mechanisms to reduce the cost and prices of power generated in the country, and of reviewing and restructuring the fee schedules, to include targeted subsidies for the lowest-income deciles of the population.

All of this leads to difficulties in the Honduran electricity subsector and in the finances of ENEE, which remains the main cause of the deficit in the non-financial public sector. The difficult financial situation at ENEE is primarily the result of high prices in its energy purchase contracts with private generators, consumer rates that prevent the recovery of costs and high energy losses. Furthermore, it has growing levels of debt with the private electricity generators (around 0.5 percentage points of GDP), the existing energy purchases restrict operating autonomy and leave little margin to minimize costs in acquiring electricity, and the auxiliary services that ENEE provides remain unrecognized (and are provided free of charge).

In this context, three lines of action have been identified for the sector's development:

- Activities to strengthen all aspects of the electricity subsector (rules, regulations and business practices) to ensure the sustainability of the Honduran electricity industry.
- Development of national mechanisms to bolster the electricity transmission, subtransmission and transformation system (transmission lines and substations) and investments in the distribution systems to consolidate an efficient and competitive electricity market, to benefit economic activities and the population in general. Those projects will be funded through public-private investment mechanisms, allowing private companies to participate through competitive processes and establishing mechanisms for the repayment of works projects through the provision of the corresponding services, using competitive fee schedules that reflect the added value of transmission, transformation and distribution and are comparable to model companies in other countries (reflecting capital recovery rates in accordance with the risks of the electricity industry and the country risk).

³ One preliminary estimate, based on 80% of non-technical losses originating in the residential sector (households) and a consumption rate of 150 kWh/month, indicates that around a million households (families) do not pay for the electricity they use. Regularizing their situations would mean monthly payments of US\$ 30 (US\$ 360 a year), which is difficult or impossible for lower income families.

- Development of new electricity generation facilities through the use of an ad hoc mix of renewable sources and conventional thermoelectric plants, offering productive sectors and the general population a quality electricity supply at competitive prices and in harmony with the environment.

Objectives

Set the foundations for the sustainability of the country's electricity subsector through a national effort that pursues the subsector's sustainability and the development of infrastructure works projects for the generation, transmission and transformation of electricity allowing, in the medium term (six years), a dramatic reduction in electricity service costs and the prices paid by final consumers.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goals	Period
Development of the institutional framework for the Honduran energy sector.	Creation of all the institutions and agencies provided for in law (% and number). Budget allocations to all those institutions and agencies (%). Personnel hirings for those institutions and agencies (%). Adoption of regulations and agreements provided for in law (%).	Complete the development of the institutional and regulatory framework for the Honduran energy sector, as provided for in current legislation, particularly the General Electricity Industry Act.	6 months following approval of the CDP initiatives.
Existence of an energy policy and development plans for the electricity subsector.	% progress with the preparation and adoption of the policy and plan for the electricity subsector.	Energy policy and electricity subsector development plans finalized, socialized through consultations and approved (by the executive and legislative branches).	12 months following approval of the CDP initiatives.
Regularization of the electricity subsector's finances.	ENEE financial surplus. Reduction and elimination of the energy-related public sector deficit. Electricity losses at an acceptable level (%).	Fee adjustment programme, targeted subsidies, and renegotiation and reduction of ENEE debt allow the sustainable development of the Honduran electricity subsector to begin. Negotiations with the international financial sector and strict compliance with monthly, quarterly and annual goals.	48 months (4 years) following approval of the CDP initiatives.
Construction and launch of electricity transmission and transformation projects.	Tendering processes for works projects, in accordance with expansion plans, successfully concluded. Transmission lines built and operational (km and voltage level). Transformer substations built and operational (MVA and number). Elimination of supply failure risks due to insufficient transmission and transformation capacity (duration and frequency of blackouts total below 6 hours/year; voltage within normal parameters; transmission and transformation losses lower than 3%).	Identified priority works carried out in the short and medium terms. Project costs allow reasonable prices and costs for transmission and transformation services (in line with international standards).	Priority projects for the short term (2021–2023) and medium term (2024–2030).

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goals	Period
Construction and launch of generating plants using renewable sources of energy (hydroelectric, wind, geothermal, solar, biomass for agroindustrial cogeneration, etc.) in accordance with the optimal mix suggested by indicative plans.	<p>Bidding processes for technologies, in accordance with expansion plans, successfully concluded.</p> <p>New renewable installed capacity (MW, number of plants and technology).</p> <p>Firm generation and secondary generation delivered to the system (GWh/year, number of plants and technology).</p> <p>Diversification of sources and share of renewables (%).</p> <p>Reduction in greenhouse gases (tons of CO₂ equivalent) and contribution to nationally determined contributions (NDCs).</p> <p>Elimination of supply failure risks due to insufficient generation (probability of generation loss below 0.5%).</p>	<p>Execution of priority projects identified in indicative plans for the short and medium terms.</p> <p>Monomial price for contracted energy (dollars/MWh) at reasonable levels (according to international standards and below the Central American average).</p> <p>Significant reduction in final electricity prices (rates).</p>	Priority projects for the medium term (2021–2026).
Construction and launch of hydrocarbon-fired generating plants (fuel oil and natural gas) in accordance with the optimal mix suggested by the indicative plans.	<p>Bidding processes for technologies, in accordance with expansion plans, successfully concluded.</p> <p>Installed capacity (MW, number of plants and technology).</p> <p>Firm generation and secondary generation delivered to the system (GWh/year, number of plants and technology).</p> <p>Diversification of hydrocarbons for thermoelectric generation (%).</p> <p>Reduction of greenhouse gases from natural gas (GHG, tons of CO₂ equivalent/year) compared to coal and oil-derivatives baseline.</p> <p>Elimination of supply failure risks due to insufficient generation (probability of generation loss below 0.5%).</p>	Prices of thermoelectric energy are competitive, allow reasonable electricity prices and assist the sustainable development of the country's electricity industry.	Priority projects for the short and medium terms (2021–2026).
Investments and job creation.	<p>Annual investments in renewable generation, transmission and distribution of electricity (millions of dollars).</p> <p>Number of direct and indirect jobs during construction of the thermoelectric plant.</p> <p>Number of direct and indirect jobs in the electricity subsector and the industry.</p>	Sustainable development of the electricity subsector will create around 2,000 direct jobs and annual investments of around US\$ 100 million.	

Main activities

- Activities to strengthen the electricity subsector (tentative, 2021–2024).
 - Preparation and approval of the road map for attaining sustainability in the country's electricity subsector.
 - Negotiations with the international financial sector related to public debt, particularly non-financial public sector debt.
 - Preparation of a draft Energy Policy, drafting and updating of electricity development plans, socialization of the policy and plans and their ultimate approval.⁴
 - Agreements with the central government on the public debt of ENEE, subsidies for lower-income families and possible renegotiation of some ENEE energy purchase contracts with private producers.

⁴ In late 2019, the Honduran System Operator (ODS) presented the relevant plans for electricity generation and transmission. The Plan's approval by the Secretariat of Energy and its socialization remain pending.

- Strict compliance with the road map, particularly as regards: reduction of technical losses; reduction of past-due payments; adoption and implementation of the new tariff schedule; implementation and launch of the wholesale electricity market; review and possible renegotiation of energy supply contracts; construction of the transmission, transformation and distribution projects included in the National Plan; strengthening the agencies responsible for policies and rules (Secretariat of Energy), regulation (Electrical Energy Regulating Commission, CREE) and market and system operator (National Electrical System Operator), and creation of the Transparency Unit, to oversee procurement, particularly as regards the new electricity generation projects.
- Development of national mechanisms to bolster the electricity transmission, subtransmission and transformation system.

The Transmission Network Expansion Plan (PERT)⁵ is based on studies of the current electricity situation and future needs, in line with the country's evolving electricity demand and supply. It defines quality and safety guidelines for the electricity supply, at both the national and subregional (Atlantic, West, Centre and South) levels. On that basis, the plan has identified and established priorities for the transmission and transformation projects, both new facilities and refittings (replacement towers, increased substation capacities). Most of the projects are urgently needed to reduce losses and improve service reliability and quality.

The investment cost of the identified and unfunded new projects included in the CDP is estimated at US\$ 251 million. There are projects currently under way (previously identified and with funding) with investment amounts of around US\$ 112.2 million. Both groups of projects represent a total of US\$ 363.2 million.

- Develop new electricity generation sources through an ad hoc mix of renewable energies and conventional thermoelectric plants.

The Indicative Generation Expansion Plan (PIEG)⁶ estimates that the country's demand for electricity will grow at an annual rate of 4%, with which the annual requirement will be 14,454 GWh in 2029 (compared to around 10,000 GWh in 2019).

This expansion plan places emphasis on the current difficult situation, in which there is a significant and rising shortfall (rationing). That deficit is the consequence of the failure to contract for firm capacity, together with the high levels of reserves demanded by the intermittent sources of renewable energy in operation and the transmission restrictions. An additional complication in the short term is the low rainfall recorded during 2019, as a result of which water levels in the dam at the El Cajón plant (the country's largest generating facility) are very low. If the measures necessary to increase firm capacity are not taken, the distribution company will be unable to cover its customers' demand and the shortfall will continue to increase. This is a very serious situation, which underscores the urgent need for immediate action:

(i) In the very short term, the contracted procurement of emergency energy (with neighbouring countries) and with existing private power plants that are not connected to the grid (thermoelectric plants without contracts) or with a plant that can be installed rapidly (barge type).

(ii) In the medium term (2021–2024), calculations indicate that the system should be expanded by 350 MW from renewables (chiefly hydroelectric) and 340 MW from thermoelectric generation (preferably natural gas), which would require an investment of around US\$ 1.825 billion.

⁵ System Operator, "Plan de Expansión de la Red de Transmisión del Sistema Interconectado Nacional", Tegucigalpa, 20 December 2019.

⁶ System Operator, "Plan de Expansión de la Red de Transmisión del Sistema Interconectado Nacional", Tegucigalpa, 20 December 2019.

Project governance

An Executing Unit will be set up to supervise and execute the project, together with a Transparency Unit or similar mechanism or agency to guarantee broad competition in all contracting operations and ensure that energy prices and project costs are comparable to or lower than those in neighbouring countries.

In addition, the following institutions will also participate: the Finance Secretariat, the Secretariat of State for Energy, the Electrical Energy Regulating Commission (CREE), the National Energy Company (ENEE), and the System Operator and Administration Agency of the Electricity Market in Honduras.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This initiative enjoys synergies with the following regional projects in the CDP: (a) Connecting Mexico to the Electricity Interconnection System for the Countries of Central America (SIEPAC) and second SIEPAC circuit, and (b) gas pipeline between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America.

Honduras is a partner in SIEPAC and many players in its electricity industry interact with the Central American Regional Electricity Market (MER). Accordingly, all this project's activities enjoy virtual synergy with MER. A second circuit for SIEPAC and a future connection with Mexico will increase the impact, transactions and benefits of MER.

The regional gas pipeline between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America will offer a second entry point for natural gas in Honduras. Rather than being redundant, it would be beneficial from the point of view of energy security and, additionally, would offer possibilities for arbitration (natural gas via the pipeline versus liquefied natural gas brought in by ship). That would strengthen the Honduran energy sector.

Duration

A duration of eight years is estimated.

Budget: US\$ 2,212.2 million

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Gas pipeline between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America. Connecting Mexico to the Electricity Interconnection System for the Countries of Central America (SIEPAC). Second SIEPAC circuit. Universal access to modern energy services.	National electricity transmission plans and programmes. National electricity generation plans and programmes.	Regional transmission expansion plan (prepared by Regional Operator Entity (EOR) and approved by Regional Commission for Electricity Interconnection (CRIE) and the Directing Council of the Central American Regional Electricity Market (CDMER).	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).	América Crece. Plan of the Alliance for Prosperity (United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Department of State and Department of Energy). Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) (Mexico). European Union (EU), Germany, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), World Bank, Andean Development Corporation (CAF).	Private consultants. Private companies that will participate in project design, engineering and construction.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.11

Development of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec: multimodal interoceanic corridor, Mexico



Implementing agencies:

Geographical coverage:

This project will primarily cover 79 municipalities in the south and south-east of Mexico: 33 municipalities in the State of Veracruz and 46 municipalities in the State of Oaxaca.

Number of beneficiaries:

The direct beneficiaries will be the region's productive sectors. The indirect beneficiaries will be the 2.4 million people who live in the 79 municipalities.

Main topics:

- Economic development
- Infrastructure
- Connectivity
- Employment
- Social development

Context

The region of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, covering a strip of land of some 200 km, is strategically positioned in that it connects Mexico's south-east with the rest of the country and the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific.

The Isthmus of Tehuantepec covers 79 municipalities, 33 in Veracruz and 46 in Oaxaca. The subregion's economic indicators are modest, below the average for the country's other regions.

Because of its enviable strategic position, as far back as the sixteenth century the isthmus was identified as a potential strategic hub, and since then it has been the subject of a range of proposals and projects intended to make it an interoceanic link and driver of Mexico's development.

The isthmus is one of the country's regions with the most pronounced underdevelopment and socio-economic challenges, in spite of containing two hubs of prosperity with particular economic potential: Salina Cruz on the Gulf of Tehuantepec, and Coatzacoalcos on the Gulf of Mexico. These two ports have relatively

undynamic levels of trade and container volumes, and weak logistics connections with each other and the rest of the region. The Tehuantepec Isthmus Railway (FIT) and highway system, which provide logistics connections in the isthmus, are significantly underdeveloped in terms of efficiency and costs. The following table reports the current characteristics of marine transport through the isthmus system compared to those of Panama and clearly indicates the inefficiency that characterizes the logistics systems on the isthmus.

Maritime transport: Panama and Interoceanic Corridor

Characteristics	Panama (current)	Isthmus system (current)
Length (km)	81	300
Time taken to cross (hours)	16	16
Average speed (km/h)	5	19
Port delays (hours)	48	144
Days to cross	3	7
Thousands of twenty-foot equivalent unit (TEUs) per year	12 600	13.1
Thousands of tons per year	333 000	134.6

Source: ICA Ingeniería.

The current global context offers an opportunity to revitalize the development of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec given the strategic importance of global commerce, high transport costs and evolving trade routes. Sea routes between Asia and the United States are around 8,000 km shorter if they cross the Isthmus of Tehuantepec rather than Panama. The interoceanic corridor would allow fuel savings of around US\$ 1 million per trip, equal to an additional two journeys a year.

The successful implementation of a comprehensive development strategy requires a logistics and productive structure to support development, with new strategic hubs and productive centres with potential for growth in the region, allowing the diversification and pursuit of economic activities with high added value. This will in turn drive higher levels of productivity, create decent jobs that make intensive use of labour and improve the local population's economic conditions and standards of living.

The interoceanic corridor project for the development of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec seeks to strengthen connectivity on the isthmus by improving the region's network and logistics with projects for the modernization of the Isthmus Railway and of the ports of Coatzacoalcos and Salina Cruz, the expansion of the airport network and investments in highway infrastructure and rural roads, all undertaken with social awareness and in constant consultation with the local communities.

Objective

Implement a logistics platform combining the provision of port administration services by the competent agencies at the ports of Coatzacoalcos in the State of Veracruz and Salina Cruz in the State of Oaxaca, and their interconnection by rail link, and contribute to the economic and social development of the region.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
More efficient rail transport.	Transport costs.	Reduced transport costs.	1 year following modernization of the rail network
Efficient and logistically integrated commercial ports.	Commercial cargo at the ports. Modern logistics services at the port cities.	Increased commercial cargo at the ports of Salina Cruz and Coatzacoalcos.	3 years following modernization of the ports
Improved logistics and regional integration.	Reduced connection times.	N/A	2 years
Energy integration in the isthmus region.	Integrated sources of energy in the isthmus's energy axis.	Wind energy, natural gas, oil.	2 years
Regulatory frameworks for the pursuit of national and international trade.	Negotiation of international agreements.	Number of agreements signed.	2 years following modernization of the ports
Job creation during construction and during the operation of the interoceanic corridor.	Number of direct and indirect jobs during construction of the interoceanic corridor.	11,000 direct jobs during the construction and modernization phase.	2 years
Creation of new industrial development hubs.	Number of industrial development hubs. Number of direct and indirect jobs in the industry.	10 industrial development hubs. 20,000 jobs in other sectors.	3 years following the launch of the interoceanic corridor

Main activities

1. Prepare a diagnostic assessment of socioeconomic conditions and logistics infrastructure in the isthmus region.
2. Identify, conduct a feasibility analysis of and establish priorities for the enabling infrastructure projects.
3. Design and implement infrastructure modernization initiatives:
 - (a) Identify the social, environmental, economic and financial stakeholders to be involved in implementation.
 - (b) Obtain funding, prepare and sign contracts, issue tenders for works projects and secure rights of way to modernize and expand the interoceanic corridor's infrastructure.
 - (c) Modernize the Tehuantepec Isthmus Railway: definition of implementation phase, key stakeholders and actions.
 - (d) Modernize and strengthen the commercial ports: definition of implementation phase, key stakeholders and actions.
 - (e) Modernize and expand the highway network and bolster air infrastructure: definition of implementation phase, key stakeholders and actions.

4. Create Special Economic Zones (ZEEs):
 - (a) Identification of strategic hubs for economic activity.
 - (b) Selection of sectors for the ZEEs, and design the type of incentives needed.
 - (c) Comparative analysis of the proposed ZEEs with other ZEEs.
5. Identify opportunities and relevant stakeholders for regional development in the enabling sectors:
 - (a) Energy sector.
 - (b) Mining sector.
 - (c) Forestry sector.

Project governance

Secretariat of Communications and Transport and Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit, Mexico.

Duration

27 month

Budget: US\$ 3,243,100

Proposal 1.12

Autonomous solar panel infrastructure for pumping water in rural communities, State of Campeche



Implementing agencies:

Secretariat of Sustainable Energy Development of the State of Campeche, Secretariat of Planning and possible involvement of local companies in the sector.

Geographical coverage:

To cover rural communities in the State of Campeche that use pumps in their everyday activities and productive processes.

Number of beneficiaries:

350 rural communities.

Main topics:

- Fighting poverty in rural communities
- Promoting the use of renewable energy in productive processes
- Contributing to the development of sustainable agriculture
- Encouraging the generation of affordable and sustainable energy
- Promoting sustainable and inclusive economic development

Context

Water is vital for community development, particularly so in rural communities. Rising electricity rates and insufficient capacity for earning income to pay for their energy consumption, however, directly affect those communities' economic and social development.

The State of Campeche currently reports a total of 500 pumps for drinking water in its 350 rural communities. As the result of the high cost of electricity, 60% of those communities owe money to the electricity service supply company.

The use of renewable energy for autonomous energy generation through solar panel systems —understood as a series of solar panels connected to a submersible multi-voltage water pump— has been proposed to address this problem. They will be used during sunlight hours, with which the communities' demand for electricity will be almost eliminated, generating savings.

Objective

Implement infrastructure to make use of renewable energy, replace drinking water pumping systems and help reduce rural communities' spending on power for their productive processes. In addition, to help improve the quality of life of families by guaranteeing the communities' electricity supply by reducing service interruptions caused by failures to pay and, at the same time, strengthening the drinking water supply.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Design, development and implementation of the project to install and/or replace solar-powered infrastructure solutions for pumping drinking water in rural communities of the State of Campeche.	State project to install solar-powered infrastructure solutions in rural communities.	1 project	3 months
Installation and/or replacement of solar-powered infrastructure solutions for pumping drinking water in rural communities of the State of Campeche.	Number of beneficiary rural communities in the State.	350 rural communities	1 year
Implementation of a training programme for rural producers to ensure improved use and performance of solar-panel solutions.	Training programme implemented.	1 training programme implemented	3 months

Main activities

1. Design, development and implementation of the project to install and/or replace solar-powered infrastructure solutions for pumping drinking water in rural communities of the State of Campeche, including at least the following subactivities, and serving 50 rural communities in the State during the first stage:
 - (a) Survey to update the register of rural communities and the number of installed drinking-water pumps.
 - (b) Preparation of an energy diagnostic and operational assessment of water-pumping systems in agricultural communities.
 - (c) Preparation of pre-investment, pre-feasibility and feasibility studies of the solar-panel solutions deemed necessary.
 - (d) Secure funding, prepare and sign contracts for the purchase and installation of the solar panels and/or to replace the water pumping systems in the rural communities.
 - (e) Installation and/or replacement of solar-powered infrastructure solutions for pumping drinking water in rural communities of the State of Campeche.

- (f) Training programme for rural producers to ensure improved use and performance of solar-panel solutions implemented.
- (g) Promote, coordinate, oversee and monitor the development of the project.

Project governance

The Secretariat of Sustainable Energy Development of the State of Campeche will be the agency responsible for the execution and technical validation of the project; the Secretariat of Planning of the State of Campeche will be responsible for technical assistance within the scope of its competence, providing the information required by the project. An ad hoc committee will be established.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Autonomous solar panel infrastructure for pumping water in rural communities of the State of Campeche.	2019-2024 National Development Plan and connected programmes.	2015-2021 State Development Plan of the State of Campeche.	ECLAC	Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID)	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)	Private consultants
	Programmes of the National Commission for Efficient Use of Energy.	2016-2021 Sectoral Energy Development Programme of the State of Campeche.		German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)	World Bank	Private companies participating in the technical and economic proposals

Duration

Estimated duration of one year and six months.

Budget: US\$ 11,147,935

Proposal 1.13

Reconstruction of interregional feeder roads, State of Chiapas



Implementing agencies:

Chiapas State Government, through the Commission for Roads and Water Infrastructure, a decentralized sectoral public agency.

Geographical coverage

State of Chiapas.

Number of beneficiaries:

3,652,535 people.

Main topics:

- Safe accessibility
- Reducing poverty
- Interregional connectivity
- Economic growth

Context

In the State of Chiapas, the absence of road infrastructure or its poor quality hinders territorial connectivity and restricts productive activities, increasing general travelling costs and times. This reduces the profitability of the economic activities of the people of Chiapas and hampers their timely access to basic security, health and education services.

In the State, many inhabitants of indigenous communities and villages lack the connectivity services that would ensure them satisfactory living conditions and provide them with the means for undertaking their own development processes. The absence of those services, together with cultural, geographical and other barriers, lead to situations of exclusion.

The State has 23,450 km of highways, of which 31.7% are paved and 68.3% are surfaced rural roads and dirt roads. The road network comprises 2,655 km of federal trunk roads, 5,019 km of state paved roads, 15,717 km of rural roads and 59 improved tracks. The proposed programme aims to rebuild those roads.

Objective

Improve territorial connectivity infrastructure in the State of Chiapas.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Calculation method	Goal
Improve the State's network of roads and bridges.	Number of road improvement actions completed/Total number of road improvement actions planned x 100.	Percentage	100
	Number of bridge improvement actions completed/Total number of bridge improvement actions planned x 100.		

Main activities

- Actions to conserve and rebuild interregional feeder roads in Chiapas.
- Actions to repair vehicle bridges on interregional feeder roads in Chiapas.

Project governance

The Commission for Roads and Water Infrastructure, a decentralized sectoral public agency of the Chiapas State Government, is the agency of the public administration with responsibility for “pursuing actions to improve water, road and bridge infrastructure, for the benefit of society, to improve the quality thereof”, pursuant to Article 5, section IV, of the Decree Creating the Commission for Roads and Water Infrastructure, which was published in Official Gazette No. 006 on 31 December 2018.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

On 14 June 2019, the Official Journal of the Federation published the Decree creating the non-sectoral decentralized public agency called the “Tehuantepec Isthmus Interoceanic Corridor”, the goal of which is to implement a logistics platform integrating the provision of port administration services by the competent agencies at the ports of Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, and Salina Cruz, Oaxaca, and their interconnection by means of a rail link, together with any other actions to further the development of the Tehuantepec Isthmus region, with a comprehensive, sustainable and inclusive vision, promoting economic, productive and cultural growth. The Government of Mexico is also currently developing the Mayan Train project, in pursuit of regional development and the integration of tourism offerings, primarily intended to increase economic spillovers to benefit the population of the states to be crossed by this new rail link, which include Chiapas.

Duration

The project will have a duration of five years, for the reconstruction of 384.40 km each year. During the first year, priority will be placed on road sections requiring urgent attention, with operational goals.

Budget: US\$ 90,820,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
2019-2024 State Development Plan.	2019-2024 National Development Plan.	15 regional programmes.	None	None	None	None

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.14

Modernization and expansion of Port Chiapas, State of Chiapas



Implementing agencies:

- Chiapas State Government, with the participation of the General Coordination Office of Ports and Merchant Shipping, Administración Portuaria Integral de Puerto Madero, S.A. de C.V. and the Secretariat of Economic Affairs (State government).

Geographical coverage

State of Chiapas.

Number of beneficiaries

4.5 million inhabitants.

Main topics:

- Expansion of navigation areas of Port Chiapas (construction dredging)
- Construction of a new facility for container cargo and general cargo
- Maintaining channel depth through annual maintenance dredging
- Construction of pipeline installation for supplying fuel
- Construction of a terminal to handle oil, oil derivatives, petrochemicals and other liquids

Context

- Navigation areas of Port Chiapas (construction dredging).

Demand for exports of containerized cargo and agricultural bulk cargo requires expanded navigation infrastructure, which will enable the port to attract new merchandise.

- Construction of a new facility for container cargo and general cargo.
The installed capacity of Port Chiapas is insufficient for the port services demands of containers and general cargo, and storage capacity is limited; it would therefore be useful to expand the infrastructure for this link in the services logistics chain, together with appropriate facilities for perishable goods.
- Maintain navigation channel depth through annual maintenance dredging.
Permanent maintenance will ensure the conservation of the port's physical characteristics in safe, efficient and economic conditions, and so this project is intended to ensure increased ship arrivals at Port Chiapas.
- Construction of pipeline installation for supplying fuel.
At present, liquid cargo stored at the Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX) facilities is transported by land from Salina Cruz, Oaxaca, which leads to high operating costs. Accordingly, PEMEX plans to install a network of pipelines to connect its facilities to the multi-purpose dock for the provision of fuel.
- Construction of a terminal to handle oil, oil derivatives, petrochemicals and other liquids.
The increasing volumes of oil-based products are conveyed by land, for handling at a port terminal; the construction, use, exploitation and operation of a specialized public facility is therefore planned for the handling and storage of oil, oil derivatives, petrochemicals and other liquids.

Objectives

Increase the port's installed capacity and services for different lines of business through construction dredging in new areas of water for navigation and for the operation of the planned future terminals.

Increase the port's installed capacity and services for containerized and general cargo, which will entail an investment project for the construction of a new 55,542.26 m² container facility.

Annual maintenance dredging to maintain depth levels in the port's navigation areas.

- Construct a pipeline installation to supply fuel, in order to increase cargo and service throughput at Port Chiapas. Because of their proximity, the construction, use, exploitation and operation of a pipeline facility is planned to supply the dock with fuel from the PEMEX terminal.
- Construction of a terminal to handle oil, oil derivatives, petrochemicals and other liquids. Construction of new storage areas for oil, oil derivatives and petrochemicals, taking the energy-sector reforms into account.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased number of berths. 2. Ability to receive larger vessels. 3. Increased arrivals representing different lines of business. 	Construction dredging	72.65 ha dredged to a depth of 11 m	Medium and long term
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased cargo. 2. Commercial development through new export routes. 3. Greater capacity for storing container cargo and general cargo. 4. Job creation. 5. Income generation through private investment and regional development. 	Construction of storage areas	5.55 ha built	Medium term
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain depth for the security of vessels arriving at the port. 2. Ensure the operating depth of the navigation areas 365 days a year. 	Maintenance dredging	650,000 m ³ a year	Short term
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Job creation through private investment. 2. Increased cargo and services for Port Chiapas. 3. Generation of own income for API Chiapas. 	Pipeline construction	1,354 m of pipeline	Medium term
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Job creation through private investment. 2. Increased cargo and services for Port Chiapas. 3. Generation of own income for API Chiapas. 	Construction of a terminal	10.27 ha	Medium term

Main activities

1. Examine each of the projects within the Port Development Master Programme.
2. Register each of the projects with the investments unit.
3. Secure funding from the federal Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit for project execution.
4. Organize public tendering for the contracts.
5. Carry out the works projects.

Project governance

- General Coordination Office of Ports and Merchant Shipping.
- Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit.
- Administración Portuaria Integral de Puerto Madero, S.A. de C.V.
- Secretariat of Economic Affairs (State government).

Possible synergies with other initiatives

- National Development Plan.
- SCT sectoral programmes.

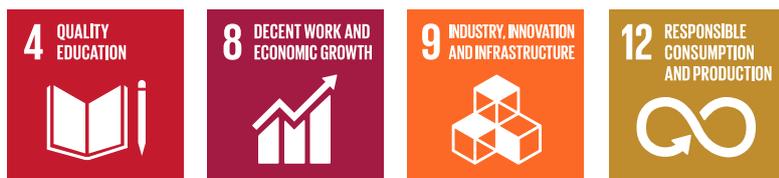
Duration

- Navigation areas of Port Chiapas (construction dredging)
 - Pre-investment (2 years)
 - Execution (2 years)
 - Implementation (2 years)
- Construction of a new facility for container cargo and general cargo
 - Pre-investment (1 year)
 - Execution (1 year)
 - Implementation (2 years)
- Maintaining channel depth through annual maintenance dredging
 - Pre-investment (6 months)
 - Execution (3 months)
 - Implementation (immediate)
- Construction of pipeline installation for supplying fuel
 - Pre-investment (1 year)
 - Execution (1 year)
 - Implementation (2 years)
- Construction of a terminal to handle oil, oil derivatives, petrochemicals and other liquids
 - Pre-investment (1 year)
 - Execution (2 years)
 - Implementation (2 years)

Budget: US\$ 95,002,000

Proposal 1.15

Highway between Acapulco International Airport and the new tourist development on the Pacific coast, State of Guerrero



Implementing agencies:

Federal Government and Guerrero State Government.

Geographical coverage:

The section of highway includes the municipalities of Acapulco de Juárez and San Marcos and the Costa Chica coastal region of Guerrero; connection with the State of Oaxaca, Mexico City by Highway 200, State of Mexico, Puebla and the entire central region of the country.

Number of beneficiaries:

It is estimated that 50,000 jobs will be created (10,000 direct and 40,000 indirect) in the municipality of San Marcos, adjacent municipalities and other states; it will also encourage new tourist developments that will attract numerous visitors from both Mexico and abroad. The tourist development associated with the highway will be a major earner of foreign currency.

Main topics:

- Sustainable economic development
- Competitiveness
- Tourism
- Investment
- Employment

Context

The construction of the Acapulco South Highway aims to increase the State's tourism supply and to catalyse the potential of the municipality of San Marcos. It is based on the following characteristics:

- Total surface area of the tourist zone: 7,623.95 ha.
- 45 km of virgin beach: granted as a destination to Promotora Turística de Guerrero (PROTUR), a parastate agency of the Guerrero State Government, the Federal Maritime Terrestrial Zone (ZOFEMAT), by the Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT).

- Ecological Planning and Land Zoning Programme (POET) in place.
- Partial Tourist Zone Plan.
- Partial Municipal Seat Urban Development Plan (PPDUCM).

Objective

Construct the Acapulco South Highway, which will diversify the State of Guerrero's tourism supply, with a vision of sustainable environmental development and social responsibility.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Goal	Period
Reduction of unemployment rate in the State.	Employment	Reduction of unemployment rate by 5.0% a year.
Increased investment in the State's tourism sector.	Investment	Increased investment of 30.0% a year.
Expansion of tourist activities in the State.	Tourist activity	Growth of 30%.

Main activities

1. Secure the federal government concession to built, operate, conserve, maintain and exploit the highway.
2. Construct a four-lane hydraulic concrete highway, 40 m wide by 58 km long, to connect the port of Acapulco with the San Marcos tourist area.

Project governance

The Guerrero State Government will promote the project among different municipal, state, and federal agencies so that they can participate in the project's development in accordance with their powers and authority.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The project will connect with the tourism guidelines of the 2019–2024 National Development Plan and the 2015–2021 State Development Plan.

According to the project's needs, efforts will be made to secure the participation of the federal government's development bank and national and international financial institutions.

Duration

Two or three years are estimated for the construction of the highway.

Five years are estimated for the development of the tourist centre.

Budget: US\$ 154,000,000

Proposal 1.16

Rehabilitation of the market area of the Margarita Maza de Juárez Wholesale Market, State of Oaxaca



Implementing agencies:

Oaxaca State Government and Oaxaca Institute for Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness (IODEMC).

Geographical coverage

The project for the renovation of the market area of the Margarita Maza de Juárez Wholesale Market will be carried out in the municipality of Oaxaca de Juárez, but on account of its importance, it impacts the entire State.

Number of beneficiaries

Direct: 3,000

Indirect: 500,000

Main topics:

Economic reactivation, job creation, food security, security, food safety.

Context

Public markets are places full of life and colour, with stall holders who often buy and sell there as part of a family legacy handed down from generation to generation. They offer the public a wide variety of products, including fruit, vegetables, dried chillies and seeds, meat and fish, typical Oaxacan products such as various cheeses, baked goods, chocolate, tortillas of all kinds, flowers, apparel, footwear and an extensive range of handcrafts, in addition to offering food and drink of all types.

The market area, with around 5,000 stall holders, is a part of the Margarita Maza de Juárez Wholesale Market in the municipality of Oaxaca de Juárez. It comprises the Dry Zone, Wet Zone, Contingency Corridor, Dining Zone, Handcraft Area and *tianguis*, in addition to East and West Modular Zones. It was built in 1974 and, since then, has not received proper maintenance. This lack of preventive maintenance, in addition to the improper use made of the facility, has led to a severe deterioration of the electrical, hydraulic, sanitary and rainwater installations and of the roofing, corridors and facades; most of them are collapsing and offer insufficient capacity, which poses health and safety risks to those employed there and the members of the public who come to buy.

For the Oaxaca State Government, the Wholesale Market is of great value in that it is an important part of the city's folklore and of local consumption patterns and a tourist attraction for domestic and foreign visitors.

However, in recent years this model of traditional commerce has been losing favour among consumers compared to modern forms of retail shopping, such as supermarket chains and other commercial formats. In the current context the Wholesale Market must be strengthened through a comprehensive renovation of the market area, equipping it with the tangible and intangible assets necessary to improve its competitiveness and to again attract the customer numbers it once enjoyed.

Objective

Renovate the infrastructure of the market area of the Margarita Maza de Juárez Wholesale Market in the municipality of Oaxaca de Juárez, to increase its competitiveness, regain customers and increase sales of regional products.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
1. Improved service quality	1.1 Percentage increase in customer numbers	1.1 25% increase in customer numbers	Medium term
	1.2 Percentage increase in sales volumes	1.2 20% increase in sales volumes	Medium term
2. Risk reduction	2.1 Percentage reduction in accident numbers	2.1 50% reduction in accident numbers	Short term
	2.2 Percentage reduction in crime numbers	2.2 20% reduction in crime numbers	Medium term
3. Jobs created	3.1 Temporary jobs created	3.1 1,000 temporary jobs created	Short term
	3.2 Permanent jobs created	3.2 500 permanent jobs created	Medium term
	3.3 Permanent jobs maintained	3.3 10,000 permanent jobs maintained	Short term

Main activities

1. Prepare preliminary studies and executive plans for the renovation work at the Margarita Maza de Juárez Wholesale Market in the municipality of Oaxaca de Juárez.
2. Socialize the renovation project's actions and scope among stall holders, the public and other relevant stakeholders with a connection to the Wholesale Market to minimize opposition caused by disinformation.
3. Define spaces for the temporary relocation of stall holders during the renovation work and equip those spaces with temporary facilities.
4. Set up social oversight committees for the renovation project.
5. Execute the project by stages (as specified in the "Duration" section).
6. Manage and oversee the execution of the project and resources in accordance with the project schedule.
7. Strengthen the human capital through training exercises on basic administration and accounts, hygiene, customer service and other topics.
8. Staggered return of the stall holders (as specified in the "Duration" section), together with training on the correct use and maintenance of the renovated facilities.
9. Design and execute campaigns to attract customers to the Wholesale Market.

Project governance

The executive plan of the project is to be prepared by the Oaxaca State Government, through the Oaxaca Institute for Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness.

The State Government will be responsible for carrying out the project; however, work will be coordinated with the municipality of Oaxaca de Juárez, since the market is municipal property.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Funds are expected from the federal, state and municipal governments; however, neither the source of funding nor the amounts to be contributed by each government have yet been defined.

Duration

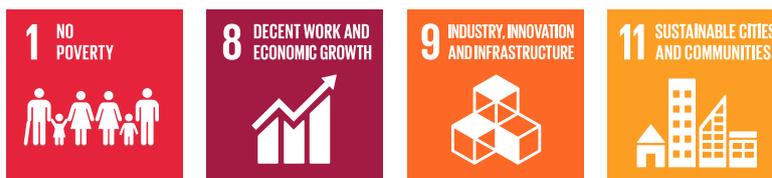
The project's duration is estimated at 28 months, with work beginning simultaneously on constructing the parking area and on renovating the Dry and Wet Zones and the Modular Zones. Once the Dry and Wet Zones are finished, work will continue on the Stall Corridor and, finally, the Dining Area.

	2020												2021												2022				
	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	
Construction of parking area																													
Refitting of dining area																													
Wet and dry market area																													
Stall corridor in market area																													
Modular zone corridors																													

Budget: US\$ 19,994,702

Proposal 1.17

Highway to the Papaloapan basin and bypass for the city of Tuxtepec, State of Oaxaca



Implementing agencies:

Oaxaca State Government, through the General Directorate of Roads and Airstrips of Oaxaca (CAO).

Geographical coverage

Central Valleys, Northern Mountain and Papaloapan regions of the State of Oaxaca.

Number of beneficiaries

727,117 inhabitants (districts of Ixtlán, Mixe, Tlacolula, Tuxtepec and Choapam).

Main topics:

- Economic development
- Sustainable development
- Safe infrastructure
- Mobility
- Interconnectivity

Context

Integrate the population in the project's impact zone into the country's social, economic and cultural development and, in addition, contribute to the country's economic development by offering a safe and cheap land communication alternative for the conveyance of passengers, goods and services between the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.

Objective

Provide modern, safe and economic road infrastructure to catalyse the economic development of the State and of the country's southern and south-eastern regions.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
1. Reduced travelling times	Travelling hours	Reduction from 6 to 2.5 hours	Medium term
2. Reduced passenger transport costs	Ticket prices	Reduce from \$595 to \$386.75	Medium term
3. Reduce the number of highway accidents	Number of accidents	35% fewer accidents (the accident rate currently stands at 6.34)	Long term

Main activities

- Preparation of the executive plan.
- Socialization of the project in the region.
- Acquisition of rights of way and easements.
- Identification of the project funding mechanism.
- Execution of works projects.
- Launch.
- Conservation and maintenance of the infrastructure.

Project governance

Federal and state governments through a Service Delivery Project (SDP) funding model.

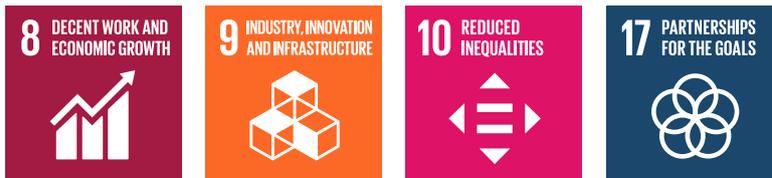
Duration

Activity	Time
Executive plan, socialization and purchase of rights of way.	2 years
Identification of the project funding mechanism.	1 year
Execution of works projects.	4 years
Launch.	1 year
Conservation and maintenance of the infrastructure.	20 years

Budget: US\$ 597,630,000

Proposal 1.18

Access road to the new Port of Frontera, State of Tabasco



Implementing agencies:

Secretariat for Economic Development and Competitiveness of the State of Tabasco.

Geographical coverage:

Centla, Tabasco.

Number of beneficiaries:

110,130 inhabitants.

Main topics:

- Industrial development
- Infrastructure
- Logistics
- Social impact
- Accessibility
- Urban development
- Economic development

Context

Tabasco is the state with the highest number of contracts awarded in the nine tendering processes carried out by the National Hydrocarbons Commission. The 35 contracts signed for the exploration and exploitation of onshore fields and shallow and deep waters will bring an estimated economic spillover of US\$ 42 billion and the creation of more than 400,000 jobs over the coming 30 years.

Most of the oil fields are in the Gulf of Mexico in the south-east of the country, which will give rise to unprecedented demand for services in the oil and gas sectors. Currently the options for covering that demand are limited, since only two alternatives exist: Ciudad del Carmen in the State of Campeche (where users face delays on account of oversaturation) and Dos Bocas in the State of Tabasco.

The Port of Dos Bocas operates under a federal concession and is located in the municipality of Paraíso, 82 km from the state capital. Its main activities are operations in the oil and gas sector; however, the construction of the refinery will lead to its saturation, on account of the constraints it currently faces.

Objective

Build an access road for the new Port of Frontera, meeting cutting-edge industrial requirements and equipped with all basic services.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Job creation.	National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) unemployment rate.	Reduce the monthly unemployment rate in year-on-year terms.	Medium term
Social impact (water, drainage, electricity, water treatment plant for the community).	National Population Council (CONAPO) marginalization index.	Reduce the marginalization index compared to the previous five-year period.	Medium term

Main activities

- Hiring of local workers and services provided by local population centres.
- Urban planning for the development of a new settlement in the port’s area of influence.

Project governance

Tabasco State Government through the Secretariat of Economic Development and Competitiveness and the Secretariat of Land Zoning and Public Works.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This project offers an enormous potential for joint work with the International Labour Organization, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS, the United Nations, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Bank and the European Union.



Duration

A period of two years has been estimated, with emphasis on concluding the first stage in the first year.

Budget: US\$ 145,364,282

Proposal 1.19

Industrial and logistical infrastructure for trade with Central America, State of Tabasco



Implementing agencies:

Secretariat of Economic Development and Competitiveness, Secretariat of Land Zoning and Public Works and Secretariat of Mobility of the Tabasco State Government.

Geographical coverage:

Mexican State of Tabasco and countries of Northern Central America: El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Number of beneficiaries:

35.6 million inhabitants of Central America and Tabasco.

Main topics:

- Economic growth
- Trade
- Infrastructure
- Employment
- Migration

Context

The border region between the State of Tabasco and Guatemala suffers from a series of problems related to illegal immigration from Central America headed towards the United States, the uncontrolled trade in goods and a series of factors that represent danger through the conveyance of drugs and weapons.

In April 2019, the number of individuals brought before the National Migration Institute (INM) for irregular entry into Mexico rose by 17.1% compared to the corresponding period the previous year.

In addition to migration, this region—which, on the Mexican side, covers the municipalities of Tenosique and Balancán in Tabasco and, on the Guatemalan side, the Department of Petén— has an enormous commercial potential based on agricultural products, miscellaneous manufacturing and tourism.

Moreover, the historical flow of commercial transactions for manufactured goods between Mexico and Central America represents an area of opportunity for the creation of a venue to facilitate trade, lower costs, create jobs and, in addition, constrain migration in the region.

A border crossing already exists, at El Ceibo, with customs and immigration services; the related infrastructure it offers, however, is not sufficiently developed. The areas of opportunity for development are therefore vast and have been calculated as having broad multiplier effects for the region.

Purpose

Activate the subregional economy by creating a development hub in the border region, to facilitate trade and manufacturing flows, create jobs and help reduce migration in the area of influence.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Jobs for the migrant population	Percentage of jobs created taken by migrants	20%	4 years
Reduction in unemployment levels	Unemployment rate	3.6%	3 years
Increased exports from Mexico to Central America	Rate of change in Mexican exports to Central America	1.5%	5 years

Main activities

- (a) Prepare a venue with the necessary infrastructure and public services for the construction of industrial, logistics, and teaching centres.
- (b) Construction of an industrial manufacturing logistics centre and a crossborder logistics centre.
- (c) Construction of a teaching centre for handcrafts, household industries and small-scale manufacturing.
- (d) Partnerships with technological universities for the use of their laboratories.
- (e) Improving the existing road infrastructure that connects Tabasco with Guatemala and the municipality of Balancán with the ports of Dos Bocas and Frontera: highways MEX-186, MEX-203, MEX 353 and PET-13.
- (f) Feasibility study to construct an alternative route (highway) to connect the municipality of Balancán in Tabasco with Guatemala.

Project governance

The activities will be undertaken by the Tabasco State Government with the participation of the Mexican federal government, the private sector, institutes of higher education and, for the road improvement components, the Secretariat of Mobility, along with the participation of the Government of Guatemala.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The project offers investment potential for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Central American Integration System (SICA), the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI), and other international organizations.



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IOM
UN MIGRATION

Synergies will also be sought with other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion, such as the Mesoamerica Project, the Trust Fund for the Development of the South and South-East Region (FIDESUR), the Special Programme for the Southern Border and National and International Migration, the Mesoamerican Voices organization, Save the Children Mexico, *Servicio, Paz y Justicia de Tabasco, A.C.*, and others.



Duration

Three years have been estimated, divided into three stages. During the first year, the pre-investment activities and feasibility studies will be carried out; during the second, the construction of the infrastructure and the modernization of the highways; and during the third, the equipping and launch of the manufacturing and logistics centres and the construction of the teaching centre.

Budget: US\$ 119,431,000

Proposal 1.20

Multimodal cabotage terminal in Alvarado, State of Veracruz



Implementing agencies:

Veracruz State Government through the Administración Portuaria Integral (API) Sistema Portuario Veracruzano, S.A. de C.V., incorporated into the Secretariat of Economic and Port Development.

Geographical coverage

National routes: Southern states of Mexico.

International: Countries of Northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras).

Number of beneficiaries

Depends on the integration of human elements in the production, supply and distribution chains. A conservative figure would be around 300,000 direct and indirect jobs.

Main topics:

- Bolstering direct employment through the inclusion of personnel in processes
- Inclusion of indirect jobs in productive processes¹
- Development of the domestic market
- Sustainable development

Context

The construction of a general cargo terminal, for receiving products from the south-east of the country either by land or by cabotage from the south, for distribution.

This model could include receiving fruit and vegetables from Central America and South America, after they have cleared customs. This would promote employment in heavily marginalized areas of the Northern Central American countries.

Objective

Facilitate the distribution by land and sea of agricultural products, in order to reduce poverty and migration by creating jobs and channels for transporting merchandise to commercial destinations.

¹ See [online] <https://sinegi.page.link/Zd7m>.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

- Goal 1: Allow regular trade in agricultural and livestock products with raw materials from the local area and from the Northern Central American countries.
- Goal 2: Increase regional output producers' incomes by identifying distribution markets.
- Goal 3: Reduce migration by offering sources of regular, productive employment.

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Conveyance of cattle by land and sea. ²	Tons Heads of cattle	Increased numbers of human processing workers. Build personal value chains.	Two years
Imports of agricultural goods.	Direct jobs Indirect jobs	Inclusion of workers from Mexico and Northern Central America in the goods trade.	Two years
Create personal employment processes in the supply chain.	Direct jobs in producers and companies	Job creation.	Two years
Conveyance of cattle by land and sea. ³	Tons Heads of cattle	Increased numbers of processing workers. Build personal value chains.	Two years

Main activities

1. Combine efforts with stakeholders in southern Mexico to integrate the supply and process chains.
2. Replicate in neighbouring states to facilitate operations and lower costs.
3. Integrate manual processes in the Northern Central American countries and other countries wishing to join.

Project governance

API Sistema Portuario Veracruzano, S.A. de C.V., a majority-ownership company of the Veracruz State Government through the Secretariat of Economic and Port Development.

SDG A2030	Direct impact	GSD 2 Zero hunger	GSD 8 Decent work and economic growth						
Line of action	Indicator	Baseline	Direction	Forecast		National reference	A2030 Target	A2030 Indicator	A2030 Indicators
		2018		2024	2030	2018			Indirect impact
05. Promote productive chains of the primary sector	Percentage of population without access to foodstuffs	22,2	↓	19,69%	18,83%	20,1%	2.1	2.1.2	1.1.1 1.3.1 2.1.1 2.2.2
	Primary sector GDP	43 008,0 millions of pesos	↑	45 208,3 millions of pesos	47 408,7 millions of pesos	577 998,7 millions of pesos	8.2 8.3	8.2.1 8.3.1	8.3.1 8.9.1 9.2.1 9.3.1
	Economically active population in work, by economic sector: Primary	753 716 (Q4) 23,27% share	↑	812 391 (Q4) 23,73% share	871 051 (Q4) 24,19% share	6 874 691 (Q4) 12,68% share			

Source: Government of the State of Veracruz, "Plan Veracruzano de Desarrollo", 5 June 2019, on the basis of data from the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI).

² See [online] <https://sinegi.page.link/3JJE>.

³ See [online] <https://sinegi.page.link/3JJE>.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

- In parallel, activities of states of the Republic that receive migrants, agricultural products and their own products.
- Incorporation into the Tehuantepec Isthmus Interoceanic Corridor for connectivity between the oceans.⁴

(a) Subregional logistics integration

At the fifteenth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Tuxtla Mechanism for Dialogue and Coordination, held in Antigua, Guatemala, in June 2015, the Heads of State and Government decided to place the highest priority on logistics and mobility as basic elements in their strategy for development and regional integration, in line with the recommendations made by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and they asked it for its support in making progress towards a common policy, for both the Central American and Mesoamerican regions, in order to ensure closer alignment between initiatives. The results may be found in the publication “Políticas de logística y movilidad para el desarrollo sostenible y la integración regional”.⁵

A coordinated subregional policy for logistics and mobility offers an splendid opportunity for improving the logistics efficiency and connectivity provided by mobility services at a much lower cost than providing a service of the same quality on an individual basis (Pérez, 2018)⁶. Logistics and mobility thereby acquire strategic importance, in particular for the design of logistics networks with a regional scope, which can be built on to develop terminals that operate at a larger scale, making them efficient and attractive, with appropriate connections to the global economy and domestic networks. In addition, infrastructure planning with a long-term perspective and sectoral investment that is stable over time allows efficient assistance to be given to productive transformations and better adaptations to economic changes and the new social and environmental concerns that arise with development (Pérez, 2017).^{7 8}

The farm sector has adopted the 2018–2030 Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy for the SICA Region (EASAC), which directly correlates agricultural development to food and nutrition security and climate change. The strategy is centred on three pillars: (i) sustainable increases in productivity and agricultural incomes, (ii) increased capacities for adaptation and resilience among agricultural systems, and (iii) contributing, when possible, to reducing or eliminating greenhouse gases generated by agricultural production systems.⁹

El Salvador has the National Food and Nutrition Security Council (CONASAN) and its National Food and Nutrition Security Technical Committee (COTSAN). With an intersectoral and inter-institutional approach, the Council is the lead agency for food and nutrition security in the country, comprising the Ministry of Health (MINSAL), the Technical and Planning Secretariat of the Office of the President (STPP), the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG) and the Secretariat of Social Inclusion (SIS).

⁴ See article 1, section IV, and article 4, section I in “Decreto por el que se crea el organismo público descentralizado, con personalidad jurídica y patrimonio propio, no sectorizado, denominado Corredor Interoceánico del Istmo de Tehuantepec”, 14 June 2019 [online] https://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5562774&fecha=14/06/2019.

⁵ A. Jaimurzina, G. Pérez and R. Sánchez, “Políticas de logística y movilidad para el desarrollo sostenible y la integración regional”, *Natural Resources and Infrastructure series*, No. 174 (LC/L.4107), Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2015.

⁶ G. Pérez, “Logistics in Mesoamerica: outcomes of the policy workshops and logistics integration indicators 2017”, *FAL Bulletin*, No. 364, Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2018.

⁷ G. Perez, “Institucionalidad y políticas de logística: lecciones para América Latina y el Caribe del proceso implementado por la República de Corea”, *Natural Resources and Infrastructure series*, No. 185 (LC/TS.2017/126), Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2017.

⁸ Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Hacia un nuevo estilo de desarrollo. Plan de Desarrollo Integral El Salvador-Guatemala-Honduras-México. Diagnóstico, áreas de oportunidad y recomendaciones de la CEPAL* (LC/MEX/TS.2019/6), Mexico City, 2019. p. 45.

⁹ See Central American Council for Agriculture, *Estrategia agricultura sostenible adaptada al clima para la región del SICA (2018-2030)*, San Jose, 2017 [online] <http://www.cac.int/sites/default/files/Estrategia%20ASAC%20-%20CAC.pdf>.

Guatemala's National Food and Nutrition Security Policy (PSAN) is based on provisions of the Constitution of the Republic. This policy is part of a poverty reduction strategy and is also in line with the Peace Accords, which set the goal of ensuring food and nutrition security and adequate nutrition for families and communities.

The Long-term Food and Nutrition Security Policy of Honduras was adopted in 2006 and has a strategic plan for its implementation. In addition, the Government is preparing the 2010–2022 National Policy and Strategy on Food and Nutrition Security, which is aligned with the Security Policy. The food and nutrition security of the Honduran population has been identified as a national priority and the Technical Unit on Food and Nutrition Security (UTSAN) has been established as the national technical agency for coordinating, planning, following up on, monitoring, evaluating and formulating procedures and methods for the Security Policy and the National Strategy. In addition, the Inter-institutional Committee for Food and Nutrition Security (COTISAN) is the consultation and consensus-building agency that brings together public and private institutions and external cooperation agencies involved with policies and plans of action related to food and nutrition security.

The 2014–2018 “Mexico Without Hunger” national programme was the main effort of the Mexican State to eradicate hunger and rural poverty. The programme was designed by the Interdepartmental Commission for the Implementation of the National Crusade against Hunger, led by the Secretariat of Social Development (SEDESOL), since renamed the Secretariat of Welfare (SB).

(b) Migration: complex processes with a long history in the subregion

Mexico and the Northern Central American countries are net generators of migration and, as a result, the number of people born in those countries who are living abroad currently totals more than 15.4 million. The country with the largest proportion of migrants among its population is El Salvador, where emigrants account for almost a quarter of the population (22.1%). It is followed by Mexico with 8.9%, Honduras with 6.9%, and Guatemala with 5.8%. Most of the region's emigrants live in the United States (88.9%); 5% of Guatemalan emigrants live in Mexico, and, among the remaining countries (Honduras, El Salvador and Mexico), there are significant numbers living in various European countries.

Duration

This proposal can be carried out during the three-year mandate of the current State Government, beginning in 2020 and ending in late 2023, if the project funds are made available. The work will be carried out from several angles, using a national and international intersectoral approach to address matters of production, labour, migration mitigation and topics of sustainability and energy efficiency.

Budget: US\$ 62,000,000

Proposal 1.21

Distributed power generation project, State of Yucatán



Implementing agencies:

Undersecretariat of Energy at the Secretariat of Economic Development and Labour, Yucatán State Government.

Geographical coverage

State of Yucatán.

Number of beneficiaries

Energy customers in the State (856,384). Selection of large-scale users for a pilot project.

Main topics:

- Renewable energy
- Generation
- Energy efficiency
- Storage
- Fee schedule improvements

Context

Since the start of the industrial age, global warming has accelerated rapidly at rates not seen for thousands of years. It has been proved that polar ice caps are melting.

Energy must become renewable, because conventional sources of energy in the State of Yucatán are expensive for companies. That discourages entrepreneurship and the growth of established companies and, consequently, job creation. Energy costs are lower in other states of the country, which undermines the competitiveness of companies in the State. As a result, the population is forced to migrate to places where work is available.

Yucatán offers favourable conditions for solar and wind energy.

Objectives

- Generate clean and affordable energy to benefit the State and its population, leading to reduced greenhouse gases, the expansion of the solar energy industry and job creation.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Reduction of greenhouse gases and tons of CO ₂	Greenhouse gases and tons of CO ₂ entering the atmosphere.	Reduction of at least 15%.	Medium term
Increased production of clean energies.	Percentage change in clean energy generation, GWh/year.	Baseline 16.6 GWh/year; target 19.45 GWh/year.	Medium term
Improved access to clean energies.	Yucatán's ranking in the energy intensity of the economy.	Baseline 19 (2016); target 22.	Medium term

Main activities

- Establishment of a baseline through energy diagnostics
- Development of projects
- Financial model
- Monitoring consumption
- Result evaluations

Project governance

The Undersecretariat of Energy at the Secretariat of Economic Development and Labour, in its capacity as the regulatory authority for energy matters in the State, is empowered to coordinate with energy generators and responsible for energy planning. It will work in conjunction with the Secretariat of Sustainable Development, which monitors and records carbon emissions generated and entering the atmosphere.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Possible ties with green bonds for joint work in pursuit of sustainable energy generation.

Duration

- Planned project duration of 4.5 years, with return on investment and result evaluations.
- First stage, diagnostic assessment: 6 months.
- Second stage, development of project and financial model: 1 month.
- Third stage, implementation: 24 months.
- Fourth stage, monitoring: 20 months.
- Fifth stage, project evaluation and adjustments: 3 months.

Budget: US\$ 3,731,700

Proposal 1.22

Improving connectivity and mobility conditions in the most underdeveloped municipalities, State of Yucatán



Implementing agencies:

Institute of Mobility and Urban Territorial Development of the State of Yucatán.

Geographical coverage:

The 105 municipalities of the State of Yucatán outside the capital.

Number of beneficiaries:

1,204,812 inhabitants.

Main topics:

- Increased and strengthened connectivity
- Universal accessibility
- Sustainable mobility
- Bicycle infrastructure
- Multimodal transport
- Micromobility

Context:

Development actions have focused on the State's capital city, which has led to different levels of development in the region; additionally, the failure to pursue sustainable development with a territorial approach continues to promote growth centred on the use of private transport, even though more than 70% of the population in the interior of the State travels to work and school on foot or by bicycle.

This lack of urban connectivity and the slower development of communities in the interior of the State of Yucatán render mobility systems inefficient and restrict transport options to the region's employment centres; this constrains employment options and creates scant alternatives for commerce in goods, products and services among communities, leading to high rates of migration to settlements that offer better conditions for professional and personal development.

The goal is therefore to improve the urban context in which people live through sustainable connectivity and mobility projects, establishing comprehensive, safe and efficient order in public spaces for the population in general.

The strategy addresses the problem of migration by promoting new conditions of connectivity, mobility and security and by offering new options for development through improved quality infrastructure with a particular focus on the conveyance of goods and services and in impact in terms of increased productivity and worker incomes.

Objectives

Improved infrastructure and better connectivity and mobility conditions for all inhabitants of underprivileged municipalities, in a more efficient, safe and orderly context that facilitates the conveyance of passengers, materials and products.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals:

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Strengthened connectivity and mobility infrastructure.	Percentage (B/C)*100 B= Roads where interventions have taken place; C= Roads with scheduled interventions.	105 municipalities	Medium term, 27 municipalities per year (4 years).
New connectivity and mobility infrastructure.	Percentage (B/C)*100 B= Roads where interventions have taken place; C= Roads with scheduled interventions.	105 municipalities	Medium term, 27 municipalities per year (4 years).

Main activities:

- Analyse the municipalities' connectivity situation and the infrastructure of roads and pedestrian footpaths.
- Prepare executive project documents for road interventions and the planned deployment of infrastructure.
- Obtain permits from the relevant regulatory agencies.
- Execution of the proposed intervention actions.

Project governance:

The Institute of Mobility and Urban Territorial Development of the State of Yucatán will be responsible for coordinating the actions necessary for the project to be carried out.

Possible synergies with other initiatives:

Duration:

Interventions will take place in the settlements of 27 municipalities per year, to conclude the project in four years.

Budget: US\$ 17,325,000

B. Trade promotion and regional integration programme

No.	Name of proposal
1.23	Facilitating trade between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America
1.24	Harmonizing standards and reducing technical barriers to trade: equalling capacities among countries
1.25	Deepening trade and production linkages through the Customs Union between El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico (*)

(*) Projects prioritized by the Governments of the Northern Central American countries, the Government of Mexico, or the states of South-Southeast Mexico.



Proposal 1.23

Facilitating trade between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America



Implementing agencies:

Trade and commerce ministries (Ministry of Economic Affairs of El Salvador, Ministry of Economic Affairs of Guatemala, Secretariat of Economic Development of Honduras, and Secretariat of the Economy of Mexico).

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Potentially the entire population of the four participating countries.

Main topics:

- Trade
- Regional value chains
- Employment
- Customs infrastructure
- Transparency

Context

Trade among the Central American countries and between them and Mexico enjoys very low tariffs, but it suffers from problems with procedures and equipment at border crossings. Most of Central America's exports are raw materials, particularly agricultural produce (see table 1), and it is from those countries' rural regions that most of their migrants originate.

Regulatory and logistic restrictions that increase the costs of trading with Mexico have been identified, together with administrative practices that hinder commerce and impede the creation of regional productive chains. Trade facilitation measures would increase productivity and competitiveness by adopting actions at the border crossings to allow goods to flow safely and efficiently. The greatest reduction in trade costs through measures adopted at the border will come from progress made with formalities, particularly the harmonization and simplification of documents and the automation of customs procedures. Central America is already pursuing efforts on two fronts to facilitate trade: the Central American Strategy for Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness with Emphasis on Coordinated

Border Management (ECFCC), which emphasizes coordinated border management, and the Customs Union between El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. This means that Mexico will be able to coordinate trade facilitation actions with Central America, not only under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Trade Facilitation, but also in line with the ECFCC, thereby combining its actions with the entire Central American region.

Table 1

Countries of Northern Central America: 10 main products exported to Mexico, 2017
(Millions of dollars and as percentages of exports total)

HS	Description	Millions of dollars	Percentages
1511	Palm oil and its fractions	116.8	16.8
4001	Natural rubber, balata, chicle and natural gums	67.7	9.7
0306	Crustaceans, live, fresh, chilled, frozen, dried, salted	50.7	7.5
1513	Coconut (copra), palm kernel or babassu	46.3	6.7
8544	Wire, electrical cables	34.1	4.9
4819	Cartons, boxes and cases, of corrugated paper or paperboard	28.3	4.1
6109	T-shirts, singlets and other vests, knitted	25.2	3.6
1701	Cane or beet sugar, chemically pure sucrose	13.6	2.0
2207	Undenatured ethyl alcohol	12.9	1.9
1704	Sugar confectionery not containing cocoa, including white chocolate	11.5	1.7

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of information from UN Comtrade Database.

Objective

Increase trade and integration among the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico through the harmonization of formalities, institutional arrangements and cooperation, paperless trade and facilitated transit.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Reduced regulatory and logistics barriers to trade among the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico.	Reduced times and costs associated with customs procedures in the subregion. Extended operating schedules for different points of entry into Mexico.	50% reduction in times and costs. Extend 24-hour operating schedules at the Ciudad Hidalgo-Tecún Umán and Talismán border crossings.	6 and 12 months
Programme for the mutual recognition of authorized economic operators (AEOs) in operation among the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico.	Mexico's adhesion to the agreement on the mutual recognition of authorized economic operators (AEOs) signed by El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica and Panama in April 2019. Implementation of AEOs in Honduras and agreement on the recognition of AEOs.	Recognition of the "Central American Hauliers Card", which allows drivers to enter and exit Mexican territory to load, convey and unload merchandise. AEOs from El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico operating seamlessly in the three countries' territory. Honduras implements its AEO programme prior to the date notified to the World Trade Organization (WTO) (March 2022) and accedes to the mutual AEO recognition agreement that exists among the other Central American countries.	24 months

Main activities

- Negotiate Mexico's participation in the Central American Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness Strategy (ECFCC), with an emphasis on coordinated border management.
- Design of a road map for Mexico's adherence to the Central American Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness Strategy, emphasizing coordinated border management and technical work for Mexico's future adherence to the agreement for the mutual recognition of authorized economic operators (AEOs) that already exists between four Central American countries.
- Design Comprehensive Border Traffic Attention Centres (CATIFs) for the four countries.
- Design and agree on the operation of a "Central American Hauliers Card" to allow drivers to enter and leave Mexican territory to load, convey and unload merchandise.
- Include Mexico in the agreement on the mutual recognition of authorized economic operators between El Salvador and Guatemala.
- Implement authorized economic operators in Honduras prior to the date notified to the WTO (March 2022) and secure the country's accession to the mutual recognition agreement.

Project governance

The trade ministries will create a dialogue and negotiation mechanism to agree on the actions they are to implement. This mechanism will approve its own negotiation and agreement rules and its mechanisms for verifying progress with the commitments. The Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) will serve as the technical secretariat for the process.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The four countries are signatories to the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation and thus have national actions that are in line with this proposal.

The Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) has a mandate from the ministers responsible for integration and resources from various donors for implementing a Central American Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness Strategy with emphasis on coordinated border management. Thus, one important task will be to coordinate Mexico's participation with SIECA.

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has financial and technical resources to support different trade facilitation measures in the region.

Duration

Total execution time for this proposal will be 24 months, of which the first six months will be used to design a road map for Mexico's adherence to the Central American Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness Strategy, emphasizing coordinated border management and technical work for Mexico's future adherence to the agreement for the mutual recognition of authorized economic operators (AEOs). AEO implementation in Honduras and full recognition of AEOs in the four countries will take 24 months.

Budget: US\$ 19,176,100

Annex

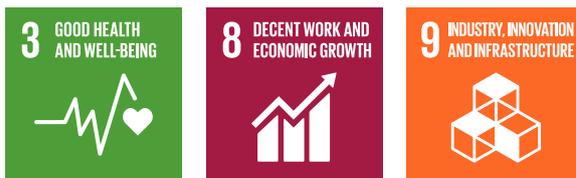
Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Expanding trade between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America: trade facilitation measures.	Mexico–Central America trade agreement (Mexico).	Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA). Mesoamerica Project.	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).	Strengthening Central American trade policy (European Union (EU), Chilean Agency for International Cooperation for Development, (AGCID), General Directorate for International Economic Affairs (DIRECON), SIECA). Preparation of the Indicative Regional Master Plan for the Central American Regional Framework Policy on Mobility and Logistics (JICA, SIECA). Central American Regional Economic Integration (European Union).	Support for the Process of Deep Integration towards the Free Transit of Goods and of Natural Persons between the Republics of Guatemala and Honduras (Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), SIECA). Support for implementation of the five priority measures for trade facilitation (IDB, SIECA).	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.24

Harmonizing standards and reducing technical barriers to trade: equaling capacities among the countries



Implementing agencies:

Ministries responsible for trade (Ministry of Economic Affairs of El Salvador, Ministry of Economic Affairs of Guatemala, Secretariat of Economic Development of Honduras and Secretariat of the Economy of Mexico).

Other ministries responsible for sanitary, phytosanitary and health standards and records will also participate.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Potentially the entire population of the four participating countries.

Main topics:

- Trade
- Regional value chains
- Technical, sanitary and phytosanitary standards
- Health infrastructure
- Public health

Context:

Most of Central America's exports to Mexico are raw materials and, for that reason, face stricter sanitary and phytosanitary checks than other kinds of goods. Some of those measures have been identified by the Central American countries as genuine technical obstacles that constrain the growth of their exports (see table 1). Thus, progress with the gradual harmonization or mutual recognition of sanitary, phytosanitary and technical regulations would make a significant contribution to trade and productive integration between El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. Thinking that the lifting of technical barriers means the elimination or reduction of sanitary checks and measures is an error to be avoided. The aim is rather to harmonize, standardize and recognize processes and certificates issued by partner countries in order to reduce transaction costs and times. While recognizing the right of the region's

countries to impose measures to achieve legitimate goals —such as protecting health and personal safety, protecting the environment, keeping consumers informed and guaranteeing quality standards— it is important for these measures to be internationally recognized so they do not hinder commerce in a discriminatory fashion or create unnecessary obstacles.

Table 1

Countries of Northern Central America: identification of technical barriers to trade with Mexico, 2018

Technical barrier	Proposed solution
Discretionary enforcement of procedures by customs authorities of the General Customs Administration (SAT), leading to changes in the tariff headings for certain products with which they are excluded from the Free Trade Agreement.	Respect the tariff headings on which the negotiation of the Free Trade Agreement was based.
Absence of information on when Mexico updates its Register of Authorized Importers.	Implement a notification mechanism, providing due notice, before businesses are deleted from the system.
Problems in accessing public procurement processes of Mexican institutions.	Agree on annexes setting out the institutions covered and the reservations in the Free Trade Agreement between Central America and Mexico to allow access to Mexican procurement processes (reciprocating, since Central American public procurement is open to Mexicans).
Enforcement of sanitary and phytosanitary measures that hamper trade in bananas, peaches, shrimp, beef and pork, and egg products.	Harmonization of procedures, sanitary and phytosanitary standardization and authorization, in accordance with the principles of speed, proportion and reason. Mutual recognition of sanitary certificates, without requiring more information than is necessary.
	Technical and financial cooperation between the countries' agricultural health authorities, to strengthen phyto- and zoo-sanitary monitoring, the traceability of farm produce and agrifood safety.
Electronic systems for certificates and documents.	Improve the use of information technologies in sanitary and phytosanitary certifications.
	Electronic exchanges of data contained on sanitary and phytosanitary certificates.
Deep integration and free movement of people and goods.	Implementation of a joint risk management model.
	Improvements to the concessions system for the private funding of infrastructure development.
	Streamlined passage for migrants.
Strengthening of National Trade Facilitation Committees.	Enforcement of the short- and medium-term measures reported to WTO.
	Creation of market intelligence and information system units and development of intranets.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official inputs from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Objective:

Facilitate trade among the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico through the harmonization and mutual recognition of sanitary and phytosanitary capacities, requirements and procedures.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals:

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Growth in bilateral trade among the parties in products deemed sensitive.	Increased Central American exports of products described as sensitive.	15% increase in trade in sensitive products.	36 months
Harmonization of criteria for each product.	Harmonization agreements signed and in force.	Harmonized phytosanitary standards for at least five products. Harmonization agreement between the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico.	12 months
Strengthening the sanitary institutions of the countries of Northern Central America.	Certification of the sanitary institutions by internationally recognized technical agencies.	The sanitary institutions of the four countries have the recognition of major trading partners, such as each other and the European Union.	24 months
Laboratories and certification processes standardized among the four countries.	Laboratories certified internationally. Mutual recognition of certificates.	At least three laboratories receive the equipment needed to conduct internationally recognized certification processes. Agreement for certification recognition in each of the areas where standards have been harmonized.	36 months

Main activities:

- Negotiate the harmonization of technical, sanitary and phytosanitary rules and standards among the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico, for which technical expert teams will be set up, the negotiation goals will be defined and the negotiation panels will be scheduled.
- Harmonize product criteria, as a result of the negotiations and the agreements reached.
- Create mechanisms for training and exchanges of knowledge among technicians from the four countries, for which the areas to be strengthened will be determined, the experts needed will be identified and the methodology and schedule for capacity-building will be defined.
- Strengthen the sanitary institutions of the countries of Northern Central America through improvements in their techniques, standards and laboratory equipment.
- Standardize and certify laboratories and processes among the four countries.
- Increase joint sanitary inspections to build the countries' capacities and their confidence in their teams.

Project governance:

The ministries responsible for trade will create a mechanism for dialogue and negotiation, with the participation of other ministries and institutions responsible for managing sanitary and phytosanitary technical standards. This mechanism will approve its own negotiation and agreement rules and its mechanisms for verifying progress with the commitments. The Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) will serve as the technical secretariat for the process.

Possible synergies with other initiatives:

The four countries are signatories to the Free Trade Agreement between the United Mexican States and the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua; this instrument addresses some of these issues and, accordingly, they can use the tools it provides to harmonize their technical standards.

SIECA has experience in this area. Its participation will help other Central American other countries that have also signed the free trade agreement with Mexico to participate indirectly in this process.

The work and results of the technical standards harmonization process must be aligned with the work on trade facilitation.

Duration:

Total execution time of 36 months. The first 12 months will be spent on negotiations and agreements for the harmonization of technical, sanitary and phytosanitary standards. The remaining 24 months are for implementing the agreements, capacity-building and strengthening the laboratories.

Budget: US\$ 926,600

Annex

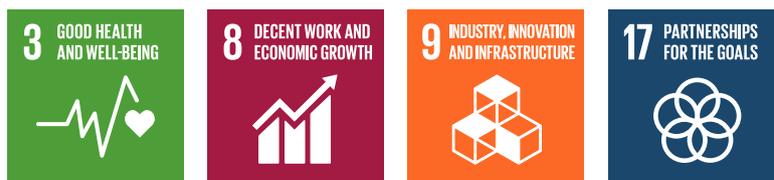
Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Harmonizing standards and reducing technical barriers to trade: equalling capacities among the countries.	Mexico-Central America trade agreement (Mexico).	SIECA	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).		Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI).	Food industry chambers. Chambers for different agricultural products.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.25

Deepening trade and production linkages through the Customs Union between El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico



Implementing agencies:

Ministries of economic affairs and the treasury, and business sector organizations.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Companies and enterprises in the four participating countries.

Main topics:

- Trade
- Regional value chains
- Regulatory framework
- Transparency
- Customs and sanitary infrastructure
- Logistics platform

Context

Trade among the Central American countries and between them and Mexico enjoys very low tariffs, but it suffers from problems with procedures and equipment at border crossings. Most of Central America's exports are raw materials, particularly agricultural produce (see table 1), and it is from those countries' rural regions that most of their migrants originate.

Regulatory and logistic restrictions that increase the costs of trade with Mexico have been identified, together with administrative practices that hinder commerce and impede the creation of regional productive chains. Trade facilitation measures would increase productivity and competitiveness by adopting actions at the border crossings to allow goods to flow safely and efficiently. The greatest reduction in trade costs through measures adopted at the border will come from progress made with formalities, particularly the harmonization and simplification of documents and the automation of customs procedures. Central America is already pursuing efforts on two fronts to facilitate trade: the

Central American Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness Strategy (ECFCC), which emphasizes coordinated border management, and the Customs Union between El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. This means that Mexico will be able to coordinate trade facilitation actions with Central America, not only under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Trade Facilitation, but also in line with the ECFCC, thereby combining its actions with the entire Central American region.

Table 1

Countries of Northern Central America: identification of technical barriers to trade with Mexico, 2018

Technical barrier	Proposed solution
Discretionary enforcement of procedures by customs authorities of the General Customs Administration (SAT), leading to changes in the tariff headings for certain products with which they are excluded from the Free Trade Agreement.	Respect the tariff headings on which the negotiation of the Free Trade Agreement was based.
Absence of information on when Mexico updates its Register of Authorized Importers.	Implement a notification mechanism, providing due notice, before businesses are deleted from the system.
Problems in accessing public procurement processes of Mexican institutions.	Agree on annexes setting out the institutions covered and the reservations in the Free Trade Agreement between Central America and Mexico to allow access to Mexican procurement processes (reciprocating, since Central American public procurement is open to Mexicans).
Enforcement of sanitary and phytosanitary measures that hamper trade in bananas, peaches, shrimp, beef and pork, and egg products.	Harmonization of procedures, sanitary and phytosanitary standardization and authorization, in accordance with the principles of speed, proportion and reason. Mutual recognition of sanitary certificates, without requiring more information than is necessary.
	Technical and financial cooperation between the countries' agricultural health authorities, to strengthen phyto- and zoo-sanitary monitoring, the traceability of farm produce and agrifood safety.
Electronic systems for certificates and documents.	Improve the use of information technologies in sanitary and phytosanitary certifications.
	Electronic exchanges of data contained on sanitary and phytosanitary certificates.
Deep integration and free movement of people and goods.	Implementation of a joint risk management model.
	Improvements to the concessions system for the private funding of infrastructure development.
	Streamlined passage for migrants.
Strengthening of National Trade Facilitation Committees.	Enforcement of the short- and medium-term measures reported to WTO.
	Creation of market intelligence and information system units and development of intranets.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official inputs from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Most of Central America's exports to Mexico are raw materials, and agricultural and agro-industrial products account for a significant proportion of trade under the Customs Union between the three countries of Northern Central America. For that reason, trade faces major sanitary and phytosanitary controls. Some of those measures have been identified by Honduras, and by other Central American countries, as technical obstacles that restrict their export growth (see table 1). In this context, making progress towards the harmonization or mutual recognition of sanitary, phytosanitary and technical rules would make a significant contribution to trade and productive integration between El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, and would make the maximum possible use of the existing Customs Union.

Thinking that the lifting of technical barriers and the furtherance of trade facilitation measures means the elimination or reduction of sanitary checks and measures is an error to be avoided. The aim is rather to harmonize, standardize and recognize processes and certificates issued by partner countries in order to reduce transaction costs and times. While recognizing the right of the region's countries to impose measures to achieve legitimate goals —such as protecting health and personal safety, protecting the environment, keeping consumers informed and guaranteeing quality standards— it is important for these measures to be internationally recognized so they do not hinder commerce in a discriminatory fashion or create unnecessary obstacles.

Objectives

Strengthen competitiveness, productive integration and trade between the countries of the Northern Triangle and Mexico by leveraging the Customs Union process and trade with Mexico.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goal	Period
Productive chains forged with new business undertakings and companies (proposals 1.24 and 1.25).	Number of new productive business undertakings and companies that have been incorporated into chains.	40 new chain links between Honduras, the member countries of the Central American Customs Union and Mexico.	5 years
Reduction of regulatory and logistical barriers to trade among the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico, facilitation and standardization (proposals 1.25 and 1.22).	Reduced times and costs associated with customs procedures in the subregion. Extended operating schedules for different points of entry into Mexico.	50% reduction in times and costs. Extend operating schedules to 24 hours a day at the Ciudad Hidalgo–Tecún Umán and Talismán border crossings.	6 and 12 months
Programme for the mutual recognition of authorized economic operators (AEOs) (proposals 1.25 and 1.22).	Mexico's adhesion to the agreement on the mutual recognition of authorized economic operators (AEOs) signed by El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica and Panama in April 2019. Implementation of AEOs in Honduras and agreement on the recognition of AEOs.	Recognition of the “Central American Hauliers Card”, which allows drivers to enter and exit Mexican territory to load, convey and unload merchandise. Honduras implements its AEO programme prior to the date notified to the WTO (March 2022) and accedes to the mutual AEO recognition agreement that exists among the other Central American countries.	24 months
Growth in bilateral trade between Honduras and Mexico of sensitive products (proposals 1.22 and 1.25).	Increased Honduran exports of products described as sensitive.	15% increase in trade in sensitive products.	36 months
Strengthening the sanitary institutions of Honduras (proposal 1.23).	Certification of the sanitary institutions by internationally recognized technical agencies.	The sanitary institutions of Honduras, the other countries of Northern Central America and Mexico have the recognition of major trading partners, such as the European Union and the United States.	24 months
Laboratories and certification processes standardized among the countries of Northern Central America (proposal 1.23).	Honduran laboratories internationally certified. Mutual recognition of certificates.	At least one laboratory in Honduras receiving the equipment necessary to conduct internationally recognized certification processes. Agreement to recognize certifications in each of the areas in which standards have been harmonized.	36 months

Main activities

- Harmonization of technical, sanitary and phytosanitary rules and standards between Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico, for which technical expert teams will be set up, the negotiation goals will be defined and the negotiation panels will be scheduled (proposals 1.23 and 1.25).
 - Harmonize product criteria, as a result of the negotiations and the agreements reached.
 - Create mechanisms for training and exchanges of knowledge among technicians from all countries, for which the areas to be strengthened will be determined, the experts needed will be identified and the methodology and schedule for capacity-building will be defined.
 - Strengthen the sanitary institutions through improvements in techniques, standards and laboratory equipment.
 - Standardize and certify laboratories and processes.
 - Increase joint sanitary inspections to build the countries' capacities and their confidence in their teams.
- Trade facilitation agreements between Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico (proposals 1.22 and 1.25).
 - Design of a road map to implement authorized economic operators in Honduras prior to the date notified to the WTO (March 2022) and secure its accession to the mutual recognition agreement between El Salvador and Guatemala.
 - Design of a road map for Mexico's adherence to the Central American Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness Strategy, emphasizing coordinated border management and technical work for Mexico's future adherence to the agreement for the mutual recognition of authorized economic operators (AEOs) that already exists between four Central American countries.
 - Design Comprehensive Border Traffic Attention Centres (CATIFs).
 - Design of a "Central American Hauliers Card" and agreement on its operation, to allow drivers to enter and leave Mexican territory to load, convey and unload merchandise.
 - Include Mexico in the mutual recognition agreement for authorized economic operators between Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala.

Project governance

Trade and treasury ministries will create a dialogue and negotiation mechanism to agree on the actions they are to implement. This mechanism will approve its own negotiation and agreement rules and its mechanisms for verifying progress with the commitments. The Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) will serve as the technical secretariat for the process. The creation of a dialogue and coordination panel with civil society is suggested.

Duration

Estimated duration of five years.

Budget: US\$ 20,000,000

International cooperation.

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion:

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Facilitating trade between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America. Harmonizing standards and reducing technical barriers to trade: equalling capacities among the countries.	2018-2022 Strategic Government Plan.	Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA).	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). International Trade Centre (ITC).	“Growth in the Americas” initiative of the United States Department of State. United States Agency for International Development (USAID). United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA). Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC).		

C. Productive development programme

No.	Name of proposal
1.26	Strengthening rural value chains and creating a support fund in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico
1.27	Strengthening the coffee value chain and the production systems of small coffee producers in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico
1.28	Digital cooperation agenda between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America
1.29	Towards a regional innovation system in Northern Central America and Mexico: integration in science, technology and innovation
1.30	Promoting investment by the Salvadoran diaspora, El Salvador (*)
1.31	Walls of Prosperity: Guatemala–Mexico, Guatemala–Honduras and Guatemala–El Salvador cross-border development, Guatemala (*)
1.32	White Seal for local products, Guatemala (*)
1.33	Strengthening value chains for upgrading micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, Guatemala (*)
1.34	Development of catalysing value chains to create opportunities in territories, Honduras (*)
1.35	Improving logistics performance, competitiveness and regional economic integration, Honduras (*)
1.36	Maya Ka'an: community development with tourism and conservation of natural, historical and cultural resources, State of Quintana Roo (*)
1.37	Installation of a small-scale juice processing plant in the northern region of the State of Veracruz (*)

(*) Projects prioritized by the Governments of the Northern Central American countries, the Government of Mexico, or the states of South-Southeast Mexico.



Proposal 1.26

Strengthening rural value chains and creating a support fund in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico



Implementing agencies:

Ministry of Economic Affairs of El Salvador, Ministry of Economic Affairs of Guatemala, Secretariat of Economic Development of Honduras and Secretariat of the Economy of Mexico, secretariats of economic development of the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico.

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG) of El Salvador, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA) of Guatemala, Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG) of Honduras, Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER) of Mexico.

Business chambers and producers' organizations.

International organizations: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), others (to be determined).

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Rural value chains for goods (raw materials and agro-industrial produce) and services in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the south and south-east of Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Stakeholders participating in the selected value chains will be the direct beneficiaries. Indirectly, there will be a positive impact on the economy in general (increased output and revenue), on the availability and quality of products and on prices.

Main topics:

- Value chains
- Creation of decent jobs
- Productive development
- Regional integration
- Financing
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Promotion of innovation
- Poverty reduction
- Increased added value
- International trade

Context

Strengthening value chains in close dialogue with the various stakeholders in the productive links and with other actors related to the chain, such as the public sector, academia and research centres, is an effective method for resolving bottlenecks.

Value chains are strengthened by improving ties between links, by incorporating new players and through social and economic upgrading. Economic upgrading refers to the productive transformation of the links and the chain as a whole towards better products and services, superior production processes or activities that generate greater added value and are also more knowledge intensive. Innovation, in a broad and flexible sense, is an essential element in upgrading. Hence, it encompasses everything from new processes and products for those who form part of the chain to potentially disruptive innovations that the world has never before seen. As part of social upgrading, participants in the chain and their communities see their living standards raised through decent working conditions with social protection, labour rights and a safe working environment. This strengthening occurs in a context of environmental sustainability and attention to gender equality.¹

The strengthening of rural value chains thus seeks to increase added value, catalyse productivity, create more jobs with better working conditions, ensure a more equitable distribution of the profit earned within the chain, adapt its activities to new climate conditions and design innovations to mitigate its environmental impact, facilitate conditions of fair trade in the marketing of products and so on. Through those outcomes, strengthened chains contribute to the economic and social development of rural territories and thus discourage migration.

Value chains can have a local, regional or global reach. Some of the initiatives in this proposal are local in nature, focusing on specific territories within one of the four countries, while others aspire to the development of cross-border initiatives. The south and south-east region of Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America share knowledge, productive affinities, levels of development, tastes and culture, which would facilitate the consolidation of certain value chains based on commercial and productive complementarity. The countries are located in the same part of the world and have trade agreements that should facilitate the creation of regional value chains and a regional venue for economic and productive endeavours. Rather than exploiting cost differentials, regional value chains bolster the region's productive specialization.

The agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations have been working closely on several value chains with the Northern Central American countries and Mexico. Although the value chains on this which

¹ See R. Padilla Pérez and N. Oddone, *Strengthening Value Chains: A Toolkit* (LC/MEX/L.1218), Mexico City, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2016.

this proposal is to focus will be selected by the four countries, on a preliminary basis the Comprehensive Development Plan has identified promising opportunities in the following chains:

Preliminary identification of value chains

Value chain	Objective
Agro-industrial value chains	Increase the sustainable added value of agro-industrial value chains, ensuring they perform better in terms of quality, productivity and market access, to benefit the poorest communities involved in the chains of the selected products.
Aquaculture value chains	Improve the added value generated in aquaculture value chains, promoting innovation and building commercial capacity, to increase the incomes of all stakeholders and, consequently, improve their standards of living.
Coffee value chain	Increase the incomes of coffee producers, particularly small-scale producers in the priority areas of Northern Central American and southern and south-eastern Mexico. Because of its importance and the interest expressed by the Northern Central American countries and Mexico, this chain is examined in closer detail in a separate proposal.
Artisanal fishing value chain	Improve the working conditions of artisanal fishers in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.
Rural tourism value chain	Promote rural and community tourism as an alternative for sustainable development, local job creation and environmental conservation in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico.
Tourism value chain focused on UNESCO World Heritage Sites	Promote sustainable cultural tourism enterprises, encouraging the creation of local jobs to benefit communities at UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Central America and Mexico, particularly socioeconomically vulnerable young people.
Creative and cultural industries chain	Strengthen entrepreneurship in the creative and cultural industries.
Productive and resilient chains to restore the landscape in impoverished rural areas	Reduce poverty-driven migration and rural marginalization in the countries of Northern Central America by promoting sustainable and climate-resilient productive practices and strengthening sustainable value chains.
Maya Ka'an community development with tourism and conservation of natural, historical and cultural resources, State of Quintana Roo, Mexico **	Establish models for comprehensive community development centred on tourism and the conservation of natural, historical and cultural resources, in accordance with sustainable guidelines, in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo. In addition, implement participatory development projects as a policy for community strengthening, focused on three objectives: economic development, rescuing culture and history, sustainable communities. This chain is explored in greater detail in a separate proposal, since it is a specific project submitted by the Mexican State of Quintana Roo.
Installation of a small-scale juice processing plant in the northern region of the State of Veracruz	Increase the added value of citrus and other fruit crops, and thereby raise producers' incomes, create new jobs and ensure the comprehensive exploitation of those resources to produce a high-quality packaged product. This will lead to greater profitability and competitiveness for the region's producers and provide them with an alternative market for selling their products. This chain is examined in closer detail in a separate proposal, given that it is a specific project submitted by the Mexican State of Veracruz.
Cross-border chains	Create and strengthen cross-border value chains for products and services with a high potential for the productive and commercial development of the border regions of the Northern Central American countries and Mexico.
Regional chains between the Northern Central American countries and Mexico	Strengthen the four countries' economies through closer regional integration and interconnections, in order to create decent jobs with increasing productivity and added value.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Strengthening chains requires funding, and so this proposal includes the creation of a support fund for commercial promotion, technological innovation and productive integration.

Objectives

Strengthen rural value chains for goods and services in the Northern Central American countries and Mexico in order to increase added value, strengthen productivity, improve quality, ensure better marketing and market access and improve the living and working conditions of the stakeholders involved in them, all within a framework of climate change mitigation and adaptation. Achieving those goals will help reduce migration driven by primarily economic conditions. With the cross-border and regional chains, one additional objective is to strengthen economic and productive integration as a mechanism for bolstering local development.

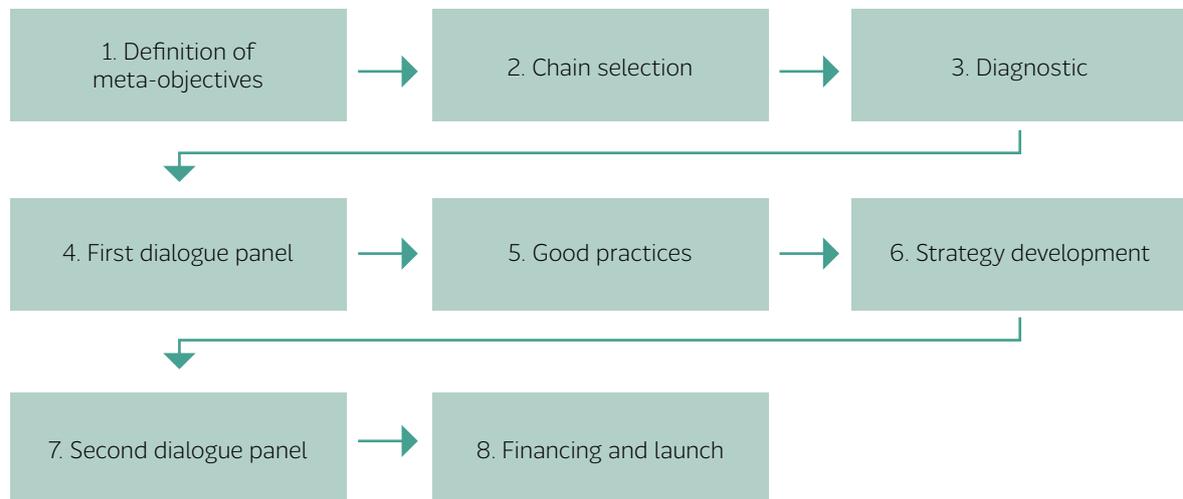
Design and launch support funds for strengthening value chains, in particular in the areas of technological innovation, partnerships and interconnections, and commercial promotion.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Economic upgrading of selected chains.	Productivity (added value per producer). Jobs created (number of direct and indirect jobs). Chain profits (in local currency). Quality (certifications obtained, percentage of products rejected). Exports (growth in export value, exports as a percentage of total sales). Diversification of sources of income (sales concentration index). Producer capacities and know-how (number of producers trained, number of producers with access to technological and market information). Number of new business ventures created through the project. Number of associations and cooperatives created (both formal and informal) as a result of the project.	To be determined for each chain.	36 months
Social upgrading of selected chains.	Job conditions (wages, hours worked, work-related accidents and illnesses). Number of actions taken to mitigate the chain's environmental impact.	To be determined for each chain.	36 months
Restoration of areas damaged by land management and adoption of sustainable, climate-adapted agricultural practices to generate opportunities for sustainable income.	Increase in the number of hectares being restored or under sustainable and climate-adapted agricultural practices.	To be determined for each chain and territory.	36 months
Reduce production-related risks by strengthening the value chain and through access to more sustainable markets.	Percentage of total value covered by long-term purchase contracts.	To be determined for each chain and territory.	36 months
Strengthening economic and productive integration among the four CDP countries.	Increased intraregional trade in intermediate goods in the project's regional value chains. Job creation in underprivileged areas, using the (potential) strengths that those areas already have. More regional value added in the selected chains.	To be determined for each regional chain.	36 months
Creation of funds to finance the selected chains.	Amounts of funding granted by the fund and number of chains benefiting.	Funds with joint financing of US\$ 50 million. 20 value chains benefiting.	36 months

Main activities

Each chain will follow the methodology developed by ECLAC, which involves the following steps:



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of R. Padilla Pérez and N. Oddone, *Strengthening Value Chains: A Toolkit (LC/MEX/L.1218)*, Mexico City, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2016.

1. The first step is the definition of meta-objectives. These are understood as the final social and economic development objectives sought through the chain strengthening process. The meta-objectives should be aligned with the Comprehensive Development Plan for the Northern Central American countries and Mexico, as well as with national and regional development plans. Examples of meta-objectives include expanding employment and real wages, driving export growth, encouraging increased participation by small-scale producers, catalysing productivity and increasing added value.
2. The second step is chain selection. In this phase a decision is made as to which chains will be the priority focus of the strengthening efforts. The selection criteria must be congruent with the meta-objectives: the chain's potential to help alleviate poverty and contribute to national or regional growth, job creation, export growth, the adoption of leading-edge technologies and the inclusion of small-scale producers, among others. Other criteria linked to strategic priority policies —such as the development of less favoured regions and the mitigation of regional asymmetries— can also be included.
3. The third step is to conduct the diagnostic assessment. This aim of this exercise is to produce a detailed identification of bottlenecks and opportunities within each link of the chain, as well as their current and potential linkages. It begins with mapping the chain and identifying and delineating the main links and their functions. A study is then made of six broad areas: the chain's national and international context, economic performance (employment, trade, costs and margins, among others), market analysis (competitors, customers, standards and certifications, others), chain governance, support institutions and environment. Lastly, bottlenecks at the level of each link and in the chain as a whole (systemic) are identified.
4. The first dialogue panel is convened at the conclusion of the diagnostic assessment, in order to discuss and validate it. It serves to reaffirm interest in assuring the participation of the chain's main stakeholders and support organizations, which for the most part will have already been interviewed when the diagnostic was conducted. It should last no longer than three hours, in order to facilitate

the immediate and on-going participation of key people in the chain. Following a brief presentation of the diagnostic assessment, the participants are given the opportunity to speak in order to enrich the analysis and to ensure that the bottlenecks and opportunities that have been identified are relevant and that no others have been omitted.

5. The fifth step is an analysis of international good practices. These provide a reference point for determining the differences between the value chain under study and similar chains in other countries, as well as for identifying lessons for designing strategies.
6. The sixth step is the design of strategies for overcoming the bottlenecks and capitalizing on the opportunities identified in the diagnostic assessment. The goal is to design specific strategies at the micro level that ideally should make it possible to project timelines, resources and responsibilities.
7. The second dialogue panel is held to discuss the strategies. As with the first dialogue panel, the aim is to enrich the process and to secure the stakeholders' commitment with the actions they are to perform as part of the chain's development. One key element in this is a strategy-prioritization exercise in which the panel's participants jointly decide on the immediate actions to be taken.
8. The final stage deals with the funding and implementation of the strategies. Once they are validated and the priorities set, the mechanisms, responsibilities, calendars and financial resources necessary for their implementation are to be determined.

Funding for strategy implementation will be handled by three funds, which will operate on a competitive basis and under a multilevel model. The following proposal details the establishment and operations of these funds:

- An innovation fund, which will finance innovative projects presented by the goods and services value chains; those projects can focus either on productive issues or on health and safety, quality (certifications) and institutional topics. This fund will work to promote technical innovation and implement other strategic initiatives, within both individual companies and sectors or associations. Public agencies will also be able to submit projects for funding.
- An organizational support fund for export associations, to fund strategically important sectoral projects for strengthening clusters within the chains and assembling supplier programmes with small-scale producers.
- A commercial promotion fund, specializing in agriculture, agribusiness, the forestry sector and fisheries and aquaculture, to be charged with organizing trade fairs, tours and other marketing and promotional activities in domestic and overseas markets.

The fund will be charged with pursuing the following activities:

- The fund will focus on financing the value chain strengthening initiatives (both national and regional) identified in the above proposal.
- This plan will be implemented through three operations funds, which will operate on a competitive basis and under a multilevel model.
 - This proposal supports the implementation of the rural development programme included in the CDP.

Project governance

For the local and national chains, a public agency (ministry of economic affairs, agriculture or tourism, or secretariat for local economic development) will be assigned responsibility for coordinating and leading the process. That agency will extend invitations to participate to the chain's stakeholders and

to other supervisory or promotional public agencies with a direct or indirect impact on the value chain. United Nations agencies, funds and programmes will support the diagnostic assessment and the design and implementation of strategies according to each chain's needs and characteristics.

Regional and cross-border value chains must be assigned a regional agency to serve as the technical secretariat for the coordination and research process. Possible regional agencies include the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) and others. The implementation of the strengthening plan will require the participation of the four countries' ministries of trade and other public institutions.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Both the Northern Central American countries and Mexico have several processes for strengthening specific chains, which are covered by national initiatives or are supported by United Nations agencies, funds and programmes or other international organizations. For that reason, it is important for this proposal to be connected to other processes that are already under way (see this proposal's annex).

Other experiences conducted by ECLAC, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and other international donors have primarily been focused on strengthening national value chains, and these could be upgraded to provide important contributions for the strengthening of regional value chains.

Also in place is the SICA region's programme for strengthening regional value chains, through which the regional integration institutions are cooperating on a project funded by the Spain-SICA Fund (FES), together with the *Sembrando Vida* ("Sowing Life") programme in Mexico, which focuses on strengthening opportunities in targeted areas of the country, including the south and south-east.

Duration

Total execution time for the chain proposals is 36 months. The first three months will be spent on defining the meta-objectives and selecting the chains. The diagnostic assessment and strategy, along with the dialogue panels, will take place over the following nine months. Implementation, using resources from the support fund, will take an additional 24 months.

Budget: US\$ 52,000,000

US\$ 2,000,000 will be used to design the participatory strategies.

US\$ 50,000,000 will be earmarked for the support fund.

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion (according to the chains that have been preliminarily identified)

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Productive, resilient chain to increase earning opportunities and restore the landscape in impoverished rural areas of the countries of Northern Central America.	Water, Forest and Soil Master Plan, and Environmental Services, Ecosystem Restoration, and Climate Change Programme of the Government of Honduras. Ecosystem Restoration Programme of Guatemala (<i>Vivamos Mejor</i>). National Ecosystem and Landscape Restoration Programme of El Salvador.	Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA). Bonn Challenge (global). Foundation to Promote the Competitiveness of Micro and Small Enterprise in Central America (GENPROMYPE). Executive Secretariat of the Central American Agricultural Council (SECAC). Central American Tourism Integration Secretariat (STICA). Mesoamerica Project. Regional Cooperative Programme for the Technological Development and Modernization of Coffee Cultivation (PROMECAFE). Central American Fisheries and Aquaculture Organization (OSPESCA).	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). International Labour Organization (ILO). Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).	Growth in the Americas. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Regional chains (Spain-SICA Fund). National chains (German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), European Union)	Support for national chains (Inter-American Development Bank).	
Plan of Action for Further Commercial Integration and Productive Development of the Mexico-Guatemala Border Region.	Mexico-Central America Free Trade Agreement. Consensus of Quetzaltenango.					
Promoting regional value chains among the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico.	Mexico-Central America Free Trade Agreement, Mexico. Salvadoran Coffee Council. National Coffee Association of Guatemala. Honduran Coffee Institute. Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER), Mexico.					

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.27

Strengthening the coffee value chain and the production systems of small coffee producers in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico



Context

On 6 September 2019, the Governments of Mexico and eight Central American countries signed an agreement for a comprehensive strategy to position the region's coffee output on global markets and to secure fair and competitive prices. The agreement was proposed at the XVII Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Tuxtla Mechanism for Dialogue and Coordination, held in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. On that occasion, the Heads of State acknowledged that coffee cultivation in the Mesoamerican region accounts for hundreds of thousands of jobs, protects the environment and makes significant contributions to national economies, and that the global crisis in coffee prices was having a major impact on the economic and social development of rural families engaged in that productive chain.

The regional coffee chain is indeed facing a period of low prices and all its stakeholders are currently making great efforts to introduce innovations and raise its competitiveness. Producers face two complex realities that feed off each other: one is the existence of long periods during which, because of excess supply, prices have been lower than production costs, and the other is price volatility. The challenge is to increase producers' profits by generating higher, more stable and diversified incomes and increasing productivity. This is part of a broader challenge for the economic development of the region as a whole and Central America and southern Mexico in particular, the reasons for which include low levels of productivity within companies, which determines their economic sustainability over time, and their ability to create decent jobs with high levels of added value and rising wages.¹

In addition to producers and companies, the effects of this are also felt by workers in the sector, where there are growing challenges associated with meeting occupational health and safety standards and where the evidence has revealed an impact on production costs and reputational repercussions.

¹ The available figures indicate that while global labour productivity rose by 2% between 2006 and 2017, the increase was only 1.5% in the nations of Central America: 1.3% in El Salvador, followed by 0.7% in Guatemala, 0.4% in Honduras and 0.3% in Mexico, with the eight southern and south-eastern Mexican states growing by a mere 0.03%. See chapter 1, Priority areas for promoting development in northern Central America and South-Southeast Mexico

This proposal is a part of the CDP component for the design of an industrial policy with particular emphasis on rural areas, and a joint effort between the Governments of Mexico and of the Northern Central American countries, in conjunction with ECLAC, FAO and other United Nations agencies. It is in line with the comprehensive strategy agreed on by the governments at the Tuxtla Mechanism Summit, and it aims to provide technical and financial support to impact two aspects of the situation: first, to bolster the specific initiatives contained in that strategy, together with the private sector's current efforts, and second, to address the shortcomings in workplace health and safety.

Objective

Increase the incomes of coffee producers in the coffee value chain in Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and southern Mexico, particularly small-scale producers in the priority territories, and improve compliance with workplace health and safety standards.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Increased productivity in coffee production.	Percentage of producers whose productivity has increased (based on 100,000 producers benefiting from the programme).	50%	60 months
Increased production and processing of quality coffee and creation of new markets.	Percentage increase in the production of quality coffee in the beneficiary territories for which markets are found (compared to base-year output).	20%	60 months
	Percentage increase in locally processed output for which markets are found (compared to base-year output).	20%	
Diversification of producers' sources of income and improved standards of living.	Percentage of producers with increased shares of their revenue from sources other than coffee production in their total incomes (based on 100,000 producers benefiting from the programme).	50%	60 months
Better access to tools for managing risks in production and prices.	Percentage of producers trained in the use of management tools for climate and health risks (such as early warnings) and financial risks (insurance, options, etc.) (based on 100,000 producers benefiting from the programme).	50%	60 months
	Percentage of producers with access to management tools for climate and health risks (such as early warnings) and financial risks (insurance, options, etc.) (based on 100,000 producers benefiting from the programme).	25%	60 months
Increased compliance with workplace health and safety standards among companies in the countries' coffee value chains.	Number of companies involved in coffee value chains with improved levels of occupational health and safety standard compliance.	200	60 months

Main activities

The activities have been divided into two levels. The first focuses on the chain with a regional and national approach; the second level concentrates on the coffee production systems of small-scale producers, with an eminently territorial focus. It should also be noted that the main activities set out below are structured around the array of supports that are to be launched under the Comprehensive Development Plan.

(i) Chain²

- With the participation of key chain stakeholders (both public and private), specify and agree on the priority areas for cross-cutting strengthening in each country.

² The instruments described are primarily aimed at the more advanced segments of the coffee chain (medium and large-scale producers, agro-industry), which play a critical role in foreign currency earnings, employment and added value. Strengthening those segments is compatible with supports for small-scale producers. Small-scale coffee plantations do not only operate as suppliers for the processing industry; instead, they will also benefit from the more general development of the chain, through the opening of new markets, innovations and developments and the strengthening of upstream and downstream value chains.

- Deploy the coffee chain strengthening actions using three competitive instruments that will be developed under the regional development plan: (i) Export promotion fund, to pursue commercial outreach activities in foreign markets (fairs, tours, hired experts, etc.). (ii) Innovation fund, for the joint financing of innovative projects presented by the productive chains and/or the selected clusters and export networks; these projects may be either productive or sanitary and institutional (early warning systems for crop rust; establishment of zones for special coffees). This fund will be available to public and private entities (companies, chambers and associations) and will seek to promote technical innovations and the implementation of strategic initiatives in the chain. (iii) Strategic cluster fund, to support the strategic development of the clusters and forge new chains with small-scale producers (supplier programmes) through initiatives such as the installation of cooperative collection centres. Specific supports for 20 coffee exporting clusters are proposed.
- Expand levels of compliance with occupational health and safety standards among companies in coffee value chains. That requires:
 - Mapping the coffee value chains for compliance with workplace health and safety standards.
 - Design and implementation of intervention strategies to improve compliance with workplace health and safety standards.
 - Technical assistance for companies involved in coffee value chains to raise their compliance with workplace health and safety standards. This assistance is to be provided by the States and business organizations, in the latter case using the ILO guide, entitled “Supporting companies’ occupational safety and health performance: A guide for Employers and Business Membership Organizations on OSH advocacy and services”.

(ii) Production systems of small-scale coffee producers

- Fast mapping of the coffee chain in the priority territories, covering such aspects as its producers (large, medium and small-scale), organizations, processing centres, chains with links inside and beyond the territory, and main problems and opportunities for small-scale producers.
- Expand and strengthen partnering among small-scale coffee producers by supporting small-scale producers’ cooperatives and associations involved with coffee production in the priority territories. This will be carried out through the funding mechanisms for economic organizations to be introduced under the regional development plan (hiring of managers, studies, advisory services, technical tours, events, and so on).
- Expand the productive and social inclusion of small-scale coffee producers in the priority territories by improving their production systems and promoting access to new markets. To this end, use will be made of the main instruments developed under the PDR to facilitate access to funding for investments, technical assistance and market access support.

Project governance

Governance will be shared by three main agencies: strategic coordination panels in the territories, national coordination panels and supranational committees. The composition of these agencies will be flexible and variable, in order to deal with the wide range of issues to be addressed. The types of organizations involved and their functions are indicated on the following table.

Coordination agency	Functions	Composition
Strategic coordination panels in each territory.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree on action priorities in the territory. • Draw up (with appropriate technical support) a strategy and plan of action. • Oversee compliance with the plan and make adjustments to it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives of the communities that make up the territory. • Each panel should include representatives of the public and private entities active in the territory.
National chain coordination panels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in the strategic targeting of the PDR at the national level, determining such key parameters as characteristics of the communities to be given priority and the topics to be emphasized, or suggesting one topic in place of another (for example, reforestation instead of the use of wood-burning stoves). • Ensure coordination between the regional development plan and national rural development policies and institutions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives of the national government: sectoral ministries involved in production support (ministries of agriculture, the economy, infrastructure, etc.); ministries responsible for labour rights (labour ministries or others, as determined by national constitutions, including international labour standards pursuant to ratified Conventions, together with the applicable rules and regulations). • National representatives of business organizations and workers' organizations. • Representatives of United Nations agencies working in the country. • Representatives of the academic sector.
Supranational committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate global implementation of the regional development plan. • Manage initiatives involving two or more countries (e.g. regional productive chains or regional innovation fund). • Facilitate the systematization of national experiences and the dissemination of lessons learned. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives of the United Nations. • Representatives of the four governments. • Regional integration agencies.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This proposal should interconnect and create synergies with, at least, the following initiatives and agencies:

- PROMECAFE: Regional Cooperative Programme for the Technological Development and Modernization of Coffee Production, which is a research and cooperation network, originally formed by the coffee sectors of Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica, in addition to the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Tropical Agricultural Research and Training Center (CATIE).
- PROCAGICA: Central American Programme for the Comprehensive Management of Coffee Rust, currently being implemented by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in collaboration with a number of public and private actors from the region.
- Salvadoran Coffee Council: A state agency with public-private involvement.
- ANACAFE: The National Coffee Association of Guatemala, which is a private public-service institution that works to strengthen the country's coffee output and exports.
- IHCAFE: The Honduran Coffee Institute, an agency charged with promoting the agro-industrial competitiveness of the coffee chain.
- Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER).
- Projects on coffee value chains in Mexico and Honduras currently under way with ILO support; the first, Vision Zero Fund, emphasizing workplace health and safety, and the second which addresses child labour in the coffee supply chain but also has a health and safety component.
- Latin American and Caribbean Coffee Environmental Footprint Network.

Duration: 60 months

Budget: To be defined (in accordance with the priority activities).

Proposal 1.28

Digital cooperation agenda between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America



Implementing agencies:

Secretariat of Communications and Transport of Mexico, Technical and Planning Secretariat of the Office of the President of El Salvador, Technical Secretariat for Planning and External Cooperation and National Telecommunications Commission of Honduras, and Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing of Guatemala.

Geographical coverage:

Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala.

Number of beneficiaries:

600,000 people currently not using the internet, and 2,000 companies.

Main topics:

- Telecommunications and broadband infrastructure
- Digital applications for education and health
- Electronic commerce and creative industries

Context

Internet access and digital take-up drive economic growth. The adoption of digital technologies also has an impact on other social variables, through improvements in education, health and political transparency and, ultimately, a better quality of life.

The countries of Northern Central America and Mexico face great challenges in internet access and connectivity. Internet penetration in those countries stands at 58% and is below the regional average, with differences as wide as 33 percentage points between Mexico and El Salvador. Similar differences can be seen in the quality and affordability of internet access. For example, fixed broadband download speeds in Mexico are triple those of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. At the same time, the relative price of mobile broadband in Honduras is seven times higher than in Mexico (see table 1).

Moreover, one of the greatest challenges facing these countries is the adoption of digital technologies by the productive and commercial sectors. Mexico's electronic commerce is more mature than the remaining countries in terms of the segment's size, average revenue per user and the penetration of online shopping, which is twice that of El Salvador and Honduras. However, estimates for the growth of this segment in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras are considerably higher than for Mexico, which underscores the potential that this form of commerce has for those countries' economies (see table 2).

In the new global economic context, the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico face major challenges, in particular as regards the design and implementation of policies for broadband plans, the updating and implementation of nationwide digital strategies and instruments for the promotion and funding of projects in pursuit of universal telecommunications access and coverage (see table 3).

A digital cooperation agenda between Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras would support digital inclusion and the creation of a more integrated regional digital market, through such actions as joint infrastructure projects, promoting the take-up of ICTs in companies, developing and implementing digital applications for social purposes, the coordinated and harmonized elimination of barriers hampering cross-border e-commerce, and increased confidence in the use of online trading mechanisms and electronic payments.

Table 1

Internet penetration by type of service, download speeds and fees

Country	Internet users 2017 (percentage of the population)	Active mobile broadband subscriptions (percentage of the population) 2017	Active fixed broadband subscriptions (percentage of households) 2017	Speeds Download (Mbps) (May 2019)		Fees (June 2018)	
				Fixed broadband	Mobile broadband	Fixed broadband rates for 10 Mbps plans or as similar as possible (percentage of monthly GDP per capita)	30-day mobile broadband prepaid data rates (percentage of monthly GDP per capita)
El Salvador	33.8	55.8	27.1	10.6	10.1	1.3	3.1
Guatemala	40.7	16.5	13.4	10.7	18.0	1.3	3.5
Honduras	32.1	24.5	12.1	11.2	23.1	3.2	7.1
Mexico	63.9	65.0	59.9	29.0	23.8	0.2	0.9
Average	62.4	69.1	46.2	27.2	18.7

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of International Telecommunication Union (ITU), "World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database online", 2019 [online] <https://www.itu.int/pub/D-IND-WTID.OL-2019>.

Table 2

Electronic commerce figures, 2019

	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Mexico
E-commerce market revenue (millions of dollars)	230	997	182	9 441
Compound annual growth rate (2019-2023)	11.9	11.4	15.2	7.9
Digital purchasers (% of the population)	31.7	42.6	32.2	61.9
Average annual revenue per user (ARPU)	113	133	59	250

Source: Statista, "Cifras clave del comercio electrónico", n/d [online database] <https://es.statista.com/sectores/1171/tema/1514/cifras-clave-del-comercio-electronico/>.

Table 3

Broadband plan adoption, digital strategies, universal service funds and internet exchange points, 2019

Countries	Updated national broadband plan	Updated digital strategy	Use of universal service fund for broadband	Internet exchange point
Mexico	Under way	Under way	Advanced	Advanced
El Salvador	Delayed	Delayed	Delayed	Delayed
Guatemala	Delayed	Advanced	Under way	Under way
Honduras	Advanced	Advanced	Under way	Under way

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of data from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

Objective

Progress towards a cooperation agenda to allow greater digital inclusion in Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras and bolster the economic and social impact of the adoption and use of digital technologies.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Increased number of internet users (focusing on vulnerable people, particularly economic and geographical vulnerability).	Number of new internet users.	600,000 people.	5 years
People benefiting from the use of digital applications with a social impact.	Number of people using mobile applications with a social impact (in the health and education sectors).	1,000,000 people.	5 years
Companies benefiting from support programmes for e-commerce and the development of creative industries.	Number of companies participating in and benefiting from the project.	2,000 companies.	5 years

Main activities

1. Broadband projects and digital inclusion policies in rural and peri-urban areas (five years).
2. Digital services and applications for health and education (three years).
3. Forums for dialogue among digital agenda authorities to promote the interconnection of policies and exchanges of best practices (18 months).
4. Action plan for the Mesoamerican Information Highway (AMI) under implementation (three years).
5. Action plan with recommendations to facilitate e-commerce (one year).
6. Guide for a convergent regulatory framework for e-commerce, consumer protection, data protection and cybersecurity (one year).
7. Document with policy recommendations and instruments to facilitate digital technology take-up by companies (one year).
8. E-commerce development programme for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) using training, research, innovative solutions, cooperation mechanisms, partnerships and digital tools (two years).
9. Support programme for creative industries through the creation of funding instruments, partnership programmes and technical assistance for entrepreneurs (three years).

Project governance

The Central American Regional Telecommunications Commission (COMTELCA) could take responsibility for designing and coordinating the project and the regional digital cooperation agenda, in addition to providing the countries with technical assistance. The project should coordinate with the Mesoamerican Digital Agenda (ADM) overseen by the Mesoamerica Project.

In particular, the involvement of the following public agencies will be required: the Secretariat of Communications and Transport of Mexico, the Technical and Planning Secretariat of the Office of the President of El Salvador, the Technical Secretariat for Planning and External Cooperation and the National Telecommunications Commission of Honduras, and the Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing of Guatemala. The project also requires the participation of the Ministry of Economic Affairs of El Salvador, the Ministry of Economic Affairs of Guatemala, the Secretariat of Economic Development of Honduras, the Secretariat of the Economy of Mexico, the Directorate-General of Customs of El Salvador, the Superintendency of Tax Administration of Guatemala, the Customs Administration of Honduras, the General Customs Administration of Mexico and the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Some initiatives with which the project could find synergies include the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2020), for which ECLAC serves as the technical secretariat. It could also receive support from the Mesoamerican Forum of Telecommunication Authorities (FMAT), the Mesoamerican Digital Agenda (ADM) and the project for a Mesoamerican Information Highway (AMI) coordinated by the Mesoamerica Project (PM), and it could coordinate with activities under the strategic plan and plan of action of the Central American Regional Telecommunication Commission (COMTELCA).

Duration

Planning: one year.

- Identification and design of an infrastructure project portfolio in line with the existing programmes.
- Execution: five years.
- Broadband projects and digital inclusion policies in rural and peri-urban areas (five years).
- Digital services and applications for health and education (three years).
- Forums for dialogue among digital agenda authorities to promote the interconnection of policies and exchanges of best practices (18 months).
- Action plan for the Mesoamerican Information Highway (AMI) under implementation (three years).
- Action plan with recommendations to facilitate e-commerce (one year).
- Guide for a convergent regulatory framework for e-commerce, consumer protection, data protection and cybersecurity (one year).
- Document with policy recommendations and instruments to facilitate digital technology take-up by companies (one year).
- E-commerce development programme for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) using training, research, innovative solutions, cooperation mechanisms, partnerships and digital tools (two years).
- Support programme for creative industries through the creation of funding instruments, partnership programmes and technical assistance for entrepreneurs (three years).

Budget: US\$ 3,696,000

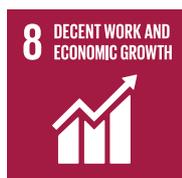
Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Digital cooperation agenda between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America.	National Digital Strategy of Mexico. Digital Agenda of Honduras. Electronic Government Strategy of El Salvador. National Digital Agenda of Guatemala.	Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2020), ECLAC. Strategic Plan of the Central American Regional Telecommunications Commission (COMTELCA). Mesoamerican Information Highway (AMI) and Mesoamerican Digital Agenda (Mesoamerica Project), Central American Telecommunications Network. Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL).	International Telecommunication Union (ITU). United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).		Development Bank of Latin American (CAF). Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI).	Latin American Internet Association. GSM Association. Inter-American Association of Telecommunication Enterprises (ASITET). Association for Progressive Communications (APC). Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI). Latin America and Caribbean Network Information Centre (LACNIC). Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.29

Towards a regional innovation system in Northern Central America and Mexico: integration in science, technology and innovation



Implementing agencies:

Science and technology institutions (National Secretariat of Science and Technology of Guatemala; Ministry of Education of El Salvador; Honduran Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation; National Science and Technology Council of Mexico).

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

This initiative will focus on a range of science, technology and innovation issues selected by the countries in accordance with the priorities of the CDP.

Main topics:

- Science and technology
- Innovation
- Catalysing productivity
- Regional integration
- Synergies

Context:

Mexico and the Northern Central American countries face challenges in securing greater sustainable economic growth and in ensuring that it leads to improved standards of living for the population, particularly those with lower incomes. Low dynamism in productivity is broadly acknowledged as a central cause for sluggish expansion of economic activity. Science, technology and innovation (STI) have been major drivers of sustainable economic growth in countries that are now considered developed.

When small businesses and microenterprises, together with small-scale rural producers, enjoy improved access to STI and can make greater use of them, the added value generated by productive activities is distributed more equitably. Continuous technological changes, with the fourth industrial revolution (Industry 4.0) or new technological revolution at the centre, present the region's countries with challenges and opportunities.

The strengthening of productive activities, through the incorporation of technological innovations, is a factor with a great impact for improving living standards in migrants' communities of origin.

Mexico and the Northern Central American countries have a widespread understanding of the importance of STI in achieving better economic growth rates. Nevertheless, the efforts made in that direction, and their results, are still inadequate. Spending on research and development as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) remains very low and has practically not changed over the past 15 years. Other indicators —such as the number of science and technology graduates and researchers, and the number of patent applications— also report significant shortfalls.

This inadequacy in the resources earmarked for science, technology and innovation is taking place against an international backdrop characterized by the growing segmentation of markets, value chains and technologies, which demands cross-border cooperation to build synergies and avoid fragmentation.

The opportunity to tap into the economies of scale and externalities common in the STI field calls for and justifies the formulation of cross-border policies and initiatives, particularly in light of the need to design and implement strategies requiring hefty investments. The southern states of Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America share a productive specialization in agricultural and agro-industrial activities, energy and biotechnology. Previous studies by ECLAC and other international organizations have identified research centres in those areas, some of which pursue similar lines of work. Connections between them, however, are minimal or non-existent, with which they miss the opportunity to leverage their activities, achieve better results and tap into economies of scale.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Economies of scale and synergies that lead to better quality and more relevant results in STI, to address the economic, social and environmental challenges of the region's countries.	Number of cross-border science, technology and innovation projects funded (private consortiums of small and medium-sized enterprises).	Ten cross-border projects funded.	4 years
	Number of cross-border networks created.	Ten knowledge exchange networks created.	
Greater productive dynamism based on innovation, leading to the creation of decent jobs and improved standards of living.	Increased profit for small and medium-sized enterprises engaged in cross-border projects.	An increase of 20% in profit.	4 years
	<i>First, science and technology activities will be identified through indicators such as:</i>		
	Number of patents and scientific publications.	One patent and three scientific publications per funded project.	
	<i>Second, indicators of innovation activities such as the following will be used:</i>		
	Number of introductions of new technologies or incremental innovations in processes and products.	Three incremental process and product innovations in each funded project.	
	Number of jobs created as a result of new joint activities in STI.	Five jobs created for each funded project.	

Objective

Strengthen innovation systems and the integration of science, technology and innovation in Northern Central America and Mexico, in order to pursue regional initiatives for addressing shared economic, social and environmental challenges, with priority on those challenges identified in the Comprehensive Development Plan.

Main activities

- Create a regional STI fund to finance regional initiatives in the fields of science, technology and innovation focused on resolving shared economic and social development challenges. The support will differentiate between science and technology undertakings on the one hand, and innovation activities on the other.

- Design institutional mechanisms for managing the regional fund, based on the existing regional institutional structure. These two activities will require:
 - Conducting a study to identify international best practices in the creation and management of cross-border STI funds.
 - Designing a preliminary proposal for the fund and its management mechanisms.
 - Organizing meetings with representatives of science and technology agencies from the four countries to discuss the preliminary proposal for the fund and its management.
- Select areas of common interest to the four countries in the fields of science, technology and innovation, emphasizing those where capacity exists and that will contribute to addressing the challenges identified in the Comprehensive Development Plan. Particular attention will be paid to the inclusion of a gender perspective.
 - Conduct a study into current STI capacities in the four countries, identifying strengths and weaknesses.
 - Identify the STI areas that offer opportunities for synergies and economies of scale, and those that offer the best prospects for furthering the CDP.
 - Organize meetings with representatives of academia, research centres, the private sector and the government to validate and further develop the findings of the previous activities.
- Identify the existing capacities of public STI organizations (laboratories, public research centres), public and private universities and the private sector.
 - Prepare an inventory of the existing STI capacities identified in the previous step.
- Finance regional projects, through the fund that is to be created, involving public and private organizations from at least three of the region's countries, in the following fields:
 - Regional groups for basic or applied research (science and technology).
 - Regional innovation consortiums (primarily comprising small and medium-sized enterprises).
 - Academic exchanges (professors and researchers).
 - Student scholarships.
 - Shared infrastructure use (research, quality and metrology laboratories).

Project governance

The science and technology agencies of the four countries will define a mechanism for regional fund's creation and administration. Assistance could be sought from the Commission for the Scientific and Technological Development of Central America and Panama (CTCAP), an agency of the Central American Integration System.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The European Union is funding an initiative to identify joint areas of work in the fields of science and sustainable technology in the Central American countries. Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is drawing up an action agenda to develop capacities for the formulation and implementation of science, technology and innovation policies in Central America and the Dominican Republic. CTCAP lacks legal status and its own budget, but it has a permanent technical secretariat in Guatemala's SENACYT, which has expressed interest in reactivating the regional cooperation agenda.

Duration

The initiative will last for a total of four years. The first six months will be spent on creating the fund and identifying the priority areas and existing capacities. The remaining time will be for receiving proposals and selecting, funding and assessing the cross-border initiatives.

Budget: US\$ 20,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Towards a regional innovation system in the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico: integration in science, technology and innovation.	National Innovation and Development Plan (PLANID), Guatemala. Honduran Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation. National Science, Technology and Innovation System of El Salvador.	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO): Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS) in El Salvador. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO): Building capacities for innovation and trade in the aquaculture value chain (El Salvador, as of 2020). Industrial Knowledge Bank (IKB), El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): Support for the transparent management of Hondutel.	European Union. Central American Innovation System, analyses and studies (IDRC). Technological innovations to promote irrigation agriculture to benefit rural women in the eastern region (El Salvador, Government of Japan). Support for innovation by MSMEs and enterprises in El Salvador (United States Department of Agriculture, USDA). Regional Programme for Research and Innovation in Agricultural Value Chains (PRITICA), European Union.		Inter-American Development Bank (IDB): Naranja Republic: Digital Creative District (Honduras). IDB: Support for Strengthening the National Science, Technology and Innovation System in Honduras.	

Proposal 1.30

Promoting investment by the Salvadoran diaspora, El Salvador



Implementing agencies

Secretariat of Commerce and Investment (SCI), Presidential Commissioner for Strategic Projects (CPPE), Ministry of Economic Affairs of El Salvador (MINEC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MRREE), Export and Investment Promotion Agency (PROESA), Development Bank of El Salvador (BANDESAL) and Central Reserve Bank (BCR).

Geographical coverage

El Salvador

Number of beneficiaries

1.5 million people will benefit from the project (the number of Salvadorans who receive remittances from family members).

Main topics:

- Diaspora and migration
- Financial inclusion
- Productive investment
- Simplification of formalities
- Institutional strengthening

Context

The Salvadoran diaspora in the United States numbers more than three million people. Most of them live in the States of California (34.9%), Texas (14.7%), New York (8.9%), Virginia (7.4%) and Maryland (7.2%), where they work in such areas as commerce, construction and services (general services, leisure, lodging, food and drink preparation, education, health and social assistance). In 2019, their cash remittances

amounted to the equivalent of 21% of the gross domestic product (GDP). In addition to remittances, the Salvadoran diaspora maintains ties with its country of origin through such activities as private investment (property, productive endeavours), savings (pensions, health), knowledge and skills, philanthropy, the nostalgia trade and medical and recreational tourism.

The Salvadoran diaspora has an enormous potential to contribute to the country's economic and social development. At present, however, there is no formal institutional framework that encourages and facilitates the mobilization of resources by Salvadorans abroad. Accordingly, one of the main planks in the Government of El Salvador's foreign policy is to include the diaspora in investment and commercial development plans in their country of origin.

A recent study, conducted in 2019 by the Ministry of Economic Affairs of El Salvador (MINEC) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), with financial support from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), revealed that more than 50% of Salvadoran migrants living in the United States planned to invest in their home country. Of those interviewed, 7% said they had invested in El Salvador in the last 12 months, in an average amount of US\$ 75,500. The main sectors receiving those investments were real estate, restaurants and manufacturing. In addition, half of the interviewees stated that they planned to return, primarily to retire and start a business. The study's results revealed that 20% of the respondents had made donations in the last 12 months, to support schools, clinics, community centres, medicines for their communities, ambulances, electricity and drinking water projects and other similar endeavours.

However, diaspora investments in El Salvador face significant constraints, including mistrust in officialdom, the absence of counterparts or partners to operate productive activities in El Salvador, a lack of information on how to invest and a lack of official support. In addition, there are restrictions on the use of and access to financial products and services in El Salvador, such as deposit or savings accounts, credit and retirement savings. As for sending those donations, the main obstacles identified are low levels of trust in officialdom (38.2%), the absence of information on how to do so (34%) and excessive transaction costs, bureaucracy and formalities (14%).

Accordingly, the Government of El Salvador and ECLAC have designed a series of strategies to facilitate and promote financial inclusion, trade, investments and donations among the Salvadoran diaspora. This proposal focuses on managing resources to enable actions to be taken in the short and medium terms.

Objective¹

Promote and facilitate investments in El Salvador, and financial inclusion and donations among the Salvadoran diaspora.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
1. Increased access to and use in El Salvador of financial products designed to expand the financial inclusion of the Salvadoran diaspora.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of formalities simplified and obstacles eliminated (e.g. powers of attorney, verification of ID cards, proof of income) for access to financial products (e.g. electronic transfers, opening bank accounts, retirement funds, investment funds, personal insurance, bank loans, online purchases) by members of the diaspora. 	To be defined in accordance with the baseline.	36 months

¹ See Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), "Challenges and opportunities for the Salvadoran diaspora to invest in its country of origin", 2020 [online] <https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/a2020-07-22-ude-pb-challengesandopportunitiesinvestments-es-eng.pdf>.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
2. Increased flow in trade and investment between the diaspora and El Salvador.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of funding mechanisms and instruments available to the Salvadoran diaspora (e.g. trusts, lines of credit, guarantee funds). Number of sectoral guides and project profiles for the Salvadoran diaspora, including information on investment opportunities (for social and productive purposes), with their corresponding requirements, obligations, benefits and necessary formalities. Design and launch of an online platform or module for the diaspora, containing information on sectoral investment opportunities, with their corresponding requirements, obligations, benefits and necessary formalities. Establishment of an information and technical assistance desk for investment projects by the Salvadoran diaspora. Number of users of the online platform and information desk. Number of individuals trained in El Salvador and at Salvadoran embassies and consulates to assist the diaspora with investment issues. Number of Salvadorans living abroad attending business and investment meetings, seminars and forums (e.g. a forum similar to the one organized by the Ministry of Economic Affairs in Guatemala). Number of formalities and requirements simplified and reforms introduced affecting exports, imports and diaspora investments. Number of formalities simplified for establishing and operating diaspora investments. Design and publication of a promotion and outreach strategy about the support instruments available for diaspora commerce and investment. 	To be defined in accordance with the baseline.	36 months
3. Facilitate the entry of diaspora donations into El Salvador.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of individuals trained at Salvadoran embassies and consulates to assist the diaspora with donation issues. Number of formalities and requirements simplified and reforms introduced affecting the entry of diaspora donations into El Salvador. Development and launch of an online platform or module for the diaspora, containing information on opportunities, steps and processes to secure donations from the Salvadoran diaspora. Development and launch of a promotion and outreach strategy. 	To be defined in accordance with the baseline.	36 months
4. Improve the institutional governance of supports for the Salvadoran diaspora.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of initiatives undertaken by the Salvadoran diaspora advisory council. Number of partnerships and cooperation agreements entered into with organizations and chambers of Salvadorans abroad. Number of consultations of the directory of organizations and chambers of Salvadorans abroad. 	To be defined in accordance with the baseline.	36 months

Main activities

- Operational planning:
 - Define criteria and identify priorities for target populations (scope).
 - Involve the relevant agencies and define their responsibilities.
 - Identify key partners or allies who can contribute to achieving the expected results.
 - Define the amounts of funding that each of the programme's participating agencies can commit.
 - Identify the relevant regulatory framework, and review the criteria and rules applicable to the diaspora in the Salvadoran financial system.
 - Define mechanisms to promote the financial inclusion, commerce, investments and donations of the Salvadoran diaspora.
- Pilot intervention plans:
 - Identification of priority diaspora support instruments for pilot testing.
 - Particular emphasis will be placed on the design and implementation of the following components of the proposal:²

² See Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), "Challenges and opportunities for the Salvadoran diaspora to invest in its country of origin", 2020 [online] <https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/a2020-07-22-udep-b-challengesandopportunitiesinvestments-es-eng.pdf>.

- Development of an online platform or module for the diaspora, containing information on sectoral investment opportunities, with their corresponding requirements, obligations, benefits and necessary formalities.
- Establishment of an information and technical assistance desk for investment projects by the Salvadoran diaspora.
- Development and launch of a strategy to promote and disseminate the support instruments to encourage commerce and investment among the diaspora.
- Development of an online platform or module for the diaspora, containing information on opportunities, steps and processes to secure donations from the Salvadoran diaspora.
- Development of a promotion and outreach strategy.
- Access to a directory of organizations and chambers of Salvadorans abroad.
- Design and implementation of a strategy to strengthen associations of Salvadorans abroad.
- Design and launch of a promotion and outreach strategy:
 - Define mechanisms and promotion and outreach strategy for the services, tools and instruments available to the Salvadoran diaspora.
- Programme monitoring and evaluation.

Project governance

The activities will be implemented by the Government of El Salvador, through a technical council composed of the implementing agencies (Secretariat of Commerce and Investment, Presidential Commissioner for Strategic Projects, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Export and Investment Promotion Agency, Development Bank of El Salvador and Central Reserve Bank).

Possible synergies with other initiatives

- This is an innovative, unprecedented initiative in the Central American region.
- It offers synergies with other initiatives by the Government of El Salvador, such as the Investment Facilitation Plan, the 2019–2024 Business Development Plan, the Economic Takeoff Plan, the 2050 Trade and Investment Policy and the Comprehensive Development Plan.

Duration

It is estimated that this initiative can be implemented in a period of 36 months.

Activities	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12
Operational planning												
Pilot intervention plans (design of instruments, establishment of priorities)												
Pilot execution and evaluation												
Launch of initiatives												
Promotion strategy												
Financing and technical support for proposal to promote diaspora investment												
Programme evaluation												

Budget: US\$ 3,000,000

Proposal 1.31

Walls of Prosperity: Guatemala–Mexico, Guatemala–Honduras and Guatemala–El Salvador cross-border development, Guatemala



Implementing agencies:

Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Public Finance, Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Superintendency of Tax Administration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing, Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance, Guatemalan Tourism Institute, National Forest Institute, National Council for Protected Areas, Guatemalan Association of Exporters, Coordinating Committee of Agricultural, Commercial, Industrial and Financial Associations, port companies (Empresa Portuaria Quetzal, Empresa Portuaria Nacional de Champerico, Empresa Portuaria Nacional Santo Tomás de Castilla), General Directorate of Civil Aviation, competitiveness centres in the border regions.

Institutional capacities required:

The government must strengthen its capacities to promote the development of borderland territories in pursuit of integration and shared prosperity, focusing both on its ministries and other agencies of the executive branch of government, the legislature, local governments and the Development Council System. It must explore international best practices, lessons learned and success stories in promoting cross-border regions as development hubs through foreign and public investment to generate projects that catalyse development, logistics platforms and the development of agribusiness value chains.

Geographical coverage:

Guatemala's borders with southern and south-eastern Mexico, Honduras and El Salvador.

Number of beneficiaries:

Eligible populations (entrepreneurs and employees) associated with companies on Guatemala's northern and southern borders.

Main topics:

- Regulatory framework
- Business environments
- Trade facilitation
- Infrastructure
- Free zone

- Logistics platform
- Sustainable biological corridors
- Human security

Context

Northern Guatemala and southern and south-eastern Mexico, at the heart of the Mesoamerican region, have strong, close cultural, economic and social ties, dating back to before the Conquest. Those close ties remained in place after independence and even after national borders were traced out under the countries' new political configuration as republics. Exchanges of goods and services and movements of people for work, trade and even family reasons have been a constant factor throughout history and remain so today.

The close historic relationship between the Soconusco region and Guatemala has led to the emergence of major labour migration flows towards agricultural areas for temporary work, cultural activities and harvesting. In addition, more recently this has become a transit area for irregular migrants headed to the United States but who, on account of heightened checks on their entry, tend to remain in Mexico, particularly on its southern border.

In turn, southern Guatemala's borders with Honduras and El Salvador historically represented one of the most important interoceanic trade routes in the North Atlantic, which led, in colonial times, to large-scale territorial disputes.

At present, those borders connect trade flows between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and through the countries of the Central American Northern Triangle. Unfortunately, that connection is used for both licit commerce and to convey such illicit goods as drugs, which poses a significant problem for the country.

This binational region therefore urgently needs cross-border development based on productive development strategies with a territorial approach, which will enable it to attract investment flows and economic growth in excess of the national averages, thereby securing development that will allow it to concentrate on licit forms of commerce. That would encourage the creation of decent, formal jobs and rising incomes for both companies and workers.

This proposal is focused on five elements: the creation of a binational free zone, trade facilitation and the lifting of technical barriers to trade, the creation of sustainable biological corridors, the development of logistics infrastructure, and the promotion of human security through the development of border cities and strengthened sanitary oversight at border crossings.

This proposal follows a territorial approach to development based on productive development policies with chains involving activities with rising added value: in this case, to move beyond the development model based on labour-intensive agricultural activities that offer low levels of added value. Its aim is to increase productive investments in the border regions, raise the added value of output and forge better productive chains between existing companies to lead to better jobs and higher incomes for their employees. It also seeks to capitalize on regional trade and promote new enterprises, from essentially agricultural businesses to agro-industry, and the creation of a logistics platform, all driven by a binational free zone regime. In addition, Guatemala and Mexico share a border that is rich in biodiversity that could support different kinds of sustainable uses (tourism, productive activities, sustainable fruit cultivation, etc.), while the leading agenda item on the border with Honduras and El Salvador is the customs union to promote trade as a part of Central American Integration System (SICA).

The core element of this proposal is the creation of development hubs based on the establishment of binational free zone regimes, anchored on logistics platform clusters, to capitalize on the infrastructure and natural riches present in the region. The free zones will promote investments in a targeted territory and encourage trade beyond the region (taking the region of origin to be the borderland regions of

Guatemala and Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras, and Guatemala and El Salvador). The growth triggered by these investments will lead to job creation and catalyse regional productive chains, including those related to the biological corridors.

Objective

Establish development hubs on Guatemala's borders with southern and south-eastern Mexico and with El Salvador and Honduras, to attract new investments, promote trade and forge productive chains between existing companies and new undertakings in the fields of agribusiness and environmentally sustainable production, which will in turn translate into increased socioeconomic development for the regions' populations.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goal	Period
1. Development hubs established on Guatemala's borders with southern Mexico and with Honduras and El Salvador, attracting new investments to create sustainable companies and decent jobs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regulatory framework to promote a free zone and logistics platform. 2. Number of companies established on Guatemala's borders with southern Mexico, Honduras and El Salvador. 3. Number of decent jobs created on Guatemala's borders with southern Mexico, Honduras and El Salvador. 4. Close coordination with Guatemala's Regional Competitiveness Centres. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation of binational free zones. 2. Establishment of a programme to attract investments into the binational free zones. 3. Ties between the free zones' incentives and investment in technological innovation and value chains. 	1 year
2. Environment for sustainable companies strengthened.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Companies and enterprises on Guatemala's borders with southern Mexico and with Honduras and El Salvador feel that the business environment is suitable for developing sustainable companies. 	90% of the companies consulted.	2 years.
3. Productive chains forged between new ventures and companies at the development hub on the Guatemalan border with southern Mexico and at the hubs on the borders with Honduras and El Salvador based on an agro-industrial cluster and logistics platform of growing added value.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of new ventures and companies in productive chains around agribusiness, a free zone and the logistics platform on Guatemala's border with south and south-east Mexico and with Honduras and El Salvador. 	100 new binational chain links.	5 years.
4. Reduction of regulatory and logistic barriers to trade between the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico.	<p>Reduced times and costs associated with customs procedures in the subregion.</p> <p>Extended operating schedules for different points of entry into Mexico.</p> <p>Operational coordination of customs facilities between Guatemala and Mexico.</p> <p>Establishment of communications channels for exchanges of information.</p>	<p>50% reduction in times and costs.</p> <p>Extend operating schedules to 24 hours a day at the Ciudad Hidalgo-Tecún Umán and Talismán border crossings.</p> <p>50% reduction in time spent on customs formalities.</p> <p>20% increase in trade between Guatemala and Mexico.</p> <p>Effective and regular communication between the persons responsible at the national and operational levels.</p> <p>Regular exchanges of information.</p> <p>25% reduction in contraband.</p>	6 and 36 months

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goal	Period
5. Programme for the mutual recognition of authorized economic operators (AEOs) functioning between Guatemala and Mexico.	Mexico's adhesion to the Mutual Recognition Agreement for authorized economic operators (AEOs) signed by El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica and Panama in April 2019.	Recognition of the Central American hauliers card, which allows drivers to enter and exit Mexican territory to load, convey and unload merchandise. AEOs from El Salvador and Mexico operating seamlessly in the two countries' territory.	24 months
6. Growth in the bilateral trade of products deemed sensitive between Guatemala and Mexico, Honduras and El Salvador.	Increased Guatemalan exports of products deemed sensitive.	15% increase in trade in sensitive products.	36 months
7. Strengthened sanitary institutions in Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras and El Salvador.	Certification of the sanitary institutions by internationally recognized technical agencies.	Sanitary institutions in Guatemala and Mexico have the recognition of major commercial partners, such as the European Union and the United States.	24 months
8. Laboratories and certification processes standardized between the countries.	Internationally certified laboratories. Mutual recognition of certificates.	At least three laboratories receiving the equipment needed to conduct internationally recognized certification processes. Agreement for certification recognition in each of the areas where standards have been harmonized.	36 months
9. Strengthened sanitary oversight system at ports, airports and land borders that handle large numbers of migrants and returnees.	Number of International Sanitary Offices established and equipped with personnel and materials needed to discharge their duties. Number of assistance interventions extended to travellers involving control measures, environmental sanitation activities, prevention and detection of events of public health importance. Number of contingency plans prepared for a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) and validated by means of drills or other exercises.	International Sanitary Offices (ISOs) with trained personnel and the necessary equipment located at the borders that so require, as indicated by the diagnostic assessment carried out. Number of assistance interventions carried out and registered per location. A contingency plan for each ISO and a national contingency plan, validated by means of drills or other exercises.	Between 4 and 5 years
10. Borderland biological corridors allowing production, the forging of productive chains and sustainable trade.	Number of sustainable production systems based on nature with priority crops. Deforestation rate. Number of hectares restored for conservation purposes.	Zero net deforestation in areas identified as critical. 50,000 ha reforested in critical areas.	5 years
11. Existence of sustainable production systems based on nature that assist production and the restoration of nature.	Number of nature-based tourism destinations. Number of direct jobs created.	Development of competitive environmental services. Development of sustainable agro-industrial undertakings.	5 years

Main activities

Strengthen the environment for sustainable companies by conducting technical studies and surveys into sustainable companies and using them to:

- (a) Launch a proposal for improving appropriate environments for sustainable companies on Guatemala's borders with south and south-east Mexico and with El Salvador and Honduras.

- (b) Promote collaboration between governments and civil society stakeholders to develop and implement the measures necessary to create appropriate binational environments for sustainable companies.
- (c) Create working groups based on “tripartite plus” social dialogue for the thematic lines identified in the proposal for Appropriate Environments for Sustainable Companies and charge them with coordination, follow-up, monitoring and evaluation of the actions to be carried out.
- (d) Cooperate closely with the Regional Competitiveness Centres in the regions involved in order to identify the regions’ economic drivers.

Create development hubs on Guatemala’s borders with south and south-east Mexico and with El Salvador and Honduras, to attract new investments to create sustainable companies and decent jobs by preparing and analysing technical studies and legislative, regulatory and technical proposals based on agro-industrial clusters and logistics platforms bolstered by binational free zones connected in productive chains through business ventures with high added value and making intensive use of labour.

- (a) After building consensus through tripartite plus social dialogue, implement the public policy reforms and legislative amendments needed to create this development hub.
- (b) Identify lessons learned, good practices and success stories in the creation of this binational development hub.
- (c) Connect the development hub proposals with the enabling infrastructure projects under way: roads, railways, ports and energy.
- (d) Design a plan to attract investments and develop market intelligence.

Harmonization of technical, sanitary and phytosanitary rules and standards among the countries of Northern Central America and south and south-east Mexico, to which end technical teams of experts will be established, the negotiation goals will be determined and the negotiation panels will be scheduled.

- (a) Harmonize product criteria, as a result of the negotiations and the agreements reached.
- (b) Create mechanisms for training and exchanges of knowledge among technicians from all countries, for which the areas to be strengthened will be determined, the experts needed will be identified and the methodology and schedule for capacity-building will be defined.
- (c) Strengthen sanitary institutions through improvements in techniques, standards and laboratory equipment.
- (d) Signing and adoption of an agreement between Guatemala and Mexico on Mutual Administrative Assistance and Exchanges of Information on Customs Matters.
- (e) Standardize and certify laboratories and processes.
- (f) Increase joint sanitary inspections to build the countries’ capacities and their confidence in their teams.

Trade facilitation agreements among the countries of Northern Central America and south and south-east Mexico.

- (a) Design of a road map for Mexico’s adhesion to the Central American Strategy for Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness with an Emphasis on Coordinated Border Management, and technical work for Mexico’s future adhesion to the agreement for the mutual recognition of authorized economic operators (AEOs) that already exists between four Central American countries.
- (b) Design Comprehensive Border Traffic Attention Centres (CATIFs).
- (c) Design of a hauliers’ card and an agreement on its operation, to allow drivers to enter and leave Mexican territory to load, convey and unload merchandise.

- (d) Inclusion of Mexico in the mutual recognition agreement for authorized economic operators from the Central American countries.

Strengthening sanitary oversight at ports, airports and land borders that handle large numbers of migrants and returnees.

- (a) Conduct a diagnostic assessment of the conditions and capacities of International Sanitary Offices on the four countries' borders.
- (b) Forge strategic alliances with key stakeholders.
- (c) Prepare facilities for International Sanitary Offices.
- (d) Draft technical and regulatory instruments for the implementation of the International Health Regulations.
- (e) National and local training on basic skills for the International Health Regulations.
- (f) Development and validation of response plans to Public Health Emergencies of International Concern (PHEICs).
- (g) Basic equipment for International Sanitary Offices to operate.

Agreements for the creation of borderland biological corridors to enable sustainable production, productive chains and commerce.

- (a) Design joint protocols on the protection, use and exploitation of borderland agroforestry reserves.
- (b) Agree on standards and certifications for the sustainable use of borderland agroforestry resources.
- (c) Promote sustainable investments in the region.
- (d) Promote investments and business initiatives for environmental services in the border region.

Project governance

Governance of the activities related to the “Walls of Prosperity” initiative requires a binational mechanism for dialogue and conflict resolution. This mechanism must be led by a presidential commissioner from each of the Northern Central America countries and Mexico, who will coordinate the ministries and other agencies responsible for managing the various activities that make up the initiative.

Other stakeholders who can strengthen the activities should also be included.

Duration

Estimated duration of five years.

Budget: US\$ 27,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Walls of Prosperity.	Mexico-Central America Free Trade Agreement (Mexico).	Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA): Central American Strategy for Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness, Coordinated Border Management. Mesoamerica Project.	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).	Growth in the Americas. Strengthening Central American Trade Policy (European Union, Chilean Agency for International Cooperation for Development, General Directorate for International Economic Affairs, Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration). Preparation of the Indicative Regional Master Plan for the Central American Regional Framework Policy on Mobility and Logistics (Japan International Cooperation Agency, Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration). Central American Regional Economic Integration (European Union).	Support for the integration process toward free movement of persons and merchandise between Guatemala and Honduras (Central American Bank for Economic Integration, Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration). Support for implementation of the Five Priority Measures for Trade Facilitation (Inter-American Development Bank, Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration).	Food industry chambers. Chambers for different agricultural products. Export chambers.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.32

White Seal for local products, Guatemala



Implementing agencies:

Executive Coordination Secretariat of the Office of the President (SCEP), Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Office of the President (SEGEPLAN), Ministry of Public Finance (MINFIN), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINEX), Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), Ministry of Labour (MINTRAB), Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), and Ministry of Economic Affairs (MINECO), municipal governments, Development Councils, Guatemalan Tourism Institute (INGUAT), Technical Institute for Training and Production (INTECAP), National Institute of Cooperatives (INACOP), University of San Carlos, Guatemala (USAC).

Coordinating Committee of Agricultural, Commercial, Industrial and Financial Associations of Guatemala (CACIF) and Guatemalan Exporters' Association (AGEXPORT).

International cooperation and academia.

Geographical coverage:

Departments of Alta Verapaz, Sololá, Totonicapán, Quiché, Chiquimula, Huehuetenango, San Marcos, Baja Verapaz and Petén.

Number of beneficiaries:

3,000 small-scale producers as direct beneficiaries, with an emphasis on rural areas.

Main topics:

- Training
- Employment
- Partnering
- Competitiveness
- Entrepreneurship
- Social development

Context

Widespread extreme poverty has been a constant scourge for the people of Guatemala and successive governments have been unable to eradicate it. The repercussions of insufficient incomes impact other aspects of development, such as access to education, proper nutrition and quality health services.

The annual per capita value of the poverty line is updated according to price changes as reported by the consumer price index (CPI). According to the National Statistics Institute (INE), in 2014 the cost of the basic food basket that met kilocalorie requirements was 5,750 quetzales: in other words, that level of spending indicated the extreme poverty line, while non-extreme poverty came in at 10,218 quetzales.

Over a period of 25 years (1989–2014), the extreme poverty rate in Guatemala rose by 5.3 percentage points, from 18.1% to 23.4%. During the first 20 years of that period, extreme poverty followed a constant downward trend; according to the results for the period from 2011 to 2014, however, the indicator rose from 13.3% to 23.4%, equal to an increase of 10.1 points.

At the same time, the gap in general and extreme poverty reported by indigenous and non-indigenous population stood, in 2014, at 26 percentage points, with a similar ratio reported between urban and rural populations. In 2014, the differential in extreme poverty between the inhabitants of urban and rural areas was 24.1%, with general poverty reporting a differential of 34 percentage points.

According to the most recent (2014) edition of the National Survey of Living Conditions (Encovi),¹ the Departments of Alta Verapaz and Sololá reported general poverty rates of above 80%, followed by the Departments of Totonicapán (77.5%), Quiché (74.7%) and Huehuetenango (73.8%). Similarly, those same departments —with the exception of Huehuetenango— also reported levels of extreme poverty in excess of 39%, as did the Department of Chiquimula, with 41.1%.

In terms of territorial income distribution, according to Encovi 2014, the Gini coefficient indicates that the most unequal departments were San Marcos (0.61), Jalapa (0.58), Quetzaltenango (0.58), Jutiapa (0.53) and Chimaltenango, Izabal and Jutiapa (0.51). Since rural and indigenous populations report the highest rates of general and extreme poverty, it can be assumed that those vulnerable groups also suffer greater income inequalities.

Improving income distribution and reducing poverty and extreme poverty requires the implementation of mechanisms to encourage vulnerable populations to embark on business ventures, not only to cover local demand but also, at a later time, to supply national and international demand by capitalizing on their advantages and potential.

Objectives

The main objective of this initiative to create the *Sello Blanco* (“White Seal”) programme: a certification for products that meet certain standards, intended to promote development and strengthen productive undertakings in specific territories, assisting Guatemalan families and communities in rural areas and sustainably raising their incomes and living standards. The initiative is focused on improving well-being, in order to help build a Guatemala with cohesion between its urban and rural areas and with opportunities that exceed current expectations.

The White Seal programme also aims to manage and produce relevant and timely information on variables for entrepreneurship conditions, business ventures and competitiveness in Guatemala, in order to provide a basis for decision-making in line with the national reality. It will be carried out through

¹ See National Institute of Statistics, *República de Guatemala: Encuesta Nacional de Condiciones de Vida 2014, principales resultados*, 2015 [online] <https://www.ine.gob.gt/sistema/uploads/2015/12/11/vjNVdb4IZswOjOZtuivPIcaAXet8LZqZ.pdf>.

strategic alliances with MSMEs and the national entrepreneurial ecosystem at the community level. In this way, the White Seal will become the main channel for communications between producers, sellers and consumers, guaranteeing compliance with certain quality standards and, above all, demonstrating that those products contain the effort and dedication that characterizes Guatemalans to the world.

The following four areas of intervention have been identified for this initiative:

1. Training:
 - Entrepreneurship.
 - Business partnering.
 - Environmental sustainability.
2. Quality standards:
 - Definition of criteria (environmental sustainability, fair treatment, decent work).
 - Drafting of handbooks.
 - Definition of mechanisms for enforcement and verification.
3. Value chains:
 - Identification of small-scale producers and contacts between distributors and buyers.
 - Agreements with small-scale producers, buyers and distributors.
 - Forging a marketing chain.
 - Identification of markets and ensuring preferential treatment and favourable conditions for distribution and marketing.
4. Positioning and communication:
 - Outreach and promotion campaigns in national and international media.
 - Attendance at fairs and national and international marketing venues.

This initiative's will entail the following lines of action:

- Foster capacity-building so that producers and their families and communities can become leading stakeholders in their own development and that of their territories.
- Promote solidarity among people, empowering the organized participation of local populations by providing venues for their voices and participation, particularly among young people and women.
- Citizen participation with gender equity, environmental stewardship and community development.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

The main expected outcome is a reduced income gap, through programmes that promote equality of opportunities and equip the population with capacities and knowledge so they can access improved sources of income and attain higher living standards.

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
		100 new products certified and positioned on distribution and marketing chains.	
		Five distribution and marketing agreements signed.	
		Digital platform functioning with installed capacity at MINECO, MIDES, MINTRAB and other relevant stakeholders.	

Main activities

The White Seal will be obtained through a mixed certification process: in other words, producers and small-scale producers will have to complete both a self-assessment component and an external evaluation. For this purpose, a working team will be set up inside MINECO, in the Vice Ministry for MSMEs. It will define the procedure for establishing the certification agency.

The process for producers will involve three broad stages: preparations, action and conclusion.

- Preparatory stage: The preparatory stage covers the diagnostic assessment and the registration of producers and small-scale producers.
 - Diagnostic: Within the priority departments, communities with vulnerable populations will be identified. Within those communities, priority will be placed on micro- and small-scale producers with potential for growth in the provision of the identified goods and services.
 - Registration: Registration and enrolment information will be given to the producers identified in the selected communities, on an entirely voluntary basis. Presentation of the national ID card will be required for registration. At the same time they register, producers will fill out an initial self-evaluation form explaining how they meet each of the applicable criteria. They will also provide proof of that compliance in the form of references. The Certification Agency's promoters will review whether the compliance forms and references are valid and truthful.
- During this stage, the institutional working team will pursue the following parallel activities:
 - Definition of quality standards: This involves the definition of evaluation criteria, the preparation of certification materials and handbooks for both producers and small-scale producers, and the design of a methodology in accordance with their territory and their importance to enable them to meet the criteria required by the evaluation team. The handbooks will specify the certification procedures and mechanisms and methods for reviewing, challenging or cancelling certifications.
 - Development of the evaluation application: A simple, easy-to-use digital application will be developed to conduct evaluations and keep real-time records of the progress made by producers and small-scale producers. It will be run by the promoters on their cell phones.
 - Definition of training contents: The contents of the training programme will address three broad topics: entrepreneurship, cooperatives and business partnering, and financial education and education for environmental sustainability. This activity also entails the creation of teaching and informational materials with cultural and linguistic relevance. A train-the-trainers process will be carried out with the promoters.
 - Definition of beneficiaries: In keeping with the results of the diagnostic assessment, the eligibility of the identified producers will be assessed using a series of criteria with information from the initial self-assessment form.
 - Establishment of the Certification Agency: A mixed certification agency, with representatives of both the public and private sectors, led by MINECO and MINTRAB, has been proposed. It will be a technical body, and its task will be to assess the producers and small-scale producers applying for certification.
 - Identification of funding sources: Once each product has been certified, financial incentives will be negotiated with the CDP territorial programme, other cooperation agencies and sources of funding, in order to catalyse these value chains, raise the population's living standards and bolster entrepreneurship initiatives.
- Action stage, in which the following activities are planned for producers:
 - Training: In each territory, teams of trained promoters will organize participatory workshops with the producers and small-scale producers identified in the preparatory stage. Efforts will be made to ensure equitable participation between men and women.

- Enforcement of standards: Producers and small-scale producers will apply the standards as instructed during the training. The promoters will monitor the process and report, in real time, on the progress made by their assigned groups of producers and small-scale producers.
- Evaluation and certification: The first round of evaluations and certifications will be conducted at the end of 24 months, using the application developed for the purpose. Each promoter will have an evaluation and certification kit.
- Value chains: Promote, improve and stabilize commercial ties between producers and small-scale producers and purchasing companies, in pursuit of high levels of product flexibility, adaptability and quality. This will be carried out with the technical support of AGEXPORT and CACIF.
- Final stage:
 - National and international positioning and marketing: conduct a market analysis (segment the market, select the target segment); identify the product's most attractive attribute; create and test positioning concepts. Development of a tactical plan to achieve positioning. Design of a plan for evolution towards the target position. Create a position monitoring programme. Analyse the stages for the levels of positioning: positioning in the sector, country positioning (country brand), global positioning (global brand).
 - Sustainability strategy: Analyse the different strategies available for the product, over time, to position itself in consumers' preferences.

Project governance

The establishment of a working team led by the Vice Ministry for MSMEs at the Ministry of Economic Affairs, in coordination with the Ministry of Social Development, has been proposed. In addition, teams of promoters for technical field work will be set up. The recommendation is one team of at least ten members per priority department (60 people in total) to attend to 100 producers in each department. This will be carried out in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food, INGUAT, MINECO, MINTRAB and local governments, in accordance with their knowledge of and skills in the territories identified as priorities.

In addition, a Certification Agency will be created, with mixed membership. It will be tasked with the technical work for adopting certification rules and criteria, and with issuing certifications and revoking them when deemed appropriate.

The following have been proposed to serve as members of this body:

- Chair: Ministry of Economic Affairs (MINECO)
- Co-chair: Ministry of Social Development (MIDES)
- Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINEX)
- Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARN)
- Ministry of Labour (MINTRAB)
- National Institute of Cooperatives (INACOP)
- Guatemalan Exporters' Association (AGEXPORT)
- Coordinating Committee of Agricultural, Commercial, Industrial and Financial Associations (CACIF)
- Guatemalan Tourism Institute (INGUAT)
- Technical Institute for Training and Production (INTECAP)
- Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Office of the President (SEGEPLAN)

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This project ties in with other initiatives in the same area to benefit these segments of the population, such as the implementation of the country brand that identifies Guatemala to the world. In addition, synergy exists with the goals of the CDP territorial programme.

Duration

This project is planned for execution over a period of 48 months (four years) in accordance with the stages identified above:²

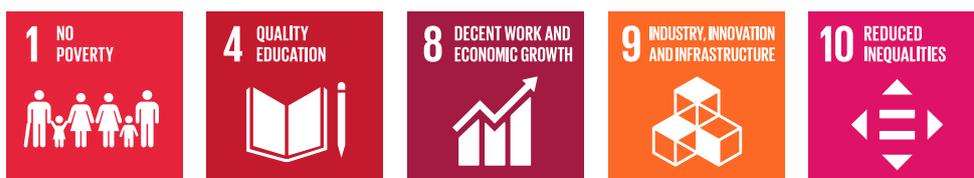
- Preparatory stage, months 0 to 12: Establishing working teams, identifying eligible populations, forging partnerships, defining inputs for the training and quality standards components, promoter training. Fund raising.
- Action stage, months 13 to 36: Carrying out training programmes and pilot experiments for quality standards, extending funding to certified products, forging value chains.
- Result implementation stage, months 37 to 48: Positioning and communications, ensuring sustainability.
- Monitoring and evaluation stage: Beginning follow-up of the proposed indicators, and analysing changes in the living standards of the eligible population and other beneficiaries.

Budget: US\$ 1,586,526

² Subject to the securing of international cooperation funds, to begin in 2020.

Proposal 1.33

Strengthening value chains for upgrading micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, Guatemala



Implementing agencies:

- Core institutions: Ministry of Economic Affairs (MINECO) of Guatemala, Ministry of Development (MIDES), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), General Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Office of the President (SEGEPLAN), local governments, Executive Coordination Secretariat of the Office of the President (SCEP).
- Support institutions: Organization of American States (OAS), Central American Integration System (SICA), Departmental Development Council (CODEDE), civil society, secretariats, Congress of the Republic.

Geographical coverage:

This project's territorial coverage includes 13 of 22 Guatemala's departments and their component municipalities. Those departments are Quetzaltenango, San Marcos, Quiché, Huehuetenango, Alta Verapaz, Jutiapa, Izabal, Chiquimula, Escuintla, Retalhuleu, Baja Verapaz, Petén and Guatemala.

Number of beneficiaries:

The target population is estimated at 11,979,850 people. The direct beneficiaries are the communities located in the borderland areas of the departments in question. Nevertheless, the entire population of the Republic of Guatemala will benefit indirectly.

Guatemala has a population of 17,263,000 (according to figures from the most recent census, conducted in 2018), with a population density of 159 inhabitants per km².¹ Most of the population is located in the mountainous region in the south of the country, and more than 50% of Guatemala's inhabitants live in rural areas. The population comprises segments of Maya-Quiché origin, ladinos (mestizos), European-descended whites, and people of African and Asian descent. The indigenous groups, notably the Quiché and the Kaqchikel, live in the highlands and dedicate themselves to agriculture, handcrafts, textiles, livestock raising and local commerce.

Main topics:

- Promoting micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, strengthening value chains and connectivity.
- Supporting access to digital education, and promoting trade, productive development, innovation and entrepreneurship.

¹ See National Institute of Statistics, "Resultados del Censo 2018", 2019 [online] <https://www.censopoblacion.gt/explorador>.

- Development financing.
- Creation of decent jobs.
- Sustainable small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Implementing irrigation systems, sanitary and phytosanitary oversight.
- Ensuring the social well-being of the population in the target departments.
- Building the capacities and dynamism of the business environment, to boost the territory's economic and social development.
- Incentives for socially responsible microenterprises and small and medium-sized companies that use clean and environmentally friendly production methods.

Context

Guatemala has Central America's largest economy but is among the countries with the most pronounced levels of inequality in Latin America, with high rates of poverty —particularly in rural areas and among indigenous populations— and some of the region's highest infant and maternal mortality rates.

The World Bank's study *Guatemala, Poverty Assessment: Good Performance at Low Levels*² indicates that the country succeeded in reducing poverty from 56% to 51% between 2000 and 2006. Official figures from 2014, however, reveal that poverty later rose to 60%. Of all the people living in poverty in the country, 52% are indigenous.

Bolstering economic growth will lead to reductions in poverty, provided that the country also improves its governance. Although policies in favour of the poor could lead to marginal improvements, accelerated growth will be crucial in attaining medium- and long-term social objectives.

The borders between El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south and south-east Mexico are fragmented and porous, with structural weaknesses and ineffective controls. The human and logistics resources are still inadequate for meeting existing needs. The lack of controls on irregular migration flows, smuggling and the illicit trafficking of migrants affect diplomatic relations between the countries of transit and destination. At the same time, deficiencies in border control and the feeble presence of law enforcement in the border regions enable the proliferation of illegal activities such as illicit migrant trafficking and contraband. This contributes to higher national and regional inequalities in security.

Guatemala's northern border is a strategic area that plays a critical role in migration issues on account of its large floating population. There is a web of border cities in this region (Petén, Huehuetenango, Quiché, San Marcos) that the Government of Guatemala has identified as being of priority importance. It is working to create "Walls of Prosperity" in those departments with the support of an active policy for local economic development, focused on job creation and the development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and small family farms.

Objectives

The main objective of this proposal is to strengthen rural value chains for goods and services in Guatemala, the other Northern Central American countries³ and Mexico, in order to increase added value, strengthen productivity, improve quality standards, achieve better marketing and market access conditions and improve the stakeholders' living and working conditions, all within a framework of climate change mitigation and adaptation.

² World Bank, *Guatemala, Poverty Assessment: Good Performance at Low Levels*, Washington, D.C., 2009.

³ Honduras and El Salvador.

The specific objectives are:

- Design and launch support funds for strengthening value chains, in particular in the areas of technological innovation, partnerships and interconnections, and commercial promotion in rural value chains for goods (raw materials and agro-industrial produce) and services.
- Raise the incomes of micro-, small- and medium-sized producers, particularly in the identified territories, and improve compliance with workplace health and safety standards in Guatemala's value chain and those of other partners, including Honduras, El Salvador and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico.
- Promote entrepreneurship among young people, rural women and indigenous communities and groups to deploy their business potential, build local capacities and create new opportunities for decent employment and income for their families. Strengthen the public and private institutions currently working to promote entrepreneurship and business skills among those social sectors.
- Support access to new markets by micro-, small- and medium-sized Guatemalan producers, and facilitate trade between the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico through the standardization and mutual recognition of sanitary and phytosanitary capacities, requirements and procedures.
- Strengthen interventions in the identified territories, particularly for the provision of drinking water and sanitation, which are necessary resources for improving the population's living standards.
- Provide micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) with technical assistance for building their business capacities, protecting workers' rights, legal, commercial and property rights, their integration into broader value chains and productive systems, the creation of associations and cooperatives, the protection of life and the conservation of the environment.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals:

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goal	Period
Increase, from 14,100 in 2017 to 106,299 in 2024, the number of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, women business owners and artisans with access to credit and business development services.	Number of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, women business owners and artisans with access to credit and business development services. Percentage of total credit extended to micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, as indicated by loan balances.	106,299 micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises benefiting from technical and financial assistance services.	4 years
National Rural Extension System (in the different areas) strengthened and implemented in the identified departments.	National plans for the identified intervention topics designed; for example, the Grand National Agricultural Plan implemented on the ground in the identified departments (MAGA).	National plans fully implemented.	4 years
Design and implement sustainable and environmentally friendly projects to enable the population living in poverty and extreme poverty to become micro-, small- and medium-sized producers with surpluses, and to assist those that already exist in easily marketing their products.	Project portfolio established in the identified departments.	100% of the projects implemented.	4 years
Access to irrigation, permanent sanitary and phytosanitary controls and a broad value chain project to open up new markets for Guatemalan producers.	Irrigation system in the potential areas of the priority departments. System of sanitary and phytosanitary controls in place. Value chain projects in place.	100% of the systems in place. 100% of the productive chain projects in place.	4 years
Improved standards of living for the population in the identified departments.	Design and implementation of a monitoring and evaluation system for the identified territories.	Monitoring and evaluation system fully designed and in place.	

Main activities

- Design and implement programmes to strengthen rural value chains for goods and services in Northern Central America and Mexico, in order to increase added value, strengthen productivity, improve quality standards, achieve better marketing and market access conditions and improve the stakeholders' living and working conditions, all within a framework of climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Design and launch support funds for strengthening value chains, in particular in the areas of technological innovation, partnerships and interconnections, and commercial promotion.
- Design instruments to contribute to the inclusive and sustainable economic development of the Northern Central American countries and southern and south-eastern Mexico by improving the competitiveness of microenterprises and small and medium-sized companies and improving the business climate.
- Design microcredit mechanisms to fund solar energy systems and other productive endeavours that can create energy-related business initiatives, and determination of the proportions of each installation to be funded by the users and by the governments.
- Construct micro-networks for micro- and small-scale renewable energy projects to serve isolated communities, and extend transmission lines and distribution networks to support the sustainable rural electrification programme.
- Design and implement broadband projects and digital inclusion policies in rural and peri-urban areas, including services and digital applications for health and education. Launch an e-commerce development programme for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) using training, research, innovative solutions, cooperation mechanisms, partnerships and digital tools.
- Devise strategies for building the capacities of local actors and constructing flexible mechanisms for territorial governance, so that territory actors can implement and manage development strategies in the territories by creating multilevel and multi-stakeholder networks and agreements. The identified capacities are: (i) to structure pre-investment and investment projects, (ii) to negotiate, manage and interconnect resources from local governments, international cooperation agencies and the private sector, (iii) to efficiently and transparently carry out projects with resources managed within the territories, and (iv) to monitor and evaluate projects. The tools needed include training (on-site and online), internships, exchanges, technical advice and assistance. Those strengthening mechanisms should contain a cross-cutting gender and ethnic perspective and cultural relevance.
- Support local companies and institutions in opening new lines of business, and in expanding and strengthening their current lines of work. Formalize employment contracts between young people and companies, and follow up to assess the level of satisfaction of both parties and the possibility of contract renewal. Offer technical and managerial training and personalized mentoring for business analysis and the creation of a business plan.
- Launch the proposal to improve the appropriate environments for sustainable companies on Guatemala's borders with south and south-east Mexico, El Salvador and Honduras. Design a proposal for training in line with the technical education needs of the workforce currently sought by companies in the borderlands of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Mexico, and with the future (forecast) needs of development hubs in those regions, based on agribusiness, textiles, tourism promotion and trade, and a logistics platform.
- Prepare a technical and operational design for, and launch, a Single Investment Fund, to operate along two complementary lines: (i) the distribution of non-reimbursable funds (grants) for the execution of a wide range of investment projects, assigned in differentiated ways depending on

each local reality, and (ii) the implementation of various forms of extension, specialized advisory services and training, in order to develop effective coordination for the execution of those investments capacity-building).

- Strengthen the institutional flexible funding mechanisms for loans and microcredits (commercial banks, and savings and credit banks and cooperatives) that exist in the region, in order to open and facilitate appropriate access to credit resources for agribusiness, textiles, tourism promotion and trade in family agricultural produce, with particular emphasis on extending a significant portion of those loans and microcredits to rural women.
- Provide national- and local-level technical support to the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Economic Affairs for the design of cross-border working programmes with Mexico for Guatemalan citizens and persons recognized as refugees in Guatemala, including those in situations of particular vulnerability.
- Strengthen the Family Farming Programme to Strengthen the Rural Economy (PAFFEC) in the identified departments to improve the means of subsistence of the receiving communities and strengthen the integration of populations in movement.
- Design and launch a young people's fund for on-site activities. In parallel to online communications, the organization of meetings, local tours and other on-site activities for young people (workshops, seminars, creation of working panels, etc.) will be encouraged, to establish contacts and closer ties among them. Design and launch an investment and productive entrepreneurship component for young people wishing to start their own business ventures. To allocate these non-reimbursable resources (grants), the same parameters as defined for the Single Investment Fund (competitive models and others) will be used. Applications may be filed by individuals or groups.

Project governance

An ad hoc executing unit will be set up for project execution.

Duration:

Estimated duration of four years.

Budget: to be defined

Proposal 1.34

Development of catalysing value chains to create opportunities in territories, Honduras



Implementing agencies:

Secretariat of Economic Development of Honduras.

Geographical coverage:

The programme will focus on the spatial strategy of sustainable territorial economic development, to promote eight development hubs as centres for generating economic spillovers in the different regions of the nation's territory: Copán (Western region, Mesoamerican Reef region), San Pedro Sula (Valle de Sula region), Yoro (Valle de Lean region), Ceiba (Costa Esmeralda and Valle de Aguán region), Choluteca (Gulf of Fonseca region), Tegucigalpa (Centre and Valle de Comayagua region), Juticalpa (Northern and Valles de Olancho region) and Puerto Lempira (region).

Number of beneficiaries:

The project's territories are home to 3.9 million inhabitants; around 115,000 jobs will be created, benefiting the same number of families. Funding will be given to 47 business chains to develop value chains related to the processing of farm-produced raw materials and other competitive non-agricultural sectors, 25 companies providing business development, innovation and support services to strengthen the priority value chains, and 8 logistics centres.

Main topics:

- Value chains
- Creation of decent jobs
- Productive development
- Promotion of innovation
- Poverty reduction
- Increased added value

Context:

The Honduran economy is one of the most dynamic in Latin America and the Caribbean. Between 2010 and 2017, the country's average annual economic growth was 3.7%, similar to the rest of Central America and higher than the rest of Latin America and the Caribbean (2%). Honduras ranks ninth among the

region's 33 countries, by reason of its levels of economic growth over that period.¹ That expansion was primarily driven by investment, exports and consumption, as well as by remittances coming in from abroad. Nevertheless, this economic growth has slowed down and economic activity is still tied to the production of raw materials and manufactured goods with low added value. During 2018, economic growth slowed down to 3.7%, compared to 4.8% the previous year. This reduced dynamism was due to a deceleration in the main productive activities and changes in raw material prices. At the same time, the country still reports a high level of poverty that, in spite of numerous interventions in recent years, it has been unable to reduce. In fact, the poverty rate is higher now than before the 2009 crisis: more than 60% of the population have been living in poverty in recent years, with a greater concentration in rural areas.²

Of the total 2017 population, 6.9 million people were of working age and, of these, 53% were women, primarily from urban areas (55%); the economically active population was equal to 59% of the total (4.09 million people), with men accounting for 61%. Unemployment among Hondurans stood at 273,496, mostly in urban areas (67%). The chief problem was invisible underemployment (44.2%), followed by visible underemployment (11.8 %), which was primarily a rural phenomenon.

Farm sector: The sector is of economic and social importance to the country. Between 2013 and 2018, it generated an average of 12.3% of the gross domestic product and around a third of all jobs. It is also the economic sector with the largest proportions of own-account workers (43%) and of unpaid workers (55%). Its importance is heightened in rural areas, where it employs 75% of the population aged over 15³ and is the main source of income. It is characterized, however, by low productivity, limited investment in public-good services to support productivity and competitiveness and high rates of vulnerability to the effects of climate change.

Objectives

Improve the incomes and standards of living of micro-, small- and medium-sized producers and business owners through the sustainable development of value chains by means of innovation, the creation of profitable businesses and increased added value, using models that encourage inclusion, thus helping to reduce poverty, unemployment and inequality and creating opportunities that bind local inhabitants to their territories.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Forging of horizontal and vertical chains, with the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises.	Number of small and medium-sized enterprises incorporated into value chains.	47	5 years
Economic upgrading of the selected chains.	Increase in the added value of the participating companies. Jobs created. New business undertakings. Companies providing the chains with services.	To be determined by each chain. 115,000 direct jobs. 80 new business undertakings. 25 companies providing services.	5 years

¹ Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), CEPALSTAT.

² National Statistics Institute, Permanent Multipurpose Household Survey (EPHPM).

³ C. Bouroncle and others, "La agricultura de Honduras y el cambio climático: ¿Dónde están las prioridades para la adaptación?", *Resumen de Política*, Copenhagen, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), 2015.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Public and private investments to increase the productive capacity of the horizontal and vertical chains.	Millions of dollars invested.		5 years
Develop the non-financial services market, to promote and facilitate business, innovation and quality and encourage exports, through the strengthening of local support structures and the provision of services.	Number of new service companies connected to value chains.		5 years

Main activities

The value-chain approach is a useful tool for ensuring that the chain's actors and the territory are dealt with systemically, by means of linking producers, suppliers and processors and by interconnecting the different links or stages in the chain. The methodology used to forge both horizontal (between micro-, small and medium-sized producers) and vertical chains (between partnered producers and other links in the chain) will promote projects that help improve the productivity and competitiveness of micro-, small and medium-sized producers in their business relations with other links, emphasizing diversification, added value, and the creation of economies of scale in production, supply of inputs, technology use, research and development.

The chains identified as priorities under this programme meet one or more of the following requirements: (a) potential job creation, (b) export potential, (c) development of capacity for import substitution and the provision of foodstuffs, (d) capacity to generate income to further the territories' inclusive development.

- Component I. Adding value in productive chains to catalyse territories.

This component will generate a portfolio of investment projects for creating new profitable businesses, and financial resources will be made available for pre-investments and joint investments to establish businesses for the processing of raw materials through horizontal and vertical business and productive chains, with the potential for exporting or for ensuring food sufficiency.

Funds from Component I will finance business linkages to develop value chains involving the transformation of agricultural raw materials and other competitive non-agricultural sectors (tourism, forestry, manufacturing, renewable energy, bioenergy and biofuels, logistics services, and collateral or complementary industries) to deliver services to the value chains (such as packaging factories, packaging, metal-mechanical workshops, laboratories and other collateral activities).

This component will also be able to fund the purchase of managerial and financial technical assistance services, business and market intelligence, and the adoption of new technologies and modernization of productive assets.

Component I funds will be placed in a credit enabling fund through the Solidarity Credit programme as a vehicle to secure the intermediation of private commercial banks, which will develop innovative financial products to generate greater inclusion in line with the design of the investment project.

- Component II. Development of the market for non-financial business development services, to bolster added value.

Under Component II, through the development and delivery of non-financial business development services, private companies will be able to present projects that will compete for resources; for this, a non-reimbursable fund will be created, to be disbursed by the Secretariat of Economic Development, and participants must present projects that meet the established requirements.

Through Component II, funding will be provided for fixed assets, working capital, technology purchases, process development, studies and research, business and market intelligence, software development, apps, virtual platforms, distribution channels, attendance at international fairs, technical/market missions, brand development, new product development, training programmes, certification programmes for the delivery of outsourced government services, mandatory and voluntary certifications, and other services necessary for strengthening the priority value chains.

Component II is also expected to develop a business development service ecosystem to facilitate innovation and the development of new products for value chains; to this end, direct incentives will be developed for producers and entrepreneurs, and resources will be provided for the creation of such facilities as innovation centres and quality laboratories. Through this component, resources will be provided to private enterprises by delivering specialized non-financial business development services to priority chains and those related to the linkages forged under Component I in the priority territories.

- Component III. Strengthening the institutional framework for doing business.

Strengthening the role and presence in the territories of the public institutions responsible for procedures and delivery of services to companies; to this end, funding will be given for the creation of logistics centres, where offices will be located to speed up formalities for companies, using communication technologies, alongside private companies providing logistics services. The logistics centres will be installed in eight different territories and they will streamline procedures for doing business (registrations, permits, health and food safety licences, export and import registrations and permits, customs permits). The centres will house a financial centres, cargo and customs agencies, refrigerated parking areas, business centres, hotels, storage areas, packing facilities and a one-stop shop for government formalities.

Generate a certification process for private companies and professionals, to outsource services for animal health control and the safety and traceability of agrifood products, in order to increase the supply of services certified by the competent national authority to operate in the territories.

Project governance

The proposal involves the establishment of a working team, led by the Secretariat of Economic Development —specifically, with the General Directorate of Productive Sectors— in coordination with the Secretariat of Development and Social Inclusion.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

- Initiatives by national institutions that promote the development of the coffee sector in the CDP countries: Salvadoran Coffee Council, National Coffee Association of Guatemala, Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development of Mexico.
- Projects on coffee value chains in Mexico, Colombia, Honduras and other Latin American countries currently under way with ILO support.
- Latin American and Caribbean Coffee Environmental Footprint Network.

Duration

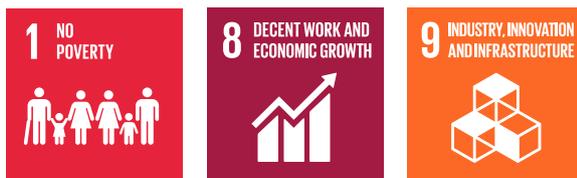
5 years.

Budget: Total: US\$ 80,240,000⁴

⁴ With national counterpart funding of US\$ 27,040,000, leaving a shortfall of US\$ 53,200,000.

Proposal 1.35

Improving logistics performance, competitiveness and regional economic integration, Honduras



Implementing agencies:

Deputy Directorate of Customs Revenue of the Government of Honduras.

Geographical coverage:

Honduras.

Number of beneficiaries:

Population of Honduras (9 million people).

Main topics:

- Logistics sector
- Integration
- Innovation
- Quality system

Context

In recent years, Honduras has made great efforts in pursuit of sectoral reforms in commercial regulation, institutions, planning and facilitation; these will lead to improvements in cargo logistics services, institutional strengthening, planning and the provision of services associated with the logistics sector, together with the modernization and simplification of procedures and technological systems for customs facilitation.

To take advantage of its privileged geographical position, with coasts on the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the country has made significant investments to develop a modern, internationally certified port infrastructure and to improve the logistics of integration between land and sea transport, facilitating the transfer of cargo and passengers.

In that context, the priorities of the Government of Honduras for the development of the logistics sector are structured around a basic functional infrastructure equipped with technology, a robust regulatory framework, a solid institutional structure, strategic planning, quality services and simplified trade processes. Under the Letter of Intent signed by the Government of Honduras and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Government's strategy aims to maintain the revenue mobilization initiatives that have been carried out in recent years. That strategy provides for the promulgation of the decree creating the new customs administration and the appointment of its executive authority, putting an end to the operations of the Presidential Commission for Comprehensive Reform of the Customs System and Trade Operators

(COPRISAO). It also provides for the signing and execution of the information exchange agreement between the Deputy Directorate of Revenue (DARA), the Revenue Administration Service (SAR) and the Secretariat of Finance (SEFIN).

Objectives

Improve the performance of the logistics sector through the development of a robust regulatory framework to assist its development and the facilitation and modernization of customs procedures with the region's countries.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goals	Period
Improve operational efficiency at border crossings.	Transit time for goods at border crossings.		
Innovation and updating of technological systems.			
Increase the capacities of quality system institutions.	Reduce the times and costs of quality certification procedures.		
Develop infrastructure and equip the customs system.	Investments and new equipment for the customs system.		

Main activities

- Component 1: Customs law reform.

Consolidate a regulatory framework for customs logistics incorporating a long-term vision and establishing guidelines for the sector, including intervention strategies and a monitoring system, policy guidelines, key aspects of the cargo logistics sector and institutional competencies:

- Develop and systematize customs regulations, so they incorporate legal and technical innovations.
- Establish the regulatory framework for administrative customs offences, simplifying its enforcement.

- Component 2: Digital development.

Implementation of technological and digital tools such as registration by means of radio frequency identification (RFID) tracing devices and cameras, updating the Central American Invoice and Single Declaration (FYDUCA) in the institutional data warehouse of the tax administration and processes linked to the Central American Strategy for Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness with an Emphasis on Coordinated Border Management to enable compliance with the commitments assumed in the framework of trade facilitation agreements.

- Development of e-commerce: A method of buying and selling goods, products or services using the Internet as a medium; online shopping. Changes in world trade and the rise of the Internet have led to the growing popularity of this form of commerce as Internet users have become more interested in online purchases.
- Electronic signature: The provision, installation and configuration of public key infrastructure (PKI) to implement advanced electronic signature services and to establish the Deputy Directorate of Customs Revenue (DARA) as a certification service provider accredited with the General Directorate of Intellectual Property of Honduras.
- Inter-institutional risk management module: The dynamism and aggressiveness that currently characterizes the global economy demands improvements in the time and costs of foreign trade logistics chains. This objective requires the institutions and agencies involved to redesign, strengthen and integrate their processes, eliminating those activities that add no value to the service and capitalizing on use of information technologies, such as artificial intelligence.

- Reactivation of the Control and Monitoring Centre (CCM): Includes the installation of surveillance cameras to operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for monitoring of customs stations and other customs service facilities across the nation, the interpretation of images from X-ray scanners, and the traceability of haulage by means of electronic tags.
- Technological strengthening of customs at the national level: Provide computer and communications equipment to customs stations across the country to improve efficiency in the service provided to taxpayers.
- Component 3: Investments in infrastructure and equipment for the Automated Customs Revenue System.
 - Non-intrusive inspection: Involves the installation of non-intrusive inspection equipment (X-rays) at the Puerto Cortés customs office.
 - Electrical redundancy at customs stations: Will provide the country's selected customs offices with the electrical equipment and infrastructure needed for continuous operations 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, as recommended by the electrical redundancy study.
 - Palmerola Customs Station: Covers the operations of three areas at the Palmerola Customs Station:
 - Air cargo terminal
 - Land cargo terminal
 - Customs operation area in the guard station.

Project governance

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Private projects under way.

- Customs infrastructure
 - Design, development, financing and operation of a specialized liquids terminal at Puerto Cortés (information pending).
 - Modernization and development of the Port San Lorenzo Terminal (proposed private initiative project).
 - Design, financing, construction, operation, maintenance and transfer of the Integrated Non-Invasive Customs Inspection System.
 - Reactivation, modernization and development of the port terminal at Puerto Castilla–Trujillo–Colón (proposed private initiative project).
 - Maritime tug services at Honduran ports.
- Airport infrastructure.
 - 1. International airport concessions in San Pedro Sula, Roatán and La Ceiba (information pending).

The project is at the tendering stage, given that the current airport concession with the company InterAirports expires in October 2020.

Duration:

5 years.

Budget: Total: US\$ 1.331 billion

Financing secured: US\$ 677.20 million

Funding shortfall: US\$ 653.30 million

Annex:

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion:

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Development of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec: multimodal interoceanic corridor. Industrial and logistics infrastructure for trade with Central America, in the State of Tabasco. Facilitating trade between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America. Harmonizing standards and reducing technical barriers to trade: equalising capacities among the countries. Free zone and logistics platform. Territorial Development Programme. Trade promotion and regional integration programme. Strengthening rural value chains in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. Support funds: to promote trade, technological innovation and the consolidation and integration of business clusters. Strengthening the coffee chain and the production systems of small coffee producers in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico.	Semi-processed shrimp packaging project. Frozen and semi-processed seafood company. Cocoa paste and block factory. Cargo consolidation logistics centre. Business centre to facilitate customs formalities.	Regional Cooperative Programme for the Technological Development and Modernization of Coffee Production (PROMECAFE), which is a research and cooperation network, originally formed by the coffee institutions of Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica, in addition to the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE). PROCAGICA: Central American Programme for Integrated Coffee Rust Management, which the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) is currently undertaking, in collaboration with a number of public and private actors in the region.	Projects on coffee value chains in Mexico and Honduras currently under way with ILO support; the first emphasizing workplace health and safety, and the second on child labour but also with a health and safety component. 100 Territories (FAO).			(See previous section on possible synergies with other initiatives.)

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.36

Maya Ka'an: community development for tourism and the conservation of natural, historical and cultural resources, State of Quintana Roo



Implementing agencies:

Secretariat of Social Development of the State of Quintana Roo, Mexico.

Geographical coverage:

Maya Ka'an: municipalities of José María Morelos, Felipe Carrillo Puerto and Tulum, in Quintana Roo, Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

151,000 inhabitants of the municipalities of Felipe Carrillo Puerto, José María Morelos and Tulum, State of Quintana Roo, Mexico (75,000 women and 76,000 men). In Felipe Carrillo Puerto 91.6% of the population self-identify as indigenous, together with 90.6% in José María Morelos and 66% in Tulum.

Main topics:

- Regional economic development
- Indigenous communities
- Decent, sustainable housing
- Fighting poverty
- Preservation of natural resources
- Rescuing culture and history
- Sustainable tourism
- Sustainable infrastructure

Context

Maya Ka'an is home to about 151,000 people, in the municipalities of Felipe Carrillo Puerto, José María Morelos and part of Tulum, in the centre of the State of Quintana Roo. This population has not benefited much from the tourist activity in the north and south of the State; and the State's largest Mayan population lives in this region, preserving its cultural and historical richness.

Maya Ka'an consists of more than 521 communities, which have scant urban planning and infrastructure. The soil is predominantly permeable limestone, which allows rainwater to filter into the inner layers of the underground aquifer systems and create underground deposits and streams, from which the communities supply themselves with water. Local inhabitants continue to use unhealthy sanitary techniques such as latrines or open defecation, as a result of which faecal coliforms contaminate the bodies of water adjacent to their settlements and damage is inflicted on the underground water table. Dwellings outside the municipal seats are characterized by straw or sheet-metal roofs, walls of wooden slats, occasionally covered with mud, and dirt floors, with no drinking water or sanitation services and, in some communities, without electricity.

Women in the region primarily engage in family farming and family care, and they continue to cook on open stoves, with all the risks that entails. However, they are interested in participating more actively and in an organized way in family economies through the production and marketing of textiles, preparation of traditional foodstuffs, vegetable cultivation and ecotourism activities. Migration is a significant phenomenon, particularly among young people, who head to the northern part of the State (Cancún and the Riviera Maya) due to the lack of work opportunities in the State's central communities.

There has also been a significant deterioration of the communities and historical monuments that witnessed the Caste War. This proposal offers an opportunity to develop inclusive tools for urban and territorial planning and the rescue of historical monuments, through rational and balanced land use. It also seeks the development of the surrounding ecosystems, to diversify the economy and catalyse local productive and ecotourism activities. This strategy will help minimize differences between regions and create sustainable rural communities with a higher quality of life.

To address this context and these problems, the Maya Ka'an programme has already mobilized national and international resources through different private and community environmental and tourism projects. To ensure the region's sustainable development and to overcome its social and economic lags, however, comprehensive strategic models are required, with a medium- and long-term vision and with ex-post evaluations of the projects already carried out, investment planning and a funding strategy. A participatory model is required, using a three-pronged sustainable community development scheme: economic development, cultural and historical rescue, and sustainable communities.

Although there is a strategic vision for development and sustainability behind these actions, a strategic plan for implementing participatory development models must be documented and agreed on in order to promote institutional coordination in the implementation of the planned actions and complement them with proposals from other actors, increase efficiency in the implementation of investments already committed, facilitate the creation of future investments and generate a common framework for evaluation and monitoring.

This proposal is part of the efforts to strengthen value chains focused on rural tourism and complementary productive activities.

Objective

Establish integral community development models built around tourism and the conservation of natural, historical and cultural resources, in accordance with criteria of sustainability, in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo. In addition, implement participatory development projects as a policy for community strengthening, focused on three objectives: economic development, rescuing culture and history, and sustainable communities.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Maya Ka'an. Integral Model of Community Development with Tourism and Conservation of Natural, Historical and Cultural Resources, in accordance with sustainability criteria. Quintana Roo, Mexico.	Strategic plan, models, implementation of models and rehabilitation.	Plan: Actions to improve the sustainable strategic management tools of a territory that has been declared a sustainable tourism destination.	Medium term
1. Design and prepare the Strategic Plan for the Integral Model of Community Development with Tourism and Conservation of Natural, Historical and Cultural Resources, in accordance with sustainability criteria, for Maya Ka'an.	Strategic plan.	Recommendations and methodologies for the development of: 1.1. System of indicators in a comprehensive programme. 1.2. Strategic plan with an integral, sustainable and inclusive approach. 1.3. Investment strategy and planning. 1.4. Case study of indigenous community development, and systematization of experience.	Short term
2. Design and implementation of a participatory model for social production of housing in Maya Ka'an, allowing for the improvement of housing conditions in the region, with local materials, direct community participation and according to the region's customs and culture.	Participatory housing development model. Construction or remodelling of houses according to the model.	2.1. Design 2.1.1. Assessments of participatory feasibility. 2.1.2. Organizational development workshops for social housing production. 2.1.3. Design of a participatory housing development model, to be replicated throughout the region. 2.2. Implementation 2.2.1. Construction of three pilot dwellings. 2.2.2. Construction of model dwellings in the communities of Maya Ka'an.	Short term
3. A model for participatory urban planning and development in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo, that allows for the growth of local human settlements through the rational and balanced use of land and the surrounding ecosystems and that is attractive for diversifying the economy and catalysing local productive activities.	Model for participatory urban planning and development in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo.	Establishment of methodologies for the development of: 3.1. Simplified urban development planning scheme. 3.2. Urban image programme. 3.3. Public spaces programme.	Short term
4. Implement a model for correct water management in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo, that allows for adequate disposal of wastewater to reduce subsoil contamination and avoid local outbreaks of disease.	Number of integral sanitation systems built in the towns of Maya Ka'an. Number of localities in Maya Ka'an trained in environmental awareness and techniques.	4.1. Construction of 2,077 integral sanitation systems (ecological toilets with septic tanks). 4.2. Adoption of new techniques, knowledge and know-how for environmental stewardship in 33 localities of Maya Ka'an.	Medium term

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
5. Implementation of the <i>Impulso Maya</i> social economy model in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo, to improve the quality of life of the indigenous people by optimizing families' income levels and promoting productive activities.	Number of supports for the indigenous population's productive projects.	5.1. Support for 50 viable, profitable and sustainable productive projects of the indigenous population, providing them with training and what they need to pursue productive activities and self-employment in order to avoid migration to other states or other parts of the State of Quintana Roo.	Short term
6. Implementation of the <i>Mujeres Mayas Trabajando</i> ("Mayan Women Working") social economy model in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo, allowing them to improve their standard of living through stable incomes and constant accompaniment of their projects, with a financial vision of economic, natural and human resource management and thereby consolidating family well-being.	Number of supports for indigenous women's productive projects.	6.1. Support for 50 viable, profitable, sustainable and sustainable productive projects of indigenous women, providing them with training and what they need to pursue productive activities and self-employment.	Short term
7. Implementation of the Permaculture Provider development model in Maya Ka'an, which allows the construction of a social fabric and promotes the care of nature and the wellbeing of people, through the participation of women, their families and the community.	Number of sustainable production units delivered. Number of training and accompaniment exercises. Number of Slow Food certifications for products.	7.1. Support for 1,133 permaculture projects, including production units, technical accompaniment and training. 7.2. Support for the creation of cooperatives to gather and market their products. 7.3. Promotion of and support for Slow Food certification of products.	Medium term
8. Implementation of a plan to replace stoves with ecological wood-saving equipment adapted to the uses and customs of Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo, to improve living standards and mitigate the risk of respiratory diseases.	Number of units delivered to families in the region.	8.1. Delivery of 2,775 firewood-saving ecological stoves, adapted to the uses and customs of the region, for the benefit of 9,713 inhabitants.	Short term
9. Renovation of the Caste War Museum and Tihosuco Library, declared a Historical Monument Zone by the current federal government.	Renovation of the Caste War Museum and Tihosuco Library, Municipality of Felipe Carrillo Puerto.	Restore and preserve the Caste War Museum and Tihosuco Library so that both locals and visitors can enjoy a decent and safe place as part of their cultural heritage.	Short term

Main activities

1. Strategic Plan for the Integral Model of Community Development with Tourism and Conservation of Natural, Historical and Cultural Resources, in accordance with sustainability criteria, in Maya Ka'an.
 - 1.1 Management indicator system.
 - 1.1.1 Collection and validation of information on diagnostic assessments, strategies, programmes and projects in Maya Ka'an.
 - 1.1.2 Information exchange, and consultation and recommendation process.
 - 1.1.3 Exchange of experiences and methodologies on management, monitoring and results indicators for programmes and projects.
 - 1.1.4 Preparation of a draft model for the system of indicators, and feedback and recommendations.
 - 1.2 Comprehensive strategic plan.
 - 1.2.1 Exchange of experiences and methodologies on community strategic plans and programmes with approaches based on sustainability, gender and ethnic awareness, etc.

- 1.2.2 Preparation of draft model of strategic operational plan, feedback and recommendations.
- 1.2.3 Drafting of strategic document for the comprehensive development of Maya Ka'an.
- 1.3 Components and basis for a project financing strategy.
 - 1.3.1 Analysis of current project portfolio, identification of needs and priorities.
 - 1.3.2 Exchange of information, experiences and methodologies on investment planning, and Maya Ka'an project portfolio.
 - 1.3.3 Organization of a workshop for experts and stakeholders, on the analysis and planning of project portfolios.
 - 1.3.4 Preparation of a draft model for investment planning and financing strategy for Maya Ka'an.
 - 1.3.5 Preparation of a financing strategy and investment planning document for Maya Ka'an.
- 1.4 Systematization of the experience.
 - 1.4.1 Exchange of experiences and methodologies on the systematization of case studies involving development in indigenous communities or multicultural settings.
 - 1.4.2 Preparation of a draft model case report, and systematization of the experience in Maya Ka'an.
 - 1.4.3 Preparation of the Maya Ka'an report and strategy document.
- 2. Design and implementation of a participatory model for social housing production in Maya Ka'an.
 - 2.1 Design.
 - 2.1.1 Assessments of participatory feasibility.
 - 2.1.2 Organizational development workshops for social housing production.
 - 2.1.3 Design of a participatory housing development model, to be replicated throughout the region.
 - 2.2 Implementation.
 - 2.2.1 Construction of three pilot dwellings.
 - 2.2.2 Construction of model dwellings in the communities of Maya Ka'an.
- 3. Participatory urban planning and development model in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo.
 - 3.1. Simplified urban development planning scheme.
 - 3.1.1 Planning and coordination.
 - 3.1.2 Management.
 - 3.1.3 Implementation.
 - 3.2. Urban image programme.
 - 3.2.1 Planning and coordination.
 - 3.2.2 Management.
 - 3.2.3 Implementation.
 - 3.3 Public spaces programme.
 - 3.3.1 Planning and coordination.
 - 3.3.2 Management.
 - 3.3.3 Implementation.
- 4. Implementation of the correct water management model in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo.
 - 4.1 Construction of integral sanitation systems (ecological toilets with septic tanks).
 - 4.1.1 Community assessments for the selection of communities.
 - 4.1.2 Preparation of comprehensive project.
 - 4.1.3 Work execution.

- 4.2 Adoption of new techniques, knowledge and know-how for environmental stewardship.
 - 4.2.1 Organization of community participation workshops and training courses for the stewardship of water resources.
5. Implementation of the *Impulso Maya* social economy model in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo.
 - 5.1 Support for viable, profitable, sustainable productive projects of the indigenous population, providing them with training and what they need to pursue productive activities and self-employment in order to avoid migration to other states or other parts of the State of Quintana Roo.
 - 5.1.1 Project evaluation.
 - 5.1.2 Training.
 - 5.1.3 Project implementation.
6. Implementation of the *Mujeres Mayas Trabajando* model for social economy in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo.
 - 6.1 Support for viable, profitable and sustainable productive projects of indigenous women, providing them with training and what they need to pursue their productive activities and self-employment.
 - 6.1.1 Project evaluation.
 - 6.1.2 Training.
 - 6.1.3 Project implementation.
7. Implementation of the Permaculture Provider development model in Maya Ka'an.
 - 7.1 Support for permaculture projects, including production units, technical accompaniment and training.
 - 7.1.1 Project evaluation.
 - 7.1.2 Training.
 - 7.1.3 Project implementation and technical support.
 - 7.2 Support for the creation of cooperatives to gather and market their products.
 - 7.3 Promotion of and support for Slow Food certification of products.
8. Implementation of the plan to replace stoves with ecological wood-saving equipment adapted to the uses and customs of Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo.
 - 8.1 Delivery of ecological wood-saving stoves, adapted to the uses and customs of the region.
 - 8.1.1 Identification of priority attention areas.
 - 8.1.2 Planning of procurement and distribution.
 - 8.1.3 Establishment of social committees to assist in following up on stove distribution.
 - 8.1.4 Delivery and installation of stoves.
9. Renovation project for the Caste War Museum and Tihosuco Library, Municipality of Felipe Carrillo Puerto, a community declared a Historical Monuments Zone.
 - 9.1 Renovation projects.
 - 9.1.1 Planning of the tendering process.
 - 9.1.2 Awarding of the renovation project.
 - 9.2 Renovation works.
 - 9.1.2 Planning of the tendering process.
 - 9.2.2 Awarding of the works project.

Project governance

The project is the responsibility of the Secretariat of Social Development of the Quintana Roo State Government, which will coordinate and supervise the activities carried out. That Secretariat, together with civil society organizations and community committees, will be responsible for overseeing the resources used for the project's components, as well as for ensuring coordinated efforts for the supervision of the works and the participatory monitoring of their quality.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Key partners for these projects will include the Great Maya Council, the organizations *Amigos de Sian Ka'an, AC*, and *Habitat Comunal y Vivienda, AC*, together with the municipal governments of Felipe Carrillo Puerto, José María Morelos and Tulum; the federal government's Secretariat of Tourism and Secretariat of Welfare, the National Indigenous Peoples Institute (INPI) and the National Institute of Anthropology and History, and the Secretariat of Ecology and the Environment, Secretariat of Tourism and Institute of Culture and Arts of the State of Quintana Roo.

Duration

Activity	Duration
1. Strategic Plan for the Integral Model of Community Development with Tourism and Conservation of Natural, Historical and Cultural Resources, in accordance with sustainability criteria, in Maya Ka'an.	6 months
1.1 Management indicator system.	1.5 months
1.1.1 Collection and validation of information on diagnostic assessments, strategies, programmes and projects in Maya Ka'an.	
1.1.2 Information exchange, and consultation and recommendation process.	
1.1.3 Exchange of experiences and methodologies on management, monitoring and results indicators for programmes and projects.	
1.1.4 Preparation of a draft model for the system of indicators, and feedback and recommendations.	
1.2 Comprehensive strategic plan.	2.5 months
1.2.1 Exchange of experiences and methodologies on community strategic plans and programmes with approaches based on sustainability, gender and ethnic awareness, etc.	
1.2.2 Preparation of draft model of strategic operational plan, feedback and recommendations.	
1.2.3 Drafting of strategic document for the comprehensive development of Maya Ka'an.	
1.3 Components and basis for a project financing strategy.	2 months
1.3.1 Analysis of current project portfolio, identification of needs and priorities.	
1.3.2 Exchange of information, experiences and methodologies on investment planning, and Maya Ka'an project portfolio.	
1.3.3 Organization of a workshop for experts and stakeholders, on the analysis and planning of project portfolios.	
1.3.4 Preparation of a draft model for investment planning and financing strategy for Maya Ka'an.	
1.3.5 Preparation of a financing strategy and investment planning document for Maya Ka'an.	
1.4 Systematization of the experience.	2 months
1.4.1 Exchange of experiences and methodologies on the systematization of case studies involving development in indigenous communities or multicultural settings.	
1.4.2 Preparation of a draft model case report, and systematization of the experience in Maya Ka'an.	
1.4.3 Preparation of the Maya Ka'an report and strategy document.	

Duration (ontinued)

Activity	Duration
2. Design and implementation of a participatory model for social housing production in Maya Ka'an.	1 year
2.1 Design	6 months
2.1.1 Assessments of participatory feasibility.	
2.1.2 Organizational development workshops for social housing production.	
2.1.3 Design of a participatory housing development model, to be replicated throughout the region.	
2.2 Implementation.	
2.2.1 Construction of three pilot dwellings.	
2.2.2 Construction of model dwellings in the communities of Maya Ka'an.	
3. Participatory urban planning and development model in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo.	1 year
3.1. Simplified urban development planning scheme.	3 months
3.1.1 Planning and coordination.	
3.1.2 Management.	
3.1.3 Implementation.	6 months
3.2. Urban image programme.	3 months
3.2.1 Planning and coordination.	
3.2.2 Management.	
3.2.3 Implementation.	6 months
3.3 Public spaces programme.	3 months
3.3.1 Planning and coordination.	
3.3.2 Management.	
3.3.3 Implementation.	6 months
4. Implementation of the correct water management model in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo.	3 years
4.1 Construction of integral sanitation systems (ecological toilets with septic tanks).	
4.1.1 Community assessments for the selection of communities.	
4.1.2 Preparation of comprehensive project.	
4.1.3 Work execution.	
4.2 Adoption of new techniques, knowledge and know-how for environmental stewardship.	
4.2.1 Organization of community participation workshops and training courses for the stewardship of water resources.	
5. Implementation of the <i>Impulso Maya</i> social economy model in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo.	1 year
5.1 Support for viable, profitable, sustainable productive projects of the indigenous population, providing them with training and what they need to pursue productive activities and self-employment in order to avoid migration to other states or other parts of the State of Quintana Roo.	
5.1.1 Project evaluation.	2 months
5.1.2 Training.	10 months
5.1.3 Project implementation.	
6. Implementation of the <i>Mujeres Mayas Trabajando</i> model for social economy in Maya Ka'an, Quintana Roo.	1 year
6.1 Support for viable, profitable and sustainable productive projects of indigenous women, providing them with training and what they need to pursue their productive activities and self-employment.	
6.1.1 Project evaluation.	2 months
6.1.2 Training.	10 months
6.1.3 Project implementation.	

Duration (concluded)

Activity	Duration
7. Implementation of the Permaculture Provider development model in Maya Ka'an.	4 years
7.1 Support for permaculture projects, including production units, technical accompaniment and training.	4 years
7.1.1 Project evaluation.	
7.1.2 Training.	
7.1.3 Project implementation and technical support.	
7.2 Support for the creation of cooperatives to gather and market their products.	1 year
7.3 Promotion of and support for Slow Food certification of products.	
8. Implementation of the plan to replace stoves with ecological wood-saving equipment adapted to the uses and customs of Maya Ka'an.	1 year
8.1 Delivery of ecological wood-saving stoves, adapted to the uses and customs of the region.	
8.1.1 Identification of priority attention areas.	2 months
8.1.2 Planning of procurement and distribution.	
8.1.3 Establishment of social committees to assist in following up on stove distribution.	8 months
8.1.4 Delivery and installation of stoves.	
9. Renovation project for the Caste War Museum and Tihosuco Library, Municipality of Felipe Carrillo Puerto, a community declared a Historical Monuments Zone.	6 months
9.1 Renovation projects.	2 months
9.1.1 Planning of the tendering process.	
9.1.2 Awarding of the renovation project.	
9.2 Renovation works.	6 months
9.2.1 Planning of the tendering process.	
9.2.2 Awarding of the works project.	

Budget: US\$ 16,524,355

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Intervention strategy of the institutions.	2019–2024 National Development Plan. Rural Housing Programme. Historical Monuments Programme.	2016–2022 State Development Plan.	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).	Global Environment Facility (GEF) funds. Chile-Mexico Joint Cooperation Fund. United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC).	Fund for Energy Transition and Sustainable Use of Energy (FOTEASE). Inter-American Development Bank.	Amigos de Sian Ka'an, AC. Habitat Comunal y Vivienda. AC. Gonzalo Río Arronte Foundation. Calizas Industriales del Carmen (CALICA). Integrated Transboundary Ridges-to-Reef Management of the Mesoamerican Reef (Mar2R).

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.37

Installation of a small-scale juice processing plant in the northern region of the State of Veracruz



Implementing agencies:

Secretary of Economic and Port Development of the State of Veracruz.

Geographical coverage:

Northern region of the State of Veracruz.

Number of beneficiaries:

Citrus-fruit growers in the State of Veracruz and neighbouring states.

In the first phase, the focus will be on producers in the citrus zone around Álamo.

Main topics:

- Industrialization of primary products
- Higher added value of primary products
- Improving producers' income levels
- Job creation
- Improving social well-being in the region
- Development of the domestic market
- Sustainable development

Context

The State of Veracruz is currently facing serious problems in the management of its citrus crops, including an absence of technical assistance. Excess supply means there is no certain market for its products, which leads to unemployment and low growth in the region, and which in turn encourages migration in search of a better quality of life, as a result of which farm work is abandoned.

The establishment of a plant to industrialize citrus fruits will help ensure producers a market and invest their output with more added value.

This would also improve the well-being and standards of living of the region's inhabitants, with a consequent increase in the attachment of workers to their communities of origin.

This proposal is part of the efforts to strengthen rural value chains, through transformation and the inclusion of greater added value.

Objective

Increase the added value of citrus and other fruit crops, and thereby raise producers' incomes, create new jobs and ensure the comprehensive exploitation of those resources to produce a high-quality packaged product. This will lead to greater profitability and competitiveness for the region's growers and provide them with an alternative market for selling their products.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Goal 1: Promote the industrialization of citrus fruits to bolster sales.

Goal 2: Diversify the marketing of citrus products.

Goal 3: Improve living standards, by creating direct and indirect decent jobs.

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goals	Period
Improved living standards of the region's producers.	Creation of direct decent jobs.	40 new direct jobs.	2 years
Improved living standards.	Creation of indirect decent jobs.	2,500 new indirect jobs.	1 year
Value added to citrus production.	Monthly juice production volume. Increased incomes for growers.	To be determined.	2 years

Main activities

- Build a plant to process citrus fruits.
- Facilitate access to finance.
- Provide producers with financial and technical advice and training.
- Promote partnerships and interconnections to develop the productive chain.

Project governance

- The Veracruz State Government, through its different agencies, will be responsible for creating the public policies to ensure supplies from the region, for providing technical, administrative, fiscal and commercial advice and for promoting partnerships among producers.
- Economic partnerships among growers will be encouraged, to ensure quality, safety and efficiency in production.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This proposal is related to the federal productive support components of the National Development Plan for the creation of infrastructure and the equipping and renovation of productive units, complemented at the state level.

Duration

- A duration of two years is estimated, with the following activities taking place in parallel:
 - Plant construction: 1.5 years
 - Creation of regional brand: 1.5 years
 - Consumer campaign and website construction: 1 year

Budget: US\$ 2,743,000

D. Territorial development programme

No.	Name of proposal
1.38	Strengthening institutional frameworks and territorial participation
1.39	Local markets and public food procurement
1.40	Basic investment for productive development, innovation and entrepreneurship: single investment fund
1.41	Entrepreneurship: youth, women and indigenous peoples
1.42	Basic services for households and rural territories
1.43	Development of intermediate cities: Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Tapachula and the northern border of Guatemala
1.44	Territorial development of the Trifinio, El Salvador (*)
1.45	Surf City El Salvador: integral tourism development programme on the marine coastal strip, El Salvador (*)
1.46	Economic territorial development in Guatemala, Guatemala (*)
1.47	Strengthening the tourism sector in Guatemala, Guatemala (*)
1.48	Comprehensive territorial development in the Dry Corridor of Honduras, Honduras (*)

(*) Projects prioritized by the Governments of the Northern Central American countries, the Government of Mexico, or the states of South-Southeast Mexico.



Proposal 1.38

Strengthening institutional frameworks and territorial participation



Implementing agencies (tentative)

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG) of El Salvador, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA) of Guatemala; Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG) of Honduras, Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER) of Mexico.

Other ministries involved with territories and social participation. Municipalities, local governments, civil associations, territorial stakeholders.

At the national level: ministries or secretariats of planning and/or intersectoral coordination within the office of the President, or their equivalents in each country, and ministries or secretariats of agriculture, social development, economic affairs, the environment, education and public works.

At the subnational level: state or departmental governments, municipal governments, associations of municipalities and communities.

Geographical coverage

Selected territories in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries¹

- 40 territories
- 200 cooperatives and other organizations conducting business (4,000 producers)
- 1,200 local associations (36,000 inhabitants of rural areas)
- 1,200 communities

Main topics

- Design of territorial strategies
- Strengthening economic and representation organizations
- Expanding the resilience capacity of local organizations and communities

¹ The beneficiary numbers given in the text are for reference purposes; they will be finalized in collaboration with each of the countries involved.

Context

In the most underprivileged areas, greater investment in social and productive inclusion is necessary for effective territorial development, but alone it is not enough. The evidence increasingly points to the need to bind those investments with the stepped-up development of institutional frameworks, governance and the participation of local stakeholders, in order to ensure the legitimacy and ownership of both the policies and strategies put into place and of the investments made in those territories.

Furthermore, another part of this challenge is to increase the interconnectedness and complementarity of the investments, which entails designing and implementing innovative, flexible and differentiated models for collaborative, multi-stakeholder and multilevel work, in order to progress from fragmented —and, accordingly, less effective— actions towards another model in which synergies and complementarity can be generated to address the different dimensions of development while, at the same time, taking account of relations between urban and rural areas.

Finally, improvements in participation, governance, and teamwork require addressing issues related to the weakening and fragmentation of the local communities' social fabric, which is the result of numerous traumatic experiences they have experienced, in both the past and the present, and which combine with poverty and a lack of opportunities (armed conflict, organized crime and illicit activities). In addition, each territory has an organizational structure, in which the leaders (inhabitants of rural areas, producers, indigenous communities and others) play a critical role in the search for the common good, working often on an unpaid basis, with their own resources, and facing enormous difficulties. Those associations need to contract services, organize meetings, travel and hold seminars and other kinds of events to create and undertake effective professional work on behalf of their members.

In that context, the central purpose of this proposal is to strengthen and/or rebuild the social capital of communities and territories, in order to grow the capacity for interconnections and teamwork among stakeholders so that they can jointly agree on and manage initiatives and investments to catalyse development processes in their territories.

Objectives

- Strengthen the capacities of local institutions and stakeholders for defining territorial development strategies and, in accordance with that, interconnect public and private actors and civil society, at both the national and territorial levels, to pursue investments that can support the implementation of the strategies and make them viable.
- Support and monitor the definition of territorial strategies for comprehensive rural development in 40 underdeveloped territories of Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and southern Mexico, in accordance with their socioeconomic, environmental and cultural characteristics. Those strategies will provide a framework for implementing an effective, efficient and transparent investment process, with close coordination between local actors and national governments, civil society associations, the private sector and international cooperation agencies.
- Provide financial backing to: (i) support the functioning and operation of local economic organizations that are implementing business plans (cooperatives, indigenous communities and other kinds of small and medium-sized enterprises), (ii) support the functioning and operation of chambers, local associations and other civil society organizations carrying out social representation activities, and (iii) support conflict resolution and cohesion in rural communities that have undergone traumatic experiences (violence, conflicts over resource usage and access, and so on), in order to create enabling conditions that facilitate participation and allow the pursuit of partnership projects.

Support will be given to both formal organizations and de facto organizations that are undergoing formalization, using flexible and non-bureaucratic operation models (funding for a broad range of needs, transparency, accountability, and other issues).

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goals	Period (years)
Territorial strategies, drawn up on a participatory basis, in the priority territories.	Number of territorial strategies, drawn up on a participatory basis, in the priority territories.	40	2
Economic and social representation organizations in the priority territories supported and strengthened.	Number of economic and representation social organizations in the priority territories that have been supported and strengthened.	1 600	5
Local communities affected by social disintegration phenomena arising from conflicts, violence and exclusion in the priority territories supported and strengthened in their internal relations and social cohesion.	Number of local communities affected by social disintegration phenomena arising from conflicts, violence and exclusion in the priority territories that have been supported and strengthened in their internal relations and social cohesion.	1 200	5

Main activities

- Review, adjust and/or define the priority territorial units, which are to comprise groups of municipalities that meet two conditions: (i) underdevelopment and lack of economic opportunities, and (ii) sharing economic, social and cultural dynamics that afford them a certain identity and commonality of interests.²
- Design of the technical criteria and operational mechanisms for the delivery and management of the resources for organizational and community support, with particular emphasis on supporting collective initiatives in pursuit of the common good that are not implemented by interest groups. Emphasis will also be placed on the transparent use of resources, and on operational flexibility and accountability.
- Capacity-building for local stakeholders and construction of flexible mechanisms for territorial governance: the aim of this is for territorial actors to be able to design and manage development strategies by forging multilevel and multi-stakeholder networks and agreements. The identified capacities are: (i) capacity to structure investment projects, (ii) capacity to negotiate, manage and interconnect resources from national governments, international cooperation agencies and the private sector, (iii) capacity to efficiently and transparently carry out projects with territorially managed resources, and (iv) capacity to monitor and assess projects. Required tools: training (on-site and online), internships, exchanges, technical advice, monitoring, others.
- Participatory and collective construction —with the inclusion of women and other excluded groups— of development and intervention strategies by territorial stakeholders, which will require identifying venues for political, social and technical dialogue between levels (national, territorial) and between actors (public, private, social, international) to discuss and agree on territorial demands and offerings from the countries and other actors, with the inclusion of women and other excluded groups. Tools: meetings, workshops, bilateral discussions, information processing, technical advisory services, others.

² The programme has defined, on a preliminary basis, a group of 40 territories. This activity is intended to conduct a review and possible adjustment of the territorial units that have already been identified, in accordance with the available information and each country's priorities, and in line with the defined criteria.

- Identification of projects for the implementation of territorial strategies: once the strategies have been designed and validated, specific projects or programmes will be prepared or assembled for each territory, in accordance with the strategy's launch requirements. A significant portion of the funding resources for these projects will come from the single investment fund (see below).

Governance

This proposal must be in line with the national strategies and programmes of the Northern Central American countries and Mexico. For that reason, it must be adjusted and validated with active government participation.

This proposal's implementation requires the establishment, in each country, of a technical unit³ tasked with reviewing and/or adjusting the priority territories; monitoring and facilitating the design of territorial strategies through a participatory approach; supporting the strengthening of local institutions to involve stakeholders and to negotiate and reach agreements with them, and to interconnect and formulate programmes and projects; identifying and ordering by priority the organizations and associations that are to receive support; providing technical assistance to the coordination agencies to be set up in each territory; overseeing the correct functioning of the support instruments and systematizing the lessons learned; and adjusting the operating rules and disseminating the good practices.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The region has extensive experience —both past and present— with civil associations and community organizations that, with different levels of cohesion, catalyse social life. There are also many cooperatives and other kinds of business ventures, both emerging and already consolidated, that play a critical role in local economies. In most cases their leaders work without pay, making great efforts without the support of budgets for travel, hiring professionals, organizing meetings and seminars, and other expenses. Support programs also exist, such as those of the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), which support cooperative organizations (and other similar bodies) with business plans for improving their access to formal markets. Finally, there is a significant number of municipality associations (local governments) that could get involved in the territorial strengthening strategy.

Duration

Execution: 5 years

Budget: US\$ 82,000,000

³ The plan is to have small technical units for country coordination, with the support of territorial facilitators, the main function of which will be to assist local institutions in building multilevel and multi-stakeholder bridges and networks in strict accordance with the investments required to support the territorial strategies.

Proposal 1.39

Local markets and public food procurement



Implementing agencies (tentative)

At the national level: ministries or secretariats of planning and/or intersectoral coordination within the office of the President, or their equivalents in each country, and ministries or secretariats of agriculture, social development, economic affairs, the environment and education.

At the subnational level: state or departmental governments, municipal governments, associations of municipalities and communities.

Geographical coverage

Selected territories in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries

120,000 families in local markets, and 20,000 in public procurement programmes.

Main topics

- Farmers markets
- Public food procurement
- Other short circuits

Context

One of the chief bottlenecks that negatively impact the economic development of family farming is its limited access to markets for products, inputs and services and the unfavourable conditions that characterize that access.

Segregation between urban and rural areas, information asymmetries (regarding prices, requirements, opportunities and other issues), high transaction costs and, primarily, difficulties in transporting products enable intermediaries to impose purchasing conditions that are almost always unfavourable for family agriculture. While road connections are progressively improving in some regions, and the coverage and accessibility of some information and communications technologies (ICTs) has improved (e.g. cellular telephones), allowing a slight increase in the producers' power of negotiation, the trend is still one of producers being heavily dependent on their intermediaries. Dependence on intermediaries means participating in long marketing circuits in which producers receive a tiny fraction of the price finally paid by consumers.

Paradoxically, at the other end of the chain, there is a growing demand among consumers across the globe for healthy and nutritional foodstuffs. At the same time, the need for environmental protection and to respond to climate change through more diverse and resilient production systems is increasingly present in discussions within both governments and public institutions and the private sector. Consumers are increasingly empowered and know their purchasing decisions have an impact: not only on the product quality they receive, but also on the value chain's upstream links. They understand that awareness in their consumption can provide a response to a number of key issues, such as how to set a fair price that satisfies both producers and consumers, and how consumers' expectations of healthy, quality food sourced from a sustainable and inclusive production system can be satisfied.

In that context, favourable terms for market access by small-scale producers is a central challenge on the public policy agenda; to that end, traditional methods should be combined with the exploration of new mechanisms and approaches, notable among which are experiences related to public procurement, and those provided by the opportunities offered by increasing urban-rural interdependence.

Thus, expanded physical and virtual connections open up possibilities for deploying strategies to raise the profile of rural regions in urban areas. Among others, improved road networks make it easier for producers to reach markets for products and inputs, and they offer new opportunities for ties with industry and for direct interaction with consumers (local markets, rural produce stores, fairs, etc.);¹ in turn, inhabitants of urban areas are offered the opportunity to consume fresh, healthy produce and to experience new landscapes and open spaces and to discover new cultural traditions.

Against that backdrop, strengthening ties and synergies between rural territories and the towns and cities both directly and indirectly linked to them, together with the development of those urban areas themselves, are two challenges that will help create new and better opportunities for the most underprivileged rural territories in Northern Central America and southern Mexico.

Objectives

- Facilitate direct access to market by producers, as a complementary strategy to the different mechanisms for connecting markets to family agriculture. The aim is to offer farm produce to the inhabitants of towns and cities close to agricultural areas, allowing producers to sell directly to consumers and thereby ensuring quality, freshness and identity at a price that is acceptable to both parties.
- Strengthen the connections between family agriculture and the public procurement programmes (food for schools, others) in place in the selected territories of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.
- Strengthen the connections between family agriculture and supermarkets, agro-industry, wholesale fairs and other potential buyers (to be identified).

¹ Southern Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America have a vast number of established local markets (*tianguis*), which this proposal aims to improve and empower by building on ties between the territories' rural areas and their urban districts. The region also has valuable experiences with providing foodstuffs to public agencies, particularly through school nutrition programmes.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goals	Period (years)
Local farmers markets connected to the priority territories have been created or improved, to expand the marketing opportunities for family agriculture products.	Number of local farmers markets connected to the priority territories that have been created or improved to expand the marketing opportunities for family agriculture products.	1 200	5
Family producers in the priority territories have been connected to local and regional markets and with other chain opportunities for the sale of their products.	Number of family producers in the priority territories that have been connected to local and regional markets and with other chain opportunities for the sale of their products.	120 000	5
Family producers in the priority territories have organized to supply public foodstuff procurement programmes for schools, hospitals, prisons and other public institutions.	Number of family producers in the priority territories who have organized to supply public foodstuff procurement programmes for schools, hospitals, prisons and other public institutions.	20 000	5

Activities

- Design of proposed national regulatory tools to facilitate the participation of family agriculture in bidding processes for public food procurement in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.
- Support the implementation of good agricultural and sanitary certification practices to enable family agriculture to supply farmers markets and the public food procurement system.
- Strengthening family agriculture producers' organizations to coordinate the supply of produce to farmers markets (*tianguis*, local fairs) and to public food procurement programmes.
- Strengthening the institutional capacities of local agencies to install farmers markets and implement public foodstuff procurement programmes.
- Design of the technical criteria and operating mechanisms for the delivery and management of resources to support investments in basic infrastructure for establishing or improving farmers markets, which will be run by the producers themselves under agreements entered into with the local authorities granting the permits. Those initiatives will be organizationally and financially sustainable. The products will, as a rule, be fresh produce (vegetables, fruit, grain, aromatic and medicinal herbs, flowers, plants, and so on), processed products (tortillas, cheese, honey, preserves, pasta, others) and handcrafts. This initiative must have a highly visible profile, to ensure the mass marketing of local products. A number of subactivities are planned, including the following:²
- Designing the technical and operation criteria for facilitating access by producers and their organizations to the single investment fund for technical assistance, training and investments to participate in the public procurement programmes, responding effectively to their demands.
- Mapping and classifying the urbanized zones (small, medium and large) located in each country's priority territories or that maintain functional relations with their inhabitants, the networks that currently exist for trading in products and inputs, and the local market facilities that exist. When appropriate, the integral urban operations concept of the United Nations Humans Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) will be used.

² Farmers markets can have different types of installations and operations, depending on the facilities where they set up, the producers who participate and the consumers who come to buy. Thus, they can be set up in the open air, reclaiming market squares and other community venues. They can also operate as covered markets, or in regular buildings. They can also be either permanent or mobile, and operate throughout the year, during a part of year or on specific dates (for example, special dates, local celebrations). Thus, they can be held twice a week, weekly, every two weeks, monthly or even annually.

- Pursuant to the development strategies designed and agreed on by the territorial stakeholders, and in coordination with the support services and the territorial stakeholders, identifying, designing and validating a strategy to bolster existing markets and/or install a network of farmers markets in the mapped cities (local markets, fairs, permanent shops, annual exhibitions).
- Designing a detailed plan for strengthening and/or developing a network of farmers markets in the mapped cities (regulatory and legal issues, image, visibility, etc.).
- Carry out the works projects, using the funding line earmarked for strengthening and expanding market access.

Governance

This proposal must be in line with the national strategies and programmes of the Northern Central American countries and Mexico. For that reason, it must be adjusted and validated with active government participation.

This proposal's implementation requires the establishment, in each country, of a technical unit tasked with selecting the local markets and public programmes that are to be supported, providing technical assistance to the coordination agencies to be set up in each territory, overseeing the correct functioning of the support instruments and systematizing the lessons learned, and adjusting the operating rules and disseminating the good practices.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The region has a long tradition of organizing local markets (*tianguis*). There are also other kinds of highly developed short circuits, such as direct sales at farms and supplying local shops supermarkets, wholesale centres or public food procurement programmes (particularly food for schools).

In the south of Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America, there is a deep-rooted tradition in this area: they already have an installed network of local markets (*tianguis*), specializing in foodstuffs and handcrafts, which have emerged more or less spontaneously, often under partnerships with local municipalities. Most of them, however, operate in precarious conditions, and there are many potential areas for improvement (particularly infrastructure and regulatory matters, as well as others). The public policy to be implemented to empower these markets will, in its first phase, place priority on a selected group of strategic *tianguis*, leaving their scaling-up and/or replication in other territories for the medium term.

Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America have prior experience with public food procurement, obtained with the collaboration of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP) and several other countries in the region, such as Brazil and Costa Rica. Guatemala is enacting legal provisions to forge ties with family agriculture. Both processes have received support from FAO.

WFP is currently deploying innovative models to take fresh, locally produced food to more than 300,000 school pupils in various municipalities of the Northern Central American countries. As part of that initiative, WFP is pursuing several lines of action: design of policies and strategies, intersectoral connections and social participation, technical assistance, capacity-building, nutritional and foodstuff education (using the pedagogical garden approach), improved school infrastructure, adoption of appropriate, healthy menus in line with local culture and direct purchases of foodstuffs from local family farms.

In Honduras, WFP and FAO support the Technical Unit for Food Security and Nutrition (UTSAN) in strengthening the National Food Security and Nutrition Strategy. In Guatemala, WFP and FAO joined forces to support the government in enforcing with new school nutrition law, an effort that received funding from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) under an agreement signed in 2015 by IFAD, FAO, WFP and the Government of Guatemala, to promote a comprehensive model for dealing with the drought. WFP is also in talks with the Government of El Salvador for the implementation of the SABER programme, which uses a system-wide approach to improve the results of school nutrition programmes.

There are similar programmes in Mexico: in Veracruz, for example, where the State Government has a programme for purchasing foodstuffs from local producers for its school breakfasts.

Duration

Execution: 5 years.

Budget: US\$ 24,000,000

Proposal 1.40

Basic investment for productive development, innovation and entrepreneurship: single investment fund



Implementing agencies (tentative)

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of El Salvador, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food of Guatemala, Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock of Honduras, Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development of Mexico.

Other sectoral ministries. Agencies working in the territories (campesino organizations, municipal governments, NGOs, companies, others).

At the national level: ministries or secretariats of planning and/or intersectoral coordination within the office of the President, or their equivalents in each country, and ministries or secretariats of agriculture, social development, economic affairs, the environment, education and public works.

At the subnational level: state or departmental governments, municipal governments, associations of municipalities and communities.

Geographical coverage

Selected territories in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries

- 400,000 families
- 200 cooperatives and other organizations conducting business (4,000 producers)

Main topics

- Productive investment and capacity development
- Water and irrigation
- Financing

Context

Although family agriculture is a highly heterogeneous activity, one common characteristic can be identified among all the productive units in the most underdeveloped territories: they are small-scale family concerns, short on capital, and with low amounts of poor-quality land. Producers are therefore forced to bring intense pressure to bear on their land (intensive rotations), which worsens environmental

decay (loss of soil fertility, erosion) and produces very low yields. Most of these units are dedicated to subsistence farming, which prevents them from generating income for investing in innovations and/or embarking on other ventures, both agricultural and non-agricultural, to raise their income; it also impedes caring for and maintaining their basic resources (land and water). Moreover, they do not have access to the external funding (reimbursable or not) needed to break the vicious circle that is, for most, insurmountable: without access to technology, investments or working capital, there are no surpluses and, consequently, no reinvestment or innovation.

Objectives

- Expand access to non-reimbursable funding to encourage entrepreneurship and increase productive units' investments (in technology, equipment and productive infrastructure, and working capital), both individually and in partnerships, in order to achieve technical improvements that raise productivity and the families' incomes, while at the same time ensuring the sustainable management of the production systems and the territory.
- Improve access to new sources of water, to be used to irrigate the producers' smallholdings and for human consumption in schools, health centres and rural households.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goals	Period (years)
Family farmers in the priority territories have access to non-reimbursable funding for making investments and receiving technological support for entrepreneurship, innovations and improved productivity levels in agricultural and non-agricultural economic activities.	Number of family farmers in the priority territories who have been given access to non-reimbursable funding for making investments and receiving technological support for entrepreneurship, innovations and improved productivity levels in agricultural and non-agricultural economic activities.	400 000	5
Partnership enterprises (cooperatives and others) primarily comprising family farmers and entrepreneurs from the priority territories have been given access to non-reimbursable funding for making investments and receiving technological support for entrepreneurship and innovations in agricultural and non-agricultural economic activities.	Number of partnership enterprises (cooperatives and others) primarily comprising family farmers and entrepreneurs from the priority territories that have been given access to non-reimbursable funding for making investments and receiving technological support for entrepreneurship and innovations in agricultural and non-agricultural economic activities.	200	5
Land area under irrigation at the family agriculture productive units in the priority territories has increased.	Number of new hectares under irrigation at the family agriculture productive units in the priority territories.	60 000	5
Family farmers' households in the priority territories have secured or expanded their access to drinking water for human consumption.	Number of family farmers' households in the priority territories that have secured or expanded their access to drinking water for human consumption.	40 000	5

Main activities

- Technical and operational design and launch of a single investment fund to operate along two complementary lines: (i) the distribution of non-reimbursable funds (grants) for the execution of a wide range of investment projects, assigned in differentiated ways depending on each local reality, and (ii) the implementation of various extension activities, specialized advisory services and training, in order to provide a framework for the execution of those investments (capacity-building).

- These projects aim to create major productive improvements to bring about significant increases in subsistence outputs and, to the extent that is possible, marketable surpluses, promote productive diversification (agricultural and rural), promote the adoption of sustainable practices to respond to the demands of institutional public procurement and other markets, and encourage innovation and entrepreneurship, with the overarching objective of improving the availability of foodstuffs and raising family incomes. At the same time, these investments aim to help the productive units (and community lands, such as forests, ditches, water courses and others) adapt to climate change. This offers an option for promoting sustainable production models that, inter alia, could include agroecological practices, good agricultural practices or organic farming at the time that production techniques are selected.
- Single investment fund projects can be undertaken individually or through partnerships, depending on the local community's wishes and the quality of their proposals. This requires that particular attention be paid to strengthening cooperatives and other kinds of productive organizations. Those projects will be able to address a broad range of topics (fences, fertilizers, seeds, warehouses, silos, tools and machinery, greenhouses, among other possibilities) and they will be selected through competitive mechanisms and other methods with general rules allowing an extensive array of investment possibilities centred on the real, specific demands of the producers and their organizations in each territory.
- Design and implementation of a water-resource and irrigation management programme, using a fund of non-reimbursable resources (grants), which will enable: (i) access by family farmers to different types of investment projects, with an emphasis on rainwater harvesting and storage systems that use tanks for irrigation and human consumption, (ii) specialized irrigation advisory services, (iii) technical training for irrigation and energy engineers and technicians, and (iv) installation of national agricultural drought monitoring systems based on the Agricultural Stress Index System, with FAO and WFP support. To allocate these non-reimbursable resources, parameters similar to those defined for the single investment fund will be used.
- Strengthening of the institutional credit funding mechanisms (banks, savings banks and saving and loan cooperatives) existing in the region, in order to provide and/or facilitate access to credit resources for family agriculture under favourable conditions (in conjunction with the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI)), taking particular care to ensure that a significant portion of the credits are awarded to rural women.

Governance

This proposal must be in line with the national strategies and programmes of the Northern Central American countries and Mexico. For that reason, it must be adjusted and validated with active government participation.

The implementation of this proposal requires the establishment, in each country, of a technical unit tasked with selecting the projects that are to be supported, providing technical assistance to the coordination agencies to be set up in each territory, overseeing the correct functioning of the support instruments and systematizing the lessons learned, and adjusting the operating rules and disseminating the good practices.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

- Numerous investment projects have been implemented by different bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies, non-governmental organizations and government agencies. Through the Central American Integration System (SICA), the governments have the Central American Strategy for Rural Territorial Development (ECADERT) and the 2018–2030 Climate-Smart Sustainable Agriculture Strategy.
- At the national level, El Salvador has its Family Farming Programme (PAF), Honduras has a National Family Farming Strategy and Guatemala has the Family Farming Programme to Strengthen the Rural Economy (PAFFEC 2016–2020). Among international organizations, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) are also undertaking projects in this area, as are the Inter-American Development Bank (Alliance for Prosperity Plan) and other agencies. Prior experiences also exist in the area of extension (Secretariat of Agricultural and Rural Development (SADER), Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), Chapingo Autonomous University, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), and others).
- For water resources, proven models for water harvesting, irrigation, renewable energy and purification have been implemented by various bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies, NGOs and government agencies. A wide range of projects are available: wells, canals, pools, rainwater harvesting, solar panel, small-scale hydroelectricity, wind power, and so on. FAO and WFP are working to install systems for drought early warning and rapid response, through national agricultural drought monitoring systems.
- The territories in Mexico and Northern Central America have a broad range of experiences with credit and microcredit systems. There are systems that are officially regulated, such as banks and cooperatives, and systems with other regulatory mechanisms, such as rural savings banks and microcredit financial services. Their penetration into rural areas has been increasing over time, but there is a significant gap between rural territories and urban areas; to address that, public policies that encourage the development of inclusive financial ecosystems are needed. There are banks that operate at the regional level, such as the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) and some private banks, including the Rural Development Bank (BANRURAL) in Honduras and Guatemala, Banco de Occidente (Honduras) and the El Salvador Development Bank (BANDESAL). There are also experiences with microcredit from other actors, such as the Rural Savings Bank Central of Intibucá (CECRI) in Honduras, the Danish Fund for Coffee (Honduras) and cooperatives that are overseen by the relevant supervisory agencies.

Duration

Execution: 5 years.

Budget: US\$ 4,940,000,000

Proposal 1.41

Entrepreneurship: youth, women and indigenous peoples



Implementing agencies (tentative)

At the national level: ministries or secretariats of planning and/or intersectoral coordination within the office of the President, or their equivalents in each country, and ministries or secretariats of agriculture, social development, economic affairs, the environment, education and public works.

At the subnational level: state or departmental governments, municipal governments, associations of municipalities and communities.

Geographical coverage

Selected territories in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries

- 20,000 young people with investment projects.
- 25,000 women served at 17 business service centres.
- 200,000 women with access to formal financial services.
- Of that total, 40,000 women with access to investment projects (through grants).
- 400 indigenous communities with partnership-based investment projects.

Main topics

- Productive investment and economic development
- Capacity-building
- Institutional strengthening
- Rural development
- Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises
- Rural women, youth and indigenous peoples
- Financial inclusion
- Market access

Context

Young people, women and indigenous communities in rural territories have a vast capacity for entrepreneurship; this could make a major contribution to economic development, but it is not being used. Implementing investment processes in those productive units, linking subsidies and credit, is an effective tool for creating growth and speeding up the economic development process.

Objectives

- Promote youth entrepreneurship so rural areas can retain their young people, by building the local capacities (technical education, innovation, “Agriculture 4.0”, partnerships, managerial capacities and others) that are vital for the proper implementation of the CDP.
- Promote entrepreneurship among rural women, supporting their personal growth and autonomy as a basis for deploying their business potential, and thereby create new opportunities for employment and family incomes and ensure closer control over household assets.
- Promote entrepreneurship among indigenous communities and groups, with awareness that indigenous peoples have their own visions of the world and, accordingly, their own view of business ventures.
- Strengthen the public and private institutions currently engaged in promoting business skills and entrepreneurship among those three social sectors.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goals	Period (years)
Rural women in the priority territories have received training support and access to funding for launching or improving their agricultural and non-agricultural economic ventures, in order to raise household incomes and achieve greater economic autonomy.	Number of rural women in the priority territories who have received training support and access to funding for launching or improving their agricultural and non-agricultural economic ventures, in order to raise household incomes and achieve greater economic autonomy.	150 000	5
Rural youth in the priority territories have accessed funding (both reimbursable and non-reimbursable) for launching or improving their agricultural and non-agricultural economic ventures, in order to create or enhance incomes.	Number of rural youth in the priority territories who have accessed funding (both reimbursable and non-reimbursable) for launching or improving their agricultural and non-agricultural economic ventures, in order to create or enhance incomes.	100 000	5
Indigenous communities in the priority territories have developed their capacities through the joint pursuit of a wide range of productive and commercial ventures.	Number of indigenous communities in the priority territories that have developed their capacities through the joint pursuit of a wide range of productive and commercial ventures.	1 600	5
Indigenous family producers in the priority territories have accessed (non-reimbursable) funding for launching or improving their agricultural and non-agricultural economic ventures, in order to create or enhance incomes.	Number of indigenous family producers in the priority territories who have accessed (non-reimbursable) funding for launching or improving their agricultural and non-agricultural economic ventures, in order to create or enhance incomes.	160 000	5

Main activities

Youth

- Design and implementation of a virtual youth network (Facebook + web page) in each country, to publish information and resolve technical queries (in a horizontal model connecting young farmers with other young farmers) while simultaneously building networks for exchanges and learning among young people. This includes funding to pay one community manager per network, along with other operating costs.
- Design and implementation of a Young People’s Fund for On-site Activities: in parallel to the online communications, the organization of meetings, local tours and other on-site activities for youth (workshops, seminars, creation of working panels, etc.) will be encouraged, to establish contacts and closer ties among them.

- Design and implementation of an investment and productive entrepreneurship component, for young people wishing to embark on their own business projects. To allocate these non-reimbursable resources (grants), the same parameters as defined for the single investment fund (competitive models and others) will be used. Applications may be filed by individuals or groups.

Rural women

- Design and implementation of an investment and productive entrepreneurship component, for rural women wishing to embark on their own business projects. To allocate these non-reimbursable resources (grants), the same parameters as defined for the single investment fund (competitive models and others) will be used. Applications may be filed by individuals or groups.
- Design and implementation of a coordination and technical support mechanism to provide a framework for these investments and to identify complementary resources in the public network and from international cooperation agencies. It includes resources for hiring 240 “campesino coordinators” (social workers, psychologists, economists, others) per country, who could be independent service providers certified (or validated) by the State, tasked with adapting the funding conditions to the rural women’s reality.
- Within the framework of the Central American Integration System’s Regional Policy on Equity and Gender Equality (PRIEG–SICA), design and implementation of a technical training programme covering five thematic areas:
 - Technical topics: agriculture and forestry, food processing, handicrafts, tourism, use of improved stoves, time-saving technologies, and others.
 - Business management: business plan preparation, accounts, marketing, financial education, others.
 - Training for entrepreneurship: personal training, psychosocial support to build self-esteem, dispute settlement and negotiation, etc. Male heads of family should also participate in these activities. One key element will be to promote joint social responsibility in providing unpaid care and domestic work.
 - Spanish-language instruction for indigenous women interested in learning.
 - Organizational development and teamwork.
- Design of mechanisms other than those of the market to provide women entrepreneurs with access to land (property inheritances between parents and daughters, legalization of ownership, others).

Indigenous peoples

- Technical and operational design and launch of a fund to strengthen indigenous economies and entrepreneurship, intended to support the productive and commercial ventures of indigenous communities and/or organizations, with respect for the practices and culture of each people. The general design and its adaptation to each territory will be agreed on in consultation with representatives of the indigenous world. The fund will contain two main components:
 - Support component to pursue productive and commercial ventures beyond those traditionally carried out by the communities and/or organizations. Support will be given for the organization of meetings, local tours, exchanges and other on-site activities (workshops, seminars, working panels, others). Cost per community: US\$ 1,000 a year.
 - Support component for productive projects and indigenous partnership undertakings. This will use two complementary lines: (i) the distribution of non-reimbursable funds (grants) for the execution of a wide range of investment projects, assigned in differentiated ways depending on each local reality, and (ii) the implementation of various extension activities, specialized advisory services and training, in order to provide a framework for the execution of those investments.

Governance

This proposal must be in line with the national strategies and programmes of the Northern Central American countries and Mexico. For that reason, it must be adjusted and validated with active government participation.

The implementation of this proposal requires the establishment, in each country, of a technical unit tasked with selecting the projects that are to be supported, providing technical assistance to the coordination agencies to be set up in each territory, overseeing the correct functioning of the support instruments and systematizing the lessons learned, and adjusting the operating rules and disseminating the good practices.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Numerous initiatives exist for fostering entrepreneurship: the *Jóvenes con Todo* Programme (El Salvador) and the National Rural Youth Action Plan (Honduras).

For gender equity and the empowerment of rural women, a worthwhile framework is provided by the Regional Policy on Equity and Gender Equality of the Central American Integration System (PRIEG/SICA),¹ the Women, Local Economy and Territories Programme (MELYT) implemented in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in partnership with the Foundation to Promote the Competitiveness of Micro and Small Enterprise in Central America (CENPROMYPE), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), the Latin American Center for Rural Development (RIMISP) and the Tri-National Commission of the Trifinio Plan, which promotes territorial service platforms for women business-owners and supports the participation of women leaders at venues for political consensus-building, and the Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Guatemala, implemented by IFAD, UN-Women, FAO and WFP, which is an initiative for the comprehensive development of indigenous women, among other initiatives. Numerous entrepreneurship projects for indigenous communities also exist.

Duration

Execution: 5 years.

Budget: US\$ 685,000,000

¹ The goal of the PRIEG is to ensure that by 2025, the SICA states parties have taken the steps necessary to guarantee the full development and advancement of women in Central America and the Dominican Republic, in conditions of equality and equity, in the political, social, economic, cultural, environmental and institutional spheres, at both the regional and national levels.

Proposal 1.42

Basic services for households and rural territories



Implementing agencies:

At the national level: ministries or secretariats of planning and/or intersectoral coordination within the office of the President, or their equivalents in each country, and ministries or secretariats of agriculture, social development, economic affairs, the environment, education and public works.

At the subnational level: state or departmental governments, municipal governments, associations of municipalities and communities.

Geographical coverage

Selected territories in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries

200,000 families with energy in their homes.

100,000 families with firewood and improved stoves.¹

The population inhabiting the territories where road improvements will take place (number to be defined).

9,000 inhabitants of the territories directly employed in road construction jobs.

Main topics

- Renewable energy
- Afforestation and reforestation
- Installation of improved stoves (for household cooking)
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Infrastructure, territorial connectivity

¹ This initiative is complemented by the small-scale afforestation programme and construction of a forest corridor contained in Pillar 3 (Environment).

Context

The absence or inefficiency of certain basic household services —such as electricity or fuel for cooking— is one of the possible reasons why the inhabitants of rural areas migrate to other locations in order to attain a higher standard of living. The lack of those services has negative repercussions on the population's schooling, health and work opportunities, and it also constrains the possibilities of productive development and entrepreneurship.

In 2018 it was estimated that around 5.6 million people in the four Comprehensive Development Plan countries had no electricity supply (2.1 million in Honduras, 1.9 million in Mexico, 1.3 million in Guatemala and 0.2 million in El Salvador). Connecting those populations to the electricity grid (by means of “last-mile connectivity”), because of their remoteness (from the substations and distribution transformers), dispersion and low potential demand, is costly and generally not an attractive business proposition for the electric companies with distribution concessions in the territories in question (as is the case in El Salvador and Guatemala). It is also a difficult problem for vertically integrated state-owned companies to handle (as is the case in Honduras and Mexico).

At the same time, tree coverage in the countries of Northern Central America and in south-eastern Mexico has been falling in recent years. Between 2001 and 2018, according to the Global Forest Watch of the World Resources Institute (WRI), El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras lost about 2.5 million hectares of forest cover, equal to almost 800 million tons of CO₂. Over the same period, Mexico lost almost 3.7 million ha of forests, equal to 891 million tons of CO₂.

In addition to its negative consequences for biodiversity and the environment, forest loss has an impact on the companies and families that depend on extractive activities and tourist and cultural services associated with the woodlands that, in some areas, are the only source of household energy. According to FAO, the use of wood as fuel for cooking and heating homes accounts for a third of global consumption of renewable energy, making firewood the world's most decentralized source of energy. Forest loss can therefore be a determining factor in the decision to migrate when the resources provided by forested areas, including wood for use as an energy source, are inadequate or insufficient.

In the countries of Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico there are 6 million households that still depend on biomass (firewood, in particular) to meet their basic energy service requirements. Although only slightly more than 10% of households in El Salvador use firewood for cooking, in Guatemala and Honduras that percentage rises to more than 60% and almost 50%, respectively. In Mexico, slightly over 11% of households use firewood for cooking; in the south-eastern states, however, almost a third of households use firewood for cooking to the exclusion of all other forms of fuel. In addition to supporting the countries in meeting the reforestation and basin protection goals contained in the Paris Agreement's nationally determined commitments, it has been established that the use of stoves that use biomass more efficiently also has a positive impact on the health of rural populations by creating less air pollution inside homes.

At the same time, as in other countries of the region, the countries of Northern Central America report low levels of investment in infrastructure to support productive activities and the conveyance of goods and passengers. The need to rebuild and maintain the rural road network has been identified; the problems are not limited to secondary and rural roads, however, because there are other infrastructure shortcomings that pose obstacles to the development of the countries' underprivileged regions.

Those shortcomings include difficulties in accessing remote locations, the absence of territorial connectivity and of support infrastructure for productive activities, and so on. In the underprivileged regions that primarily produce raw materials, the lack of infrastructure and maintenance, and of a support structure for production and social services, has a negative economic and social effect, typically related to access, excessive travelling times and high costs.

Objective

Improve access to a range of services and basic infrastructure by rural households and the territory, in order to improve families' standards of living and to begin preparing the territory for the promotion of productive endeavours and entrepreneurship.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicators	Goals	Period (years)
Rural households in the priority territories are equipped with solar panels for small-scale power generation.	Number of rural households in the priority territories equipped with solar panels for small-scale power generation.	100 000	5
Rural households in the priority territories are equipped with clean and efficient stoves using dendroenergy produced by plantations and the small-scale sustainable management of forests.	Number of rural households in the priority territories equipped with clean and efficient stoves using dendroenergy produced by plantations and the small-scale sustainable management of forests.	100 000	5
Expanded and/or improved networks of secondary and tertiary roads in the priority territories.	Percentage of the secondary and tertiary road network improved or built in each country, compared to the base year.	35%	5
Increased employment in the priority territories as a result of works projects to build or improve the secondary and tertiary road network.	Number of persons obtaining jobs in the priority territories as a result of works projects to build or improve the secondary and tertiary road network.		5

Main activities

- Identification and compilation of a project portfolio, considering existing programmes for the installation of solar energy, afforestation and reforestation for firewood and provision of clean and efficient stoves in the countries of Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico, taking account of their potential interactions with this proposal.
- Technical and operational design and launch of a Basic Investment Programme for Household Well-being, based on the existing experiences and involving three main lines of action:
 - Installation of residential solar panels for small-scale power generation (kits comprising three panels, batteries and an inverter), with 100% subsidies. A module to provide training on equipment use and maintenance will be designed.
 - Small-scale afforestation or reforestation, covering 40,000 hectares with woodland for dendroenergy: investment modules adapted to the different situation of each plantation and local conditions will be used. The selection of productive techniques for the productive models will be based on an agroecological approach, and the following inputs could be financed: fertilizers and other bio-inputs, plants and others (to be defined). Each line of action will grant subsidies of 100% in the first year, which will decrease to 90% in subsequent years. That means that the co-payment selection criterion will be applied only in the second year, in an attempt to secure a higher level of commitment from the producers.
 - Installation of efficient stoves in 100,000 households, applying a subsidy to cover 100% of the total investment cost. Different types of stoves will be used, in accordance with the particular circumstances of each country, region and ethnic group (in the case of indigenous communities). In addition, quality rules, certifications and tests for the stoves will be developed.

- Based on the existing experiences, the diagnostic assessment of the current situation and the analysis of comparable international experiences, work will take place on the technical and operational design and launch of a programme to improve road connectivity in the territories, addressing improvements in the secondary and tertiary road network and its support infrastructure (small bridges) in each country. The programme will fund the design, planning and execution of the investment projects.
- Interconnect the programme's actions and investments with the development and territorial intervention strategies in each country's priority territories, and with the governance mechanisms developed in each territory; from there, the multi-stakeholder and multilevel coordination will take place to strike agreements with the national authorities responsible for infrastructure works in each country.

The basic investments in households may be made individually or on a partnership basis, depending on the quality of the projects presented by the local communities and the inhabitants' wishes. Accordingly, particular attention will be paid to strengthening community organizations, together with cooperatives and other kinds of productive organizations. This proposal plans to use the network of extensionists and local talents of the single investment fund to provide a technical frame for the implementation of the investments. For collective or larger-scale projects, a technical training fund will be used for on-site and online learning. This line of action will be pursued in partnership with specialized agencies.

Governance

This proposal must be in line with the national strategies and programmes of the Northern Central American countries and Mexico. For that reason, it must be adjusted and validated with active government participation.

The implementation of this proposal requires the establishment, in each country, of a technical unit tasked with selecting the projects that are to be supported, providing technical assistance to the coordination agencies to be set up in each territory, overseeing the correct functioning of the support instruments and systematizing the lessons learned, and adjusting the operating rules and disseminating the good practices.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The proposal offers synergies with each country's national plans (for development, electrification, and afforestation), with the specific organizations involved (state and municipal bodies, NGOs, the private sector, local development committees) and with the cooperation agencies that already have initiatives on the ground.

The following are some of the synergies that have been identified: at the supranational level, the initiative between the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Humanistic Institute for Development Cooperation (HIVOS) seeking to provide universal access to modern energy services (electricity and cooking fuels). In turn, the SICA Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SICREEE), working with the support the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), will be an important partner for solar energy topics.

The four countries already have forestry strategies and programmes under which the firewood afforestation programme could be carried out. Those include the El Salvador Forest Strategy, Guatemala's National Strategy for Addressing Deforestation and Forest Degradation, the National Forest, Protected Areas and Wildlife Programme (PRONAFOR) in Honduras and Mexico's *Sembrando Vida* programme. FAO is supporting El Salvador's strategy, and IDB is involved in the strategy in Guatemala, while the PRONAFOR programme in Honduras is being implemented by the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in

Developing Countries Facility (REDD+). In addition, through its El Niño Response in the Dry Corridor of Central America (PRO-ACT) project, the World Food Programme (WFP) has been working on reforestation in the countries of Northern Central America. FAO is also active in that area.

Honduras is the only country of the four involved in this proposal that has set itself a target to increase the use of efficient stoves, a commitment entered into as part of its nationally determined contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement. Although the other three countries make no reference to efficient stoves, they do have reforestation and basin protection goals, and so the use of efficient stoves will assist in attaining those objectives. Mexico has already implemented a programme involving 600,000 stoves, and Honduras has a project to deploy 300,000.

The four countries are also members of the Tuxtla Mechanism for Dialogue and Coordination and of the Mesoamerica Integration and Development Project, which brings together the six economies of Central America (plus Belize), Colombia, Mexico and the Dominican Republic; accordingly, they all have national actions that are in line with this proposal.

The Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) has a mandate from the Sectoral Council of Ministers of Transport of Central America (COMITRAN) and resources from several cooperation agencies to implement the Regional Framework Policy for Logistics and Mobility, which has been developed in recent years with the close institutional support of ECLAC. In that context, coordination with SIECA will be required and Mexico's participation must be ensured.

Duration

Execution: 5 years

Budget: US\$ 900,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
<p>Universal access to electricity based on renewable energy sources in the countries of Northern Central America and the south-eastern states of Mexico.</p> <p>Small-scale afforestation and construction of a forest corridor in the countries of Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico.</p> <p>Programme to replace open fires and traditional stoves with clean and efficient biomass stoves.</p>	<p>National development plans.</p> <p>National rural electrification plans.</p> <p>El Salvador Forest Strategy.</p> <p>National Strategy for Addressing Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Guatemala.</p> <p>National Forest, Protected Areas and Wildlife Programme in Honduras (REDD+).</p> <p><i>Sembrando Vida</i> programme in Mexico.</p> <p>NAMA Facility. Efficient use of firewood and alternative fuels in indigenous and rural communities of Guatemala.</p>	<p>Initiative for universal access to modern energy services in the Central American Integration System (SICA) countries.</p> <p>2015–2020 Regional Environmental Framework Strategy, Central American Integration System (SICA) and Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD).</p>	<p>United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).</p> <p>World Health Organization (WHO).</p>	<p>German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), Humanistic Institute for Development Cooperation (HIVOS), European Community, The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID), European Union REDD Facility (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation), Clean Cooking Alliance (CCA).</p>	<p>Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), World Bank, Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABE).</p>	<p>Inter-institutional Platform for the Development of the Improved Stoves Value Chain in Honduras (Voice for Change Programme (V4CP), <i>Fundación Vida</i> and AHDESA), Honduran Development Association.</p> <p>Profogones Project in Honduras (<i>Fundación Vida</i>).</p> <p>Mirador Project of Honduras (The Proyecto Mirador Foundation).</p> <p>Ecofogón de Honduras (PROLENA).</p> <p>Ecocina (Stove Team International).</p> <p>Biomass Stove Innovation and Assessment Laboratory (Interdisciplinary Group for Appropriate Rural Technology (GIRA), CCA and National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).</p>
<p>Risk management to protect public investments.</p> <p>Expanding trade between Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America: trade facilitation.</p> <p>Promotion of locally-based road maintenance.</p>	<p><i>Abriendo Caminos al Desarrollo</i> road infrastructure programme in Honduras.</p> <p>Road Infrastructure Fund of Guatemala.</p> <p>Road Safety Strategic Plan of El Salvador.</p> <p>Construction of Rural Roads to Reactivate the Economy and Development of Mexico.</p>	<p>Mesoamerica Project.</p> <p>Sectoral Council of Transport Ministers of Central America (COMITRAN).</p>	<p>ECLAC</p> <p>UNOPS</p>	<p>Fomilenio II (Second Millennium Fund Compact-El Salvador and the Millennium Challenge Corporation).</p> <p>JICA</p>	<p>Logistics infrastructure funding programmes (IDB).</p> <p>Regular infrastructure funding programme (CABE).</p> <p>World Bank, CAF-Development Bank of Latin America.</p>	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.43

Development of intermediate cities: Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Tapachula and the northern border of Guatemala



Implementing agencies

At the national level: Sectoral agencies of national and federal governments.

At the subnational level: Municipal governments on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, municipal government of Tapachula and municipal governments on the northern border of Guatemala

United Nations system: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), other agencies.

Geographical coverage

Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

Tapachula, Chiapas.

Municipalities on Guatemala's northern border.

Number of beneficiaries

The entire permanent, floating and migrant population of the municipality of Tapachula and of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec; in particular, the development hubs of Coatzacoalcos I and II, Minatitlán, Acayucan, Medias Aguas, Donají, Matías Romero, Ciudad Ixtepec, and Salina Cruz I and II, with their surrounding buffer zones. The entire population of the departments on Guatemala's northern border. (Petén, Huehuetenango, Quiché, San Marcos).

Main topics

- Urban development
- Migration
- Housing
- Public space
- Social integration
- Ties between urban and rural areas

Context

Isthmus of Tehuantepec

Territorial and socioeconomic conditions in the Tehuantepec Isthmus constrain its economic prosperity and efforts to improve the living standards of its population, most of whom are of indigenous origin and live in situations of poverty and vulnerability.

In spite of its vast potential for development and its strategic location, the Isthmus of Tehuantepec is not a prosperous region. The Isthmus enjoys a strategic position for development, connecting south-east Mexico with the rest of the country, which offers the possibility of creating a corridor of regional prosperity; however, according to figures from the City Prosperity Index (CPI) calculated by UN-Habitat between 2015 and 2018, the region's municipalities¹ report low or very low levels of prosperity; the sole exceptions are the ports of Salina Cruz (55.7) and Coatzacoalcos (51.4), where the Index results are above the national average (51.03).

The Isthmus contains two dynamic hubs of prosperity, which create high levels of inequality and are poorly connected to the rest of the region, particularly the region between those two hubs in the centre of the Isthmus. Among the settlements on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, the CPI also identifies that Coatzacoalcos (US\$ 148,500) and Salina Cruz (US\$ 171,600) enjoy substantially better results in per capita gross domestic product (GDP) than the region's average figure of US\$ 6,600.

The population centres on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec between those two hubs lack a clear regional and urban hierarchy. Similar results can be observed in the Tehuantepec Isthmus region: municipalities such as Salina Cruz and Coatzacoalcos and their neighbours report both the region's highest levels of urbanization and the best results in terms of socioeconomic indicators.

The Isthmus of Tehuantepec is a region with vast economic potential but little diversification among its productive activities. Coatzacoalcos and Salina Cruz account for the largest portion of the investments made in the region, primarily for the establishment of extractive productive activities. This type of development model has led to the consolidation of exclusive enclave economies, which have failed to generate benefits for the region and have caused significant socioeconomic inequalities on both the port municipalities.

The UN-Habitat proposal entails improving institutional capacities, municipal finances and local governance to direct and guide the city's growth at a time when it is facing migratory pressure and, at the same time, strengthen ties between urban and rural areas, thereby raising the potential for more comprehensive growth in the region as a whole. It also seeks to improve urban and peri-urban spaces affected by migration flows, in order to alleviate the social, physical, economic and cultural tensions arising among the host and migrant communities, with both benefiting from the interventions and placed at the centre of the design process for the urban interventions.

The successful implementation of a comprehensive territorial development strategy requires creating a structure to provide a foundation and support for that development and identifying new urban locations or centres with the potential for development, in order to rethink comparative advantages and promote the diversification of economic activities with a high added value. This will in turn lead to higher levels of productivity, the creation of decent jobs that make intensive use of labour and improvements in the

¹ Of the 79 municipalities that make up this region, results for 15 are included in the CPI. Those municipalities can be considered a representative sample of the region, in that they include those with the largest population centres and higher levels of urbanization, which is a necessary precondition for increased socioeconomic development. The municipalities of Oaxaca examined by the CPI are El Espinal, Juchitán de Zaragoza, Salina Cruz, San Blas Atempa and Santo Domingo Tehuantepec, while those in Veracruz are Coatzacoalcos, Cosoleacaque, Chinameca, Ixhuatlán del Sureste, Jáltipan, Minatitlán, Oteapan, San Andrés Tuxtla, Zaragoza and Nanchital de Lázaro Cárdenas.

inhabitants' economic conditions and standards of living. These activities must be endogenous in nature and respect local cultural patterns and ways of life. The possibilities include agro-industry, manufacturing and metal-mechanic businesses, textiles,² ecotourism and others that can help preserve the value of the region's environmental services, such as forms of farming, forestry and tourism that have a low impact on the use of natural resources.

City of Tapachula

Tapachula, located in the State of Chiapas near the Mexico–Guatemala border, is the main entry point for migrants entering the country from the south, primarily from Guatemala. Migrant numbers have increased as a result of the prevailing situation in Northern Central America, which has led to the arrival of thousands of people fleeing from violence and the absence of opportunities in their countries of origin.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) calculates that Tapachula has a floating population of 100,000 people, as a result of permanent migration; according to the 2015 Intercensal Survey, that figure is equal to a third of the municipal total. Since 2006, Tapachula has been home to Latin America's largest migrant holding centre, the Siglo XXI Migratory Station, which is a de facto temporary city that offers migrants work and, often, protection.

According to data from the municipality and UNHCR, the floating population of migrants who remain in the city for a few weeks is primarily concentrated in the municipal seat's centre. That area offers low, affordable rents, which leads to the informal growth of the city, with inadequate infrastructure and precarious housing. These highly vulnerable settlements also have the reputation of being black spots for crime and their residents are socially stigmatized.

According to figures from the UN-Habitat City Prosperity Index (CPI),³ Tapachula has a moderately weak level of prosperity (56.90), which highlights the need to strengthen public policies in the areas with the least favourable results and, at the same time, to build on those reporting the best figures.

Northern border of Guatemala

This is a strategic area that plays a critical role in migration matters because of its large floating population. This region (Petén, Huehuetenango, Quiché, San Marcos) contains a number of border cities that the Government of Guatemala has identified as a priority. Efforts are under way to create “Walls of Prosperity” in those departments, with the support of an active policy for local economic development focused on job creation, the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and small-scale productive units dedicated to family agriculture.

Objective

Develop a comprehensive intervention strategy to improve urban conditions in intermediate cities and towns, improve their inhabitants' standards of living and build institutional capacity for including rural, urban and migrant population in the provision of services. At the same time, establish hubs to contribute to the territory's economic development.

² Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit (SHCP), *Programa de desarrollo de la zona económica especial de Salina Cruz, 2008*.

³ The City Prosperity Index (CPI) is calculated on the basis of 80 indicators in six priority dimensions of sustainable development: (i) productivity of cities and their hinterlands, (ii) infrastructure for development, (iii) quality of life, (iv) equity and social inclusion, (v) urban governance and legislation, and (vi) environmental sustainability.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goals	Period (years)
National and local institutions have baseline information for decision-making in a series of intermediate cities and towns in the territories of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Tapachula and the northern border (prosperity index).	Number of towns and/or cities with a baseline.	3	1
Local institutions in the territories of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Tapachula and the northern border have strengthened their capacity for neighbourhood-level work in consolidating conditions and opportunities for social and economic integration on the one hand, and for urban and rural integration on the other.	Number of training exercises at local institutions in the territories of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Tapachula and the northern border to strengthen capacities for neighbourhood-level work in consolidating conditions and opportunities for social and economic integration on the one hand, and for urban and rural integration on the other.	24	3
One comprehensive urban operation undertaken in at least one intermediate town or city in each of the territories of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Tapachula and the northern border.	Number of comprehensive urban operations undertaken in at least one intermediate town or city in each of the territories of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Tapachula and the northern border.	1	3
Local institutions in the territories of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Tapachula and the northern border have a regional strategy for the comprehensive management of natural and climate-related risks that could affect the region's infrastructure, particularly housing.	Number of regional strategies for the comprehensive management of natural and climate-related risks that could affect the region's infrastructure, particularly housing, developed in each of the territories of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Tapachula and the northern border.	1	3

Main activities

- Defining urban areas according to the City Prosperity Index (CPI) and the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI).
 - Setting a baseline for interventions in the selected intermediate cities and towns.
 - Preparation of a localized urban analysis and territorial diagnostic assessment.
- Local capacity-building strategy, including recommendations for strengthening urban planning instruments and municipal finances.
 - Strategy for capacity-building and institutional strengthening.
 - Recommendations for strengthening urban planning instruments and municipal finances.
- Implementation scheme for a comprehensive urban operation (CUO).
 - Identification of urban development opportunities.
 - Partial or master plan for implementing a CUO in precarious neighbourhoods and priority districts.
 - Opportunities for ties with rural sectors in the territory.
- Design of a territorial strategy for the selected territories.
 - Comprehensive territorial analysis for the region, based on existing studies.
 - Territorial vision for the selected territories.
 - Regional connectivity for the functional interconnection of the region.
 - Territorial structuring and interconnection of the development hubs.
- Design of urban planning instruments for the development hubs in the selected territories.
 - Planning instruments for well-being development hubs in three selected communities.
 - Strategy for the implementation of CUOs in selected communities, through operating instruments and land management.
 - Guidelines for design and urban planning.

- Regional strategy for comprehensive disaster risk management.
 - Regional analysis of vulnerability to natural and climate-related risks, primarily earthquakes.
 - Methodological guide for comprehensive disaster risk management at the municipal and regional levels.

Project governance

Each territory will have a specific governance system, within which major roles will be played by sectoral ministries and state, departmental and municipal governments. The United Nations system (UNDP, UN-Habitat, FAO and others) will provide technical support.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This proposal by UN-Habitat is based on the Government of Mexico's vision and strategy set out in the 2019–2024 National Development Plan (PND) and, in particular, on the approach to human mobility in the ECLAC Comprehensive Development Plan.

Duration

5 years.

Budget: US\$ 12,000,000

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

The proposal will maintain close ties with both national- and local-level government agencies working in the three selected territories.

Proposal 1.44

Territorial development of the Trifinio, El Salvador



Implementing agencies

At the national level: Sectoral agencies of the national governments.

At the subnational level: Trifinio Plan Trinational Commission.

United Nations system: UNDP, UN-Habitat, FAO.

Geographical coverage

Municipalities covered by the Trifinio Plan (Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador).

Number of beneficiaries

The entire population of the Trifinio Plan area.

Main topics

- Urban development
- Economic development
- Housing
- Public space
- Social integration
- Ties between urban and rural areas

Context

The Trifinio region faces challenges that could affect territorial development, such as a lack of opportunities and jobs, social inequality, ongoing desertification and food and nutrition insecurity, and the degradation of ecosystemic services due to the impact of climate change, given that it has been identified as one of the regions at greatest risk from that global phenomenon. Those challenges must be addressed so that people and families can plan their futures in the territory without having to consider forced migration as their only possibility for survival.

Facing those challenges requires the implementation of a sustainable and inclusive development model, with a systemic approach and comprehensive solutions, to facilitate the involvement of the territory's main stakeholders at the trinational level. That is the aim of the Trifinio Plan.

The Trifinio region comprises 45 municipalities covering 7,541 km². Its total inhabitants number 818,911, accounting for 2.7% of the total population of the three Northern Central American countries. Almost 70% of the total population live in rural areas, where the highest levels of poverty and the greatest lack of opportunities are to be found. The average Human Development Index (HDI) result stands at 0.6111, which is well below the three countries' national averages. Of the territory's population, 25% report having family members who have emigrated, around 31% of households are without drinking water services and, over the past 24 years, forest loss in the range of 30% has been recorded, equal to a regional average rate of 2.7% a year and an annual loss of 9,050 ha of woodlands, chiefly on account of deforestation caused by the expansion of agriculture and forest degradation caused by poor management of natural resources and woodlands. That notwithstanding, the region has a great potential for agriculture, agri-industry, forestry, tourism and other activities; accordingly, the aim at this stage is to promote rural development with a territorial approach, so that poverty can be fought more effectively and the region can enjoy more sustainable economic growth.

Closer integration in Central America and, in particular, the development of the trinational productive corridors identified in this region offer the possibility of reshaping the opportunities map through the pursuit of appropriate public policies based on an approach that expands from the territorial to the national in the three countries, with the inclusion of the regional level and also involving the assistance and technical and financial support of the international cooperation agencies active in the territory.

The plan being implemented by the Governments of Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador has the following aims:

- Bolster human development, with a territorial approach and equity, by improving health, education and food and nutritional security.
- Create jobs, productivity and competitiveness.
- Promote environmental sustainability.
- Encourage transparency and modernization of the State.
- Accelerate and deepen regional integration.

Since the onset, the Trifinio Plan's approach has been associated with the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources, given that they are the basis for agricultural production, which is the region's main economic activity. Although there have been major programmes with an environmental approach throughout its existence, this remains a pending challenge.

The proposal that is a part of the CDP's territorial development programme aims to bolster actions under the Trifinio Plan, with a focus on rural areas and on the strengthening of intermediate cities and towns within the territory's area of influence, in order to create development and services hubs and urban-rural ties to help improve the living standards of both urban and rural dwellers.

Objective

Develop a comprehensive intervention strategy to bolster the current lines of work of the Trifinio Plan.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goals	Period (years)
National and local institutions have baseline information and have been strengthened.	Number of institutions strengthened.		
Agricultural and tourism investment projects carried out.	Number of investment projects of a general nature implemented. Number of irrigation projects implemented. Number of tourism investment projects implemented.		
Entrepreneurship among rural women, rural youth and indigenous peoples.	Number of business ventures.		
Reforestation of land and adoption of a payment system for ecosystemic services.	Number of hectares reforested. Number of hectares of forest operating under ecosystemic service payment schemes.		

Main activities

- Local capacity-building strategy, including recommendations for strengthening urban planning instruments and municipal finances.
 - Strategy for capacity-building and institutional strengthening.
 - Recommendations for strengthening urban planning instruments and municipal finances.
- Implementation of a territorial economic development strategy.
 - Strengthening of local organizations.
 - Development of markets.
 - Investment projects undertaken in the agricultural and tourism sectors and other services.
 - Reforestation and introduction of payments for ecosystemic services.
 - Entrepreneurship among rural women, rural youth and indigenous peoples.
 - Productive chains.

Project governance

To be implemented by the Vice Presidents of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. The United Nations system (UNDP, UN-Habitat, FAO, others) will provide technical support.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This proposal aims to strengthen the current lines of action of the Trifinio Plan.

Duration

5 years.

Budget: US\$ 4,000,000

Proposal 1.45

Surf City El Salvador: integral tourism development programme on the marine coastal strip, El Salvador



Implementing agencies:

Ministry of Tourism of El Salvador.

Geographical coverage

El Salvador's marine coastal strip, which includes 21 municipalities from the west to the east of the country.

Number of beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries will be productive enterprises in the tourism sector along the coast. Potentially, the population inhabiting the municipalities of the marine coastal strip, the rest of the municipalities and the rest of the region.

Main topics:

- Infrastructure
- Economic development and investment promotion
- Decent work
- Regional value chains
- Sustainable tourism

Context

The proposed strategy for Surf City El Salvador —an integral tourism development programme on El Salvador's marine coastal strip— seeks to develop the tourism industry and, at the same time, provide new work opportunities and improve existing jobs, in order to alleviate both unemployment and underemployment and raise human dignity.

This programme, which will contain a gender awareness component for the equaling of opportunities, aims to expand the tourist development of the coastal strip, which will positively impact incomes and formal employment, particularly for the vulnerable population. It will also lead to an increase in tourist spending by encouraging the diversification of the services available.

Compared to other sectors, the tourism sector has been identified as having a greater impact on the capacity for the sustained creation of decent work and as serving as a multiplier within the economy, on account of the productive chains, employability of workers and industries associated with its development.

With increased opportunities and more favourable conditions, young people and other inhabitants will tend to find local solutions, reducing the impetus towards migration.

Objective

Comprehensive tourism development along the marine coastal strip, to promote El Salvador internationally, attract investment and create more and better jobs for Salvadorans on the basis of the asset that makes the country different: its waves.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Streamlined and efficient borders and other points of entry into the country.	Number of passengers per day, month and year crossing borders and other points of entry. Number of cruise ships mooring at ports.		2 years for the modernization of ports and borders
Appropriate regulatory framework for the sector's development at the national and regional levels.	Updated laws and regulations. Negotiation of regional agreements regarding the sector.	Number of regional agreements signed.	1 year
Institutional mechanisms strengthened for the design, identification of cooperation, funding, operation and follow-up of the Surf City project's different phases.	Number of designs overseen and coordinated. Amount of cooperation secured.	Determine number of designs overseen and coordinated. Determine amount of cooperation.	48 months
Public infrastructure for tourism improved.	Percentage of investment in improved public tourism infrastructure as a proportion of total public investment.	Percentage	48 months
Private infrastructure for tourism improved.	Percentage of investment in improved tourism infrastructure as a proportion of total investment in tourism.	Percentage	48 months
Creation of new tourism sector development hubs interconnected with the country and the region.	Number of new development hubs in the country's tourism sector. Number of tourism development hubs in the country interconnected with the region.	Determine numbers.	48 months

Main activities

- Prepare a socioeconomic and tourism infrastructure assessment of the different targeted areas on the coastal strip.
- Prepare technical documents for the execution and operation of works projects and other activities.

- Coordinate the development of public tourism infrastructure with systematized actions and possible joint funding for the construction, renovation and maintenance of infrastructure along the coastal strip.
- Negotiate lines of credit for the sector.
- Promote projects to raise local standards of living, bolstering the socio-productive fabric along the coast and its interconnection with the national development process.

Project governance

This project and the entire Surf City programme is led by the Ministry of Tourism and coordinated from within the Tourism Cabinet. It represents a harmonized inter-institutional effort that is being driven by the heads of the agencies involved.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) have financial and technical resources to support various measures and investments in infrastructure and services for these corridors in the region, which are essential for the tourism sector.

Within the CDP there are possible synergies with regional tourism infrastructure in the plan's four countries.

Duration

The programme will be implemented over a period of 48 months. The last four months will be spent monitoring the results and defining a proposal of good country practices for expansion throughout the country and the Central American region.

In the medium and long terms: Comprehensive intervention of public spaces in tourist destinations: underground cabling, signposts, paths, tourism infrastructure for shops, lighting, infrastructure for roads, drinking water, health, communications and housing.

Budget:

Annex

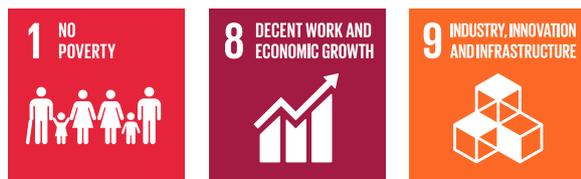
Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion:

National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
National Public Infrastructure Development Plan. National Tourism Plan.	Mesoamerica Project.	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).	German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC).	Funding programmes for logistics infrastructure (IDB). Regular infrastructure funding programme (CABIE). Support for implementation of the five priority measures for trade facilitation (IDB, SIECA).	Private consultants. Private companies that will participate in project design, engineering, construction and maintenance.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.46

Economic territorial development in Guatemala, Guatemala



Implementing agencies:

- Core institutions: 1. Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MINTRAB), 2. Ministry of Economic Affairs (MINECO), 3. Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), 4. Ministry of Education (MINEDUC), 5. Ministry of Public Finance (MINFIN), 6. Guatemalan Tourism Institute (INGUAT), 7. Development councils system, 8. Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing (CIV).
- Support institutions: 1. Organization of American States (OAS), 2. Central American Integration System (SICA), 3. Private sector, 4. Secretariats, 5. Non-governmental organizations, 6. Civil society, 7. Congress, 8. Technical Institute for Training and Production (INTECAP), 10. National Institute of Statistics (INE).

Geographical coverage:

Guatemala is made up of 22 departments and covers a total surface area of 108,890 km². This intervention will cover the constituent municipalities of 13 departments: Quetzaltenango, San Marcos, Quiché, Huehuetenango, Alta Verapaz, Jutiapa, Izabal, Chiquimula, Escuintla, Retalhuleu, Petén, Baja Verapaz, Guatemala.

Number of beneficiaries:

Guatemala has a population of 17,263,000 (according to figures from the latest population census, conducted in 2018) with a density of 159 inhabitants per km², although the majority is located in the mountainous region in the south of the country, and more than 50% of Guatemala's inhabitants live in rural areas. The population comprises segments of Maya-Quiché origin, ladinos (mestizos), European-descended whites, and people of African and Asian descent. The indigenous groups, notably the Quiché and the Kaqchikel, live in the highlands and dedicate themselves to agriculture, handcrafts, textiles, livestock raising and local commerce. The target population comprises 11,979,850 people, with the direct beneficiaries being the inhabitants of communities in those departments' borderland areas; nevertheless, the entire population of the Republic of Guatemala are to be considered indirect beneficiaries.

Main topics:

- Creation of decent jobs
- Basic productive investment, capacity building and economic development
- Financing
- Institutional strengthening
- Rural development

- Financial inclusion
- Market access
- Shared prosperity
- Poverty reduction
- Sustainable tourism
- Infrastructure
- Company development

Context

Guatemala's rural departments face a series of economic and social development challenges. Economic growth has remained low in recent years, with a moderate level of dynamism in productivity. That growth has failed to create the jobs needed to employ the members of the population who are seeking work, in particular young people just entering the labour market. The area's goods exports are characterized by low levels of technology and low added value. Poverty and the lack of access to quality education and opportunities for decent work are the main factors that drive youth emigration, both within the country and to other countries.

Young people, women and indigenous communities in rural territories have a vast capacity for entrepreneurship that could make a major contribution to economic development, but it is not being used. Implementing investment processes in those productive units, linking subsidies and credit, is an effective tool for creating growth and speeding up the economic development process.

Family agriculture is a highly heterogeneous activity, but one common characteristic can be identified among all the productive units in the most underdeveloped territories: they are small-scale family concerns, short on capital, and with low amounts of poor-quality land. Producers are therefore forced to bring intense pressure to bear on their land (intensive rotations), which worsens environmental decay (loss of fertility, erosion) and produces very low yields. Most of these units are dedicated to subsistence farming, which prevents them from generating income for investing in innovations and/or embarking on business ventures, both agricultural and non-agricultural, to raise their income; it also impedes caring for and maintaining their basic resources (land and water). Moreover, they do not have access to the external funding (reimbursable or not) needed to break the vicious circle that is, for most, insurmountable: without access to technology, investments or working capital, there are no surpluses and, consequently, no reinvestment or innovation.

Strengthening rural value chains will increase added value, catalyse productivity, create new jobs and better conditions, ensure a more equitable distribution of earnings generated within the chain, help adapt activities to new climate conditions and devise innovations to mitigate their environmental impact, facilitate product marketing under fair conditions, and so on. Through those results, strengthened chains contribute to the economic and social development of rural territories and discourage migration.

Informal employment is a complex phenomenon that affects more than half the working population of Latin America and the Caribbean. People employed in the informal sector—in either informal or formal enterprises, but under conditions of informality—do not pay into social security systems or enjoy legally recognized labour rights. In addition, many of these people hold low productivity jobs and, consequently, earn meagre incomes; that places them in a situation of extreme vulnerability and social and labour exclusion. Similarly, while they may function with lower expenses than formal companies, enterprises that operate in informality face high losses in terms of opportunity costs on account of difficulties in accessing sources of credit, wider markets, public tendering and procurement, in addition to the sanctions that may be imposed on them for failing to abide by fiscal, labour and civil regulations.

Objectives

Promote and provide incentives for investment in companies at the local level, by building road infrastructure and connectivity between cities and ensuring that different sectors are in line with regional and local development goals.

The specific objectives are:

- Create the economic conditions for business investment in the territories by involving each regional and local government in deciding on their resources.
- Create access to credit for starting a business or innovations to grow micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) and, at the same time, promote a culture of entrepreneurship to foster the country's economic development.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
By 2024, a reduction in precarious employment through the creation of decent, quality jobs.	(a) Underemployment rate (16.9% in 2018). (b) Formal employment rate (30.5% in 2018). (c) Unemployment rate (currently 3.2%). (d) Percentage of workers living in extreme poverty.	(a) gradual reduction (b) 36.3% (c) gradual reduction (d) 0%	Four years
By 2024, design and implementation of policies in pursuit of sustainable tourism that create jobs and local promote culture and products.	Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index (score of 3.5 in 2017).	Keep at 3.5.	Four years
By 2024, the social, economic and political inclusion of all, regardless of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, economic status or any other condition, has been strengthened and promoted.	Development and Poverty Index, specifically rates for poverty and extreme poverty.	Reduction of 27.8 percentage points. Departmental targets for extreme poverty: Alta Verapaz: 38.7% Sololá: 28.8% Totonicapán: 29.6% Huehuetenango: 20.7% Quiché: 30.2% Chiquimula: 29.7% Departmental targets for poverty: Alta Verapaz: 21.5% Sololá: 29.7% Totonicapán: 26.3% Huehuetenango: 32.6% Quiché: 23.8% Chiquimula: 21.3%	Four years
By 2023, the institutional capacities of social actors for formulating, implementing, monitoring and evaluating policies, programmes and strategies for facilitating the transition toward the formal economy have been improved.	Number of policies, programmes and/or strategies improved, adapted and/or created through the influence of the intervention. Inter-institutional coordination venues for the design and implementation of comprehensive strategies, with the participation of social actors (workers and employers), installed or strengthened and operational.	Four comprehensive strategies implemented at the national, departmental or local levels. Four venues for inter-institutional coordination with the participation of social actors.	Three years

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
By 2024, the accessibility of remote locations and local communities has been improved.	Percentage of settlements in the interior with improved access and connections, compared to 2018 baseline figures.	50%	Four years
By 2022, the number of micros, small and medium-sized enterprises run by businesswomen and artisans benefiting from access to credit and business development services has increased from 14,100 in 2017 to 106,299 in 2022.	Number of businesswomen having received technical assistance.	Businesswomen trained and having received technical assistance for business development services.	36 months

- The lead institutions will set priorities and target interventions in the priority territories and, using strategic and operational instruments, implement timely actions to bring about changes in the target population's lives.
- The lead institutions will create intersectoral and multilevel coordination mechanisms for planning and implementing actions at the sectoral and territorial levels.

Main activities

- To promote economic growth and employment, a unit for intelligence and competitiveness should be established, trained and charged with the design and implementation of the strategic framework. In addition, the following inputs are required by the Comprehensive Development Plan:
 - Industrial observatory, tasked with centralizing the performance indicators for monitoring the strategy's implementation and evaluating its effectiveness.
 - Country industrial competitiveness report, positioning the country in the global industrial context and comparing its performance with that of other countries, to assess the driving factors of competitive industrial performance and provide recommendations for horizontal policies.
 - Report on baselines and objectives for industrial development, to provide macro- and sectoral-level reference data to assess current performance and define future objectives.
 - Studies of sectoral competitiveness and value chains, to assess the competitive performance of given sectors or value chains compared to other countries and, in addition, to determine the value added in the chain, identify market niches and provide recommendations for tapping into and updating value.
 - Studies into the business environment for industrial activities that analyse input and transaction costs and the regulatory and legal framework and, in addition, provide a reference guide for investors, detailing the costs, transactions and formalities required to set up and operate an industrial business.
 - Policy briefs, containing short monthly notes on policies affecting key industrial and commercial topics of importance to stakeholders.
 - Sectoral profiles, which are brief summaries produced to publish the results of the detailed studies of sectoral competitiveness and value chains described above.
 - Plan to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) and to train personnel to secure investments, together with the organization of events with specific investors and regional and global forums.
 - Strategy document setting out the strategy and its lines of intervention, together with the coordination mechanisms and institutional organization needed for implementation.

- Two main activities are proposed in order to strengthen intermediate cities in the regions in question:
 - Design of a territorial strategy for the selected territories
 - Comprehensive territorial analysis for the region, based on existing studies.
 - Territorial vision for the selected territories
 - Regional connectivity for the functional interconnection of the region.
 - Territorial structuring and interconnection of the development hubs.
 - Design of urban planning instruments for the development hubs in the selected territories.
 - Planning instruments for well-being development hubs in three selected communities.
 - Strategy for the implementation of CUOs in selected communities, through operating instruments and land management.
 - Guidelines for design and urban planning.
- To strengthen value chains, the methodology developed by ECLAC that guarantees a participatory and productive process should be used. Based on a sectoral diagnostic assessment backed by the sector's main stakeholders and on international good practices, specific strategies for strengthening the value chain are proposed. Those strategies are also backed by major stakeholders and, based on that result, an implementation plan is designed. One key element in strengthening the value chain is the participation of both the private and public sectors and academia.
- To build the institutional capacities of local actors in formulating and implementing strategies to facilitate the transition to the formal economy, the following activities are suggested:
 - Systematization of best practices and lessons learned about policies, programmes and public and private initiatives aimed at improving the formalization of economic units and jobs.
 - Description of the public policy and institutional framework of the informal economy.
 - Technical assistance, monitoring and preparation of inputs for the formulation of technical sectoral proposals for inclusion in the National Formalization Strategy.
 - Adoption of the National Formalization Strategy.
 - Technical assistance and monitoring of social actors in the implementation of the priorities identified in the National Formalization Strategy, including specific programmes targeting the government sector (e.g. workplace supervision) and employers' and workers' organizations (e.g. increased membership among those engaged in the informal sector).
 - Awareness and information campaign on the benefits of formalization for economic units and employment.
 - Training workshops for key stakeholders on selected topics relating to the informal economy.
- In order to improve the accessibility of remote locations, the following activities are suggested:
 - Examine and assess the current situation and analyse comparable international experiences with territorial development based on infrastructure with a local impact.
 - Create an executing unit to be in charge of coordinating and implementing the infrastructure projects.
 - Define the priority areas and communities and the infrastructure development measures to be implemented and build consensus with the authorities and local population.
 - Design and implement the local infrastructure design programme and the labour training programme in the selected communities.
 - Provide investment in the equipment, machinery and tools needed for the design, planning and execution of the selected projects.
 - Monitor the results and define proposals for developing a maintenance plan for roads and other local infrastructure.

- To design and implement an investment fund for rural women
 - Design and implementation of an investment and productive entrepreneurship component, for rural women wishing to embark on their own business projects. To allocate these non-reimbursable resources (grants), the same parameters as defined for the single investment fund will be used (CDP Proposal 1.40, competitive models and others). Applications may be filed by individuals or groups.
 - Design and implementation of a coordination and technical support mechanism to provide a framework for these investments and to identify complementary resources in the public network and from international cooperation agencies.
 - Under the Regional Policy on Equity and Gender Equality (PRIEG-SICA), design and implementation of a technical training programme, covering five thematic areas:
 - Technical topics: agriculture and forestry, food processing, handicrafts, tourism, use of improved stoves, time-saving technologies, and others.
 - Business management: business plan preparation, accounts, marketing, financial education, others.
 - Training for entrepreneurship: personal training, psychosocial support to bolster self-esteem, conflict resolution and negotiation, etc. Male heads of family should also participate in those activities. One key element will be to promote joint social responsibility in providing unpaid care and domestic work.
 - Spanish-language instruction for indigenous women interested in learning.
 - Organizational development and teamwork.
 - Design of mechanisms other than those of the market to provide women entrepreneurs with access to land (property inheritances between parents and daughters, legalization of ownership, others).
 - Strengthening of the institutional credit funding mechanisms (banks, savings banks and saving and loan cooperatives) existing in Guatemala, in order to provide and/or facilitate access to credit resources for family agriculture under favourable conditions (possibly in conjunction with CABEI) taking particular care to ensure that a significant portion of the credits are extended to rural women.

Project governance

This proposal's operation will require the establishment of a technical unit tasked with selecting the projects that are to receive support, providing technical assistance to the coordination agencies to be set up in each territory, overseeing the correct functioning of the support and credit instruments, and adjusting the operating rules and disseminating the good practices.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

With the local development policies and plans of the departments involved in this initiative.

Duration

Total execution time will be 36 months, with the first four months spent on the diagnostic assessment and evaluation of the current situation and an analysis of international experiences.

Budget: US\$ 450,000,000

Proposal 1.47

Strengthening the tourism sector in Guatemala, Guatemala



Implementing agencies:

- Core institutions: 1. Interior Ministry (MINGOB) and National Civilian Police (PNC), 2. Secretariat of Social Communication of the Office of the President, 3. Ministry of Culture and Sports (MCD), 4. Secretariat for Planning and Programming of the Office of the President (SEGEPLAN), 5. Ministry of Public Finance (MINFIN), 6. Ministry of Health and Social Assistance (MSPAS), 7. National Council for Protected Areas (CONAP), 8. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), 9. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINEX), 10. Ministry of Economic Affairs (MINECO), 11. Guatemalan Tourism Institute (INGUAT), 12. Santo Tomás de Castilla National Port Company and Quetzal Port Company, 13. Tourism Chamber of Guatemala.
- Support institutions: 1. Organization of American States (OAS), 2. Central American Integration System (SICA), 3. Civil society, 4. Secretariats, 5. Municipal governments, 6. NGOs, 7. Congress, 8. National Council for Urban and Rural Development (CONADUR), 9. Tourism Chamber (CAMTUR), 10. Sustainable Tourism Commission (COMITURS), 11. Guatemalan Exporters Association (AGEXPORT), 12. National Competitiveness Programme (PRONACOM), 13. Technical Institute for Training and Production (INTECAP), 14. National Forest Institute (INAB).

Geographical coverage:

On the Atlantic coast, the Department of Izabal; on the Pacific coast, the Departments of Jutiapa, Santa Rosa, Escuintla, Suchitepéquez, Retalhuleu and San Marcos.

Number of beneficiaries:

The target beneficiary population comprises the inhabitants of the Atlantic coast in the Department of Izabal, along with the inhabitants of the Pacific region in the Departments of Jutiapa, Santa Rosa, Escuintla, Suchitepéquez, Retalhuleu and San Marcos and the surrounding communities and areas adjacent to the sector's tourist and heritage sites. Nevertheless, the entire population of the Republic of Guatemala will benefit indirectly.

Main topics:

- Tourism development
- Economic development
- Productive chains
- Biological corridors
- Biodiversity

Context

The tourism sector in these territories has an enormous potential for economic and social development. These territories can be seen as a vast tourism circuit, leading to the creation of regional synergies. One basic element of these territories is that since they are located in rural areas, hotel and restaurant chains can forge productive links with local tourism service providers, fishers and small-scale farmers in the community and other local micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. In addition, in partnership with each region's competitiveness centres, the tourism sector could form part of national productive strategies for development and competitiveness.

Objectives

Modernize the public and private institutional structures of the tourism sector for the coordinated and effective leadership of the development of tourism in the country. Promote and strengthen, responsibly and competitively, Guatemala's image in key, strategic and opportunity markets, so that it surpasses visitors' expectations. Promote tourism training, skill acquisition and awareness programmes in line with the development priorities of the tourism sector. Drive the strengthening and diversification of the tourism supply in accordance with the demarcation of national tourism venues, focusing on tourism and heritage sites of both natural and cultural importance.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Keep the tourism competitiveness index score at 3.5 as of 2024.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index (score 3.5). Correlation between investment in tourism promotion investment and the number of non-resident visitors entering the country. Verification percentage of tourism companies. Number of visitors served at parks or archaeological sites. 	By 2030, design and implement policies for the promotion of sustainable tourism, leading to job creation and the promotion of local culture and products.	5 years

Main activities

- Creation of an inter-institutional committee, comprising key institutions involved with tourism topics, to formulate proposals and assign responsibilities to each actor under the tourism sector strengthening programme. That committee will be led by the Guatemalan Tourism Institute.
- Prepare a map of the policies under way in the tourism sector at the national level to leverage the work carried out and forge working synergies.
- Prepare technical studies for those departments where the tourism sector strengthening programme is to have direct interventions to identify opportunities for the creation, consolidation and growth of companies with ties to that sector.
- Review and/or prepare the baseline for the programme's planned indicators.
- Promote the review and modernization of the tourism sector's public and private institutional structures for the coordinated and effective leadership of the development of the tourism in the country.
- Promote and strengthen, responsibly and competitively, Guatemala's image in key, strategic and opportunity markets.
- Create programmes to provide the stakeholders involved with training and technification.

- Carry out tourism awareness work in line with national and local development priorities, driving the strengthening and diversification of the tourism supply in accordance with the demarcation of national tourism venues.
- Improve access to tourist and heritage sites.
- Monitor and assess compliance with the indicators contained in the Guatemalan tourism sector strengthening programme.
- Promote collaboration between public and private sector institutions, local governments and competitiveness centres, NGOs and local communities to devise and implement measures to strengthen the culture of tourism.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

With the local development policies and plans of the departments involved. With other programmes and projects under way in parallel at the national level.

Duration:

5 years.

Budget: US\$ 8,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion:

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Strengthening the tourism sector in Guatemala.	Productive and competitiveness proposal for the development of alternative tourism. 2015-2025 Guatemalan Master Plan for Sustainable Tourism. Tourism segment plans. Departmental, municipal and community development plans.	Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA): regional value chains. Central American Tourism Integration Secretariat (SITCA): Programme to strengthen MSMEs, with emphasis on regional value chains. Regional Competitiveness and Sustainability Programme for Tourism MSMEs (PROMITUR). Project to Strengthen Tourism Integration and Promotion in Central America.	ECLAC, FAO, Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation Spain-SICA Fund (FES). Cooperation from Taiwan Province of China.		Tourism chambers, transport and hotel companies.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 1.48

Comprehensive territorial development in the Dry Corridor of Honduras, Honduras



Implementing agencies:

Honduras Strategic Investment (INVEST-Honduras).

Geographical coverage:

The Dry Corridor of Honduras.

Number of beneficiaries:

327,860 inhabitants of the 74 municipalities that belong to the Dry Corridor of Honduras.

Main topics

- Territorial development
- Food and nutritional security
- Resilience
- Adaptation to climate change
- Social protection
- National, local, household and individual capacity-building
- Economic empowerment of women

Context

The agroclimatic and socioeconomic characteristics of the Dry Corridor of Honduras make it one of the world's most vulnerable areas to climate change. Land degradation and deforestation worsen the effects of extreme climate events, such as droughts and torrential rains, the latter of which cause floods, landslides and avalanches in mountainous areas. Such extreme climate events lead to the loss of crops, seeds,

livestock, machinery and equipment, the results of which include fewer employment opportunities and lost income. That situation contributes to worsening food insecurity and malnutrition. In many cases, those factors combine to make migration an obligation rather than a choice.

Climate change affects the means of rural subsistence, particularly those of small-scale producers in this subregion and of the day-labourers who work in the agricultural sector. Droughts and low rainfall are increasingly frequent, intense and prolonged in this region of Honduras. One year of drought affects production and reduces harvests for the following four years (Earth Institute, 2017).

At the same time, the region is also affected by the opposing phenomenon: intense rains that cause floods and affect livelihoods in areas where around 25% of the population are already in conditions of extreme poverty and depend on the cultivation of staple grains, such as rice, beans and maize. The vulnerability of these communities is also affected by the prevailing levels of violence and insecurity. As a result, at 25%, this subregion of Honduras has Latin America's highest levels of food insecurity.

Objectives

Increase, in a sustainable fashion, the income of the beneficiary rural households in the Dry Corridor of Honduras.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals:

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Inhabitants affected by extreme climate events have improved access to adequate food supplies.	Number of individuals receiving unconditional food assistance, broken down by sex and age.	327,860 people.	3 months
Improved capacities for adaptation and resilience towards climate-caused crises among the most vulnerable households, including the families of small-scale producers, subsistence farmers and day-labourers, through transfers conditioned on asset creation.	Number of individuals receiving food assistance for asset creation during times of shortage, broken down by sex and age.	81,965 people.	5 years
	Food consumption score.	Reduction in the proportion of the population receiving assistance with poor food consumption.	5 years
	Consumption-based coping strategy index.	Reduction/stabilization of negative coping strategies.	5 years
	Proportion of the population in the selected communities reporting benefits obtained from the increase in the asset base.	80% of the communities with improved asset scores.	5 years
Sustainable increase in the agricultural output and incomes of small-scale producers facing food insecurity, and of their organizations.	Percentage of small-scale farmers (men/women) selling their produce through the cooperatives supported by the project.	Increase in the percentage of farmers selling their produce through the cooperatives.	5 years
National, local and household capacities strengthened for risk management and reduction, nutrition, and crisis preparation and response	Number of national programmes receiving support from the project for capacity-building.	At least 3 programmes supported.	5 years
Reduced vulnerability of rice, bean and maize producers to climate change.	Percentage of producers with insurance.	Substantial increase in insured producers, as indicated by the baseline.	5 years

Main activities

- Component 1. Strengthening of productive development to bolster the competitiveness and sustainability of value chains with a market approach and climate awareness. The main recipients will be producers and organizations (MSMEs), in accordance with the following criteria:
 - Subcomponent 1.1. Adoption of information and communication technology (ICT). To provide non-reimbursable support to producers and groups of producers, with a focus on the participation of women and young people, in order to co-finance investments for improved productivity (creation of added value, differentiation, improved quality, new product development, productive chains, and so on) through the implementation of ICT.
 - Subcomponent 1.2. Comprehensive technical assistance: To provide comprehensive technical assistance to eligible producers, to be given by teams of technicians with a local presence hired by the implementing company and consisting of advisory services and training on productive and market issues, credit management and nutrition.
 - Subcomponent 1.3. Management and conservation of microbasins: Work with municipal authorities, communities and local organizations for the adoption and implementation of microbasin management plans; together with investment activities to improve the management and conservation of microbasins of critical importance to the water supply in the intervention area.
 - Subcomponent 1.4. Institutional strengthening of services: The executing agency will sign agreements with public and private organizations and academia to strengthen the coverage and quality of services.
- Component 2. Access to finance: To expand funding for eligible small-scale producers through financial intermediation intended to involve them in value chains and to promote stable sources of income. This component includes two subcomponents, according to the financial product offered, and its resources will be managed through two trusts for which INVEST-Honduras will be the trustor.
 - Subcomponent 2.1. Access to credit: A trust will be established to allow the producers benefiting from Component 1, and others located in the selected clusters with market-oriented funding plans, to access finance for fixed assets and working capital (for production and diversification, creation of added value, processing, marketing, opening new markets and/or resilience).
 - Subcomponent 2.2. Access to guarantees: A guarantee will be established to leverage resources from the local financial sector by reducing the perceived levels of risk of projects for investing in productive infrastructure and the adoption of technology, in order to strengthen the links of productive chains.
 - Subcomponent 2.3. Access to indexed agricultural insurance: A prototype for indexed agricultural insurance will be developed with rice, bean and maize farmers in the Dry Corridor of Honduras. To this end, the financial product will be devised, designed and validated, and its implementation will be offered to the project's partners (banks, microfinance agencies, rural savings banks, associations and suppliers of inputs), with government monitoring.
- Component 3. Monitoring and evaluation system: A monitoring system for households in the Dry Corridor will be implemented, with indicators to follow up on this project and on the operations of other donors, in order to determine the situation as regards poverty, well-being, productive activities and funding. The indicators will be monitored regularly through the use of new digital technologies. In addition, a study using experimental behavioural economics methods will be carried out, to assess and gain a better understanding of the factors influencing decision-making in the adoption of technologies, technical assistance and debtor behaviour in amortizing loans.

- Administrative expenses and others: Funding will be given for the staff of the project coordinating unit, operating costs, thematic experts, component coordinators, external and environmental audits, and midterm and final evaluations. These administrative expenses are typical of a project of this kind, in which geographical and logistic complexities demand the capacity for efficient execution.

Project governance

Honduras Strategic Investment (INVEST-Honduras).

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Synergies will be created with the project for agricultural microinsurance for staple grains and coffee producers in the Dry Corridor of Honduras. Synergies will also be created with the “Mesoamerica Hunger Free” programme under way in countries including those of Northern Central America, which aims to strengthen public policies and legal frameworks to help overcome hunger and rural poverty; and with the “100 territories free of poverty and hunger” strategy (100-T), which seeks to develop, implement, monitor, evaluate, systematize and disseminate tools and intervention models suited to the realities of the most underdeveloped and vulnerable rural territories.

In addition, synergies will be established with the programmes and policies implemented by SICA and the Governments of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras in the areas of food and nutritional security, territorial development, social protection, agricultural productivity and climate change adaptation.

Duration:

The intervention is planned for a duration of five years.

Estimated budget: US\$ 90,000,000¹

¹ This project has an assigned budget of US\$ 55,000,000, and so there is a funding shortfall of US\$ 35,000,000.

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion:

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Strengthening institutional frameworks and territorial participation. Basic services for households and rural territories. Inclusive territorial development mechanisms to reduce imminent and underlying risks, with a particular focus on the migrant population.	2010–2022 National Development Plan. 2018–2022 Honduras Country Strategic Plan.	Central American Council for Agriculture (CAC) of SICA. Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).	Dry Corridor Alliance.	World Bank, Dry Corridor Regional Food Security Project.	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

E. Macroeconomics for development programme

No.	Name of proposal
1.49	Identification of fiscal spaces in order to implement the Comprehensive Development Plan



Proposal 1.49

Identification of fiscal spaces in order to implement the Comprehensive Development Plan



Implementing agencies:

Ministries responsible for public finance (Ministry of Finance of El Salvador, Ministry of Public Finance of Guatemala, Ministry of Finance of Honduras and Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit of Mexico).

Financial system regulatory authorities (Central Reserve Bank of El Salvador, Bank of Guatemala, Central Bank of Honduras, Bank of Mexico), and supervisory entities (Superintendency of the Financial System of El Salvador, Superintendency of Banks of Guatemala, National Commission of Banks and Insurance Companies of Honduras, National Banking and Securities Commission of Mexico).

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Potentially the entire population of the four participating countries.

Main topics:

- Public finances
- Development funding
- Economic growth
- Employment
- Poverty
- Inequality
- Financial system
- Saving and investment
- Risk management

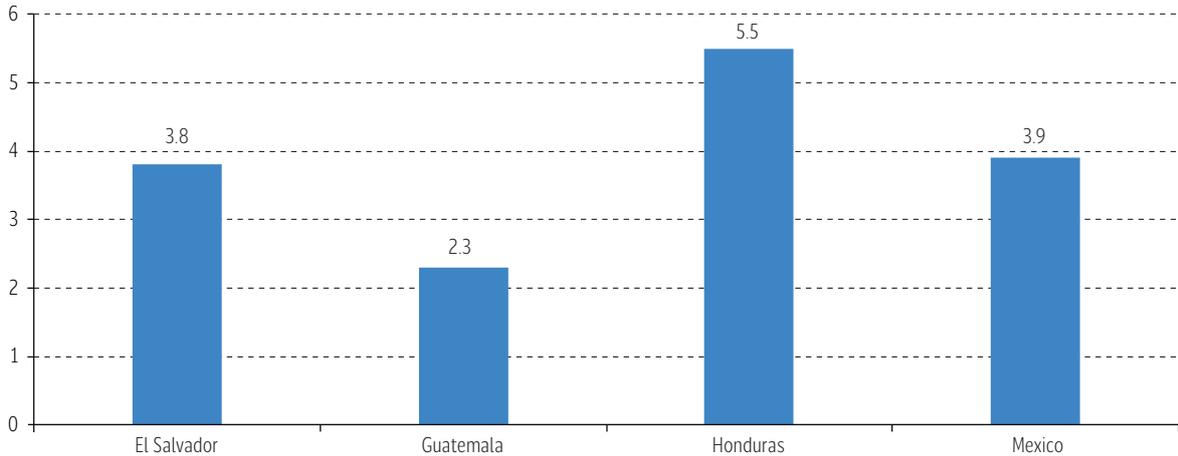
Context

A macroeconomic policy for development requires going beyond the logic of nominal stability and aligning monetary, fiscal and financial policies as a whole to catalyse higher levels of sustainable and inclusive growth. It must also be aligned with other policies —such as social, industrial and territorial development policies— in order to create greater volumes of decent jobs and to transform the productive apparatus in order to secure high productivity and high added value, and to do all that as part of the indivisible and universal pursuit of the 2030 Agenda.

The countries of Northern Central America and Mexico require a macroeconomic policy that includes greater support for growth in fiscal policy, including public budgets with more room for social and infrastructure investments. This new fiscal policy should also ambitiously expand universal social protection. The imperative, therefore, is to pursue a far-reaching tax reform that effectively combats tax evasion, avoidance and privileges, and thus significantly increases revenue collection capacities (see figure 2). On the side of public spending, efforts must be stepped up to improve its progressiveness and quality. There is also a need for greater flexibility in the execution of public spending and for strategic projects in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Private sector participation through public-private partnerships and the close monitoring of society and public spending are essential to ensure gains in spending efficiency and the fight against corruption.

The economic landscape —and the fiscal outlook in particular— poses major challenges for development financing from here to 2030 and for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Strengthened public finances and debt sustainability are therefore necessary conditions if the region’s countries are to boost their economic growth and set the foundations for a higher level of inclusive development in the long term. This demands solid quantitative studies that indicate the current state of public finances as well as their level of debt, and to identify fiscal tools that can be of use in closing gaps in meeting the SDGs. Thus, what is needed is a comprehensive panorama of the macroeconomic situation in the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico and of the fiscal challenges they face.

Figure 1
Countries of Northern Central America: Tax revenues forgone, 2017
(Percentages of GDP)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Fiscal Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2019* (LC/PUB.2019/8-P), Santiago, 2019.

The financial sector also has an important role to play in mobilizing resources to attain the goals of the Comprehensive Development Plan. As a result of the reforms undertaken during the first decade of this century, the financial systems of the Northern Central American countries and Mexico now have strengthened capacities. Their banking sectors have grown, their capital markets have expanded, debt markets denominated in national currencies have developed, and they make greater use of hedging instruments. There is also evidence of greater participation by institutional investors and greater financial inclusion, particularly through the expansion of payment, savings and credit services to lower-income households and MSMEs.

Despite the recent progress, however, the region's financial markets are still characterized by shallowness compared to other countries with similar income levels. Two factors provide evidence of this: the proportion of bank credit extended to the private sector, and the liquidity of capital markets. In addition, available credit has a significant bias toward consumption rather than productive activities, and access to medium- and long-term financing is scarce and expensive.

Objectives

Design a comprehensive fiscal strategy, based on a solid empirical analysis, in order to combat tax evasion, avoidance and privileges effectively, to substantially increase revenue collection capacity, to mobilize resources to boost growth in line with progressive structural change and the requirements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to improve the progressiveness of tax collection and the quality of public spending.

Develop an action plan for the further integration of the financial systems of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Strengthened capacity for tax collection.	Development of a new fiscal strategy for tax collection and spending.	Adoption of a fiscal strategy for tax collection and spending in each country.	24 months
Action plan to further financial integration between El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.	The action plan is to include: (i) An analysis of the national financial systems. (ii) The current state of financial integration between the countries. (iii) Prioritized agenda of actions for furthering their financial integration.	The action plan is adopted as the guiding instrument for the countries' efforts.	24 months

Main activities

Fiscal matters:

- Conduct national studies in the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico to identify the main constraints on increased collection capacity and on the efficient use of expenditure. These proposed studies will primarily aim to:
 - Assess the factors behind forgone tax revenues.
 - Identify the amounts involved in tax evasion and avoidance.
 - Better understand tax privileges and their impact on collection.
 - Explore green, digital and health taxation.

- Analyse the role of public expenditure and investment.
- Examine the quality of public spending.
- Understand the mechanisms behind the erosion of the tax base and the transfer of benefits.
- Analyse debt sustainability.
- Investigate the role of public-private partnerships in promoting investment.
- Explore incentive alternatives for development financing.
- Identify tools for strengthening the tax administration.
- Propose a set of resilient and sustainable investments.
- Explore collection alternatives.
- Propose a new tax strategy.
 - Design new fiscal strategies for tax collection and efficiency in public spending.
- Present documents and new fiscal strategies to the competent ministries in each country.

Furthering financial integration:

- Analysis of national financial systems
 - (a) Identification of the main participants in the financial systems and definition of their individual roles: lenders, borrowers, providers of liquidity and market development, supervisors and regulators.
 - (b) Analysis of the incentives available to participants for the design, execution, operation and fulfilment of contracts.
 - (c) Identification of the obstacles that hamper the execution, operation and fulfilment of contracts.
 - (d) Mechanisms for resolving those obstacles.
- Current state of financial integration between the countries
 - (a) Level of development of the banking system, debt market, capital market and risk management mechanisms.
 - (b) Regulatory and supervisory capabilities.
 - (c) Corporate governance of the financial system.
 - (d) Asset custody and transaction settlement mechanisms.
 - (e) Communication and feedback mechanisms with the private sector.
- Prioritized agenda of actions for furthering financial integration
 - (a) Definition of national priorities, and regional alignment thereof.
 - (b) Identification of expected costs, time frames and impacts.
 - (c) Action sequencing consensus.
 - (d) Identification of responsible parties and metrics for monitoring and evaluation.

Project governance

The finance ministries will devise a working strategy and dialogue mechanism to carry out the proposed studies. This strategy must address their interest in specific fiscal and financial analyses. Not all the countries have the same shortcomings in their assessments and resolution alternatives. It is important that the Council of Ministers of Finance of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (COSEFIN) serve as the technical secretariat of the process.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The four countries are active members of COSEFIN and, accordingly, they have national action plans and a common agenda of interests that are in line with this proposal.

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has financial and technical resources to support studies in the region.

The proposal will be complemented by other ongoing efforts in the region, including the Programme for the Promotion of Good Financial Governance within the Central American Integration System (SICA), which is the responsibility of COSEFIN and receives financial support from the German cooperation agency Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), and the Fiscal Interest Matrix that guides the work of COSEFIN in the region.

Duration

Total execution time for this proposal will be 24 months. The first four months will be spent on defining the work plan; the following four months on developing the conceptual framework; and the remaining six months on collecting and processing the information. In parallel, the first drafts will be produced in 12 months. Over the following four months, experts will read them to present and incorporate recommendations. The final documents will be submitted during the last two months.

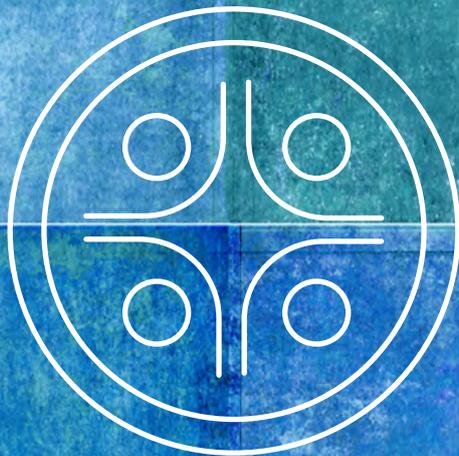
Budget: US\$ 2,500,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Identification of fiscal spaces for the fulfilment of the CDP.	National Development Plans of each country, and studies by their ministries of finance.	Council of Ministers of Finance of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (COSEFIN). Programme for the Promotion of Good Financial Governance within the Central American Integration System. Fiscal Interest Matrix.	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).	Reform/Modernization of the State - Fiscal Policy for Sustainability and Growth, Inter-American Development Bank.	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)	Different think tanks.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).



2. SOCIAL WELL-BEING PILLAR

A. Social and labour inclusion programme

No.	Name of proposal
2.1	Sustainable labour insertion for socially at-risk youth in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico
2.2	Youth employment with gender awareness
2.3	Building equality: leadership and empowerment of indigenous, Afrodescendent and Garifuna women in Northern Central America and south and south-east Mexico
2.4	Closing inequality gaps for indigenous peoples
2.5	Comprehensive strategies for the formalization of companies and employment in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south and south-east Mexico
2.6	Training for the future of work
2.7	Non-contributory pensions and social protection for hard-to-cover groups: migrant workers and their families, independent workers, microenterprises, domestic workers and migrants
2.8	Prevention and eradication of child labour
2.9	Young people building the future in the south and south-east of Mexico and Northern Central America, Mexico (*)
2.10	Reclaiming public spaces and creating technological research projects through participation and training of young people aged between 15 and 29, State of Campeche (*)

(*) Projects prioritized by the Governments of the Northern Central American countries, the Government of Mexico, or the states of South-Southeast Mexico.



Proposal 2.1

Sustainable labour insertion for socially at-risk youth in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico



Implementing agencies:

El Salvador: National Commission for Micro and Small Enterprises (CONAMYPE), Export and Investment Promotion Agency of El Salvador (PROESA), Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Ministry of Justice and Public Security and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Guatemala: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food.

Honduras: Honduran Council of Private Enterprise, National Professional Training Institute (INFOP), Advisory Centre for the Development of Human Resources (CADERH), National Federation of Farmers and Ranchers of Honduras (FENAGH), Office of the Under-Secretary of Agriculture, Office of the Under-Secretary of International Cooperation and Promotion.

Mexico: Governments of the nine southern and south-eastern states, National College of Technical Professional Education (CONALEP) and Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the south and south-east of Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Direct beneficiaries:

- More than 5,000 young women and men in situations of social risk and returnees, aged between 15 and 29, will be trained for their incorporation into the local job market or will receive assistance for the creation of their own companies. Taking into account the gender perspective, efforts will be made to ensure parity among the beneficiaries, in that 50% of the young people receiving assistance should be women. Of the total, it is believed that between 50% and 70% will succeed in entering the labour market through either non-temporary jobs or self-employment.

- There will be at least four institutes of education per country partnered with this initiative. The training centres will be charged with providing human and professional training for at-risk and returnee youth. Those institutions will be strengthened along at least three lines: institutional sustainability, ties with local companies, and follow-up services following training and labour insertion.
- At least five cooperatives and companies in the farming sector per country, which will receive support for the professional certification of their workers, for the identification of new suppliers and, in some cases, for expanding or diversifying their businesses, provided that this leads to the creation of new jobs.

The indirect beneficiaries will be the families of the young women and men attaining labour insertion through this initiative. They will benefit through stable incomes earned through decent work and licit activities.

Main topics:

- Trade
- Regional value chains
- Employment
- Customs infrastructure
- Transparency
- Climate change
- Reduced inequalities and gender equity
- Health and well-being
- Peace and justice

Context

In recent years, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico have reported economic growth, but not in sufficient amounts to lead to a change of patterns within society.

In El Salvador, youth between the ages of 15 and 24 account for 30% of the active population. Both their unemployment rate (11.8% among young men and 13.6% among young women) and underemployment rate (55% for young men and 44.2% for young women) are higher than the national average. Those statistics, together with the fact that 24.8% of Salvadoran youth neither study nor work, highlight the challenges and obstacles of integrating young people into productive activities. First, low levels of schooling and professional training mean scant alignment with the needs of the private sector. Second, the sluggish growth and low productivity of the Salvadoran economy cause a dearth of formal, quality jobs and, as a result, a heightened risk of recruitment into violent groups as the only activity available.

According to the Department of Statistics and Censuses (DIGESTYC), El Salvador's poverty rate fell from 44.6% to 34.8% between 2000 and 2013. Of those totals, women accounted for 52.6% and men for 47.4%. Poverty rates in both rural and urban areas have fallen —from 59.2% and 34.3%, respectively, in 2000 to 41.7% and 30.6% in 2013— with which the differential between them has also narrowed. Because of the accelerated process of urbanization under way, however, at present there are, in absolute terms, more households and individuals in situations of poverty in urban than rural areas.

Between 2001 and 2016, the poverty rate in Honduras fell by only 2.8%. In 2016, according to the National Institute of Statistics (INE), 60.9% of the population was living in poverty and 38.4% in extreme poverty, in spite of the vast amounts of money invested in poverty reduction by the Government of Honduras. Since the 2008–2009 economic crisis, Honduras has experienced moderate recovery, driven by public investments, exports and healthy levels of remittances. According to figures from the Economic

Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the country grew its economy by 4.8% in 2017 and a growth rate of 2.9% was forecast for 2020. Honduras also reports Latin America's highest levels of economic inequality, which further complicates integrating a significant part of its population into the development process and improving their standards of living.

Violence is not directly related to economic development figures.¹ What is important is for the employment rate to focus on those groups at greatest social risk: in other words, at-risk youth, particularly young men. Studies indicate that youth unemployment consistently correlates to the homicide rate: an increase of one percentage point in youth unemployment leads to an additional 0.34 homicides per 100,000 people. Youth unemployment is therefore particularly pernicious for citizen security. Moreover, the quality of employment —understood as the potential for growth and stability at work— plays a key role in the relationship between the labour market and criminal activity. Young women and men must be provided a healthy environment among their peers and offered the tools for aspiring to formal jobs with expectations of rising earnings.

This point is particularly important. Between 2009 and 2013, according to the Institute of Legal Medicine (IML), around 55% of El Salvador's homicide victims were aged under 30, indicating that most violent deaths occur among children, adolescents and young women and men. In Honduras, this situation appears to be more serious. In 2012, according to the Violence Observatory at the National Autonomous University of Honduras, 84% of the country's homicide victims were aged between 15 and 34.

In the context of widespread violence facing the country, violence against girls and women is a growing problem. ECLAC data indicate that Honduras has the region's highest rate of femicides (13.3 for every 100,000 inhabitants), followed by El Salvador with a figure of 5.7.

In addition to being victims of violence, women are still affected in numerous other ways. In El Salvador, the female illiteracy rate is 13.7%, compared to 7.3% among men, and rural women are even more vulnerable to illiteracy: on average they have fewer years of schooling and face greater barriers to labour and financial markets, which leads to higher levels of underemployment and informality among that segment of the population. In Honduras, in contrast, the illiteracy rate does not vary between the sexes, but it does stand at 20% among the poorest quintile of the population. In El Salvador, inequality between men and women is also reflected in property ownership: according to DIGESTYC figures, only 12% of the farmers who own the land they work are women and, similarly, only 26% of small and medium-sized enterprises have women owners. In Honduras, in contrast, 60% of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) are led by women, but there is still a significant income gap: women's earnings are equal to only 84% of those of men, according to the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean. Moreover, Honduras has Central America's widest gender gap in youth unemployment. Men account for 68% of all employees aged under 30 years, while only 29% are women.

Guatemala, Central America's largest economy, is among the countries with the greatest levels of inequality in Latin America, with high poverty rates —particularly in rural areas and among indigenous populations— and some of the region's highest infant and maternal mortality figures.

Between 2000 and 2006, according to the World Bank, Guatemala reduced its poverty rate from 56% to 51%. Official figures from 2014, however, indicate that poverty later rose to 60%. Indigenous people account for 52% of all the people living in poverty in the country.

The nine southern and south-eastern states of Mexico are in a similar situation as regards levels of poverty, insufficient youth employment opportunities and rising violence as a result of organized crime.

¹ See L. Chioda, *Stop the Violence in Latin America: A Look at Prevention from Cradle to Adulthood. Overview*, Washington, D.C., World Bank, 2016.

Objective

Contribute to the reduction of youth violence through the sustainable labour insertion of socially at-risk young women and men in the farming chains of El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico.

Specific objective

Create efficient and sustainable mechanisms for labour incorporation in farming chains for youth at risk from falling into the criminal activities of gangs and for young migrant returnees, through technical training and technical assistance towards employment and self-employment.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Indicators	
Outcome 1: Identification of productive chains allowing good labour insertion and of most relevant work zones in terms of the presence of youth and companies.	<p>Identification of two departments per country, one rural and one urban, and of at least one specific intervention zone in each department.</p> <p>Identification of at least 3 productive chains per country with job creation potential.</p> <p>Identification of at least 5 companies and 4 institutes of education per country to act as the project's operating partners, willing to create formal employment opportunities and with the relevant cooperation agreements signed.</p> <p>Identification of at least 5,000 at-risk or returnee young men and women to benefit from the project's activities.</p>
• Activity 1.1	• Contact and signing of strategic alliances with public professional training and employment support programmes in place in each country.
• Activity 1.2.	• Analysis of productive chains with potential for labour insertion, access to new markets and gender inclusion, and contacts with companies in the sector.
• Activity 1.3	• Identification of value chains and analysis of their barriers and opportunities.
• Activity 1.4.	• Analysis of educational and professional training institutions working with at-risk youth in urban and rural areas.
• Activity 1.5.	• Analysis of the profiles of the young women and men attending the training programmes of the identified institutions.
• Activity 1.6.	• Definition of a baseline for determining the departments and areas where actions are to be targeted and the project's operating partners.
Outcome 2: Increased economic opportunities at local agro-industrial companies to promote job creation.	<p>At least 2,500 young women and men trained in technical topics and soft skills.</p> <p>85% of the young women and men satisfactorily complete their training according to the course requirements.</p> <p>Four institutions (cooperatives, associations or companies) per country launch, strengthen or diversify their productive activities and create jobs for youth.</p> <p>At least 50% of the young people trained receive support in finding formal employment in the farming value chains through workplace training and apprenticeship contracts.</p>
• Activity 2.1.	• Analysis of the companies' workforce needs and possibilities for expansion or business diversification requiring labour.
• Activity 2.2	• Selection of young women and men with the profile required by farming sector companies in their areas of residence.
• Activity 2.3	• Personalized training for the young people, in technical/professional topics or soft skills, as required by the job, through the local institutes of education or the companies' own training centres.
• Activity 2.4	• Support for local companies and institutions for opening new lines of business or for expanding existing lines of work.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Indicators	
• Activity 2.5	• Purchasing technical equipment from local companies or institutions that are opening new lines of business or expanding existing lines of work.
• Activity 2.6	• Formalization of the work contract between the young people and the companies, and follow-up to assess the level of satisfaction of both parties and the possibility of renewing the contract.
Outcome 3: Support given for the creation of microenterprises led by at-risk and returnee youth to offer goods and services to the local population and companies.	At least 2,000 young people training in technical and managerial issues for implementing a business idea. 85% of the young women and men satisfactorily complete their training according to the course requirements. At least 1,000 young people receive seed capital for starting their businesses (77% of those starting training). 70% of those seeking access to credit for their businesses obtain it. At least 32 contracts for supplying companies with products or services signed by the microenterprises created through the project. Analysis conducted of the situation of 20 training institutions.
• Activity 3.1	• Selection of young people with ideas for farming-related businesses that are in line with the local market and the needs of local companies.
• Activity 3.2	• Technical and managerial training and personalized mentoring to analyse the business and create a business plan.
• Activity 3.3	• Selection of the projects with the greatest potential and support in the creation of the company through seed capital and advisory services.
• Activity 3.4	• Contact with financial agencies.
• Activity 3.5	• Follow-up of the created companies.
Outcome 4: Strengthened mechanisms at local institutions for the re-entry of at-risk and returnee youth into the world of work.	18 labour insertion platforms analysed. 36 executives from training institutions that work with at-risk and returnee youth trained in the operation of an internal placement office. 18 labour insertion platforms active at the conclusion of the consultancies. 485 training beneficiaries not selected by the project with access to training through the labour insertion platforms.
• Activity 4.1	• Analysis of the services currently offered and how they are seen by the direct beneficiaries, and definition of a baseline.
• Activity 4.2	• Organization of training and exchanges by the institutions involved that have had successful experiences with labour insertion and with following up on former students.
• Activity 4.3	• Launch or expansion of an internal labour insertion service in each institution, on a permanent basis and sustainable over time, with the assistance of government agencies to replicate the initiative.
• Activity 4.4	• Implementation of mechanisms to disseminate, publicize and raise the visibility of this service.

Main activities

- Analysis of productive chains with potential for labour insertion, access to new markets and gender inclusion, and contacts with companies in the sector.
- Analysis of educational and professional training institutions working with at-risk youth in urban and rural areas.
- Analysis of the profiles of the young women and men attending the training programmes of the identified institutions.

- Analysis of the companies' workforce needs and possibilities for expansion or business diversification requiring labour.
- Personalized training for the young people, in technical/professional topics or soft skills, as required by the job, through the local institutes of education or the companies' own training centres.
- Support for local companies and institutions for opening new lines of business or for expanding existing lines of work.
- Formalization of employment contracts between young people and companies, and follow-up to assess the level of satisfaction of both parties and the possibility of contract renewal.
- Technical and managerial training and personalized mentoring to analyse the business and create a business plan.
- Analysis of the services currently offered and how they are seen by the direct beneficiaries, and definition of a baseline.
- Organization of training and exchanges by the institutions involved that have had successful experiences with labour insertion and with following up on former students.
- Launch or expansion of an internal labour insertion service in each institution, on a permanent basis and sustainable over time, with the assistance of government agencies to replicate the initiative.
- Implementation of mechanisms to disseminate, publicize and raise the visibility of this service.

Project governance

A Steering Committee will be set up for the general coordination of the project. This committee will meet every 6 months, and its functions will include:

- Providing strategic guidance and overseeing project execution.
- Reviewing the progress made and challenges encountered during execution, and adopting decisions on the steps needed to attain the expected results.
- Analysing alignment with the relevant national priorities and making the necessary adjustments.
- Reviewing the availability of resources, agreeing on actions for securing funds and meeting financial performance benchmarks.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The four countries will be part of a Comprehensive Development Programme, which will direct a series of actions in a single direction. They will also be in synergy with ongoing projects that have already been mapped.

The "Youth Building the Future" programme under way in Mexico would complement this project very well.

Duration

Total execution time for this proposal will be 48 months.

Budget: US\$ 3,940,000

Annex

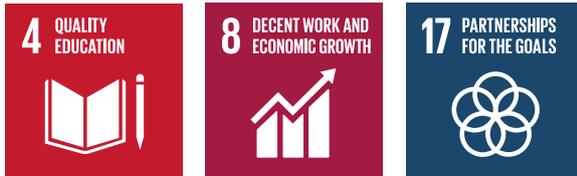
Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Youth employment with gender awareness.	2012–2024 National Action Plan for Youth Employment, El Salvador.	2018–2030 Regional Intersectoral Agenda on Social Protection and Productive Inclusion with Equity (ARIPSP).	International Labour Organization (ILO)-Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth. International Organization for Migration (IOM), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-Trinational Project for Resilience and Social Cohesion in Northern Central America.	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)-National Programme of Workshop Schools for Training Youth with Labour Market Access Difficulties-Honduras.	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB): projects dealing with the transition from school to work, labour policies and labour intermediation.	Inclusive employment policies of the Honduran Council of Private Enterprise.
Building equality, leadership and empowerment of indigenous, Afrodescendent and Garifuna women in Northern Central America and Mexico.	2017–2032 National Policy on Decent Employment, Guatemala.					
	National Employment Service of Honduras.					
	Youth Building the Future programme in Mexico.					
	2020–2024 General Government Policy, Guatemala.					

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.2

Youth employment with gender awareness



Implementing agencies:

El Salvador: Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Education, Salvadoran Institute of Vocational Training (INSAFORP), workers' and employers' organizations.

Guatemala: Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Education, Technical Institute for Training and Productivity (INTECAP), workers' and employers' organizations.

Honduras: Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Secretariat for Economic Development, Education Secretariat, National Professional Training Institute (INFOP), workers' and employers' organizations.

Mexico: Secretariat of Labour and Social Security, Secretariat of Public Education and the corresponding secretariats in the participating states, National Institute of the Entrepreneur (INADEM), National College of Technical Professional Education (CONALEP), workers' and employers' organizations.

Institutional capacities for the intervention:

A platform for public-private collaboration should be established, with the participation of the four countries and including high-level representatives of governments, employers, workers and the international organizations involved, to focus on knowledge management, exchanges of good practices and institutional capacity-building for the executing agencies. The Generation Unlimited (GenU) global initiative could be of use in this context.

Geographical coverage:

Northern Central America (El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala), and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Young people (15 to 24 years).

Main topics:

- Education and technical and professional training
- Development of sustainable companies
- Labour migration

Context

The main problem is the dearth of opportunities for young people—in particular, those in situations of poverty—to fully develop their talent and make productive use of it in their countries of origin.

- Many young people are neither studying nor working (37% in Mexico, 28% in El Salvador and 21% in Guatemala and Honduras).
- If they manage to stay in school, the education they receive is generally of poor quality and with little relevance for their futures in the world of work.
- If they try to enter the job market, they generally encounter unemployment rates that are twice the national average or only succeed in finding precarious, informal jobs: this situation affects seven out of every ten workers in Northern Central America and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico.
- Women tend to have more years of schooling than men, but they face structural constraints that hamper their equitable access to quality employment.

Unemployment rate by country (average, third quarter 2018)

Country	Youth unemployment rate (15 to 24 years)	National unemployment rate
El Salvador ^a	14.4	7.0
Guatemala	6.1	2.8
Honduras	11.0	5.4
Mexico	7.0	3.3
Latin America and the Caribbean	19.6	8.4

Source: International Labour Organization (ILO), *2018 Labour Overview of Latin America and the Caribbean*, Lima, 2018.

^a Figures for El Salvador are 2017 averages.

Three of the main reasons behind this problem have been identified:

- **A lack of jobs.** The productive apparatus is currently unable to generate the number of quality jobs needed. According to ECLAC, the labour inclusion needed for current demographics would require the net annual creation of 580,000 jobs in Northern Central America and almost 1.6 million in Mexico.
- **A lack of skills and work experience.** The average level of schooling among the economically active population aged 15 and over is low, ranging from 5.2 years (men in Guatemala) to 8.4 years (women in El Salvador) in Northern Central America. In the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico, it ranges from 6.9 (women in the State of Chiapas) to 9.8 (men in the State of Quintana Roo). Secondary school coverage¹ in rural areas stands at around 20% in Northern Central America and is barely above 30% in Mexico. Low schooling levels, together with the inadequate supply of education and technical and professional training services, constrains the possibilities of rapid productive transformation. Another common barrier to youth insertion into the labour market is the lack of workplace experience.
- **An absence of ecosystems to support entrepreneurship.** The development of sustainable companies faces significant obstacles. Northern Central America is among the worst ranked regions on the World Economic Forum competitiveness index,² and south and south-east Mexico also faces

¹ Percentage of people aged between 20 and 24 with complete secondary education.

² Of 141 countries, Guatemala was ranked 98th, Honduras 101st and El Salvador 103rd, according to the 2019 Global Competitiveness Report.

a serious shortfall in competitiveness, similar to its Central American neighbours. The absence of an appropriate ecosystem of financial and non-financial business development services restricts the success of youth entrepreneurship. While individual business undertakings are abundant, most are driven by need and not by a business opportunity with potential for growth. For example, Guatemala ranks second on the entrepreneurial activity index of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM); however, it was placed 42 out of 48 countries for the indicator assessing motivation (need/opportunity).³

Most governments tackle the youth employment challenge through programmes to build or certify skills, and/or to subsidize contracting or at-work learning. Examples of this include:

- **El Salvador.** In June 2019, President Bukele announced the *Oportunidad* initiative, which is the second phase of his Territorial Control Plan. During this second phase, the Salvadoran Government will mobilize “all the agencies of the State with an impact on vulnerable youth to prevent them joining gangs”. The creation of the Unit for the Reconstruction of the Social Fabric was announced, and it was also announced that the facilities of the International Centre for Fairs and Conventions (CIFCO) in San Salvador would be used for a Technical University, which will train 100,000 young people through workshops on art and culture, graffiti, extreme skating, DJ-ing and technical diplomas in order to provide them with vocational opportunities.
- **Guatemala.** Between 2013–2018 Guatemala carried out its Youth Employment Programme, to train and build the business skills of at least 12,000 young Guatemalans from different regions of the country. The beneficiaries who received this technical and workplace training were aged between 14 and 29, and 30% of them secured jobs with the skills they acquired. The programme was funded by the European Union and executed by the Ministry of Economic Affairs, in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security and the Ministry of Education. The European Union invested 12 million euros, while the Government of Guatemala contributed a further 2 million.
- **Honduras.** The *Con Chamba Vivís Mejor* presidential employment programme provides a training benefit equal to half the minimum wage for a period of two months to bring about the labour market insertion of unemployed persons at risk of social exclusion, together with a third payment to the company as an incentive to offer a permanent contract; each payment is worth 3,646 lempiras (US\$ 152), for a total of 10,939 lempiras (US\$ 458). The objective was to secure the labour insertion of 100,000 beneficiaries. This initiative also included the *Chamba Joven* programme, intended to create jobs for young people aged between 18 and 30. Under the programme, the government covers five months of wage costs for companies that employ young people with professional capacities, with which the companies benefit from their labour and jobs are created. This programme is available in the cities of Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula. The beneficiary sectors are tourism, apparel manufacturing, business process outsourcing (BPO), call centres and harnesses.
- **Mexico.** During the administration of President López Obrador, the “Youth Building the Future” programme has been launched, led by the Secretariat of Labour and Social Security. It aims to benefit 2.3 million young people between the ages of 18 and 29 who have not yet been able to participate in the economically productive processes of Mexican society. It involves a workplace training programme, through which the Government of Mexico provides a monthly grant of 3,600 pesos (US\$ 187) to provide one year’s training. Private companies, public institutions and social organizations all participate. Mexico’s eight southern and south-eastern states account for 52% of the 900,000 apprentices involved in the programme as of October 2019.

³ See N. Bosma and D. Kelley, *Global Entrepreneurship Monitor 2018/19 Global Report*, London, Global Entrepreneurship Research Association, 2019.

Apprentices involved in the Youth Building the Future programme

	Women	Men	Total apprentices
Yucatán	10 606	7 598	18 204
Quintana Roo	6 499	4 821	11 320
Campeche	12 050	8 940	20 990
Tabasco	59 144	44 111	103 255
Chiapas	70 039	54 225	124 264
Veracruz	51 499	39 002	90 501
Oaxaca	21 885	15 462	37 347
Guerrero	35 300	26 740	62 040
TOTAL	267 022	200 899	467 921

Source: Secretariat of Labour and Social Security, “Jóvenes Construyendo el Futuro en números”, 2019 [online] <https://jovenesconstruyendoelfuturo.stps.gob.mx/datos/>.

Objective

Promote the full development and productive use of young talent in Northern Central America and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico, to bring about a sustained increase in productivity and employment and a more equitable distribution of opportunities for well-being in the subregion.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Increased coverage of secondary education and the development of skills relevant to life and work.	Proportion of adolescents concluding secondary education. SDG indicator 4.1.1. Proportion of adolescents at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex. SDG indicator 4.4.1. Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill.	To be defined by country or state.	10 years
Young people outside the formal education system able to access more and better professional training programmes that are both relevant (in line with demand) and innovative.	SDG indicator 4.3.1. Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex.	To be defined by country or state.	10 years
Improved labour intermediation systems to connect youth with employment opportunities.	Proportion of young people (15–24) using the intermediation services of national employment systems. SDG indicator 8.5.2. Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities.	To be defined by country or state.	10 years
Improved motivation of and assistance for young people in developing individual or collective business ventures.	Number of young people launching and successfully developing an individual or collective company.	To be defined by country or state.	10 years

Main activities

Outcome 1: Increase the coverage of secondary education and the development of skills relevant to life and work.

- (a) Diagnostic assessment of the reasons for dropping out of or failing secondary education.
- (b) International benchmarking of the most successful experiences.
- (c) Reforms of curricula and teaching methods.
- (d) Training and professional development of teachers.
- (e) Conditional transfer programmes.
- (f) Increased supply of vocational and technical education at the secondary level.
- (g) Inclusion of entrepreneurial culture in curricula.
- (h) Improved infrastructure and connectivity for education.

Outcome 2: Access for young people outside the formal education system to more and better professional training programmes that are both relevant (in line with demand) and innovative.

- (a) Reform and strengthening of national education and technical/professional training systems (e.g. depoliticization of senior management, greater administrative flexibility, etc.).
- (b) Promotion of public-private partnerships and creation of tripartite sectoral councils.
- (c) Promotion of alternative forms of training (e.g. dual training, internships, etc.).
- (d) Improved prospecting systems.
- (e) Actions to eliminate gender bias in access to programmes offering high levels of employability.
- (f) Introduction of innovative methods for teaching and learning, such as challenge-based training.
- (g) Bolstering the use of technology, including online training methods.
- (h) Creation and development of national or regional frameworks for qualifications.
- (i) Establishment of systems to measure and promote the quality of the training supply.

Outcome 3: Improved labour intermediation systems to connect youth with employment opportunities.

- (a) Strengthening the institutional capacities of the ministries and secretariats responsible for the public employment system.
- (b) Bolstering labour market intelligence systems (e.g. data gathering, analysis and interpretation).
- (c) Exploiting new technologies to improve the response to offers and the pre-selection of candidates.
- (d) Promoting close partnerships with the private sector and suppliers of workplace training services.
- (e) Expanding the coverage of vocational guidance services through the use of information and communication technologies.

Outcome 4: Improve the motivation of and assistance for young people in developing individual or collective business undertakings.

- (a) Introduction, in both academic and non-academic education, of programmes that encourage entrepreneurial culture and the development of business management skills.
- (b) Development of a dense network of company incubators or accelerators, including their establishment at centres of technical education and professional training and universities.
- (c) Establishing or growing the supply of business development services and ensuring that young entrepreneurs have access to them.
- (d) Facilitating access to risk capital or credit on appropriate terms for youth business ventures.
- (e) Reducing the cost and duration of formalities for the registration and launch of new companies.
- (f) Promoting partnerships and collective or community entrepreneurship, especially in rural areas.
- (g) Encouraging productive chains and the participation of driver companies in the development of young people's business ventures.

Project governance

Active tripartite participation, at the national or state level, in the joint design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes is a key to their success.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

- El Salvador: *Oportunidad* programme / Territorial Control Plan
- Guatemala: To be defined with new government.
- Honduras: *Con Chamba Vivís Mejor* programme
- Mexico: Youth Building the Future programme

Duration

4 years

Budget: US\$ 6,500,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Sustainable labour insertion for socially at-risk youth in Honduras and El Salvador.	National Action Plan for Youth Employment for 2012–2024, El Salvador.	2018–2030 Regional Intersectoral Agenda on Social Protection and Productive Inclusion with Equity (ARIPSIP).	ILO-Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth. IOM, UNHCR and UNDP- Trinitational Project for Resilience and Social Cohesion in Northern Central America. IOM- Western Hemisphere Regional Migration Programme.	AECID-National Programme of Workshop Schools for Training Youth with Labour Market Access Difficulties-Honduras.	IDB: projects dealing with the transition from school to work, labour policies and labour intermediation.	Inclusive employment policies of the Honduran Council of Private Enterprise.
Building equality, leadership and empowerment of indigenous, Afrodescendent and Garifuna women in Northern Central America and Mexico.	2017–2032 National Policy on Decent Employment, Guatemala.					
	National Employment Service of Honduras.					
	Youth Building the Future programme in Mexico.					
	2020–2024 General Government Policy, Guatemala.					

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.3

Building equality: leadership and empowerment of indigenous, Afrodescendent and Garifuna women in Northern Central America and south and south-east Mexico



Implementing entities:

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) will implement the regional programme in coordination with the gender authorities of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. Project partners will include civil society organizations, other United Nations agencies and other relevant partners in the subregion, national and local governments, and private companies.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico (six southern states: Chiapas, Campeche, Quintana Roo, Yucatán and Veracruz).

Number of beneficiaries:

Estimated at 40,000 indigenous, Afrodescendent and Garifuna women and adolescent girls in urban and rural areas.

Main topics:

- Indigenous peoples
- Populations of African descent
- Gender
- Women
- Human rights
- Violence against women
- Education
- Economic empowerment

Context

There are 68 indigenous peoples in Mexico and 25,694,928 inhabitants who self-identify as indigenous, equal to 21.5% of the country's total population;¹ meanwhile, Afro-Mexicans number 1.4 million, or 1.2% of the population. Guatemala's indigenous population numbers some 5.9 million, or 41% of the total, while the Afro-Guatemalan population is estimated at between 1% and 2%. In Honduras, 3% of the population is of African or Garifuna origin, and 6% self-identifies as indigenous.² In El Salvador, according to the Network for Children and Adolescents, indigenous groups account for between 10% and 12% of the total population; that figure coincides with the numbers given in the report "Profile of the Indigenous Peoples of El Salvador" published by the National Council for Culture and Art.^{3,4}

Despite the extensive societal and cultural contributions made by indigenous peoples, people of African descent and the Garifuna, their communities remain among the most marginalized and discriminated against in the subregion. Throughout their lives, indigenous women and girls face multiple layers of violence, discrimination and inequality that must be addressed in a more robust, inclusive and comprehensive fashion. Ethnicity is a key element in intersectional inequality that significantly amplifies gender-based exclusion. Thus, among indigenous, Afrodescendent and Garifuna women and girls, poverty levels are higher, informal employment is more common and access to education and productive assets is lower. Increasingly, and tragically, the lives of indigenous human rights defenders are also threatened. Threats like these in the context of disputes related to control over territories and natural resources, along with more subtle forms of exclusion, serve to limit the influence of indigenous and Afrodescendent women on decisions that affect their lives and to prevent their agency as full partners in development and in shaping the future.

At the territorial level, indigenous and Afrodescendent communities are primarily found in rural areas and in some of the regions with the lowest levels of human development and opportunities. The State of Chiapas in Mexico, the Departments of Intibucá and Atlántida in Honduras and the northeast region of Guatemala are just a few examples where the ethnic map coincides with the regions with the widest disparities in social development. Delayed development and limited capacities for public and private investment are factors that drive indigenous and Afrodescendent women and adolescent girls to choose migration as an option for breaking the circles of exclusion.

The main objective of this proposal is to promote the effective exercise of human rights by indigenous and Afrodescendent women, at both the collective and individual levels, and to reduce the double discrimination they face by reason of their ethnic origin and their gender. The initiative is based on the principle of informed consent and participatory development and implementation, and it aims to include the voices of indigenous and Afrodescendent women in decision-making processes at all levels and, at the same time, to strengthen accountability towards them.

¹ See *El Economista*, "Dos de cada 10 mexicanos se asumen indígenas", Mexico City, 12 December 2018 [online] <https://www.economista.com.mx/politica/Dos-de-cada-10-mexicanos-se-asumen-indigenas-20181212-0049.html>.

² See C. Agudelo, "Studies on Afrodescendants in Central America: leaving oblivion behind", *Tabula Rasa*, No. 27, Bogotá, University College of Cundinamarca, 2017.

³ See H. Pocasangre, "Guatemala tiene un 41 por ciento de población indígena", *República*, Guatemala City, 9 August 2018 [online] <https://republica.gt/2018/08/09/guatemala-tiene-un-41-por-ciento-de-poblacion-indigena/>.

⁴ See M. Hernández, "Pueblos indígenas de El Salvador: la visión de los invisibles", *Centroamérica Patrimonio Vivo*, Sevilla, Pablo de Olavide University, 2017 [online] <https://www.upo.es/investiga/enredars/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/138-157.pdf>.

Objective

Promote access to economic, social and political rights, as well as a life free of all forms of violence, for Afrodescendent and indigenous women and girls.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goal	Period
1. Strengthening of productive enterprises and links to supply chains for businesses belonging to indigenous and Afrodescendent women in rural and peri-urban areas.	Indigenous and Afrodescendent women with higher levels of income.	10,000 women.	36 months
2. Indigenous and Afrodescendent women and girls have access to technical training opportunities in non-traditional niches and to workplace training, in partnership with the education sector and private enterprise.	Indigenous and Afrodescendent women and girls finishing technical training courses or professional internships to build their workplace skills.	5,000 women and adolescent girls.	36 months
3. Violence against women and girls has been prevented in their places of origin, and more Afrodescendent and indigenous women are aware of the risks of violence in migration processes.	Number of institutions strengthened to prevent violence against women and girls in places of origin. Number of men and adolescent boys acquiring knowledge about positive masculinity and participating in actions to prevent violence against women and girls. Number of women and girls accessing culturally appropriate information to prevent gender-related risks in migration processes. Number of women's organizations strengthened to pursue campaigns and local actions to prevent violence against women and girls.	40 institutions strengthened. 10,000 men and adolescent boys trained in positive masculinity. 30,000 women and adolescent girls. 40 women's organizations working for the prevention of violence against women and girls.	36 months
4. Strengthening the political participation of indigenous and Afrodescendent women in order to improve accountability and increase their influence on planning and local development processes.	Women with increased ability to participate and influence public decision-making. Number of women's organizations strengthened for participation in actions to promote the human rights of women.	4,000 women with greater knowledge of their rights and more tools for political participation. 40 women's organizations strengthened in political participation processes.	36 months

Main activities

Activities for expected outcome 1.

1. Financial literacy and strengthening of literacy levels for women entrepreneurs, including young women.
2. Technical assistance and business services support for women's and mixed cooperatives.
3. Partnerships with the financial sector and chambers of commerce for the provision of business development and financial services.
4. Comprehensive support for women's microenterprises and small businesses in rural and peri-urban areas to improve the quality of production and provide access to local markets.

5. Awareness-raising and partnerships with the private sector for the inclusion of women-owned businesses in supply chains.
6. Knowledge exchanges between women's microenterprises and small businesses in rural areas, and construction of best practice toolkits.

Activities for expected outcome 2.

7. Participatory studies of non-traditional markets, local markets and labour demands, in partnership with labour ministries and secretariats and business associations.
8. Technical training processes for the inclusion of women and adolescent girls in non-traditional niches, with a multicultural approach.
9. Technical support for the business sector to include principles of women's empowerment in their business policies.
10. Follow-up to professional internship processes for Afrodescendent and indigenous women, in partnership with the private sector.
11. Monitoring and evaluation of training and employment programmes, lessons learned and institutionalization of best practices for national and local policies.

Activities for expected outcome 3.

12. Promotion of interjustice dialogue and work with ancestral/traditional institutions to identify different forms of violence against women and girls.
13. Strengthening of ethnic organizations for the identification of violence against women and girls and education for its prevention.
14. Strengthening of women's ethnic organizations for the design and dissemination of materials on the gender risks associated with migratory routes.
15. Strengthening of State institutions responsible for preventing and investigating crimes of violence against women and girls.
16. Work with schools and youth organizations to promote positive masculinity and combat cultural patterns that tolerate violence against women and girls.
17. Partnerships with local and community-based media to conduct culturally appropriate campaigns to prevent all forms of violence against women and girls.

Activities for expected outcome 4.

18. Capacity-building for ethnic and women's organizations to identify, analyse and manage local conflicts, especially those related to environmental conflicts or extractive economic activities.
19. Strengthening of local mechanisms to identify risks and to support the introduction of local protection routes for women human rights defenders.
20. Training of leaders and organizations for participation in planning and monitoring processes and for advocacy on local development policies.
21. Training leaders and organizations to participate in elections.
22. Work with political parties and institutions responsible for women's empowerment at the local level, to promote the equal participation of women in politics.

Project governance

The project's management and coordination will be carried out by an **executive committee** composed of government representatives and a representative from the United Nations system (lead agency) for each country. Its role will be to provide overall project management, strategic decision-making, approval of work plans and budgets, and approval of any adaptations or changes to the initial plans.

Each country will have a **national operating committee** made up of federal/local government entities (three representatives) and a representative of each United Nations agency involved in implementation. These committees' role will be to design plans for implementation, coordination, mobilization of local partnerships, monitoring and promotion.

The executing agencies will be tasked with carrying out the implementation plans and will form a **national management team** for the country-level projects, coordinated by the lead agency and a delegate from the national government and comprising technical delegates from both the government and the United Nations teams.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The UN-Women Spotlight Initiative, focused on reducing violence and preventing femicide, is under way in the four countries. UN-Women is also implementing the Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning Programme (SCE), which could serve as a model for developing reintegration and empowerment components for young people and women. UN-Women has several programmes that promote private-sector partnership schemes for training women and promoting their employment, together with policies for the economic empowerment of women. UN-Women is a leading agency in the use of gender-sensitive statistics for evidence-based public decision-making; at the regional level it supports this component through the Global Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics in Mexico. UN-Women has pioneered the analysis and design of proposals to improve national care systems. UN-Women, through the Peacebuilding Fund, has developed specialized knowledge on the political participation and leadership of indigenous women, on support for strategic litigation, on processes to secure access to justice and on strengthening the role of women as conflict mediators.

Duration

3 years.

Budget: To be determined.

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Sustainable labour insertion for socially at-risk youth in Honduras and El Salvador.	2012-2024 National Action Plan for Youth Employment, El Salvador.	2018-2030 Regional Intersectoral Agenda on Social Protection and Productive Inclusion with Equity (ARIPSP).	ILO-Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth. UN-Women-Initiatives for the empowerment of indigenous women.	AECID-National Programme of Workshop Schools for Training Youth with Labour Market Access Difficulties-Honduras.	IDB: Projects dealing with the transition from school to work, labour policies and labour intermediation.	Inclusive employment policies of the Honduran Council of Private Enterprise.
Youth employment with gender awareness.	2017-2032 National Policy on Decent Employment, Guatemala.					
	National Employment Service of Honduras.					
	Youth Building the Future programme, Mexico.					
	2020-2024 General Government Policy, Guatemala.					

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.4

Closing inequality gaps for indigenous peoples



Implementing agencies:

The four countries' secretariats and/or ministries of social development, health, education and labour, together with Mexico's National Institute of Indigenous Peoples (INPI), the Presidential Commission on Discrimination and Racism against the Indigenous Peoples of Guatemala (CODISRA), the Secretariat of State for Indigenous and Afro-Honduran Peoples (SEDINAFROH) and El Salvador's specialized agency.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the nine states of southern and south-eastern Mexico, with emphasis on regions with the largest indigenous populations.

Number of beneficiaries:

Indigenous populations in the area covered by the Comprehensive Development Programme. Depending on the definition of indigenous population used, up to 20 million people.

Main topics:

- Indigenous peoples
- Inequality
- Poverty
- Rights
- Inclusion
- Diversity

Context

One of the most notable features of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the south and south-east of Mexico is the strong presence of indigenous populations (representing more than sixty indigenous peoples) and their wildly diverse cultures. At least 20 million indigenous people are estimated to live in this subregion: in other words, one out of every three people. This represents one of the highest concentrations of indigenous people in the Americas. These high numbers of indigenous people reside in both rural and urban spaces, overlap with important biodiversity resources and make for one of the most linguistically diverse regions in the world. Within certain individual territories, some indigenous peoples can account for a majority of the population or at least half of the total inhabitants, particularly in the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico and in Guatemala.

However, the subregion's indigenous people live in conditions of inequality, exclusion and deep structural deprivation. Regardless of the indicator chosen, the indigenous population lives with higher —and, in some cases, much higher— levels of poverty, in terms of both incidence and intensity, than the non-indigenous population. At the same time, their life expectancy, access to health and social protection, years of schooling, quality of housing, social mobility and access to political representation are also lower. This structural discrimination has been perpetuated over decades and centuries and is incompatible with the development path defined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention of 1989 (No. 169), the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, the Regional Agenda for Inclusive Social Development and the objectives of the Comprehensive Development Plan.

Objective

Contribute to closing inequality gaps and eliminating conditions of exclusion among indigenous populations in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the south and south-east of Mexico, with emphasis on income, health and education and from a perspective of interculturality, rights and participation.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

1. Priority placed on reducing inequality gaps among indigenous peoples as an axis of public policy in all four countries.
2. Improved income generation among indigenous populations, reduced poverty and extreme poverty as measured by income, and narrower gaps between indigenous and non-indigenous populations.
3. Increased average levels of schooling among the indigenous population (both women and men), and reduced differentials with the non-indigenous population, in a logic of relevance and interculturality.
4. Reduced maternal and infant mortality among the indigenous population, and significant progress towards meeting the goals for those indicators set in the 2030 Agenda.

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Priority placed on reducing inequality gaps among indigenous peoples in public policy.	Inclusion of specific objectives for indigenous peoples in national, sectoral and territorial planning. Allocation of increased budgets to address those priorities. Harmonization of the legislative framework to institutionalize those objectives and priorities and raise them to the level of national commitments.	The main public policy instruments (plans, budgets and legal framework) place priority on ensuring social equality for indigenous peoples.	1-2 years
Improved income generation for the indigenous population, reduced poverty and extreme poverty as measured by income, and narrower gaps between the indigenous and non-indigenous populations.	Increase in the incomes received by indigenous households through both labour inclusion and access to social protection, compared to a baseline as close as possible to 2020. Reduced poverty and extreme income poverty in indigenous households, and first progress made towards meeting target 1.1 of the 2030 Agenda. Reduced income inequality gap between indigenous and non-indigenous households.	To be defined with each of the governments in line with the 2030 Agenda.	3-5 years
Increased average level of schooling among the indigenous population (both women and men), and narrower gaps with respect to the non-indigenous population, in a logic of relevance and interculturality.	Increased access to different levels of education for the indigenous population, with an emphasis on women and youth. Increased average schooling among the indigenous population. Narrower gap between indigenous and non-indigenous populations, particularly in the ninth year of school and later.	To be defined with the authorities of the four countries.	3-5 years
Reduced maternal and infant mortality among the indigenous population, and indicators significantly closer to meeting the goals defined in this area in the 2030 Agenda.	Reduced maternal and infant mortality among the indigenous population. Inequality gaps in maternal and infant mortality between indigenous and non-indigenous populations are closing. Start of robust progress towards meeting the 2030 Agenda targets for maternal and child mortality.	To be defined with the authorities of the four countries.	3-5 years
Priority placed on reducing inequality gaps among indigenous peoples in public policy.	Inclusion of specific objectives for indigenous peoples in national, sectoral and territorial planning. Allocation of increased budgets to address those priorities. Harmonization of the legislative framework to institutionalize those objectives and priorities and raise them to the level of national commitments.	The main public policy instruments (plans, budgets and legal framework) place priority on ensuring social equality for indigenous peoples.	1-2 years

Main activities

- Alignment of national, sectoral and territorial planning in pursuit of the objective of closing inequality gaps for the indigenous population.
- Adequate, progressive and realistic budgetary allocations to achieve the objectives set.
- Harmonization of the legal framework with international law.
- Priority placed on activities for labour and productive inclusion in municipalities and territories with high levels of indigenous population.
- Progressively eliminating shortcomings in the coverage and adequacy of social protection benefits in municipalities and territories with a strong indigenous presence.
- Improved availability, relevance, opportunities for effective access to different levels of education, and quality of their facilities and services, with an emphasis on indigenous women and youth.

- Improved facilities for and quality of maternal and child health services in indigenous municipalities and territories.
- Design of mechanisms and procedures to ensure that the education and health services provided have an intercultural content consistent with indigenous rights.

Project governance

Each country will define the institutional architecture that best suits its specific situation, but all of them will have to define a model for intersectoral and cross-cutting collaboration and interconnections. To the extent possible, a multi-stakeholder approach that generates synergies with the private sector, community, civil and social organizations, and international cooperation agencies should be adopted.

Mechanisms for community participation in the accompaniment, monitoring and evaluation of activities will also be necessary, as will the involvement, at all times, of the indigenous peoples' traditional authorities.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

All the countries' development plans include, to a greater or lesser extent, the importance of promoting the social inclusion logic of the most underprivileged and excluded populations, such as indigenous peoples. In all the countries there is also a growing awareness of the inequality gaps that indigenous peoples face, and that awareness is also present within the United Nations system's cooperation frameworks. Several agencies, funds and programmes (ECLAC, ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN-Women, UNDP and others) have proposals and initiatives in this area in line with their specific perspectives.

Duration

Given the nature of the project and since it aims to address structural problems, the project should start as soon as possible; its results, however, may not start to appear for between three and five years. Rather than resolving such broad, ubiquitous and complex problems within that short period, the aim is to unleash a dynamic that will enable countries to meet their 2030 Agenda commitments towards indigenous peoples while, at the same time, achieving results within the established time frame.

Budget: US\$ 400,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Building equality, leadership and empowerment of indigenous, Afrodescendent and Garifuna women in Northern Central America and Mexico.	2020-2024 General Government Policy Guatemala. National Action Plan for Indigenous Peoples of El Salvador (PLANPIES). Plan for Indigenous and Afro-Honduran Peoples. 2018-2024 National Programme for Indigenous Peoples, Mexico.	Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean.	Policies for indigenous peoples adopted by UNDP, UNEP, IFAD, FAO, UNESCO, UN-Habitat.	AECID Indigenous Programme.	World Bank policy on indigenous peoples.	Oxfam - initiatives to support the development of indigenous peoples (extractive industries and human rights in Central America).

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.5

Comprehensive strategies for the formalization of companies and employment in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south and south-east Mexico



Implementing agencies:

El Salvador: Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Salvadoran Social Security Institute, Ministry of Finance, Salvadoran Vocational Training Institute, and workers' and employers' organizations.

Guatemala: Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Technical Institute for Training and Productivity (INTECAP), Guatemalan Institute of Social Security, Ministry of Public Finance, and workers' and employers' organizations.

Honduras: Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Finance Secretariat, Secretariat for Economic Development, Honduran Social Security Institute, National Professional Training Institute (INFOP), and workers' and employers' organizations.

Mexico: Secretariat of Labour and Social Security, Ministry of Finance and Public Credit/Tax Administration Service, Secretariat of Economic Affairs, Mexican Social Security Institute, National College of Technical Professional Education (CONALEP), and workers' and employers' organizations.

Institutional capacities for intervention:

The strengthening of institutional capacities for the implementation of public policy actions at the national and local levels is indispensable for the success of the proposed initiative in the four countries. This involves both improving mechanisms for the participation of the social partners (workers and employers) and consolidating spaces for inter-institutional coordination at different levels.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and the south and south-east of Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Economic units (businesses) in the informal economy, and workers with informal jobs.

Main topics:

- Employment policy
- Social protection
- Business development
- Technical and professional training
- Economic growth
- The future of work

Context

Informality is a complex phenomenon that affects more than half the working population in Latin America and the Caribbean. People employed in the informal sector—in either informal or formal enterprises, but under conditions of informality—do not pay into social security systems or enjoy legally recognized labour rights. In addition, many of them have low productivity jobs and, consequently, meagre incomes; that places them in a situation of extreme vulnerability and social and labour exclusion.

Similarly, while they may function with lower expenses than formal companies,¹ enterprises that operate informally face high losses in terms of opportunity costs on account of difficulties in accessing sources of credit, wider markets, public tendering and procurement processes; they also face other problems, such as the sanctions that may be imposed on them for failing to abide by fiscal, labour and civil regulations.

Informality also imposes a high political cost on society in general, through its impact on tax collection and on the revenues that ultimately make it possible to boost a country's productive and social investment.²

During the first decade of the twenty-first century, informality fell substantially in almost all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. The decline in informality in many countries between 2002 and 2013 was due more to growth and changes in economic structures than to institutional interventions. Similarly, while it is a necessary condition, economic growth alone is not enough: the best results came where accelerated economic growth and transformation were combined with integrated institutional and policy interventions.³

One characteristic that Northern Central America and the states of southern and south-eastern Mexico share is a high rate of informality. According to official figures 2017 for El Salvador, informal employees accounted for 43% of the total workforce; preliminary estimates for the same year calculated by ILO using more up-to-date algorithms and criteria, however, placed the figure at 64%. In 2017, informal employment accounted for 70% of the working population in Guatemala, and for 73% in Honduras. In the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico, the labour informality rate ranged from 48% (Quintana Roo) to 81.2% (Oaxaca) in late 2018.

¹ For example, they do not pay social security, taxes, operating fees and permits, minimum wages and so on.

² See J. Salazar-Xirinachs and J. Chacaltana (eds.), *Políticas de formalización en América Latina: avances y desafíos*, Lima, International Labour Organization (ILO), 2018.

³ See J. Salazar-Xirinachs and J. Chacaltana (eds.), *Políticas de formalización en América Latina: avances y desafíos*, Lima, International Labour Organization (ILO), 2018.

Southern and south-eastern Mexico: informality rates by state, fourth quarter of 2018

State	Labour informality rate (in percentages) ^a	Informal sector employment rate (in percentages) ^b
Guerrero	78.7	33.3
Oaxaca	81.2	38.1
Veracruz	67.8	27.8
Tabasco	66.0	32.7
Campeche	61.7	23.3
Yucatán	62.0	33.0
Quintana Roo	48.0	21.8
Chiapas	77.8	21.3
Mexico (total)	56.6	27.4

Source: National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), National Survey of Occupation and Employment (ENOE), 2018 [online database] https://en.www.inegi.org.mx/programas/enoe/15ymas/default.html#Open_data.

^a Proportion of the employed population that is vulnerable in job terms because of the kind of economic unit for which they work, and those whose labour ties or employee status are not recognized by their employers.

^b Proportion of the population employed in non-agricultural economic units that operate without accounting records and on the basis of household or personal funds, without being incorporated as a business.

The problems associated with the informal economy will take time to resolve and will demand numerous, comprehensive interventions so that results can accumulate progressively and ensure the sustainability of the country's public policy framework. In that regard, ILO Recommendation No. 204 is a vital instrument for countries, in that it provides guidance to: (a) facilitate the transition of workers and economic units from the informal economy to formality, by respecting the fundamental rights of workers and ensuring opportunities for income security, livelihoods and entrepreneurship, (b) promote the creation, preservation and sustainability of businesses and decent jobs in the formal economy, together with the coherence of macroeconomic, employment, social protection and other social policies, and (c) prevent jobs in the formal economy from falling into informality.

The comprehensive approach referred to above should include actions in the following areas: (a) promotion, awareness raising and mobilization, (b) strengthening the capacity of the tripartite stakeholders to implement Recommendation No. 204 and measures to support transitions to the formal economy, (c) knowledge development and dissemination, and (d) international cooperation and partnerships in various fields, as suggested in the action plan of ILO Recommendation No. 204.

Moreover, policymakers must take into account that new technologies are continuously transforming the world of work. Technology is not only transforming the way we work, but also how we work and even why we work. The role of new technologies and their relationship to informality have already been examined from several perspectives. For policymakers, it is important to know how new technologies can transform institutional public policies in order to deal with informality.

A growing number of governments are promoting the use of new technologies to simplify and facilitate the transition from informality to the formal economy. Those policy innovations ("e-formality") will transform the way formalization policies will be implemented in the future.

This intervention addresses targets 8.3 and 10.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): "Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized

enterprises, including through access to financial services” (8.3) and “By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status” (10.2).

Objective

Contribute to the reduction of informality by strengthening the capacities of institutions and social actors in the area of policies and strategies to facilitate the transition to the formal economy in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, based on tripartite social dialogue and with a gender perspective.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
1. Improved institutional capacities of social actors for the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, programmes and strategies to facilitate transitions to the formal economy.	Number of policies, programmes and/or strategies improved, adjusted and/or created through the impact of the action. Inter-institutional coordination venues for the design and implementation of comprehensive strategies, with the participation of social actors (workers and employers), installed or strengthened and operational.	11 comprehensive strategies being implemented at the national, state or local level. 11 venues for inter-institutional coordination with the participation of social actors.	3 years
2. Technical tools available for the implementation of a comprehensive and effective model for the formalization of economic units and jobs at the municipal level and in selected priority economic sectors.	Number of new tools available to facilitate the transition to formality that take into consideration the particular needs of vulnerable populations and make use of the information and communications technologies (ICTs) available in the countries. Number of actions, venues and tools for knowledge creation and exchange in place.	At least four tools designed per country to facilitate transitions to formality in such areas as technical training, simpler formalities for company registration, affiliation to social security, tax simplification. One virtual platform for exchanges of experiences in operation for the four countries.	2 years

Main activities

Outcome 1: Improved institutional capacities of social actors for the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, programmes and strategies to facilitate transitions to the formal economy.

- 1.1. Systematization of best practices and lessons learned about policies, programmes and public and private initiatives aimed at improving the formalization of economic units and jobs in each country.
- 1.2. Analysis of the public policy and institutional framework of the informal economy in each country.
- 1.3. Technical assistance for the creation and strengthening of tripartite venues for the construction of a national formalization strategy (political management and training of social actors in the formulation, management, monitoring and evaluation of policies, programmes and strategies aimed at facilitating the transition to the formal economy).
- 1.4. International seminar for the exchange of best practices for formalization and lessons learned.
- 1.5. Technical assistance, guidance and preparation of inputs for the formulation of sectoral technical proposals for integration into the national formalization strategy.
- 1.6. Technical assistance and guidance for the construction of the national formalization strategy based on tripartite social dialogue.

- 1.7. Tripartite adoption of the national formalization strategy.
- 1.8. Technical assistance and guidance for social actors and the tripartite stakeholders in the implementation of the priorities identified in the national formalization strategy, including specific programmes aimed at the government sector (e.g. labour inspection) and employers' and workers' organizations (e.g. increased affiliation among informal sector workers).
- 1.9. National awareness and information campaigns on the benefits of formalizing economic units and jobs.
- 1.10. Train-the-trainers workshops for key actors on selected informal economy issues.

Outcome 2: Technical tools available for the implementation of a comprehensive and effective model for the formalization of economic units and jobs at the municipal level and in selected priority economic sectors.

- 2.1. Diagnostic assessment to identify shortcomings in policies, programmes and strategies for transitions to the formal economy in priority municipalities and economic sectors.
- 2.2. Training of local actors in the formulation, management, monitoring and evaluation of policies and strategies to facilitate transitions to the formal economy.
- 2.3. Participatory design of the pilot formalization programme with local actors in a selected municipality or sector, based on best practices and lessons learned and the priorities of the national strategy.
- 2.4. Technical assistance and guidance for the implementation of pilot programmes in the countries, to target vulnerable populations and groups with higher informality rates.
- 2.5. Evaluation of the pilot programme and systematization of its best practices and lessons learned.
- 2.6. Development and technical transfer of a toolkit to provide technical assistance to local actors on policies and strategies to facilitate the transition to the formal economy (intervention model to interconnect efforts with national, provincial and municipal bodies; methodologies; instruments; etc.).

Project governance

Given their mandates over employment and labour market policies, the ministries or secretariats of labour should lead the national (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) and state (southern and south-eastern Mexico) processes for the construction and implementation of comprehensive strategies to facilitate the transition to formality. However, the success of this intervention will require a hefty dose of participation by other government institutions and social actors at the different stages of its design, construction, implementation and monitoring. The countries already have tripartite venues for dealing with issues related to employment and formalization policies (for example: the Superior Labour Council in El Salvador, and the Economic and Social Council in Honduras). Those venues should be where the processes for this initiative described above take place. Ad hoc tripartite committees should be established in those countries and states where they do not exist or are not operational. The International Labour Organization (ILO) could provide the necessary technical assistance to accompany the different stages of the process described in this initiative.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Proposal 1.44: Identification of fiscal spaces for the fulfilment of the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP).

Proposal 1.43: Towards a macroeconomy for development.

Proposal 2.1: Sustainable labour insertion for socially at-risk youth in Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and the south-eastern states of Mexico.

Duration

5 years.

Budget: US\$ 10,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Non-contributory pensions and social protection for hard-to-cover groups: migrant workers and their families, own-account workers, microenterprises, domestic workers, migrants.	2020–2024 General Government Policy, Guatemala.	2018–2030 Regional Intersectoral Agenda on Social Protection and Productive Inclusion with Equity (ARIPSIP).	ILO Programme for the Promotion of Formalization in Latin America and the Caribbean.	USAID: civic participation project.	IDB: projects in the labour policy and labour intermediation subsector.	Social Research and Study Association: tax formalization projects.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.6

Training for the future of work



Implementing agencies:

Ministries of labour, welfare and social security (Ministry of Labour and Social Security of El Salvador, Ministry of Labour and Social Security of Guatemala, Ministry of Labour and Social Security of Honduras, and Secretariat of Labour and Social Security of Mexico), including institutions at the subnational level, technical and vocational training institutions (Salvadoran Vocational Training Institute, Technical Institute for Training and Productivity (INTECAP) of Guatemala, National Professional Training Institute (INFOP) of Honduras, National College of Technical Professional Education (CONALEP) and General Directorate of Training Centres for Work of Mexico) and workers' and employers' organizations.

Geographical coverage:

Northern Central America (El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala) and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Young people and adults needing workplace training.

Main topics:

- Youth
- Education
- Employability
- Migration
- Cross-cutting skills
- Sustainability

Context

Central America is a young region: more than 50% of the population is under 25 years old. This represents both an opportunity and a challenge for the region's development. In 2018, according to ILO, youth unemployment (15–24 years) in Northern Central America was around 8% in Honduras, 10% in El Salvador and, according to some sources, 30% in Guatemala. In all of the countries, youth unemployment rates are considerably higher than among the population aged over 25.

Unemployment is compounded by widespread informality that limits the possibility of access to better jobs. According to UNDP and UNODC, this in turn can lead to social problems, as it increases the risk of involvement in drug abuse, trafficking and other illegal activities, including violence, and it also increases the desire of young people to seek better opportunities beyond their country's borders and embark on the difficult and dangerous process of migrating northwards.

To capitalize on the potential of these young people, they must be equipped with basic, vocational and transferable skills. Against that backdrop, only 11% secondary education students in Central America opt for technical and vocational education and training, possibly because it is still considered a “second class” education compared to university.

Governments and employers have recognized the urgent need for attractive, effective, innovative and high-quality technical and vocational education and training programmes as part of their strategies to combat poverty, unemployment and inequalities. Current technical and vocational education and training programmes are often outdated and not aligned to the real needs of the labour market, require better coordination between different technical and vocational education and training stakeholders, are not attractive and flexible enough to attract young people, and need curriculum modernizations and better qualified teachers and trainers.

Technical training can be promoted alongside dual training, which involves workplace training on the job. Both options are of increasing importance in the context of work automation processes, as a result of which many existing skills are becoming obsolete and, moreover, many of the occupations that exist today are tending to disappear. Those occupations that are not disappearing, however, require that existing skills are complemented by others: digital skills, for example. Automation processes create new occupations, such as training artificial intelligence algorithms, analysing the decisions that those algorithms make, and so on.

Other occupations will continue to exist, but they will require further professionalization in the future: examples of this can be found in the care sector, driven by the progressive ageing of the population, and in “green jobs”, which aim at developing and maintaining sustainable infrastructure and processes.

In all the cases mentioned above, there is a need for the existing workforce to go through a process of upskilling and, in the case of young people who are beginning their training, to develop ad hoc technical skills for the new labour demands that are emerging.

Objective

Expand job training opportunities for young people currently in training and for adults who require training to meet new workplace demands.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Increased provision of relevant, high-quality technical and vocational education and training (including cross-cutting digital skills and skills for green jobs within the framework of Industry 4.0).	Percentage of programmes and curricula reviewed, based on evidence gathered and data collected about labour market needs.	100%	3 years
	Number of laws and policies that are amended through tripartite consensus, to promote quality learning.	Laws and policies in the four countries have been improved.	3 years
	Percentage of technical and vocational education and training stakeholders regularly participating in consultation and dialogue mechanisms.	100%	3 years
	Rate of change in the number of teacher-training programmes for technical and vocational education and training updated, strengthened and implemented.	10% annual increase.	3 years
	Rate of change in the number of sectoral programmes linked to Industry 4.0 or sustainable development implemented with tripartite support (government, employers and workers' organizations) in each country.	10% annual increase.	3 years
Increased provision of dual education (with employer participation) that includes training in skills relevant to the present and future world of work.	Rate of change in the number of dual education programmes (updated, strengthened and being implemented).	10% annual increase.	3 years
	Rate of variation in the number of employers' and workers' organizations in each country that support and participate in driving quality learning (especially in sectors linked to Industry 4.0 and sustainable development).	10% annual increase.	
Increase in the number of adolescents and young people opting for technical education and vocational training for their qualifications.	Percentage of young people opting for technical and vocational education and training.	5% annual increase.	3 years

Main activities

- Conduct an in-depth analysis to identify current labour market demands and anticipate future trends in the skill needs of the sectors that drive the national economies.
- Analyse the supply of technical and vocational education and training, as well as the supply of dual education, to identify mismatches between current and anticipated levels of labour market supply and demand (including cross-cutting digital skills and green job skills).
- Design and implement a strategy to adjust the current supply of technical and vocational education and training, including the following issues:
 - Modify, if necessary, the legal framework to enable relevant and quality learning in these two areas (technical and vocational education and training, and dual training).
 - Adjust existing curricula, where necessary, to meet current and future needs, including aspects related to the skills acquired and workplace learning (for example, through internship schemes).
 - Create additional curricula as needed to fill the gaps identified by the analysis carried out, with special emphasis on programmes that develop skills through classroom practices focused on project-based learning and science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, with a particular focus on adolescent girls.
 - Develop and implement the educational programmes needed to close the gaps in the provision of technical and vocational education and training, including the training of new trainers, teacher training and, when appropriate, infrastructure construction.

- Design and implement a strategy to adjust the current supply of dual education to include the promotion of public-private partnerships in order to set the conditions for employer participation in dual education schemes, placing priority on schemes focused on new skill development needs such as those linked to Industry 4.0 and sustainable development.
- Develop or improve mechanisms for the recognition and certification of alternative/non-formal education learning outcomes that are equivalent or comparable to those acquired through formal education, based on learning assessment procedures and methods defined by national standards and national qualification frameworks.
- Based on the findings, develop a strategy to improve the target population's perception of technical and vocational education and training. In each country, the type of strategy will be developed together with national stakeholders and could include, inter alia, a media campaign, technical and vocational education and training fairs, the improvement of vocational guidance and counselling services, etc.

Project governance

The main implementing entities will be the ministries of education and labour, in conjunction with technical training institutions. One key to success is the active participation of governments, employers, workers and related international organizations (ILO, UNESCO, ECLAC, etc.) in jointly designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the project, at the national and subnational levels.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

1. El Salvador: *Oportunidad* programme/Territorial Control Plan, and dual training offered by the Salvadoran Institute of Vocational Training (INSAFORP).
2. Guatemala: To be defined with the new government.
3. Honduras: *Con Chamba Vivís Mejor* programme, and existing dual training programmes.
4. Mexico: Youth Building the Future programme.

Duration

6 years.

Budget: US\$ 50,000,000

Annex

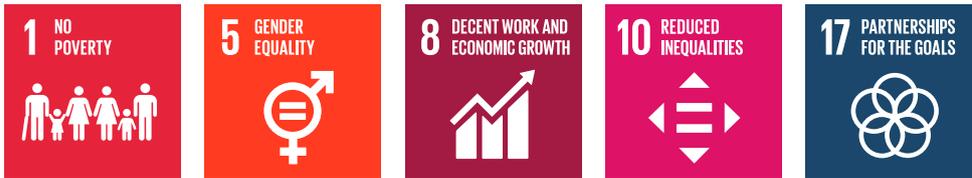
Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Youth employment with gender awareness.	2020–2024 General Government Policy, Guatemala.	2018–2030 Regional Intersectoral Agenda on Social Protection and Productive Inclusion with Equity (ARIPSIP).	UNESCO: “Education transforms lives” initiative.	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)-Education for Life and Labour, EDUVIDA II in Guatemala.	World Bank: human development investment pillar.	Academy-Business Programme of Rafael Landívar University, Guatemala.
Building equality, leadership and empowerment of indigenous, Afrodescendent and Garifuna women in Northern Central America and Mexico.	Education for All plan and <i>Con Chamba Vivis Mejor</i> programme, Honduras.	Central American Education Policy.		GIZ: Support for the decentralization processes in the Honduran education sector; APRODE II in Honduras.	IDB: projects in the sectors of the school-work transitional technical-vocational education.	Dual education programme of ITCA-FEPADE School of Engineering in El Salvador.
	Youth Building the Future programme, Mexico.			GIZ: Mexican Dual Training Model		
	El Salvador: <i>Oportunidad</i> programme/Territorial Control Plan, and dual training offered by INSAFORP.			Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC): fund for education in Honduras (dual training).		
				USAID: vocational training and life skills in El Salvador.		

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.7

Non-contributory pensions and social protection for hard-to-cover groups: migrant workers and their families, independent workers, microenterprises, domestic workers and migrants



Implementing agencies:

Social security systems, secretariats and ministries of social development, and/or secretariats and ministries of labour and social protection.

Institutional capacities for the intervention:

The secretariats, ministries and institutes involved need to have a study/advisory unit for processing information and surveys, the different institutional sectors that operate social insurance and non-contributory pensions must participate to draw up recommendations and analyse barriers and opportunities for extending coverage to different groups, and institution staff must be trained in how international social security agreements operate and how they are negotiated.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and southern and south-eastern Mexico.

Main topics:

- Extended coverage of social protection systems

Context

Target 1.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals requires the countries of the world to extend the coverage of their social protection systems to all people by 2030. In turn, in its policy recommendations, the Comprehensive Development Plan posits the need to build robust social protection systems with universal coverage.

The four countries covered by the Comprehensive Development Plan suffer from low coverage in their social protection systems. According to ILO, around 2015, the contributory coverage rates of their employed populations stood at 30.8% for El Salvador, 19.9% for Guatemala, 18.0% for Honduras and 31.6% for Mexico.¹ One characteristic the four share, in addition to high levels of informality in their

¹ See International Labour Organization (ILO), Presente y futuro de la protección social en América Latina y el Caribe, Panorama Laboral Temático, No. 4, Lima, 2018.

labour markets, is the fact that hard-to-cover groups (own-account workers, domestic employees, workers in microenterprises, rural workers) are not included among the mandatory members of the countries' social insurance mechanisms. In turn, those mechanisms are not sufficiently prepared, administratively and logistically, to extend social protection to groups other than traditional waged workers. Neither do the countries have a significant number of international social security agreements in force to protect the rights of migrants with a contributory history in other countries. In terms of effective coverage with benefits, only a small group of the countries' populations obtain those benefits, as indicated by the pension coverage rates among older adults in the same publication: 20.6% of adults aged 65 and over receive a contributory pension in Mexico, 14.3% in Guatemala, 10.6% in El Salvador and only 8.6% in Honduras. The low coverage of this and other health and cash benefits indicates a high risk of poverty, low productivity and greater inequality and, among other dangers, poses a threat to social cohesion.

The design of legal and administrative reforms and the development of representative social dialogues to extend social protection is therefore a matter of urgency. The different measures that should be adopted include developing or updating the existing diagnostics for different segments of the labour market, including hard-to-cover groups; presenting them in a process of social dialogue with representative sectors to define priorities and objectives; costing the alternatives for expansion; South-South exchanges with other countries that have already successfully incorporated those sectors into their social security regimes; and determining the legal and administrative reforms needed to strengthen those regimes and to implement plans for the inclusion of sectors able to join contributory systems.

Extending non-contributory pensions to older adults, particularly the more vulnerable, can be done at a relatively low cost because of the four countries' demographic structure. According to ILO, 52.2% of older adults in Guatemala had no income from either benefits or work in 2015 (rising to 72.9% among women), and the figures were comparable in the remaining countries: 55.0% in Honduras (73.9% among women), 55.3% in Mexico (77.3% among women) and 62.1% in El Salvador (76.2% among women). Those results underscore the need to expand non-contributory pension programmes based on different financing schemes. In 2019, for example, Mexico introduced a universal pension programme for all adults over 68 years of age (or 65 in the case of members of indigenous peoples), providing an amount equivalent to the national minimum welfare line, funded from general revenue. The programme, which aims to reach over 8 million older adults by the end of the first year, could well provide lessons for its own improvement as well as for the design of equivalent universal programmes in the other three Comprehensive Development Plan countries. El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras have programmes with lower coverage levels and smaller transfer amounts, but their experience with them could be an important starting point for scaling up.

Universal social programmes must be adapted for the migrant population, so that foreigners with refugee status can enjoy, for example, the services of the "social protection floor", thereby facilitating their local integration. The countries must also adopt a more favourable stance on the negotiation and signing of international social security agreements, allowing not only the portability of accumulated rights between migrants' countries of origin and destination, but also administrative cooperation between the social security institutions that operate those mechanisms in the different countries. That approach also requires that the institutions be prepared to negotiate and enforce international agreements. One immediate option would be to sign and ratify the Ibero-American Multilateral Agreement on Social Security, which would cover migrants from all four countries. The profile of each country's migrant population (covering both foreigners in the country and nationals who have left for other countries) must be determined in order to prepare strategies for negotiating agreements that are appropriate in each case. One complementary alternative is to design voluntary national social insurance schemes for citizens of the countries who have emigrated, covering pensions and health care, with the latter focusing in particular on covering the family

members who remain in the country of origin. El Salvador has already adopted an initiative of that kind, and the possibility is being studied in Mexico; the scheme can also be linked to access to other public or private programmes such as savings for home ownership or savings for supplementary pensions.

Objective

Contribute to the expansion of social protection coverage.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Expansion of social protection systems for own-account workers.	Percentage of own-account workers enrolled in national social security.	Four legal amendments.	5 years
Expansion of social protection systems for domestic workers.	Percentage of domestic workers enrolled in national social security.	Four legal amendments.	5 years
Expansion of social protection systems for microenterprise workers.	Percentage of microenterprise workers enrolled in national social security.	Four legal amendments.	5 years
Non-contributory pension programmes reformed and expanded.	Proportion of older adults covered by contributory and non-contributory pensions.	Three legal amendments (Mexico recently adopted universal pensions).	3 years
Social insurance institutions have adopted a strategy for negotiating international agreements.	Number of countries that have designed a strategy for negotiating international social security agreements over the next 5 to 10 years.	Four strategies.	1 year
Negotiation of accession to the Ibero-American Multilateral Agreement on Social Security.	National legislation and its alignment with the Ibero-American Multilateral Agreement on Social Security analysed; signature of accession and ratification process.	Four studies; signatures and ratifications completed.	2 years
Voluntary programmes for the enrolment of migrants in their home countries' social insurance systems designed and implemented.	Number of voluntary enrolments in the programmes.	Four programmes launched, administration by social insurance institutes prepared for, and dissemination campaign carried out.	3 years

Main activities

Outcome 1: Reforms mandating the enrolment of own-account workers in social security schemes adopted; a strategy for formalization negotiated with social actors and implemented.

Outcome 2: Reforms mandating the enrolment of domestic workers in social security schemes adopted; a strategy for formalization negotiated with social actors and implemented.

Outcome 3: Reforms mandating the enrolment of microenterprise workers in social security schemes adopted; a strategy for formalization negotiated with social actors and implemented.

Outcome 4: Non-contributory pension schemes reformed and expanded.

Outcome 5: Strategies for negotiating social security agreements adopted, and negotiations for new bilateral and multilateral agreements begun.

Outcome 6: Accession process to the Ibero-American Multilateral Agreement on Social Security concluded.

Outcome 7: Design of voluntary enrolment programmes for migrants by the social security institutes of the four countries completed, and programmes launched.

Project governance

The activities will be jointly coordinated by the secretariats or ministries of labour and social protection, secretariats or ministries of social development and/or social insurance institutes of the four countries. Technical support will be available from ILO and the Ibero-American Social Security Organization (OISS) (for international agreements and the Ibero-American Multilateral Agreement on Social Security), from UN-Women (for expanding to cover domestic workers and non-contributory pensions) and from other agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, according to the design of the project.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Synergy with the health systems extension initiative in the four countries proposed by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

Duration

Up to five years. Impact on social protection coverage indicators is always progressive, legal and administrative reforms must be coordinated, and consensus regarding formalization plans must be built with social actors.

Budget: US\$ 6,550,000

Annex

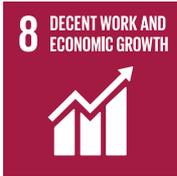
Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Comprehensive strategies for formalizing companies and jobs in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.		2018-2030 Regional Intersectoral Agenda on Social Protection and Productive Inclusion with Equity (ARIPSIP).	ILO Global Flagship Programme: Building Social Protection Floors for All.		IDB: projects in the labour policy and labour intermediation subsector.	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.8

Prevention and eradication of child labour



Implementing agencies:

At the country level, the programme will be implemented by the governments (ministries of labour, child protection institutes, ministries of social development, statistics institutes, agencies or ministries in charge of South-South and triangular cooperation), workers' and employers' organizations and the academic sector in the four countries.

ILO, in collaboration with other United Nations system agencies engaged with the child labour agenda (such as ECLAC, UNICEF, IOM, UNHCR, FAO, UNDP and UN-Women) could provide technical assistance.

Institutional capacities for intervention:

Northern Central America and Mexico have institutional and legal frameworks and policies (at the federal and state levels, in the case of Mexico) for the prevention and eradication of child labour. The four countries' workers' and employers' organizations have also pursued actions in this area. They all have national tripartite and inter-institutional (and state) committees for the prevention and eradication of child labour, of which the implementing entities are members. All four countries regularly take measurements of the breadth and depth of the child labour phenomenon. Guatemala and Honduras also have national intersectoral strategies in place, and they are in the process of updating their lists of hazardous jobs. Similarly, El Salvador has shown renewed interest in addressing this issue, and Mexico has stepped up its actions at the federal, state and municipal levels since ratifying the ILO Minimum Age Convention of 1973 (No. 138) in 2015. Despite that progress, the implementation of policies and programmes remains insufficient, and institutional capacities need to be strengthened to provide a territorial response within the framework of the 2030 Agenda.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and southern and south-eastern Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Children and adolescents at risk of working, and adolescents in protected jobs.

Main topics:

- Prevention of child labour
- Protected teenage work
- Migration
- Indigenous and Afrodescendent peoples
- Gender
- Crises and disasters
- South-South and triangular cooperation

Context

Latin America and the Caribbean is the region of the world that has made the most progress in eradicating child labour over the past 20 years. The combined efforts of governments, employers' and workers' organizations, civil society, development partners and agencies of the United Nations system brought about a significant reduction of more than 9.5 million in the number of children and adolescents engaged in child labour between 2000 and 2016. However, the region still reports the challenging total of 10.5 million children and adolescents between the ages of 5 and 17 engaged in child labour, of whom 6.3 million are engaged in hazardous activities.¹ Another significant detail is that, to date, the number of girls who work is falling at a much slower rate: specifically, between 2012 and 2016, the drop in the number of girls in child labour was half the reduction observed among boys. A similar trend can also be seen with respect to hazardous work.²

Children and adolescents engaged in child labour in El Salvador (8.9%),³ Guatemala (18.2%),⁴ Honduras (15.5%)⁵ and Mexico (7.5%)⁶ represent one of the most visible faces of inequality and vulnerability in the subregion. Despite the lack of disaggregated information in these countries to provide accurate information on the child labour situation and its link to migration among indigenous and tribal peoples, there is evidence that points to a high incidence of the problem, exacerbated by its link to agricultural activities, the informal sector, and the intense and widespread migration patterns that characterize those populations today.

The threat that child labour poses to the fulfilment of the rights of children and adolescents throughout the world —as well as to sustainable human development— is a global concern that requires an effective and urgent response. That urgency was recognized in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that the United Nations Member States adopted at the General Assembly in September 2015. Thus, Goal 8, on economic growth, employment and decent work, which includes target 8.7, calls for “the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms”.

Ahead of the 2030 Agenda, 30 of the region's countries created the Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour Regional Initiative in 2014. The Regional Initiative is a tripartite platform, with ILO serving as the technical secretariat. The Regional Initiative has developed a framework for policy

¹ See International Labour Organization (ILO), “Global Estimates of Child Labour: Results and trends, 2012-2016. Executive summary”, Geneva, 2017.

² See International Labour Organization (ILO), “Global Estimates of Child Labour: Results and trends, 2012-2016. Executive summary”, Geneva, 2017.

³ Multi-purpose Household Survey, 2016

⁴ National Survey of Living Conditions (ENCOVI), 2015.

⁵ Permanent Multipurpose Household Survey, 2018.

⁶ National Survey of Occupation and Employment (ENOE), 2017.

acceleration that includes strategies to strengthen social protection and education systems focused on the prevention and eradication of child labour by interconnecting interventions with labour ministries and secretariats.⁷

Northern Central America and Mexico are active, founding members of the Regional Initiative and, against that backdrop, have participated since 2014 in the design and implementation of a strategy for South-South and triangular cooperation that has yielded significant results in capacity-building and skill development, policy dialogue and design, and regional integration. This strategy contains a major prevention component and places priority on key segments, especially vulnerable groups, including indigenous populations, Afrodescendent communities, girls and adolescent women, migrants, and children and adolescents living in rural areas. In particular, the South-South and triangular cooperation strategy has supported the implementation of national, subregional and regional policies to prevent and eradicate child labour, which contribute to how this phenomenon is addressed by improving technical capacities and encouraging more generous budget allocations. Governments and employers' and workers' organizations participate in this strategy.

The Regional Initiative has served to consolidate effective and efficient inter-agency and intercountry coordination on key issues associated with the continued existence of child labour. Thus, inter-agency actions have been taken in the areas of knowledge generation, capacity-building and the development of evidence-based policy tools. Particularly noteworthy is the inter-agency group in Mesoamerica that works to coordinate the protection of migrant and refugee children, with the participation of UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF and ILO. Those efforts have been bolstered by the interdependent nature of the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets, which reinforces interest in coordinated work among the agencies of the system, taking advantage of their expertise, capacity, knowledge and mandates to forge synergies and ensure a more impactful response.

To provide the countries with child labour prevention tools, ILO and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) jointly developed a methodology to determine the level of risk of child labour in countries' territories and to estimate the weight of risk indicators for each territory from the available statistical information: the Child Labour Risk Identification Model. This tool is intended to define the most appropriate multisectoral and tripartite actions for dismantling the child labour phenomenon. This would provide the countries, at both the national and subnational levels, with reliable information for the design of targeted and interconnected responses, for improving the performance and effectiveness of public policies, and for advancing towards the achievement of national goals and helping fulfil global commitments. The Child Labour Risk Identification Model has been implemented in five of the region's countries —Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Peru— and adoption is under way in Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Jamaica.

Mexico was the first country in the region to implement phase I of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model, through which it identified the territories with the highest child labour probabilities in its 32 states and determined the level of risk by municipality. Risk map data sheets were prepared for the 32 states, together with a national data sheet and a national technical report explaining the methodology.⁸ Guatemala

⁷ See International Labour Organization (ILO), "Global Estimates of Child Labour: Results and trends, 2012-2016. Executive summary", Geneva, 2017.

⁸ For the 32 data sheets, see: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and others, *Modelo de Identificación del Riesgo de Trabajo Infantil. México: fichas de las 32 entidades federativas*, Mexico City [online] http://www.iniciativa2025alc.org/sites/default/files/ModeloRiesgoTI_FichasFederativas_Mexico.pdf; "Modelo de Identificación del Riesgo de Trabajo Infantil. México", Mexico City [online] https://www.iniciativa2025alc.org/sites/default/files/ModeloRiesgoTI_FichaNacional_Mexico.pdf; *Modelo de Identificación del Riesgo de Trabajo Infantil. México: panorama nacional*, Mexico City [online] http://www.iniciativa2025alc.org/sites/default/files/ModeloRiesgoTI_Mexico.pdf.

and El Salvador have informed ILO of their interest in having their ministries of labour implement the Child Labour Risk Identification Model. Following the presentation of the Model's results in Mexico (June 2018), the Chiapas Secretariat of Labour and, later, the Tuxtla Gutiérrez City Council (October 2018), together with employers' and workers' organizations, expressed their interest in participating in the pilot demonstration of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model's second phase.

Phase II of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model covers the identification, design and/or adjustment of multisectoral interventions in territories to strengthen child labour preventive services and to reduce children's risk of exposure to the phenomenon. The preventive approach is particularly important in areas threatened by natural disasters, which increase the risk of child labour; in addition, new types of hazardous work that did not exist before often emerge in the aftermath of emergencies and, as a result, children and adolescents who are already working are more likely to move into hazardous work or the worst forms of child labour.

With this intervention proposal, which focuses on South-South and triangular cooperation and the territorial development perspective of the 2030 Agenda and the Comprehensive Development Plan, the aim is to advance two components that will enhance the existing complementarity between the policies, programmes and services existing in the countries, as well as the existing synergies and those that can be generated with other interventions. The intervention must take due account of the particular realities of each country.

1. The promotion of exchanges between countries, states, municipalities, subnational and national entities, workers' and employers' organizations and other public and private actors in the countries that are to implement the Child Labour Risk Identification Model (phases I and II) in pursuit of the 2030 Agenda.
2. The generation and management of updated quantitative and qualitative knowledge on groups vulnerable to the risk of child labour —such as women and girls, migrants and refugees, indigenous people and Afrodescendants— and the adoption of innovative approaches to end child labour by addressing vulnerability.

Strengthening interactions with key actors, as well as with ILO and other specialized agencies of the United Nations System, could bolster the intervention's impact.

Objective

Contribute to strengthening local capacities for the development and implementation of local policies for the prevention and eradication of child labour in order to speed up the accomplishment of target 8.7 of the 2030 Agenda and put an end to child labour.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Northern Central America and nine states in southern and south-eastern Mexico have consolidated synergies and a sustained dialogue within the framework of South-South and triangular cooperation to accelerate the fulfilment of target 8.7.	Mechanism for South-South and triangular cooperation between Northern Central America and nine states in southern and south-eastern Mexico created, with the support of ILO, and functioning to exchange experiences on the fulfilment of target 8.7 (child labour) of the 2030 Agenda. Number of online or on-site meetings between countries.	Two online meetings per year. One on-site meeting per year.	2020-2025
Northern Central America and nine states in southern and south-eastern Mexico have strengthened their preventive approach towards child labour.	Northern Central America has implemented phase I of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model and has produced local child labour vulnerability maps and analyses of the associated factors. Number of municipalities, in Northern Central America and in the nine states of southern and south-eastern Mexico, that have implemented phase II of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model and have produced local strategies for the prevention and eradication of child labour. Number of networks of municipalities created in nine states of southern and south-eastern Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.	Three countries. Five municipalities per state/country. 11 networks.	2020-2022
Northern Central America and nine states in southern and south-eastern Mexico have produced and are managing up-to-date quantitative and qualitative information on groups vulnerable to the risk of child labour, such as women and girls, migrants and refugees, indigenous people and people of African descent.	Number of studies carried out into the situation of vulnerable groups. Number of regular measurements of child labour that include variables on vulnerable groups. Number of policies, programmes and services that include actions developed on the basis of the data and information generated. Number of strategies created or implemented to identify and extract children and adolescents from child labour and to retrain adolescent workers, taking advantage of South-South and triangular cooperation. South-South cooperation channels between Mexico and Northern Central America established and operating.	11 studies. Two per country/state. Two per country/state. One channel.	2020-2025

Main activities

Outcome 1: Governments and social actors in Northern Central America and the nine states of southern and south-eastern Mexico have consolidated synergies and a sustained dialogue within the framework of South-South and triangular cooperation to speed up fulfilment of target 8.7.

Activity 1: Expand the knowledge base of experiences and good practices produced by governments, employers' and workers' organizations and other key actors with the potential for replication and/or adaptation in designing and implementing responses to child labour risks.

Activity 2: Design and consolidate a South-South and triangular cooperation strategy on child labour issues among the countries' international cooperation agencies and secretariats, and in consultation with workers' and employers' organizations and other key public and private actors, for the positioning of target 8.7 and the monitoring of national, regional and global commitments made by the countries.

Activity 3: Conduct a strategic assessment of potential partners and actions in the framework of the South-South and triangular cooperation strategy, based on the analysis of interdependence between target 8.7 and other SDGs conducted by ILO.

Activity 4: Plan, execute and follow up on exchanges regarding the implementation of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model and associated factors in the municipalities, states and countries.

Outcome 2: Northern Central America and nine states in southern and south-eastern Mexico have strengthened their preventive approach towards child labour.

Activity 1: Implement phase I of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. Implementation to be done through tripartite committees and coordination venues.

Activity 2: Develop local tripartite strategies for the prevention and eradication of child labour, and in consultation with workers' and employers' organizations, based on the results of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model (phase II) in selected municipalities of Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico. This includes conducting municipal analyses of child labour and mapping the supply of services and key actors at the municipal level (and, in the case of Mexico, at the state and federal levels).

Activity 3: Promote the creation of networks of municipalities against child labour at the state (Mexico) and country (Northern Central America) levels, in consultation with workers' and employers' organizations.

Activity 4: Assess the impact of the local tripartite strategies implemented on the reduction of child labour.

Outcome 3: Northern Central America and the nine states of southern and south-eastern Mexico have updated quantitative and qualitative information on groups vulnerable to child labour risks, such as women and girls, migrants, indigenous people and people of African descent.

Activity 1: Broaden and deepen the knowledge base to fill the information gaps that exist, and strengthen the countries' response to the continued existence of child labour, particularly among vulnerable groups in Northern Central America and Mexico.

Activity 2: Include variables on the breadth and depth of child labour among vulnerable groups in the regular measurements calculated by the statistical institutes of Northern Central America and Mexico.

Activity 3: Include actions for the prevention and eradication of child labour among vulnerable groups in existing policies, programmes and strategies (social protection, education, poverty reduction), and develop national (El Salvador), state (Mexico) and municipal (Northern Central America and Mexico) strategies to prevent and eradicate child labour.

Activity 4: Create or improve registration and follow-up systems for children and adolescents extracted from child labour, and their families, at the country, state and municipal levels.

Project governance

Tripartite national, state and municipal steering committees for the prevention and eradication of child labour. These committees will be led by the labour ministries and will be responsible for developing and implementing child labour policies and promoting inter-agency coordination. The intervention will be created and implemented through those coordination venues, in liaison with workers' and employers' organizations.

The Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) has expressed its willingness to support South-South and triangular cooperation actions on child labour with ILO and Mexico's Secretariat of Labour and Social Security, in order to contribute to development outcomes in Northern Central America. These South-South and triangular cooperation actions could be joined by other United Nations agencies,

funds and programmes and other actors. AMEXCID could coordinate these actions with its counterparts in the other countries and interconnect the operation through the Northern Central American ministries of labour and other stakeholders.

Inter-agency coordination led by ILO within the framework of the Regional Initiative. The ILO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean is working to produce a proposal for inter-agency action to address child labour, which could include Northern Central America and Mexico. The proposal will include various elements linked to the acceleration factors that constrain the reduction of child labour numbers. UNDP plans to join the proposal, and other United Nations agencies could also come on board.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Actions of the Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour Regional Initiative.

Duration

5 years (2020–2025).

Budget: US\$ 5,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Ensuring safe, resilient and violence-free educational environments to keep children and adolescents from dropping out of basic and intermediate education in the regions with the highest emigration rates.	2020–2024 General Government Policy, Guatemala.	Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour Regional Initiative.	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO).	The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) is involved in the Regional Initiative.		Save the Children
Increasing the coverage and quality of essential services for comprehensive early childhood development in highly vulnerable contexts in Northern Central America and Mexico.		Ibero-American Programme for the Strengthening of South-South Cooperation (possible synergy).	International Partnership for Cooperation on Child Labour in Agriculture (FAO).	The Brazilian Cooperation Agency is involved in the Regional Initiative.		<i>Infancia Sin Fronteras.</i>
Preventing and responding to violence against children and adolescents in Guatemala.						<i>Global Humanitaria "Work is not for children".</i>
Reinforcing Assistance to Child Victims of Trafficking (ReACT).						

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.9

Youth building the future in southern and south-eastern Mexico and in the countries of Northern Central America



Implementing agencies:

Secretariat of Labour and Social Security and Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID), and authorities responsible for labour and youth issues in the receiving Northern Central American country.

Geographical coverage:

States of southern and south-eastern Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America.

Number of beneficiaries:

Beneficiaries in Mexico's southern and south-eastern states and up to 10,000 young people in each of the recipient countries.

Main topics:

- Youth
- Employment
- Poverty
- Training
- Migration

Context

A range of different structural causes drive the migration phenomenon: gaps in productivity and income, demographics, rapid urbanization, environmental degradation, inequality and discrimination, all of which interact and generate irregular flows of forced human movement. That is the case in the countries of Northern Central America, where migration has increased considerably in recent years.

Between 1990 and 2000, the population of Central America as a whole grew from 19.5 million to 24.0 million people. A dearth of quality jobs and rising demographics alongside low rates of growth mean that only one third of the young people entering the labour market are able to find formal employment.

Recent surveys indicate that about 40% of migrants from Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador had jobs at the moment they took the decision to migrate. However, their interest in embarking on a process of

migration was motivated by the desire for jobs with higher levels of productivity that would allow them to earn higher incomes. For that reason, a development policy that addresses the migration phenomenon must take the labour productivity gap into consideration as a driving factor, and not only unemployment.

Objective

Provide workplace job training opportunities for young people between 18 and 29 years of age who are excluded from paid work and school and who live in high-migration municipalities in southern and south-eastern Mexico and in Northern Central America, in order to increase their employability and labour-market inclusion through a model of joint social responsibility between the public, private and social sectors and to provide various forms of support:

- Economic: monthly direct transfers worth 3,600 pesos in Mexico's southern and south-eastern states, and US\$ 180 or the equivalent thereof in the relevant national currency.
- Technical: workplace training and provision of training certificates, with curricular value, that describe the technical knowledge and skills developed.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Provide job training alternatives to young people who neither study nor work.	Percentage of active beneficiaries of the programme in relation to the target youth population.	At least 10,000 beneficiaries in southern and south-eastern Mexico and the Northern Central American countries.	8 months to 1 year
Improved employability and labour market inclusion.	Percentage of beneficiary youth with jobs upon completion of training.	At least 10,000 beneficiaries in southern and south-eastern Mexico and the Northern Central American countries.	8 months to 1 year
Beneficiary compliance with the guidelines and planned activities.	Number of beneficiaries completing the programme.	At least 10,000 beneficiaries in the south and south-east of Mexico and in the countries of Northern Central America.	8 months to 1 year
Irregular migration reduced.	Total number of people from the countries of Northern Central America arriving in Mexico as irregular migrants.	Maintain the downward trend in irregular flows.	Medium and long terms.

Main activities

- Implementation of the programme in the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico.
- Signature of the "letter of intent" between Mexico and the receiving country.
- Presentation of the project data sheet to the Technical Committee.
- Signature of the donation contract.
- Development of the electronic registration platform.
- Determination of operational specifications.
- Selection of the local bank and disbursement procedure.
- Designation of technical personnel from both countries responsible for programme implementation.
- Definition of the operations calendar.
- Signature and dissemination of the programme operating guidelines.
- Call for applications to enrol in the programme.
- Registration of workplaces.
- Validation of information from workplaces regarding requirements and the submitted training plans.
- Notification of workplaces accepted.

- Applicant registration.
- Validation of applicant information.
- Compilation of the register of beneficiaries, and notification of beneficiaries of their selection.
- Start of activities and training plans for beneficiaries in the workplaces.
- Preparation of monthly cross-evaluations.
- Review of evaluations and adjustments.
- Disbursement of funds for the economic support of beneficiaries, subject to compliance with the programme's operating guidelines.
- Preparation and presentation of training certificates to beneficiaries who have completed their training.
- Preparation and presentation of badges for workplaces.
- Programme evaluation.

Project governance

For the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico, the implementing institution will be the Secretariat of Labour and Social Security, while programme governance in the three countries of Northern Central America will be the responsibility of the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs through the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID), together with the ministries and secretariats responsible for labour issues in the partner countries and their youth development institutions.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This programme is an initiative to further the Comprehensive Development Plan in the south and south-east of Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, in compliance with the 2030 Agenda and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Duration

For Mexico, as indicated in the operating rules; and for the countries of Northern Central America, up to eight months, with the possibility of extensions using funds from cooperating partners and donors in other countries and international organizations interested in participating in the programme.

Budget

A total of US \$15,500,000 from the Mexico fund, the amount of which will be determined and distributed in accordance with the agreements entered into with the recipient countries, based on the following proportions:

Expenditure categories by activity	Percentage of total
Economic support for beneficiaries	87
Monitoring and technical tools	10
Management and administration costs	3
Gross total	100

Annex

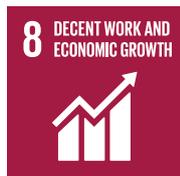
Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Sustainable labour insertion for socially at-risk youth in Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and the south-eastern states of Mexico. Youth employment with gender awareness.	Youth Building the Future programme. Secretariat of Labour and Social Security, Mexico. 2012-2024 National Action Plan for Youth Employment, El Salvador. 2017-2032 National Policy on Decent Employment, Guatemala.	2018-2030 Regional Intersectoral Agenda on Social Protection and Productive Inclusion with Equity (ARIPSIIP).	ILO-Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth.	AMEXCID. AECID-National Programme of Training Schools for Youth with Labour Market Access Difficulties, Honduras.	IDB: projects dealing with the transition from school to work, labour policies and labour intermediation.	Inclusive employment policies of the Honduran Council of Private Enterprise.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.10

Reclaiming public spaces and creating technological research projects through participation and training of young people aged between 15 and 29, State of Campeche



Implementing agencies:

Youth institutions, secretariats of labour and social security and secretariats of economic development in the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico.

Geographical coverage:

Southern and south-eastern Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

All young people aged between 15 and 29 living in southern and south-eastern Mexico: 7,404,061.

Main topics:

- Work
- Youth
- Employability
- Public spaces
- Social fabric
- Technology and research

Context

Campeche is one of Mexico's south-eastern states, with a total population of 907,878 inhabitants, or 0.8% of the national total. Young people number 292,075, or 32.2% of the state population, which is more or less equally divided between men and women, with an average age of 27. Accordingly, young people account for around third of the State's population. But those young people are not a homogeneous group: they have different qualities and needs, and they occupy different and distant spaces. Health and employment issues are, however, important for all members of this age group.

This is easily confirmed by looking at the statistics contained in the mental health bulletins of the Secretariat of Health of the State of Campeche. Both suicides and attempted attempts have their highest frequency in the 15–24 and 25–44 age groups. Similarly, the statistics on teenage pregnancy present another rather alarming panorama: although there has been a downward trend in the State in recent

years, in 2018 mothers aged between 10 and 19 accounted for 2,324 of the 15,967 births registered with the Civil Registration Agency (15%). At the same time, the unemployment rate among young people between 15 and 29 years of age stands at 6.2% (4.8% among men and 8.5% among women), and young people between the ages of 14 and 29 account for 51% of the population of working age.

To summarize, the youth population of southern and south-eastern Mexico reports a high rate of unemployment, which can lead to a greater propensity to commit illegal acts or a higher likelihood of suffering social deprivation. This proposal therefore seeks to address the problem of youth unemployment by means of a strategy to reappropriate public spaces and create productive projects through the promotion of employment and training for young people between the ages of 15 and 29 in southern and south-eastern Mexico.

Objective

Contribute to a reduction in unemployment among young people aged from 15 to 29 in southern and south-eastern Mexico, and to a reduction of differentials in social deprivation, through the reappropriation of public spaces and the creation of productive projects by promoting employment and providing training for youth between the ages of 15 and 29 in southern and south-eastern Mexico.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Greater participation by youth aged 15 to 29 in public spaces (sports courts, parks, schools and colleges).	Percentage of the youth population (15 to 29 years old) who are engaged in activities to promote employment in public spaces.	5% of the population of southern and south-eastern Mexico.	1 year (short term)
Increased creation of productive projects in southern and south-eastern Mexico.	Percentage of productive projects implemented and funded.	In southern and south-eastern Mexico, 3 projects.	1 year (short term)
Reduced unemployment rate in southern and south-eastern Mexico.	Unemployment rate.	In Campeche, a reduction from 6.2% to 5%.	2 years (medium term)
An entrepreneurial ecosystem involving El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico.	Number of consolidated business ventures.	A solid entrepreneurial ecosystem that allows exchanges among its members.	5 years (long term)

Main activities

1. Providing mobile training for young people aged between 15 and 29 who are neither studying nor working, as well as for those studying in higher education. The main topics of this training will be entrepreneurship and the use of natural resources with a sustainable development perspective in urban and rural areas, with public spaces serving as the meeting point: sports courts, parks, sports fields and/or schools and colleges.
2. Financing and regulation of own-account work among young people aged from 15 to 29.
3. Forging ties with universities and technological institutes for the promotion, creation, development and implementation of productive projects that benefit the local population and, at the same time, promote the sustainable use of natural resources.
4. Encouraging the use of public spaces as meeting points where young women can receive training and present their productive projects; inviting the general population to join in with their initiatives, thereby generating an entrepreneurial ecosystem based on projects that benefit the local population.

Project governance

1. Create an entrepreneurial ecosystem for youth between the ages of 15 and 29 in southern and south-eastern Mexico.
2. Youth institutions: promotion, identification, recruitment and monitoring of the target population.
3. Secretariats of labour and social security, and secretariats of economic development: promotion, training, funding, regulation, formalization and monitoring of productive projects.
4. Universities and technological institutes: promotion, training, funding, regulation, formalization and monitoring of productive projects developed by their students.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Work to forge a link with the higher education institutions that will allow the evaluation, identification, promotion, regulation, training and follow-up of young people's productive projects.

Work to link with and strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem of young people aged 15 to 29 in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, to form a network in pursuit of the objectives of the Comprehensive Development Plan.

Duration

For the consolidation of the proposal —that is, up to the creation of the entrepreneurial ecosystem for the area covered by the Comprehensive Development Plan— up to 5 years; however, the actions are expected to yield results within one year, following which they will be stepped up.

Budget: US\$ 150,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Youth employment with gender awareness.	Youth Building the Future programme in Mexico.	Pacific Alliance Labour Competence Certification Expert Network.	ILO-Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth.		IDB: projects dealing with the transition from school to work, labour policies and labour intermediation.	
Building equality: leadership and empowerment of indigenous, Afrodescendent and Garifuna women in Northern Central America and Mexico.						

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

B. Life-skills programme

No.	Name of proposal
2.11	Ensuring the opportunity to access quality and relevant education at the primary and middle-school levels, in safe, resilient and violence-free settings, for all persons in regions with the highest migration rates
2.12	“My New School” (<i>Mi nueva escuela</i>) programme, El Salvador (*)
2.13	Strengthening communities, Guatemala (*)
2.14	University centre for the comprehensive development of southern and south-eastern Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America, State of Tabasco (*)

(*) Projects prioritized by the Governments of the Northern Central American countries, the Government of Mexico, or the states of South-Southeast Mexico.



Proposal 2.11

Ensuring the opportunity to access quality and relevant education at the primary and middle-school levels, in safe, resilient and violence-free settings, for all persons in regions with the highest migration rates



Implementing agencies:

Local and national ministries of education in the four countries, in conjunction with the ministries of social development, territorial development, infrastructure, security and civil protection.

Geographical coverage:

Regions with the highest rates of emigration in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

- 18 million children and adolescents and 1.2 million teachers at 60,000 primary and middle schools.
- 500,000 people over the age of 15 who have not yet completed secondary school; i.e. who are lagging behind in their education.

Main topics:

- Basic education
- Secondary education
- School inclusion
- Education quality
- Violence-free educational environments
- Resilience in educational environments

Context

In the countries of northern Central America and Mexico, the lack of qualifications (labour competences) caused by the failure to pursue education beyond the secondary school level is one of the chief factors associated with precarious employment conditions, and the phenomenon is even more pronounced among women. That situation in turn drives migration towards places where, although jobs may be equally precarious, they pay better.

In the subregion, large numbers of people do not manage to complete basic education, even though most learn to read and write, and this places an additional constraint on development and social inclusion. In the countries of Northern Central America, the average youth literacy rate between the ages of 15 and 24 stands above 95%, but only one in every two young people between 20 and 24 years of age has completed their secondary education. There are 3.5 million young people between the ages of 20 and 24 living in Northern Central America. More than 1.7 million adolescents are currently out of school in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, as are a further 2.7 million in Mexico (UIS, 2017).

Access to primary and secondary education is not yet universal in these four countries, and education services are generally characterized by low levels of quality and relevance, which leads to high drop-out rates and low standards of academic achievement. In El Salvador, the net enrolment rate in primary education is 85%, and net enrolment at the lower and upper secondary levels is 64% and 42%, respectively; in Guatemala, the net enrolment rate in primary education is 78%, compared to 43% in lower secondary and 25% in upper secondary; in Honduras, the net enrolment rates are 83% in primary education, 42% in lower secondary and 27% in upper secondary; and in Mexico, while the net primary enrolment rate stands at 95%, it falls to 85% in lower secondary and 56% in upper secondary.

Beyond its low enrolment rates, however, the subregion faces a wider crisis of learning. Based on the most recent data from the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) (2015), 42% and 57% of 15-year-old students in Mexico do not attain minimum competence levels in reading and mathematics, respectively. The 2018 PISA for Development (PISA-D) figures show even lower percentages for Honduran and Guatemalan students reaching level 2 or above, which is the minimum expected by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): 70% in reading and 85% in mathematics in Honduras and, in Guatemala, 70% in reading and 89% in mathematics. El Salvador has not participated in standardized learning assessments in recent years; in July 2018, however, it signed an agreement with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to participate in PISA in 2021.

At the same time, violence and insecurity in the settings in which children and adolescents find themselves is, along with poverty, one of the main reasons why they choose to abandon their studies. Some data collected over the past ten years support this claim. A 2011 survey in Honduras, conducted by the National Programme for Prevention, Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration, found that 90% of teachers felt their schools were being affected by gangs; in Guatemala, a 2011 study by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) revealed that 57.5% of students were afraid to go to school and that 23% of students and 28.4% of teachers had been victims of gang harassment on their way to or from school, or knew someone who had; and in El Salvador, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) 2013 Human Development Report found that 42% of students suffered from some form of violence in school, either theft (33.4%), verbal violence (18.6%) or physical violence (15.9%).

In addition, Northern Central America is one of the areas of the world most prone to natural phenomena that cause large-scale disasters, and that situation has worsened over the last 30 years. Past experience notwithstanding, there is not enough information available to measure their impact accurately; the events of those years have shown, however, that infrastructure in general, and public infrastructure in particular (hospitals, schools, civic centres, government facilities), is highly vulnerable to disaster damage, and so resilience considerations must be taken on board in construction projects.

Objective

Contribute to the increase of relevant, quality educational opportunities, offered in safe and resilient settings, for the inhabitants of regions with the highest emigration rates, enabling higher education standards in the medium term and facilitating improved labour insertion in the long term.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Increased primary and secondary school enrolment.	Number of secondary school-age children and adolescents out of school.	No child or adolescent in the regions with the highest emigration rates is outside the education system due to lack of access.	5 years
Lower dropout rates at the primary and secondary levels.	Number of pupils abandoning formal education over total number of pupils.	No child or adolescent in the regions with the highest emigration rates is outside the education system due to a lack of access, insecurity or inadequate resilience of the educational infrastructure.	5 years
Increased completion of secondary education among persons aged over 15.	Number of people who had not finished secondary school in 2019 who complete it in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.	500,000 (cumulative).	5 years
Higher reading and mathematics achievements among 15-year-olds.	Percentage of 15-year-olds lacking basic reading and mathematics skills.	Mexico: Baseline: 42% for reading, 57% for mathematics. Goal: 33% for reading, 45% for mathematics. Honduras: Baseline: 70% for reading, 85% for mathematics. Goal: 50% for reading, 60% for mathematics. Guatemala: Baseline: 70% for reading, 89% for mathematics. Goal: TBD% for reading, TBD% for mathematics. El Salvador: Baseline: 66% for reading, 72% for mathematics. ^a	5 years
Teachers better equipped to respond appropriately to different types of emergencies.	Percentage of teachers trained in appropriate emergency response. Percentage of schools implementing civil protection protocols.	100% in the coverage areas. 100% in the coverage areas.	1 year
Increased resilience of educational facilities.	Percentage of educational facilities built or renovated for resilience to natural phenomena.	100% in the coverage areas.	5 years
Improved school security for the protection of students and teachers.	Percentage of educational facilities implementing school security protocols. Number of violent incidents (school bullying, sexual abuse, use of illegal substances or weapons inside and outside schools).	100% in the coverage areas. No incidents by the end of the fifth year.	5 years
Enhanced community belonging in the countries of Northern Central America.	Number of adolescents able to choose to remain in their places of origin.	100%	5 years

^a According to the Second Regional Comparative and Explanatory Study (SRECE) (2004–2008).

Main activities

1. Design and implement a strategy to guarantee the provision of free, inclusive, quality primary and secondary education in the regions most prone to migration.
2. Design and implement a programme to strengthen teaching practices to improve the quality of teacher training, providing teachers with ongoing professional support and designing and adopting incentive and recognition systems.

3. Develop and implement alternatives for online, mixed and on-site secondary education, taking advantage of information and communications technologies (ICTs) and existing infrastructure and, where appropriate, building new infrastructure.
4. Develop and implement an on-site secondary education alternative for specific groups (migrants, persons in conflict with the law, persons with special educational or cultural needs).
5. Design and implement an incentive scheme that includes scholarships, transfers and credits, and facilitate the issuing of certificates.
6. Develop an early warning mechanism based on the collection and use of data on adolescents at risk of dropping out of school due to threats of violence, pregnancy, parenthood, early marriage, absenteeism, over-age and/or under-achievement, and build capacities with schools for its implementation.
7. Support and promote the development of violence prevention and response mechanisms in school settings (including gender violence), together with training for teachers and educational leaders, the development of protocols for action and the inclusion of families and communities in prevention programmes.
8. Design and implement communication for development (C4D) strategies to address the social causes of educational exclusion (particularly among adolescent girls), and support the reintegration of migrant and returnee adolescents to prevent stigmatization and discrimination.
9. Generate information on the disaster risk exposure level prevailing in educational settings.
10. Deploy civil protection protocols to prevent and respond to catastrophic events (natural or human-made) in school settings.
 - a) Prevention: design catastrophic event evacuation plans and drills.
 - b) Response: set up catastrophic event coordinated response teams.
11. Build or improve school infrastructure to make it safe and resilient to natural hazards (e.g. earthquakes, cyclones) or other risks (e.g. fires).

Project governance

Responsibility for designing the educational alternatives and incentive schemes will be shared between the education ministries and international institutions with experience and expertise in the field (United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)), and a participatory approach could be assured by taking on board suggestions from civil society. A multilateral committee comprising the actors involved in the three Northern Central America countries will have to be set up to standardize the schemes proposed. In turn, responsibility for implementation will lie with education secretariats and ministries, with technical support from international institutions.

National statistics institutes—in conjunction with education, security and social development ministries and civil society organizations and with technical assistance from international organizations (UNICEF, UNESCO, ECLAC) and national technical cooperation agencies— will be tasked with generating statistical information on the situation of school violence and on disaster risks in school settings and will be responsible for the joint and coordinated design and implementation of school security protocols, for civil protection protocols in the event of disasters and, with the participation of infrastructure ministries, for designs for building or modifying safe and resilient school infrastructure.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The project has cross-cutting links to national government plans, regional plans, United Nations agency programmes, and programmes run by non-governmental organizations.

Duration

The project is planned to take five years, with two clearly defined phases: The design stage, which would take between six months and one year depending on the activity in question, at the end of which a set of internationally replicable tools would be available. Following that, a four-year implementation stage is planned.

Budget: US\$ 1,900,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Capacity-building for institutional strengthening and risk reduction.	2018–2022 Strategic Government Plan, Honduras.	2018–2030 Regional Intersectoral Agenda on Social Protection and Productive Inclusion with Equity. ^a	World Initiative for Safe Schools (WISS), UNICEF.	Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID). ^b	Education and infrastructure projects approved by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). ^c	Safe Schools Declaration by the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA).
	2010–2038 National Vision, Honduras	2013–2030 Central American Education Policy.	Mesoamerica Education Initiative, IDB and UNICEF.	German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). ^d		
	K'atun National Development Plan: Our Guatemala 2032. 2019–2024 National Development Plan, Mexico. ^e	Central American Security Strategy (ESCA). ^f Global Partnership to End Violence against Children.	UNICEF's education programmes, funded by various donors (Republic of Korea, Canada).	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). ^g		

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

^a See [online] <https://www.sisca.int/centro-de-documentacion/marco-estrategico/1025-agenda-regional-intersectorial-sobre-proteccion-social-e-inclusion-productiva-con-equidad-aripip-2018-2030-1/file>

^b Regional projects supported by AMEXCID, such as “Inclusive Education in the Mesoamerican Region and the Caribbean as a Public Good, in the Framework of the Mesoamerican Cooperation Programme”. See [online] https://www.sica.int/cooperacion/proyectos_248.html.

^c For example, “Attracting Effective Teachers to Isolated, Vulnerable and Underperforming Schools”.

^d Regional projects supported by GIZ, such as “Integration and reintegration of children and youth at risk of irregular migration and displacement in Central America: ALTERNATIVAS” and “Programme to prevent youth violence in Central America: PREVENIR”. See [online] https://www.sica.int/cooperacion/proyectos_214.html.

^e In Mexico, the programmes of the National Institute for Adult Education (INEA), with online platforms such as the Education for Life and Work Model (MEVYT).

^f See [online] <https://www.sica.int/esca/inicio>.

^g Regional projects supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) such as “Disaster Risk Management Governance and Climate Change Adaptation”. See [online] https://www.sica.int/cooperacion/proyectos_239.html.

Proposal 2.12

“My New School” (*Mi nueva escuela*) programme, El Salvador



Implementing agencies:

The Presidential Commission for Strategic Projects will lead project formulation and launch, alongside the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Territorial Development. Support will also be given by the armed forces (labour under the direction of the Engineering Command) and the prison system (production of classroom furniture); further support will be provided by the private sector, international cooperation agencies, multilateral banks, civil society and other entities of the Salvadoran State, such as local governments.

Geographical coverage:

Entire national territory of El Salvador.

Number of beneficiaries:

Approximately 1.5 million pupils a year, in initial, kindergarten and basic (first, second and third cycles) education. The number of beneficiaries will increase with the incorporation of schools that teach basic and middle school programmes for adults in the evenings, flexible education models for young people and adults and special education schools.

Main topics:

- Implementation of a new school infrastructure model.
- Access to new skills, technology and connectivity.
- Complementary educational agenda, with languages, robotics, culture, arts and design.
- Access to basic services that bolster children's human dignity.
- Involving schools as protagonists in community development.

Context

Mi nueva escuela (“My New School”) is a strategic project of the Government of the Republic of El Salvador under President Nayib Bukele. It proposes redesigning the infrastructure of educational facilities to positively impact learning, to provide children and young people with access to new skills and the use of technological tools and to set the conditions needed for implementing a complementary educational agenda.

The education system in El Salvador has many challenges to overcome: equitable access, low academic performance, grade repetition and dropout rates and, to a large extent, the quality of its infrastructure.

Nationally there are 5,143 schools, around 650 of which lack such minimum conditions as roofing, formal spaces, furniture, sanitation and other necessities and therefore require urgent attention to their infrastructure. In addition, some 1,350 need improvements to the quality of the existing infrastructure. In total, some 2,000 schools are planned to benefit through the implementation of the programme.

Numerous studies show that as countries achieve higher levels of education, they also attain high levels of economic development. International organizations have therefore underscored the importance of investing in human capital, given that it yields multiple benefits, including social mobility.

Addressing more than educational infrastructure, “My New School” will also allow for the expansion of services and coverage and change the face of communities.

Objectives

- Implement a new model of school infrastructure to provide an optimal learning environment, and encourage the integration of schools into their communities.
- Promote access to education, new technologies and new skills.
- Incorporate a complementary educational agenda that includes such topics as language learning, environmental stewardship, cultural development, the promotion of values, and robotics and digital programming.

Expected results, progress indicators and goals, according to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Sustainable Development Goals	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
SDG 1: No poverty.	<p>Establish a multidimensional community-based education agenda to reduce extreme poverty.</p> <p>Create opportunities for the comprehensive development of students in schools to keep them from abandoning their education.</p> <p>Generate skills for decent employment once students finish their schooling.</p> <p>Increase social profitability.</p>	<p>Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age.</p> <p>Proportion of domestically generated resources allocated by the government directly to poverty reduction programmes.</p> <p>Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection).</p> <p>Sum of total grants and non-debt-creating inflows directly allocated to poverty reduction programmes as a proportion of GDP.</p> <p>Proportion of government recurrent and capital spending to sectors that disproportionately benefit women, the poor and vulnerable groups.</p>	<p>Labour market inclusion in formal jobs through better education, with a focus on families facing some degree of severe poverty.</p> <p>Promote programmes for self-employment and entrepreneurship among families with children enrolled in school, using cooperation funds.</p>	5 years
SDG 2: Zero hunger.	<p>School meals programme.</p> <p>Venue for community agricultural innovation.</p>	<p>Number of children under 10 years of age suffering from hunger or undernutrition, among every ten children.</p> <p>Number of children under 10 years of age suffering from hunger, among every ten children.</p> <p>Number of children under 10 years of age who are underdeveloped, among every ten children aged under five.</p> <p>Number of obese children under 10 years of age, among every ten children.</p> <p>Number of children under 10 years of age suffering from anaemia, among every ten children.</p>	<p>A reduction of at least a half in the results recorded in 2020.</p>	5 years

Expected results, progress indicators and goals, according to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (continued)

Sustainable Development Goals	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
SDG 3: Good health and well-being.	Schools equipped with clinics. Training and refresher courses for teaching staff by school.	<p>Number of children with access to basic health services, annually.</p> <p>Number of children with social protection.</p> <p>Number of children out of every ten who have suffered physical or sexual violence at some point in their childhood.</p> <p>Gross completion rate by municipality.</p> <p>Percentage of students completing grades, by municipality.</p> <p>Illiteracy rate, by municipality.</p> <p>Percentage of over-aged students, by municipality.</p>	<p>Meet the quality of life standards for children and adolescents in the areas of physical and mental health established by UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO).</p> <p>Continuous training in extracurricular knowledge for teachers.</p> <p>Regular satisfactory assessments of extracurricular knowledge skills.</p> <p>Resolve the factors that cause students to drop out, both partially and totally.</p> <p>Modify school infrastructure to include stimulating, attractive, functional, collaborative elements that promote better academic performance, well-being and creativity.</p> <p>Reach 1.5 million students a year, in initial, kindergarten and basic (first, second and third cycles) education. The number of beneficiaries is increased with the incorporation of schools that teach basic and middle school programmes for adults in the evenings, flexible education models for young people and adults and special education schools.</p>	5 years
SDG 4: Quality education.	Implementation of a learning accelerator at each school. Training programmes with a complementary educational agenda such as other languages, robotics, culture, values, youth entrepreneurship.	<p>Number of student enrolments in initial, kindergarten and basic (first, second and third cycles) education, and at schools that teach basic and middle school programmes for adults in the evenings, flexible education models for young people and adults and special education schools, by gender, year and municipality.</p> <p>Number of primary school-age children out of school over total number of children, by municipality.</p> <p>Number of out-of-school girls over total number of children, by municipality.</p> <p>School dropout rate.</p> <p>Education spending as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP). Education spending per student.</p>	<p>Number of student enrolments in initial, kindergarten and basic (first, second and third cycles) education, and at schools that teach basic and middle school programmes for adults in the evenings, flexible education models for young people and adults and special education schools, by gender, year and municipality.</p> <p>Number of primary school-age children out of school over total number of children, by municipality.</p> <p>Number of out-of-school girls over total number of children, by municipality.</p> <p>School dropout rate.</p> <p>Education spending as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP). Education spending per student.</p>	5 years

Expected results, progress indicators and goals, according to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (continued)

Sustainable Development Goals	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
SDG 5: Gender equality.	<p>Reduced inequality gap between girls and boys.</p> <p>Personalized attention for girls who drop out of school.</p>	<p>Dropout rate among girls, by municipality.</p> <p>Number of girls out of every ten who have experienced physical and/or sexual violence, by municipality.</p> <p>Number of live adolescents and girls in unions before their eighteenth birthdays, by municipality.</p> <p>Gender balance in initial, kindergarten and basic (first, second and third cycles) education, and at schools that teach basic and middle school programmes for adults in the evenings, flexible education models for young people and adults and special education schools, by municipality.</p> <p>Quality of life indicators for girls and adolescent women established by UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO).</p>	<p>Meet the quality of life standards for girls and adolescent women established by UNICEF and WHO.</p>	5 years
SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation.	<p>Access to drinking water and sanitation facilities.</p>	<p>Number of schools with safely managed drinking water supplies over total number of schools in the municipality.</p> <p>Number of schools with safe sanitation over number of schools in the municipality.</p> <p>Number of schools that discharge their wastewater into waterways without adequate treatment over number of schools in the municipality.</p> <p>Number of water-stressed schools over number of schools in the municipality.</p> <p>Number of schools that have set the bases for integrated water resource management over number of schools in the municipality.</p>	<p>Compliance with National Water Sewerage Administration (ANSA) drinking water regulations at every new school built.</p> <p>Compliance with applicable wastewater regulations at each new school built.</p>	As each school is completed.
SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy.	<p>Access to electricity, with capacity for self-supply using solar panels with battery backups.</p>	<p>Number of schools that do not have access to electricity with sustainable autonomous generation over number of schools in the municipality.</p> <p>Number of schools with energy management standards over number of schools in the municipality.</p>	<p>Energy self-supply using solar panels with battery backup greater than external supply.</p>	5 years
SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth.	<p>Complementary educational models for young people that promote entrepreneurship initiatives.</p>	<p>Overview of skills generated over skills required in the market.</p>	<p>40% of students in the public education system acquire the new skills provided by the "My New School" programme.</p>	5 years

Expected results, progress indicators and goals, according to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (continued)

Sustainable Development Goals	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure.	Innovation in quality school infrastructure, based on a multifunctional modular concept. Accessible infrastructure for students with disabilities. The Armed Forces Engineering Command supports construction, with low levels of waste. Inmates at penal institutions, through the prison industries of the <i>Yo Cambio</i> ("I Change") programme, manufacture school furniture, using good sustainable practices in the use and processing of materials. Technological and connectivity infrastructure that allows children to access current and future knowledge.	Number of "My New School" modular schools produced annually. Number of "My New School" modular schools over number of schools in the municipality. Number of schools with internet and computers over number of schools in the municipality. Number of schools with infrastructure for students with disabilities over number of schools in the municipality. Spending on school infrastructure over education budget.	2,000 "My New School" modular schools. 12,000 classrooms equipped with "My New School" furniture. 2,000 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certifications for "My New School" schools. 20% of school infrastructure is compatible with community needs.	5 years
ODS SDG 10: Reduced inequalities.	Reduced socio-economic inequality. Reduced rural/urban inequality. Reduced gender inequality. Reduced inequality due to special conditions (impaired mobility, vision, hearing). Early childhood care with infrastructure and resources appropriate to this stage.	Grade Point Average (GPA) under the "My New School" programme compared to Grade Point Averages at a private school. This equation will yield four quotients, applied to: • High vs. low socioeconomic status. • Rural vs. urban areas. • Girls vs. boys. • Special conditions at public schools vs. special conditions at private schools.	Grade Point Average (GPA) under the "My New School" programme vs. GPA from a private school greater than GPA without the "My New School" programme vs. GPA from a private school.	5 years
SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities.	Sustainable raw materials and construction methods for to strengthen schools' community ties.	Indicators established in the LEED certification for schools in the "My New School" project.	LEED Platinum, by school.	As each school is completed.

Expected results, progress indicators and goals, according to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (concluded)

Sustainable Development Goals	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
SDG 12: Responsible production and consumption.	Conscientious and sustainable consumption practices, education in the recycling and reuse of materials. Infrastructure in synergy with the environment. Establish sustainable electricity generation, by school.	Number of schools with energy-saving technology over number of schools in the municipality. Number of schools that have implemented recycling and reuse programmes. Number of schools that have implemented waste separation programmes. Number of schools with their own sustainable generation source over number of schools in the municipality. Indicators established for "My New School" programme schools by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).	To exceed the minimum indicators for food established by FAO at each school.	5 years
SDG 13: Climate action.	Incorporate good practices related to climate change into the framework of the complementary educational agenda at each school.	Percentage of public schools that have incorporated environmental education, risk reduction and climate change into their complementary pedagogical proposal.	Ministry of Education includes, in the complementary curriculum, specific educational content on the environment, risk reduction and climate change at each school.	5 years
SDG 14: Life below water.	Inclusion, in the framework of the complementary educational agenda, of training to prevent ocean pollution and protect coastal and marine areas.	Percentage of public schools that have incorporated, into their complementary curricula, education in preventing ocean pollution and protecting marine and coastal areas.	40% of public schools have incorporated, into their complementary curricula, education in preventing ocean pollution and protecting marine and coastal areas.	5 years
SDG 15: Life on land.	Inclusion, in the framework of the complementary educational agenda, of good practices related to the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems.	Percentage of public schools that have incorporated, into their complementary curricula, good practices related to the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems.	40% of public schools have incorporated, into their complementary curricula, good practices related to the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems.	An implementation period of ten years has been planned.
SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.	Increased efficiency of public investment in schools. Promoting tolerance and a culture of peace.	Percentage of schools that are up to date with their accounting. Improvements in student coexistence.	Spending on school infrastructure doubled, compared to 2020 baseline.	An implementation period of ten years has been planned.
SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals.	Strategic multisectoral alliances, such as with private businesses, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international cooperation agencies, friendly countries, multilateral and inter-institutional banks.	Number of actors cooperating in the 2019–2024 administration over number of actors cooperating in the 2014–2019 administration. Amount contributed by non-governmental cooperating partners in the 2019–2024 administration over amount contributed by non-governmental cooperating partners in the 2014–2019 administration.	Exceed the number of cooperating actors during the 2014–2019 administration. Exceed the amount provided by non-governmental cooperating partners during the 2014–2019 administration.	An implementation period of ten years has been planned.

Main activities

- Currently, a high percentage of schools lack the basic wherewithal to equip their students with an adequate level of skills. For that reason, a new school infrastructure has been designed, incorporating pedagogical and technological resources.
- Conduct a survey of current infrastructure conditions in the national education system.
- Conduct a study in order to implement a pedagogical system based on innovation, as an essential component in the careers of the future.
- Establish cooperation agreements with the educational models of large companies, such as Google, Microsoft and Amazon. This is part of the inclusion of new pedagogical systems, based on innovation and connectivity, to enhance the education standards of the student population.

Project governance

The Ministry of Education will be responsible for project implementation. It will receive support from the Ministry of Public Works for the execution of infrastructure works; from the Ministry of Health, for the installation of school clinics; from the National Water Sewerage Administration (ANDA), for drinking water and sewerage services; and from the Ministry of Justice and Public Security, in order to ensure the students' safety and security. Additional State institutions and social actors will be brought on board as programme roll-out progresses.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

"My New School" is supported by several United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, as well as by other strategic partners: the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), private businesses and other stakeholders. This initiative also works in synergy with the *Creceer Juntos* programme, which is being implemented by the Office of the First Lady.

Duration

The first stage involves a survey and assessments of current infrastructure conditions in the national education system, and it has been estimated that this will take one year to complete. This stage has been under way since December 2019. The second stage, which involves interventions in the infrastructure of the school system, is beginning progressively.

Budget: US\$ 750,000,000

Annex

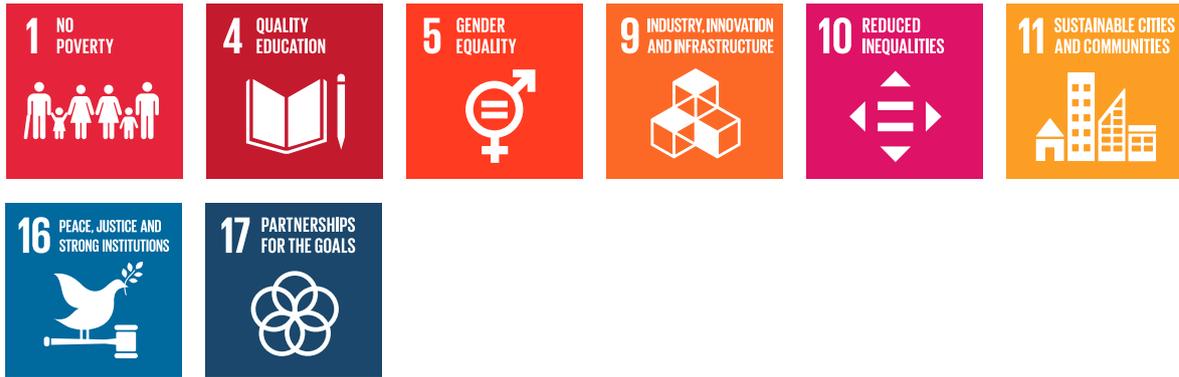
Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Access to quality and relevant education at the primary and middle-school levels, in safe, resilient and violence-free environments.	2013–2023 National Policy on Comprehensive Protection for Children and Adolescents (PNPNA) of El Salvador <i>Crecer Juntos</i> programme.	Central American Education Policy.	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)–“Education transforms lives”.	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)–Project for the improvement of mathematics teaching in primary and secondary education (ESMATE) in El Salvador.	World Bank: human development investment pillar. Inter-American Development Bank (IDB): projects in the primary, secondary, and vocational and technical education subsectors.	Dual education programme of the ITCA-FEPADE School of Engineering, El Salvador.
				United States Agency for International Development (USAID): training and life skills in El Salvador.		
				USAID: quality secondary education in safe schools in El Salvador.		

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.13

Strengthening Communities, Guatemala



Implementing agencies:

Core institutions: Ministry of Education (MINEDUC). **Support institutions:** Central American Integration System (SICA), Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), Departmental Council for Urban and Rural Development (CODEDE), civil society, secretariats, municipal governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), Congress, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINEX), Ministry of the Interior (MINGOB), Office of the Ombudsman for Human Rights (PDH), Office of the Attorney General of the Nation (PGN), National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (CONRED), Secretariat for Planning and Programming of the Office of the President (SEGEPLAN), Ministry of Public Finance (MINFIN), Presidential Executive Coordination Secretariat (SCEP), National Association of Municipalities (ANAM), Technical Institute for Training and Production (INTECAP).

Geographical coverage:

Guatemala comprises 22 departments, with a total surface area of 108,890 km². This initiative covers the municipalities that make up the following 13 departments: Quetzaltenango, San Marcos, Quiché, Huehuetenango, Alta Verapaz, Jutiapa, Izabal, Chiquimula, Escuintla, Retalhuleu, Petén, Baja Verapaz and Guatemala.

Number of beneficiaries:

According to the 2018 Population Census, Guatemala has a population of 17,263,000, with a density of 159 inhabitants per square kilometre; most are concentrated in the mountainous region in the south of the country, however, and more than 50% of the country's inhabitants live in rural areas. Indigenous groups, notably the Quiché and the Kaqchikel, live in the highlands and dedicate themselves to agriculture, textile handcrafts, livestock raising and local commerce. The target population comprises 14,765,758 people, which is the population of the priority departments, and the direct beneficiaries will be the members of the communities located in each of those departments. However, the total population of the Republic of Guatemala will be considered indirect beneficiaries.

Main topics:

- Access to new skills and technologies.
- Complementary educational agenda, with languages, computing, culture, arts and design.
- Access to basic services to raise the human dignity of young people.
- Incorporate secondary education as a leading player in community development.

Context

Objective

Guarantee all persons over 15 years of age in the regions with the highest migration rates the opportunity to attend secondary school, ensuring a safe, resilient and violence-free educational environment to keep primary and middle-school children and adolescents from dropping out in the regions with the highest migration rates, and activating inclusive territorial development mechanisms to reduce imminent and underlying risks, with a particular focus on the migrant population.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Sustainable Development Goals	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
	National and international assessments.	By 2030, ensure that all children have complete, free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education with relevant and effective learning outcomes.	By 2024, among children in the sixth grade of primary school, increases of 4.6 percentage points in those attaining the reading level and of 3.53 percentage points in those attaining the mathematics level. Between 2014 and 2024, an increase from 40.4% to 45% in reading level attainment and from 44.47% to 48% in mathematics level attainment.	National and international assessments.

Main activities

- Currently, a high percentage of schools lack the basic wherewithal necessary to equip their students with an adequate level of skills. To this end, a new school infrastructure, incorporating complementary pedagogical and technological resources, will be designed and built.
- Conduct a study into the education system's current infrastructure situation.
- Conduct a study in order to implement a pedagogical system based on innovation, as an essential component in the careers of the future.
- Inclusion of new pedagogical systems, based on innovation and connectivity, to bolster students' educational levels.
- Support the Ministry of Education in strengthening its sectoral education plans and in developing and implementing specific policies, plans and strategies for the provision of flexible, quality formal and non-formal education and training programmes for excluded adolescents, including migrants and returnees.
- Promote multisectoral cooperation, dialogue and coordination for the implementation of national and local education strategies for excluded adolescents.

- Strengthen teaching practices by improving the quality of teacher training, providing teachers with continuous professional support and supporting the Ministry of Education in the design of incentive and recognition systems.
- Support the Ministry of Education in the development, funding and implementation of flexible, personalized initiatives aimed at helping adolescents and their families access comprehensive support services (including psychosocial support and social protection interventions) to assist them in remaining in or reentering formal education.
- Support systemic national approaches for the development of skills at the different levels of education, anchored in national education policies, curricula and national certification frameworks and in collaboration with relevant partners, including the private sector.
- Promote public and private partnerships to support the implementation of solutions and strategies at the community level.

Project governance

The Ministry of Education will be in charge of the project, with the support of the Ministry of Public Finance for execution and of the Ministry of Infrastructure, Communication and Housing for infrastructure works.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Duration

Estimated period of four years.

Budget: to be defined

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Guarantee the opportunity to access quality and relevant education at the basic and middle levels, in environments that are safe, resilient and free from violence for all in the regions with the highest emigration rates.	K'atun National Development Plan: Our Guatemala 2032. Flexible modalities for secondary education in Guatemala, MINEDUC.	Central American Education Policy. Global Partnership to End Violence against Children.	UNESCO – "Education transforms lives". World Initiative for Safe Schools (WISS), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Mesoamerica Education Initiative, IDB and UNICEF.	Education for Life and Work (EDUVIDA II), German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation/ Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECID) scholarships for art, education and culture, 2019-2020.	World Bank: human development investment pillar. IDB: projects in the primary, secondary, and technical and vocational education subsectors.	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.14

University centre for the comprehensive development of southern and south-eastern Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America, State of Tabasco



Implementing agencies:

Juárez Autonomous University of Tabasco.

Geographical coverage:

Southern and south-eastern Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America.

Number of beneficiaries:

Approximately 5,000 people.

Main topics:

- Education
- Migration
- Poverty
- Gender equity
- Indigenous peoples
- Internationalization

Context

The border municipality of Tenosique in the State of Tabasco suffers from a series of problems related to migrant trafficking and, in addition, is home to vulnerable indigenous communities.

In 2019, it is estimated that some 10,000 asylum applications were filed by migrants. Those groups demand attention, as does the population living in the territory.

While combating poverty must be the priority, there is a need for a project with an economic and social impact and a strong environmental content.

Objective

Creation of a Centre for Comprehensive Development on the campus of the Juárez Autonomous University of Tabasco, located in the Municipality of Tenosique, to promote inclusion, education, professional training, entrepreneurial development and the generation of self-sustaining projects for job creation to benefit the inhabitants of southern and south-eastern Mexico and the countries of Northern Central America.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Increased international cooperation.	Rate of international cooperation projects.	10%	Medium term (2 to 5 years)
	Percentage of international enrolment.	10%	Medium term (5 years)
	Number of business projects developed and funded.	10	Medium term (5 years)
Increased basic skills for vocational training.	Rate of refugees and migrants applying for training in their field of discipline.	10%	Medium term (5 years)
	Percentage of scholarships for international enrolment.	100%	Medium term (5 years)
	Percentage of vulnerable population requesting training.	100%	Medium term (5 years)

Main activities

- (a) Construct and equip a multipurpose building and an auditorium.
- (b) International academic and labour cooperation agreements with institutes of education, organizations and the productive sector.
- (c) Development of inclusive productive projects.
- (d) Comprehensive education and training.

Project governance

Juárez Autonomous University of Tabasco (UJAT).

Possible synergies with other initiatives



Duration

A five-year period has been estimated, with 5,000 beneficiaries (1,000 per year).

Budget: US\$ 8,875,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Addressing the immediate needs and promoting the long-term local integration of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers in Mexico.		Central American Education Policy.	UNESCO-“Education transforms lives”.		World Bank: human development investment pillar. IDB: projects in the primary, secondary, and vocational and technical education subsectors.	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

C. Comprehensive child development programme

No.	Name of proposal
2.15	Improve the coverage and quality of essential services for the comprehensive development of highly vulnerable infants in Northern Central America and Mexico
2.16	Comprehensive early childhood care to prevent and reduce chronic malnutrition in 35 priority municipalities in two departments of Guatemala
2.17	<i>Crecer juntos</i> early childhood development, El Salvador (*)

(*) Projects prioritized by the Governments of the Northern Central American countries, the Government of Mexico, or the states of South-Southeast Mexico.



Proposal 2.15

Improve the coverage and quality of essential services for the comprehensive development of highly vulnerable infants in Northern Central America and Mexico



Implementing agencies:

Ministries of education and health, national child protection institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

1,650,000 children aged under six (150,000 in El Salvador, 250,000 in Guatemala, 250,000 in Honduras and 1 million in Mexico).

Main topics:

- First thousand days
- Comprehensive development, early learning and protection
- Supporting and strengthening families

Context

Over the past two decades, Latin America and the Caribbean have made progress in their economic and social development, which has had a positive impact on the population's well-being and on the growing number of children who are able to exercise their rights. A close look at the early childhood situation reveals that this progress has been uneven, however, and significant numbers of children continue to face barriers in accessing social and protection services.

Children need to grow up in a stable environment: one that provides good health and nutrition, protects them from violence and potential dangers and offers them the possibility to begin learning at an early age, through loving relationships and interactions. Experiences in the early years influence the entire life cycle by improving health and well-being and bolstering the ability to learn, participate and earn a living.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, it is very common for children who do not have access to services and opportunities for early childhood development (ECD) to belong to the most excluded populations, to live in remote locations and to face conditions of disadvantage. An estimated 3.6 million children between the ages of three and four do not receive age-appropriate early development services. The prevalence of adequate ECD is 32% lower among children who do not attend early childhood education programmes, who lack books and other forms of support for at-home learning and who are exposed to violent discipline, compared to children not exposed to those risk factors (60% vs. 92%).

In Latin America and the Caribbean, 2.7 million under-fives have never been registered and are therefore at risk of being unable to access the basic services needed to ensure their correct development. Despite the region's progress in reducing the mortality rate among children under five, one child still dies every three minutes, 52% of them in the first 28 days of life. Nutrition is still a challenge, with 5.1 million children under five chronically undernourished and 3.9 million overweight.

Two out of three children between the ages of two and four are victims of violent forms of discipline in the home, and half of all children in that age group are victims of physical punishment. Some children are more vulnerable than others to violence and neglect, such as those who live in the poorest households, grow up in institutions or suffer from disabilities.

Quality early education, in conjunction with family care, is essential so that children can develop properly and start primary school at the right age. Only six out of every ten children between the ages of three and four in the region attend education programmes, however, and there are notable differences between social groups: children from wealthier families are 1.5 times more likely to attend early education programmes than those from the poorest households (71% vs. 49%).

Investing in early childhood is one of the most critical and cost-effective ways to make a significant difference in the lives of the region's children and to ensure that they survive, reach their full development potential and thrive. It is also a way to improve people's long-term health, education outcomes and productivity, to empower women, to transform violent parenting practices by breaking the cycle of violence from early childhood, to promote environmental sensitivity and to break the cycle of poverty so that progress can be made in building a more sustainable and prosperous world.

Objective

Young children, from gestation up to school age, realize their development potential in nurturing environments, through programmes and policies that ensure inclusive and equitable care in the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Reduced gaps in coverage of comprehensive services for children aged 0 to 6 years.	Percentage of newborns and caregivers receiving postnatal care with counselling about stimulation and receptivity (Health Management Information Systems, HMIS).	El Salvador: ND	5 years
	Percentage of children in humanitarian situations participating in early childhood development (ECD) programmes.	El Salvador: ND	El Salvador: Children served by and attending child welfare centres or initial care centres: 15,000.
	Number of children with access to ECD intervention packages.		
	Gross and net enrolment rates in early childhood and preschool education programmes (Educational Management Information System, EMIS).	El Salvador: Children served by or attending child welfare centres or initial care centres: 7,703. Source: ISNA, 2019. ¹	
		Gross enrolment rates: Initial education: 7.6%, Kindergarten: 68.5%.	Gross enrolment rates: Initial education: 11%, Kindergarten: 70%.
		Net enrolment rates: Initial education: 6.4%, Kindergarten: 57.4%. Source: MINEDUCYT, 2018. ²	Net enrolment rates: Initial education: 10%, Kindergarten: 60%.
Strengthened family-friendly policies and programmes for positive, child-sensitive parenting.	Number of mothers, fathers and caregivers participating in parenting programmes.	El Salvador: 50,000	5 years

Main activities

- Children receive essential services until they enter school.
 - In collaboration with subregional agencies —Central American Educational and Cultural Coordination (CECC), Central American Integration System (SICA), Central American Parliament (PARLACEN))— contribute to building unified early childhood development approaches in the countries, promote the use of common early childhood development (ECD) tools and support the design and implementation of multi-country training and capacity-building strategies and the development of family guidance tools.
 - Advocate and provide technical support for the adoption of comprehensive policies and the implementation and scaling up of multisectoral early childhood interventions.
 - Contribute to the expansion of comprehensive early childhood development services (health, nutrition, education and protection) by developing models to extend access to vulnerable populations and to inform public policy for scaling up.
 - Advocate and provide technical assistance for assigning priority, in early childhood development programmes, to young children with disabilities or developmental lags.

¹ The Salvadoran Institute for the Comprehensive Development of Children and Adolescents (ISNA) (2019), *Memoria de Labores 2018*, 30 May [online] <http://www.isna.gob.sv/ISNANEW/?wpdmpro=memoria-de-labores-2018>.

² Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MINEDUCYT), “Indicador: tasa neta de matrícula por nivel educativo”, Office of Planning, Education Statistics Department 2018 [online] <https://www.mined.gob.sv/EstadisticaWeb/indicadores/3.%20COBERTURA%20MATRICULAR/3.4%20Tasa%20neta%20de%20matr%C3%ADcula%20por%20nivel.pdf>; MINEDUCYT, “Indicador: tasa bruta de matrícula por nivel educativo”, Office of Planning, Education Statistics Department [online] <https://www.mined.gob.sv/EstadisticaWeb/indicadores/3.%20COBERTURA%20MATRICULAR/3.3%20Tasa%20bruta%20de%20matr%C3%ADcula%20por%20nivel.pdf>.

- Contribute to the design and implementation of capacity-building strategies for caregivers and professionals in the different early childhood sectors and services (care services, home visits, and initial education and preschool services).
 - Support the strengthening of early childhood risk detection mechanisms and intersectoral referrals to activate response and support services for children and their families.
 - Strengthen mechanisms for horizontal and vertical integration and coordination and to align the efforts of different social sector actors working with early childhood.
 - Contribute to the design and implementation of standards and mechanisms for the quality control of services and for performance measurements.
 - Contribute to the design and implementation of information, monitoring and follow-up systems, shared among the institutions responsible for ECD, including timely registration.
 - In countries of origin and return: Support governments in strengthening national and local capacities for multisectoral early childhood attention and care, placing priority on the municipalities at greatest risk of violence and poverty. Support reintegration programmes for children and adolescents, including psychosocial support.
 - In transit countries: Advocate and provide technical assistance for the establishment of “service stations” for basic early childhood care, with particular emphasis on young children with developmental lags and disabilities (including the provision of simple assistance materials that can be “transported” during the “transit” process). Prepare simple guidance materials to help caregivers identify risks and/or factors that impact child survival and development.
 - In destination countries: Support identification processes for returnee children and psychosocial support for their adaptation and integration into existing services. Advocate and provide technical assistance and support for establishing direct care services for children and their families. Prepare existing services for the reintegration of children and families.
2. Parents and caregivers provide loving care, with awareness of the child’s needs.
- Contribute to the design and use of simple guidance materials to promote respectful, nurturing care, protection, health, nutrition and early stimulation and learning, including activities that promote development and positive interactions between caregivers and children.
 - Advocate and provide technical assistance for expanding the use of the care for development approach, with a particular emphasis on at-risk families.
 - Contribute to the design and implementation of strategies to prevent violence in early childhood and to promote positive discipline, parental care and positive masculinity.
 - Strengthen social responsibility mechanisms that place a priority on ECD, including accountability mechanisms and the strengthening of community-based services and support networks.
 - Promote family-friendly policies that facilitate positive ECD practices in the public and private sectors, such as paid maternity leave and paternity leave, flexible working hours, early childhood services in the workplace, family grants, breastfeeding spaces at work and care services.

Project governance

The four countries’ ministries of education and health and social protection institutes are leading implementation with support from the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the cooperation of implementing partners such as intergovernmental mechanisms—including the Central American Educational and Cultural Coordination (CECC) and Central American Integration System (SICA)—non-governmental organizations, universities, knowledge centres, international financial institutions and others.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Early childhood development is a priority issue in the cooperation programmes that the four country offices of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) have with the countries' governments. These cooperation programmes' ECD actions and strategies are in line with the Regional Strategy for Early Childhood Development and the UNICEF Strategic Plan, and they are financed by institutional funds, donor governments and private sector agreements.

Duration

5 years.

Budget: US\$ 32,724,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Provide greater opportunities and social inclusion for children, adolescents and their families by promoting local governance in the municipalities with the largest migrant populations in Honduras.	2020–2023 General Government Policy, Guatemala.	2012–2021 Regional Plan for Comprehensive Early Childhood Services (PRAIPI).	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): early childhood development axis.	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID): programmes to support children.	World Bank: human development investment pillar.	
Comprehensive early childhood care to prevent and reduce chronic malnutrition in 35 prioritized municipalities in two departments of Guatemala.	2013–2023 National Policy on Comprehensive Protection for Children and Adolescents (PNPNA), El Salvador.				Inter-American Development Bank (IDB): projects in the preschool and early childhood subsectors.	
	National Policy for Comprehensive Early Childhood Development. Guatemala invests in comprehensive early childhood development 2010–2020.					

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.16

Comprehensive early childhood care to prevent and reduce chronic malnutrition in 35 priority municipalities in two departments of Guatemala



Implementing agencies:

Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance, Secretariat of Food and Nutritional Security, Departmental Commissions for Food and Nutritional Security (CODESAN), Municipal Commissions for Food and Nutrition Security (COMUSAN), Community Commissions for Food and Nutrition Security (COCOSAN) and municipal governments.

Support and technical assistance from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

Geographical coverage:

11 priority municipalities in Alta Verapaz and 24 priority municipalities in Huehuetenango, two departments affected by poverty, food insecurity and chronic malnutrition.

Number of beneficiaries:

212,000 children aged under five.

1,000,000 adolescents, pregnant and nursing women, mothers, fathers and caregivers.

Municipal data on selected municipalities in Alta Verapaz and Huehuetenango

No.	Department	Municipality	Population under five years of age	Prevalence of chronic malnutrition (2015)	Level of chronic malnutrition (2015)	Total population (National Institute of Statistics, INE)
1	Alta Verapaz	Tucurú	7,829	46	High	49,011
2	Alta Verapaz	Panzós	13,378	44	High	67,340
3	Alta Verapaz	Senahú	16,158	52	Very high	73,237
4	Alta Verapaz	San Pedro Carchá	38,317	40	High	264,679
5	Alta Verapaz	Lanquín	3,878	52	Very high	29,419

Municipal data on selected municipalities in Alta Verapaz and Huehuetenango (concluded)

No.	Department	Municipality	Population under five years of age	Prevalence of chronic malnutrition (2015)	Level of chronic malnutrition (2015)	Total population (National Institute of Statistics, INE)
6	Alta Verapaz	Cahabón	10,054	45	High	69,349
7	Alta Verapaz	Chisec	14,924	37	High	79,786
8	Alta Verapaz	Chahal	4,443	44	High	32,138
9	Alta Verapaz	Fray Bartolomé De Las Casas	11,097	38	High	75,850
10	Alta Verapaz	La Tinta	6,779	41	High	45,222
11	Alta Verapaz	Raxruhá	6,214	39	High	39,796
12	Huehuetenango	Huehuetenango	14,122	20	Low	126,347
13	Huehuetenango	Chiantla	13,660	48	High	110,440
14	Huehuetenango	Malacatancito	2,700	35	High	23,963
15	Huehuetenango	Cuilco	10,359	44	High	65,126
16	Huehuetenango	Nentón	8,068	60	Very high	53,672
17	Huehuetenango	San Pedro Necta	6,022	55	Very high	37,398
18	Huehuetenango	Jacaltenango	4,913	47	High	49,406
19	Huehuetenango	San Idelfonso Ixtahuacán	8,113	59	Very high	50,746
20	Huehuetenango	Santa Bárbara	5,979	68	Very high	17,878
21	Huehuetenango	La Libertad	6,178	49	Very high	42,988
22	Huehuetenango	La Democracia	8,613	36	High	48,042
23	Huehuetenango	Todos Santos Cuchumatán	4,991	57	Very high	39,770
24	Huehuetenango	San Juan Atitlán	3,007	77	Very high	16,365
25	Huehuetenango	Colotenango	6,489	72	Very high	28,748
26	Huehuetenango	San Sebastián Huehuetenango	5,428	66	Very high	33,356
27	Huehuetenango	Tectitán	1,800	50	Very high	8,484
28	Huehuetenango	Concepción	3,277	59	Very high	19,622
29	Huehuetenango	San Antonio Huista	2,327	41	High	21,101
30	Huehuetenango	Aguacatán	7,104	48	Very high	59,386
31	Huehuetenango	San Rafael Petzal	1,742	48	Very high	9,621
32	Huehuetenango	San Gaspar Ixchil	1,598	65	Very high	7,428
33	Huehuetenango	Santiago Chimaltenango	1,462	63	Very high	7,883
34	Huehuetenango	Santa Ana Huista	1,296	18	Low	9,996
35	Huehuetenango	Unión Cantinil	2,488	39	High	21,988
Averages and totals			264,807	49	Very high	1,735,581

Source: National Institute of Statistics (INE).

Main topics:

- Primary health care
- Local governance
- Early childhood care
- Infant feeding
- Behaviour change
- Early childhood development
- Water and sanitation
- Preventing malnutrition
- Community participation

Context

Guatemala is classified as a middle-income country, and it is the largest economy in Central America. Despite the stable economic and financial situation, however, limited public spending, Latin America's lowest tax revenue rate and high levels of corruption hinder the government's ability to increase much-needed investment in social programmes to improve the delivery of public services. As a result, Guatemala has a medium level of human development, with a society that is far from being inclusive and equitable. Poverty affects 59% of the population, rising to 79% among indigenous people and to 76% in rural areas. This is compounded by high levels of food insecurity due to structural causes: curtailed market access, limited access to land and the prevalence of gender gaps. According to the recent Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) study conducted by the World Food Programme (WFP), 37% of Guatemala's population is in a situation of food insecurity. This problem is intrinsically linked to the irregular migration experienced by the country.¹

Guatemala's health system is one of the least advanced in the subregion.² This can be seen in the fact that only 1% of the national budget is allocated to the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (MSPAS),³ in the limited coverage available in rural areas, as well as in other factors.

According to the most recent (2014–2015) Maternal and Child Health Survey (ENSMI),⁴ chronic malnutrition affects 46.5% of under-fives, with a higher prevalence among rural (53%) and indigenous (61%) populations. This threatens the survival, development and potential of half the population under the age of five. Guatemala's very high rates of malnutrition are the result of a combination of direct and underlying causes that include demand-side factors related to poverty, low levels of education, behaviour and attitudes, as well as supply-side factors related to food insecurity and limited health care services. Lack of access to quality primary health care services, poor hygiene and sanitation practices, inadequate feeding and child care practices during pregnancy and childhood, and a high prevalence of infections among children represent an important part of the immediate factors that explain the high prevalence of chronic child malnutrition in the country.

Family and nutritional practices for children under the age of five are critical to achieving and maintaining optimal health and nutritional conditions, especially during pregnancy and the first two years of life. One widespread misconception is that stunting is determined genetically and, as such, it is not seen

¹ As the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has said, there is a link between food insecurity and irregular migration. About 80% of returned rural migrants say that their reason for migrating was to seek better economic opportunities, since around 50% of returnees have previously worked in the agricultural sector.

² Programa Estado de la Nación, *Quinto Informe de Estado de la Región en Desarrollo Humano Sostenible*, 2016 [online] www.estadonacion.or.cr.

³ The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends a figure of 6%, while the Central American average is 4.7%.

⁴ Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance/National Institute of Statistics, *IV Encuesta Nacional de salud materno infantil 2014–2015*, 2017.

as a manifestation of malnutrition or understood as having serious consequences for the child's overall health and development. Low levels of exclusive breastfeeding, inappropriately early weaning and low diversity diets have been identified as key barriers to ensuring that young children in Guatemala enjoy adequate nutrition. The data reveal that the knowledge and behaviours of families and caregivers play a key role in nutrition, health, and sensitive, nurturing care practices, affecting the growth and development of children from the very start of pregnancy.

Since 2016, the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance (MSPAS) has been working to implement an inclusive, comprehensive primary health care model to progressively reduce the health coverage shortcomings. To that end, in October 2018 it officially adopted the Care and Management Model for Health Areas, the aim of which is to establish care and management processes to allow the organization and operation of the health services network, based on primary health care, to guarantee the right to health and the access to and coverage and quality of comprehensive, integrated and continuous care for individuals, families and communities.

This intervention thus aims to improve the food and nutritional security of the most vulnerable populations in the priority municipalities of the Departments of Alta Verapaz and Huehuetenango. Through a comprehensive approach to early childhood —addressing the issues of nutrition, health, protection, early education, nurturing and sensitive care and building resilience— it seeks to ensure the population access to healthy food. The logic behind this intervention is structured around five pillars: (i) reducing food insecurity, with an emphasis on combating malnutrition and promoting rural development, (ii) improving access to quality services, with an emphasis on health and education, (iii) ensuring the protection of the environment and the implementation of fair public policies for the use of natural resources and climate change adaptation, (iv) strengthening local and central government capacities to ensure that relevant public policies are put in place, and (v) promoting gender equity and women's participation and reducing gender-based violence.

Objective

Contribute to the reduction of chronic malnutrition among children aged under five, with emphasis on under-twos, and help improve the nutritional conditions of adolescents and women in 35 priority municipalities of Alta Verapaz and Huehuetenango, by improving the coverage of and access to quality health services based on the primary health care strategy, strengthening local governance and providing comprehensive early childhood care. At the same time, contribute to the reduction of chronic malnutrition by increasing municipal public spending in those territories, particularly for the provision of water and sanitation.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
R. 1 1. Improved access to, coverage and use of quality health and nutrition services, based on the primary health care strategy, in 35 priority municipalities of Alta Verapaz and Huehuetenango.	Number of health services providing, with the requisite quality, the thousand day window intervention package.	100% in the project municipalities.	5 years
R. 2 Parents and caregivers of children under the age of five follow adequate nutrition, health, and nurturing, sensitive care practices with their children under five years of age in 35 priority municipalities of Alta Verapaz and Huehuetenango.	Percentage of parents with knowledge of and good practices in child feeding and the thousand day actions.	Increase of at least 10% over the baseline.	5 years
R. 3 Strengthened local governance for the joint formulation, implementation and monitoring of nutrition interventions in 35 priority municipalities of Alta Verapaz and Huehuetenango.	Number of community actors involved in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of local projects.	To be determined, according to the baseline.	5 years
R. 4 Improved diets and increased incomes among the most vulnerable families in the priority municipalities, through the adoption of sustainable and resilient practices.	Percentage of children aged 6 to 23 months meeting a minimum standard of dietary diversification. Percentage of children aged 6 to 23 months who meet a minimum standard of daily frequency. Family incomes, broken down by age and sex. Percentage increase in production of high-quality, nutrient-rich food. Percentage of women whose incomes rise during the project. Proportion of households where decisions on how to use cash, vouchers or food are made by women, by men or by both, broken down by transfer type.	Mothers and fathers follow at least two of the feeding principles recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO). Increased family incomes for at least half of the beneficiaries. Mothers and fathers introduce at least two foods with protein into the family diet. Improved decision-making capacity of women with respect to how family incomes are managed.	5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years

Main activities

This intervention and its activities are aligned with the 2032 National Development Plan K'atun: Our Guatemala, which establishes priorities and guidelines for food and nutritional security, comprehensive health, gender equity and the sustainable management of natural resources in rural areas.

1. Calculate programme baselines in the project's 35 priority municipalities.
2. Improve health personnel's competencies for planning and providing health, nutrition and child development services for individual, family and community care, with emphasis on the actions of the thousand day window.
3. Expand coverage of, access to and use of health, nutrition and child development services based on the primary health care strategy, including social and community participation.

4. Develop and implement a logistics chain to ensure the availability of medicines, micronutrients and other inputs for quality care in health services.
5. Support the development of quality control systems in health services.
6. Strengthen the surveillance and information systems of the health services, with emphasis on the actions of the thousand day window.
7. Develop and implement a communication for development strategy aimed at parents and caregivers of children under the age of five to improve child feeding and nutrition knowledge and practices.
8. Establish and train local networks for the promotion of adequate food, nutrition and health.
9. Strengthen local governance by promoting community participation, facilitating the empowerment of community leaders and raising awareness of food and nutrition security issues.
10. Provide or improve access to quality child development services at the community level.
11. Establish quality standards for child development and timely stimulation services at the community level.
12. Develop local systems to strengthen the capacity of families and communities to improve local water and sanitation conditions.
13. Provide conditional assistance to the most vulnerable households in the prioritized departments through conditional transfers.
14. Support municipal corporations in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of local projects intended to improve the nutritional conditions of children, pregnant and nursing women and adolescents, with a focus on reducing and mitigating risks from the effects of climate change.
15. Develop a community system for monitoring changes in behaviour related to nutrition and health.
16. Promote environmentally friendly and climate-resilient techniques among small producers through training and technical assistance for entrepreneurship and increased production, together with access to financial services.
17. Redesign the social register.
18. Strengthen the Social Information System to improve the recording and monitoring of the provision of social programmes at the individual level.
19. Strengthen the National System for Public Investment.
20. Strengthen municipal capacities for public management and financing.
21. Prepare municipal and sectoral analyses of public finances, socioeconomic profiles and gaps, for the deployment of municipal public policies.

Project governance

A comprehensive, multisector and inter-institutional approach to nutrition is proposed. This entails the integration of actions in the areas of health, nutrition, child development, nurturing and sensitive care and positive parenting patterns. The plan is to implement the actions according to the socio-ecological model: in other words, taking into account the different levels —individual, family, community, institutional, national, others— involved. Project governance will be established on the basis of the communities' needs, promoting community participation to empower local actors in demanding their rights and fulfilling their obligations in the areas of food, nutrition, health and child development in coordination

with health services, municipal authorities and other local actors. The project aims to strengthen and improve the capacities of local actors at the departmental, municipal and community levels to reflect on the problems of nutrition and health, and to seek solutions together.

At the central level, the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance and the Secretariat of Food and Nutritional Security will provide general guidelines to coordinate the actors and facilitate local governance. This strategy also entails close collaboration with the National System for Food and Nutrition Security (SINASAN), and with its coordinating entities at all levels, in order to capitalize on past experiences with nutrition interventions.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This proposal will synergize with the actions to be implemented in 22 other municipalities of Alta Verapaz and Huehuetenango by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) with the support of the European Union, thereby covering the two departments in their entirety. It will also support and strengthen government actions to reduce chronic malnutrition, thus validating an integrated model for dealing with malnutrition.

Duration

5 years

Budget: US\$ 90,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
<p>Improve the coverage and quality of essential services for the comprehensive development of highly vulnerable infants in Northern Central America and Mexico.</p> <p><i>Crecer juntos.</i></p> <p>Provide greater opportunities and social inclusion for children, adolescents and their families by promoting local governance in the municipalities with the largest migrant populations in Honduras.</p>	<p>2020–2023 General Government Policy, Guatemala.</p> <p>National Policy for Comprehensive Early Childhood Development: Guatemala invests in comprehensive early childhood development 2010–2020.</p>	<p>2012–2021 Regional Plan for Comprehensive Early Childhood Services (PRAIPI).</p>	<p>United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): early childhood development axis.</p>		<p>World Bank: human development investment pillar.</p> <p>Inter-American Development Bank (IDB): projects in the preschool and early childhood subsectors.</p>	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.17

Crecer Juntos early childhood development programme, El Salvador



El Salvador needs a politically robust programme that embraces all the elements necessary for the correct development of human skills, abilities and capacities. That was the rationale for the *Crecer Juntos* (“Growing Up Together”) programme, an initiative of the First Lady of the Republic, Gabriela de Bukele, intended to assist Salvadoran children in reaching their full early childhood development potential.

According to several studies, investing in early childhood is essential because this is the optimal moment for breaking the cycle of poverty and building a dynamic society. Support at this stage of life increases the likelihood of children developing into responsible, professional, healthier, better-trained people who can act as a force for change in social development.

Implementing agencies:

Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health.

Geographical coverage:

The entire country.

Number of beneficiaries:

In health:

- Pregnant women: 657,306 (five-year cumulative total)
- Children from 0 to 7 years old served: 865,704 (five-year cumulative total)
- Premature: 31,905 (five-year cumulative total)
- Low weight: 39,308 (five-year cumulative total)

In education:

- Review of the kindergarten curriculum: 230,038 children.
- Infrastructure interventions at 150 schools: 59,656 current pupils.
- Initial care centres to be targeted: 42,835 children.

In comprehensive protection:

- Young people under protective measures: 6,499 (increase of 50% in six months).
- Early childhood: 5,432 (increase of 1.5%).
- Young people with juvenile criminal responsibility: 5,050 (stable figure).
- Improvements in protection and shelter programmes: 12,193 children.

Main topics:

- Establish strategies, programmes and inter-institutional and intersectoral actions with a child-centred focus, under a model of nurturing, sensitive and respectful care.
- Ensure health, nutrition, education and learning, as well as comprehensive protection and quality care.

Context

El Salvador needs a policy that focuses on early childhood, because children have the right to an optimal environment for their full development. Their opportunities for attaining the highest levels are scarce, and the lack of strategic public-policy actions targeting early childhood shows that this issue has not been a priority in the past. The education system in El Salvador has many challenges to overcome: equitable access, deficient inter-institutional interconnections, access to a single information system, migration, family disintegration, lack of education in parenting practices with a focus on nurturing, sensitive and respectful care and positive discipline, lack of education on the benefits of early stimulation, dropout rates due to teenage pregnancy, lack of quality standards in the provision of early and nursery education, crèches, as well as the quality of infrastructure.

According to official data from the Ministry of Education, a total of 549,233 children aged between 0 and 7 were outside the education system in 2018. Enrolment in early childhood education (0 to 3 years) was 6.4%, and in kindergarten education (4 to 6 years) net enrolment was 57.4%.

These statistics indicate that children's developmental potential is restricted. The health system also faces great challenges, since it has not worked in a coordinated and harmonized way with the institutions that provide health services. The current government is implementing changes to improve the provision of health services.

At the end of 2019, the National Health Plan was launched, with the aim of expanding and strengthening care, promoting multisectoral interventions and effectively responding to the shortcomings in health care. Challenges in the mother and child segment include rising rates of obesity, malnutrition and the double burden; obstetric violence, a rate of prematurity of 6.3% among all live births, and a low birth weight rate of 8.5%. Only 50% of children are exclusively breastfed.

In El Salvador, access to quality early childhood interventions is low and uneven, and it has a particular impact on vulnerable groups.

Objectives

Cognitive and psychomotor development

Contribute to the integral development and learning of children aged seven and under by promoting language acquisition, attention, memory, gross and fine motor skills and by encouraging learning through play.

Physical development and growth

Promote the achievement of developmental stages, prevent diseases and ensure adequate nutrition, good weight and height according to age, by promoting breastfeeding and proper nutrition.

Affective and emotional development

Promote parenting skills, and encourage children to learn to recognize their feelings, express themselves and socialize appropriately with others. Guarantee a comprehensive protection system that prevents any kind of violence against children and that nurtures and protects them from all forms of vulnerability.

Expected results, progress indicators and goals, according to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs)	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
SDG 1: No poverty	Empower early childhood talents and skills to increase social returns and create a sustainable future for future generations, through the implementation of the <i>Crecer Juntos</i> policy.	<p>Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age.</p> <p>Proportion of government resources directly allocated to poverty reduction programmes.</p> <p>Proportion of total public expenditure on essential services (education, health, social protection).</p> <p>Sum of total non-debt-creating grants and allocations earmarked for poverty reduction programmes as a proportion of gross domestic product (GDP).</p> <p>Proportion of public recurrent spending and capital expenditure allocated to targeted sectors that benefit women, the poor and vulnerable groups.</p> <p>School dropout rate.</p>	Systematize the reproduction of talents and capacities in early childhood.	5 years
SDG 2: Zero hunger	School Feeding Programme. National Nutrition Plan. Mother's Milk Promotion Plan.	<p>Percentage of one-year-old children exclusively breastfed during the first six months of life.</p> <p>Number of fully operational nutrition centres.</p> <p>Number of under-sevens suffering from hunger or malnutrition for every ten children.</p> <p>Number of under-sevens who are underdeveloped for every ten children under the age of five.</p> <p>Number of under-sevens who are obese for every ten children.</p> <p>Number of under-sevens suffering from anaemia for every ten children.</p> <p>Prevalence of anaemia among children aged 12 to 59 months.</p> <p>Prevalence of acute malnutrition in children aged under five.</p> <p>Prevalence of chronic malnutrition among first-grade schoolchildren.</p> <p>Prevalence of chronic malnutrition among children aged under five.</p> <p>Prevalence of global malnutrition among children aged under five.</p> <p>Prevalence of overweight among children aged under five; urban, rural, national total.</p>	<p>55% one-year-old children exclusively breastfed in the first six months of life.</p> <p>13 fully operational nutrition centres.</p> <p>A reduction of at least 50% in the figures recorded in 2020.</p>	5 years

Expected results, progress indicators and goals, according to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (continued)

Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs)	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
SDG 3: Good health and well-being	<p>Safe Motherhood Plan. Safe Birth Plan. Early Childhood Comprehensive Care Programme. Structural quality standards project, and curriculum covering: Development of early childhood care and education (ECE) structural quality standards for public and private ECE centres, with annual progress reviews. Development of a rights-based, inclusive ECE curriculum, with modules on social-emotional development and culture of peace, with monthly progress reviews. Training for public-sector teachers and principals to improve the quality of education, consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training plan and materials for ECE teachers and principals developed and aligned with early learning and development standards and the new curriculum, with annual reviews. • Improvement of early childhood physical learning environments at selected public centres. 	<p>Percentage of 10- and 11-month-old children with developmental charts. Percentage of pregnancies with early checks. Percentage of health facilities with protocols in place to respond to gender-based violence. Percentage of schools and preschools where the Ministry of Health conducts annual medical check-ups. Number of hospitals annually certified for the provision of high quality maternal and child health services. Project-related complaints entered through the grievance management mechanism that are processed and responded to within 21 days. Number of health personnel trained per year. Percentage of under-fives registered during the first month of life in growth and development monitoring: urban, rural, national total. Prevalence of diarrhoea among under-fives. Prevalence of acute respiratory infections among under-fives. Child mortality rate. Percentage of children under the age of one inoculated against measles. Percentage of under-fives fully immunized with diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus (DPT) vaccines or pentavalent vaccines. Supplementary vitamin A coverage among children aged 6 to 59 months; urban, rural, national total. Pre-kindergartens and kindergartens implementing revised curriculum, with annual reviews. ECE classrooms in public schools that have received learning materials in line with the new curriculum, with annual reviews. Principals trained in new training after the new structural quality early learning and development standards (ELDS). In-service ECE teachers trained in the new professional development process under structural quality ELDS. ECE trainers of trainers trained abroad to implement the training plan for teachers and principals, which will be conducted each year.</p>	<p>Develop a baseline survey and a results survey for <i>Crecer Juntos</i>, covering a period of five years. 70% of 10- and 11-month-old children with a developmental chart. 150 primary health care centres. 72% of pregnancies with early checks. 60% of health facilities with protocols in place to respond to gender-based violence. 65% of schools and preschools with MINSAL conducting annual medical check-ups. Eight hospitals certified to provide high quality mother and child health services. 80% of project-related complaints entered through the complaints management mechanism processed and responded to within 21 days. 4,500 health professionals trained. Two <i>Crecer Juntos</i> surveys: baseline and results. ECE monitoring and evaluation system for public and private ECE centres in operation. ECE curriculum and curricular review process prepared and approved. 300 pre-kindergartens and kindergartens implementing revised curriculum. 9,120 ECE classrooms in public schools receiving learning materials in line with the new curriculum. Curriculum for preschool and kindergarten teachers reviewed and approved. 4,500 principals trained in the new process. 8,000 in-service ECE teachers trained in the new professional development process under structural quality ELDS. 150 trainers of ECE trainers trained abroad in implementing the training plan for teachers and principals. 300 vulnerable public early-childhood centres pre-selected for intervention. Prototype will be produced. 120 pre-investment studies on public early-childhood centres completed under the project. 120 public early-childhood centres with gender-separated toilets. 450 public early-childhood centres in vulnerable areas receiving minor repairs and school furniture. Two national standardized evaluation rounds conducted. 2,000 school principals trained in the use of standardized test results.</p>	5 years

Expected results, progress indicators and goals, according to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (continued)

Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs)	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
SDG 4: Quality education	<p>Pre-selection of vulnerable public early-childhood centres for intervention, with monthly reviews.</p> <p>Completion of new prototype infrastructure for public early-childhood centres aligned with early learning and development standards and structural quality standards to guarantee safe, inclusive and learning-oriented spaces. To be created in a year.</p> <p>Pre-investment studies on public early-childhood centres completed under the project, with monthly reviews.</p>	<p>Public early-childhood centres with gender-separated toilets, with monthly reviews.</p> <p>Public early-childhood centres in vulnerable areas with minor repairs and school furniture, with quarterly reviews.</p> <p>National standardized evaluation rounds conducted, with monthly reviews.</p> <p>School principals trained in the use of standardized test results, with monthly reviews.</p>	<p>Principals and in-service teachers who have increased their sexist perceptions within schools, following the module on non-sexist practices included in the training.</p> <p>Percentage reduction in the inequality gap between girls and boys, with personalized follow-up each month.</p> <p>Dropout rate among girls, by municipality.</p> <p>Number of girls out of ten who have experienced physical and sexual violence, by municipality.</p> <p>Number of adolescents and girls in unions before their eighteenth birthdays, by municipality.</p> <p>Gender balance in initial, kindergarten and basic (first, second and third cycles) education, and at schools that teach basic and middle school programmes for adults in the evenings, flexible education models for young people and adults and special education schools, by municipality. With quarterly reviews.</p> <p>Quality of life indicators for girls and adolescents as set by UNICEF and WHO.</p>	5 years
SDG 5: Gender equality	<p>Training on non-sexist practices.</p> <p>Reduced inequality gap between girls and boys.</p> <p>Personalized attention for girls who drop out of school.</p> <p>Flexible programme.</p>	<p>Principals and in-service teachers who have reduced their sexist perceptions within schools, following the module on non-sexist practices included in the training.</p> <p>Meet the quality of life standards for girls and adolescent women set by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO).</p>	<p>Principals and in-service teachers who have reduced their sexist perceptions within schools, following the module on non-sexist practices included in the training.</p> <p>Meet the quality of life standards for girls and adolescent women set by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO).</p>	5 years

Expected results, progress indicators and goals, according to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (continued)

Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs)	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation	Access to safe water and sanitation facilities. Quality monitoring plan for water consumed in schools.	Number of schools with safely managed drinking water vs. number of schools in the municipality. Number of schools with safely managed sanitation vs. number of schools in the municipality. Number of schools that discharge their wastewater into waterways without adequate treatment vs. number of schools in the municipality. Number of schools with water stress vs. number of schools in the municipality. Number of schools that have implemented the bases for integrated water resource management vs. the number of schools in the municipality. Number of water analysis studies per quarter.	Compliance with the National Water Sewerage Administration (ANDA) drinking water regulations at every new school built. Compliance with applicable wastewater regulations at each new school built. 100% compliance with the execution of water analysis studies.	5 years
SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy	Access to electricity, with capacity for self-supply using solar panels with battery backups.	Number of schools that do not have access to electricity with sustainable autonomous generation vs. number of schools in the municipality. Number of schools with energy management standards vs. number of schools in the municipality.	Energy self-supply using solar panels with battery backup greater than external supply.	5 years
SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth	Development of early education centres will allow mothers to work. Working mothers will make use of early education facilities. School facilitators will have vocational training because a basic technical level will be developed. Community Mothers Programmes.	Number of working mothers making use of early education facilities per semester. Number of facilitators trained per semester. Number of mothers trained as facilitators through community mothers programmes per year.	3,000 working mothers making use of early education facilities. 300 facilitators trained. 1,500 mothers trained as facilitators.	5 years
SDG 9: Industry innovation and infrastructure	Adequacy of quality standards for mother and child care centres. Adequacy of quality standards for mother and child care services at hospitals. Adequacy of quality care standards for schools.	Number of primary health care centres annually certified to provide high quality maternal and child health services. Number of primary health care hospitals annually certified to provide high quality maternal and child health services. Number of schools with quality health care services.	150 primary health care centres certified for mother and child health care. Eight primary health care hospitals certified for mother and child health care. 150 schools with adequate standards of quality care in mother and child health services.	5 years

Expected results, progress indicators and goals, according to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (continued)

Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs)	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
SDG 10: Reduced inequalities	Adaptation of educational centres to universal design. Adaptation of quality care standards for special education schools. Creation of the institutional interoperability ecosystem to identify lags and deal with them in a timely and pertinent manner.	Number of schools adapted to universal design, with annual reviews. Number of adapted special education schools, with annual reviews. Creation of the ecosystem, with annual reviews.	150 schools adapted to universal design. 30 schools adapted for special education. One ecosystem created.	5 years
SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities	Adaptation of school infrastructure with the application of the green checklist, and improvements in energy efficiency. Adaptation of hospital infrastructure with the application of the green checklist, and improvements in energy efficiency. Adaptation of health centre infrastructure with the application of the green checklist, and improvements in energy efficiency.	Number of schools adapted to the green checklist, with annual reviews. Number of hospitals adapted to the green checklist, with annual reviews. Number of health centres adapted to the green checklist, with annual reviews.	150 schools adapted. 8 hospitals adapted. 150 health centres adapted.	5 years
SDG 12: Responsible production and consumption	Adaptation of school infrastructure with improvements in energy efficiency and responsible water use. Adaptation of hospital infrastructure with improvements in energy efficiency and responsible water use. Adaptation of health centre infrastructure with improvements in energy efficiency and responsible water use. Establish a waste collection and storage programme, and links with recycling companies or similar entities.	Number of schools adapted for energy efficiency improvements, with annual reviews. Number of hospitals adapted for energy efficiency improvements, with annual reviews. Number of health centres adapted for energy efficiency improvements, with annual reviews. Amount of waste collected per month.	150 schools adapted. Eight hospitals adapted. 150 health centres adapted. Amount of waste collected and linked to recycling entities greater than at the start of the programme.	5 years
SDG 13: Climate action	Apply national green certification guidelines to improve the quality of care in schools. Implement national green accreditation guidelines to improve the quality of care at hospitals. Implement national green accreditation guidelines to improve the quality of care at health centres.	Number of schools that meet green accreditation guidelines, with annual reviews. Number of hospitals that meet green accreditation guidelines, with annual reviews. Number of health centres that meet green accreditation guidelines, with annual reviews.	150 schools accredited. Eight hospitals accredited. 150 health centres accredited.	5 years

Expected results, progress indicators and goals, according to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (concluded)

Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs)	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
SDG 14: Life below water	Incorporate, into the complementary educational agenda, training for the prevention of ocean pollution and the protection of marine and coastal areas.	Percentage of early education schools that have incorporated the prevention of ocean pollution and the protection of coastal and marine areas into their complementary curricula.	40% of early education schools have incorporated the prevention of ocean pollution and the protection of coastal and marine areas into their complementary curricula.	5 years
SDG 15: Life on land	Incorporate, into the complementary educational agenda, good practices related to the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems.	Percentage of early education schools that have incorporated good practices related to the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems into their complementary curricula, per school.	40% of public schools have incorporated good practices related to the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems into their complementary curricula.	5 years
SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions	Training of teaching staff in the nurturing and sensitive care model. Training of health agents in the nurturing and sensitive care model. Positive parenting programme for parents.	Number of teaching staff trained in the nurturing and sensitive care model, with annual reviews. Number of health agents trained in the nurturing and sensitive care model, with annual reviews. Number of parents participating in the positive parenting programme, with annual reviews.	4,500 educators and 8,000 teachers. 4,500 health agents. 450,000 families.	5 years
SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals	Multisector strategic alliances with central government, local governments, private companies, agencies of the National System for the Protection and Promotion of Children and Adolescents (SNPPNA), United Nations agencies, NGOs, local and international churches, media, civil society and trade unions, international cooperation and academia.	Number of partners cooperating in the 2019-2024 administration vs. number of partners cooperating in the 2014-2019 administration. Amount contributed by non-governmental cooperating partners in the 2019-2024 administration vs. amount contributed by non-governmental cooperating partners in the 2014-2019 administration.	Exceed the number of cooperating partners during the 2014-2019 administration. Exceed the amount provided by non-governmental cooperating partners during the 2014-2019 administration.	5 years

Main activities

- Raise the population's awareness of the importance of early childhood development.
- Identify contact points and key players in service provision.
- Design of interventions in line with the course of development.
- Identify essential, differentiated and specialized services.
- Strengthen existing services and good practices, and create complementary care interventions.
- System for analysis, measurement, monitoring and evaluation.
- Quality in services, processes and attention.
- Budget management mechanisms.
- Organizational structure that responds to the investments' operational requirements.
- Environmental technical panels.
- Socialization at councils and workshops.
- Consultative platform.

Project governance

The project will be led and structured by the office of the First Lady, coordinated by an inter-institutional technical committee, and implemented by the institutions that have cross-cutting child-related programmes.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The following strategic actors will cooperate with the programme:

- Central government
- Local governments
- Private companies
- SNPPNA institutions
- United Nations agencies
- NGOs, local and international churches
- Media
- Civil society and trade unions
- International cooperation
- Academia

Inter-institutional arrangements will also exist with: Salvadoran Social Insurance Institute (ISSS), National Health Institute (INS), Military Health Command (COSAM), Salvadoran Institute for the Rehabilitation of Invalids (ISRI), Health Solidarity Fund (FOSALUD), Salvadoran Magisterial Welfare Institute, National Council for Children and Adolescents (CONNA), Salvadoran Institute for Child and Adolescent Development (ISNA), Strategic Projects Commission, Commissioner Carolina Recinos, Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women (ISDEMU), Communications, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Territorial Development, Salvadoran Vocational Training Institute (INSAFORP), National Lottery, Ministry of Finance, Secretariat of Innovation, Secretariat of Trade and Investment, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Ministry of Housing, Ministry of the Interior, National Water Sewerage Administration (ANDA), National Registry of Natural Persons (RNPN), Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and Ministry of Culture.

Duration:

5 years

Budget: US\$ 538,900,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Improve the coverage and quality of essential services for the comprehensive development of highly vulnerable infants in Northern Central America and Mexico.	2013–2023 National Policy on Comprehensive Protection for Children and Adolescents (PNPNA) of El Salvador. National policies for comprehensive early childhood development in other countries of Northern Central America and Mexico.	2012–2021 Regional Plan for Comprehensive Early Childhood Services (PRAIPI).	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): early childhood development axis.	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID): programmes to support children.	World Bank: human development investment pillar. Inter-American Development Bank (IDB): projects in the preschool and early childhood subsectors,	<i>Intervida Ayuda en Acción</i> Oxford Famine Relief Organization (OXFAM)
Comprehensive early childhood care to prevent and reduce chronic malnutrition in 35 prioritized municipalities in two departments of Guatemala.						

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

D. Lifelong health programme

No.	Name of proposal
2.18	Universal access to health services that are appropriate, timely and nearby, particularly in municipalities and territories where people are more likely to migrate
2.19	Humanitarian and development interventions by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Northern Central America and Mexico



Proposal 2.18

Universal access to health services that are appropriate, timely and nearby, particularly in municipalities and territories where people are more likely to migrate



Implementing entities:

Health ministries and secretariats of the four countries, as well as state and municipal institutions.

Geographical coverage:

Municipalities and territories in the four countries, with a particular focus on those with the highest propensity towards migration.

Number of beneficiaries:

The potential beneficiary population of this substantial improvement in health services could number at least 10 million people.

Main topics:

- Health
- Inequality gaps
- Living standards
- Effective access
- Right to health

Context

Effective access to and enjoyment of the right to health is one of the main social shortcomings in the countries of northern Central America and in the nine states of southern and south-eastern Mexico. It is also one of the reasons that drive forced migration and, conversely, experience shows that the existence of nearby, timely and relevant health services is one of the factors that encourage people to remain in their territories.

The subregion has deficits in its numbers of doctors per inhabitant and beds per hospital. Complaints and discontent about the failure to provide timely and adequate services, as well as the supply of medicines, are frequent. This is also a consequence of the low per capita spending on health in these countries: about US\$ 120 in 2010, barely a tenth of what the most developed countries spend. One example of the

Northern Central American countries' health care shortcomings can be seen in life expectancy at birth. Although the figure for the 2015–2020 period stands at 73.9 years in Guatemala, 74.2 years in El Salvador and 73.8 in Honduras, that is almost two years lower than the average life expectancy in Latin America and the Caribbean (75.7 years), and the results are even worse at lower levels of territorial disaggregation. Average life expectancy in Mexico is 77.3 years, although there are significant differences among the country's states. In the south of the country, according to data from the National Population Council (CONAPO), in 2017 life expectancy in the region's eight states was below the average life expectancy in Latin America. The State of Guerrero is below the Northern Central American average with a figure of 72.9 years, while life expectancy in the State of Chiapas is the same as in Guatemala and in the State of Oaxaca is the same as in Honduras.

Guatemala and Honduras rank poorly with regard to infant mortality (deaths before reaching the age of five), with higher figures than both the region's average and the results for El Salvador and Mexico. Likewise, the southern and south-eastern Mexican states report higher infant mortality rates than the national average, with Chiapas and Oaxaca heading the ranking with figures of 18.9 and 17.2 deaths per 100,000 live births, respectively.

A substantial improvement of health services is one of the highest government priorities in the four countries' development plans, which contain initiatives to expand coverage and services (as is the case of Mexico) or to introduce reforms towards universal coverage and community participation (as is the case of El Salvador).

Objective

Substantially improve effective access to health services, using a comprehensive approach that includes actions to promote, prevent, care for, recover and rehabilitate the health of the population, with emphasis on the municipalities and territories with the highest propensity towards migration, ensuring that they are sufficient, timely, of good quality, relevant and located nearby, with a rights approach, a gender perspective and intercultural awareness, in a context in which the social determinants of health are simultaneously addressed from a holistic perspective. At the same time, strengthen primary health care and the functioning and response capacity of integrated health service networks in the identified municipalities and departments, in order to provide an adequate response to the physical and mental health care needs of the migrant population without detriment to the resident population. Providing physical and mental health care services to returning and in-transit migrants and their families will also be critical in this undertaking.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

1. Diagnostic assessment and updated census conducted of the shortfall in health service provision in the municipalities and territories with the highest propensity towards migration in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the south and south-east of Mexico.
2. Implementation of an integrated health care model, and improvements in the population's effective access to nearby, timely, relevant and quality services, with systematic measurements of user satisfaction levels.
3. Gradual but steady increases in life expectancy among the territories' populations, and a narrowing gap compared to the territories with the highest life expectancies in each country.
4. Substantial improvements in the provision of mental health and psychosocial care services, with emphasis on migrant populations.

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Diagnostic assessment of shortfalls in service provision conducted.	Comprehensive census of service provision needs.	A census and a diagnostic assessment.	8 months to 1 year
Improved effective access to health services.	Increase in the number of consultations. Significant decrease in failures to supply medicines. Reduced waiting times. User satisfaction levels.	To be defined with each government implementing agency.	1 to 3 years
Increased life expectancy, and narrowing gaps with the countries' top-rated territories.	Increased life expectancy. Reduction of life expectancy differentials compared to the top-rated territories in the country and national averages.	To be defined with each government implementing agency.	3 to 5 years

Main activities

- Formulation, training for, conduction and analysis of the census of health service improvement needs in the selected territories.
- Improvements, provision of adequate equipment and, if necessary, construction of the medical facilities needed: doctors' offices, clinics, hospitals.
- Recruitment of the health personnel needed for the adequate provision of services.
- Reinforcement of preventive actions and health education.
- Substantial improvement in medicine supply processes.
- Incorporation of information and communication technologies (ICTs) into health service delivery to improve access to health care and its timeliness.
- Significant improvement in drinking water and sanitation services, in coordination with municipal authorities.
- Guaranteed universal vaccination in the selected territories.
- Appropriate priorities assigned to all public actions intended to substantially reduce maternal deaths and infant mortality.
- Study and definition of a baseline for life expectancy, and identification of the gaps that exist.
- Design and systematic collection of health service user satisfaction surveys in the project's territories.
- Development and implementation of a response plan to improve the conditions for the provision of health promotion, disease prevention, cure and rehabilitation services in the facilities assessed, taking as a reference the 20 morbidities that must be addressed at the first level of care.
- Development and implementation of an inter-consultation, referral and counter-referral system to promote care coordination between the first and second levels of care.
- Creation and application of care protocols at first- and second-level care facilities, with an emphasis on dealing with the 20 avoidable causes of hospitalization.

Project governance

The health ministries or secretariats in each country will be responsible for the project and, where appropriate, in coordination with subnational and municipal authorities. The involvement of the government agencies responsible for drinking water and sanitation will also be required. Project governance will also need mechanisms for citizen and community participation throughout the whole process, in order to enrich its activities and provide social oversight.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Synergies could be established with activities already being pursued by the four governments and by subnational and municipal authorities; support could also be forthcoming from the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system.

Duration

Because of the scope of its goals, the planned duration of the project is five years; nevertheless, results should begin to appear after the first year of implementation.

Budget: US\$ 6,000,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Basic services for rural households and territories. Strengthening immediate and long-term responses to forced displacement and human mobility, with an approach based on gender equality and human rights. Human mobility information management. Improved access to community-based mental health and psychosocial services for displaced persons and host communities in the borderlands of Northern Central America and Mexico.	National health plans. National development plans. National Health Policy in El Salvador. 2020–2024 General Government Policy of Guatemala (PGG). 2021 National Health Plan of Honduras. 2019–2024 National Health Plan of Mexico.		World Health Organization (WHO) / Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO). United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS). United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID). German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). Humanistic Institute for Development Cooperation (HIVOS) European Community. European Union: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD). Luxembourg Agency for Development Cooperation.	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). World Bank. Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEL).	Salvadoran Foundation for Health and Human Development (FUSAL). <i>Fundación Huellas</i> , El Salvador. Habana Medical Clinic in Guatemala. <i>Manos Abiertas</i> in Guatemala. <i>Manos Unidas</i> in Honduras. Health Apostles Association in Honduras. Mexican Foundation for Health (FUNSALUD). Legal and Social Services Foundation for the Indigenous Community.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.19

Humanitarian and development interventions by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Northern Central America and Mexico



Implementing entities:

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Women and girls, young people and adolescents in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Main topics:

Health, sexual and reproductive health, education.

Context

On top of the low-level, continuous migration that has flowed between Central America and Mexico for years, the subregion's ongoing political, social and economic instability in recent times has led to an unprecedented volume of human movement. Since October 2018, seven caravans have left Northern Central America, leaving behind the poverty and violence of their countries to seek asylum in the United States. According to ECLAC figures, between 2000 and 2010, the number of Latin Americans living in a place other than that of their birth increased by about 32%; at the same time, among those from the Northern Central American countries, the increase was 59%, or almost double the region's figure.¹

Tens of thousands of people are estimated to have been forcibly displaced from their homes in the Northern Central American countries. This trend has seen a dramatic increase in the participation of women and of accompanied and unaccompanied minors, mostly adolescents, joining the many others fleeing poverty and the violence of criminal groups. The route to the United States, crossing through Mexico, is one of the world's most dangerous migration corridors.

¹ P. Saad, J. Martínez-Pizarro and Z. Sosa, *Atlas of Migration in Northern Central America* (LC/PUB.2018/23), Mexico City, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) / Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), 2018.

According to recent studies, Central American migrants on their journey through Mexico are abducted eight times more frequently than Mexicans,² they suffer three times the number of robberies and other crimes,³ and one in every four Honduran migrants has been a victim of some kind of crime or abuse, which makes them the most vulnerable nationality along this route.⁴

The reasons why so many people to flee their countries are complex. In El Salvador, the main drivers for emigration include wishing for better economic conditions and jobs, fleeing violence and insecurity and pursuing family reunification. The average age of group leaders is 32, with an average level of schooling of 7.9 years. The humanitarian needs that the migrants identify as the most important are medicines (12.2%), chronic diseases (8.8%), and pregnancy and breastfeeding (6.9%) (IOM, 2018).⁵ Another survey identified the same causes for migration (with the only addition of a desire to send remittances home) and the same average ages of migrants, highlighting the fact that these countries have lost a part of the demographic dividend they should be using to improve their internal economic and social dynamics (IOM, 2017).⁶

In Honduras, according to the National Commissioner for Human Rights (CONADEH), the country's failure to fulfil the commitments it has entered into for over 32 years has left the Honduran State and society with insufficient progress in the fight against poverty, violence, organized crime and other public ills that drive the forced displacement of people.⁷ The main unfulfilled commitments include the Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development, the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security in Central America, and the Treaty on Central American Social Integration. Of the more than 700 complaints received by the CONADEH Internal Displacement Unit during the first half of 2019, the main drivers are murder, threats, extortion, attempted murder and the forced recruitment of children and adolescents into criminal gangs. Taken together, these causes account for 92% of the total.

Between 2016 and mid-2019, CONADEH dealt with more than 3,000 cases involving some 7,400 people at risk of displacement or who already had had to relocate —either inside their country or beyond its borders— to protect their lives. More than 80% of the displaced persons are from the Departments of Francisco Morazán, Cortés, Choluteca and Atlántida. The Honduran Government has called on the population to refrain from attempting to migrate irregularly, because it endangers their own lives and persons and those of their families; its has also repeatedly issued warnings about being taken in by false promises of asylum upon arrival in the United States. These warnings have not, however, borne the desired fruit, as another driving factor is the fact that some 82% Northern Central American migrants have family members in the United States, who provide networks that support migration.⁸

Other causes —no less important from the point of view of sexual and reproductive rights— include different types of sexual, intra-family and domestic violence, attacks on and usurpations of property, abductions, kidnappings, personal attacks and discrimination.

² A. Canales and M. Rojas, “Panorama de la migración internacional en México y Centroamérica. Documento elaborado en el marco de la Reunión Regional Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Expertas y Expertos en Migración Internacional preparatoria del Pacto Mundial para una Migración Segura, Ordenada y Regular”, *Population and Development series*, No. 124 (LC/TS.2018/42), Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2018.

³ Red de Documentación de las Organizaciones Defensoras de Migrantes (REDODEM), *El Estado Indolente: recuento de la violencia en las rutas migratorias y perfiles de movilidad en México*, Mexico City, 2018.

⁴ Mexican Secretariat of the Interior (SEGOB), *Estadísticas Migratorias. Síntesis 2018*, Mexico City, 2018.

⁵ International Organization for Migration (IOM), *El Salvador: encuesta de caracterización de personas migrantes en tránsito y necesidades humanitarias*, 31 October 2018 [online] <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/DTM-ES-R2-Encuesta-31-10-2018-V1.pdf>.

⁶ International Organization for Migration (IOM), *Encuesta nacional de migración y remesas, El Salvador 2017*, December 2017 [online] <https://mic.iom.int/webntmi/descargas/informes2017/EmiRem2017.pdf>.

⁷ National Commissioner for Human Rights (CONADEH) (2019) [online] www.conadeh.hn.

⁸ P. Saad, J. Martínez-Pizarro and Z. Sosa, 2018, op. cit.

Another side effect linked to violence and displacement has emerged in schools: variations in enrolment, caused by students either dropping out or being displaced.⁹ One phenomenon that speaks of increasing vulnerability is that of unaccompanied migrant children: minors under the age of 18 who are separated from both parents and who are not being cared for by any other adult or responsible authority. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), between 2013 and 2017 around 180,000 unaccompanied minors were detained at the south-eastern border of the United States,¹⁰ while some 45,000 unaccompanied minors from the countries of Northern Central America were registered in Mexico between 2015 and 2016.¹¹

The United States Government has conveyed its clear stance against migration, and it has urged Mexico to take steps that have led to increased border security, with new migration control mechanisms, advanced identification systems and a stepped-up number of detection and detention operations.

Additionally, the Governments of the United States and Guatemala have signed an agreement whereby only persons who have applied for and been denied asylum in Guatemala can apply for it in the United States. This situation will lengthen the time needed to travel to the northern border of Mexico and to await their turn to file for asylum in the United States for those who choose to legalize their stay in that country. Experience has shown, however, that another group of people prefer the path of irregular migration along routes where their lives and physical integrity are more at risk. That danger is, moreover, compounded for women and for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI) populations, who are potentially more vulnerable to all kinds of violence, even if they are accompanied on their journey by friends or family members.

In addition, the prevailing national security mindset has fuelled xenophobic attitudes and practices among certain social groups and decision-makers, further restricting the exercise of the migrant population's rights. This array of problems has led to an increase in the parallel phenomenon of returning migrants, as a result of which the Northern Central American countries are being required to adopt palliative strategies for the educational reintegration of minors, but there have been few responses on the topic of jobs for the older population.

ECLAC figures indicate that between 2017 and 2018, some 164,000 migrants have returned to the countries of Northern Central America. Addressing this complex scenario demands regional strategies that can provide an integrated response involving social inclusion, engaging migrants in different social programmes and addressing the full migration cycle: in other words, adopting actions in communities of origin, transit, destination and return.

Objective

Contribute to improving conditions for the migrant population and their families in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. That contribution must be observable whether it meets the needs of immediate effects with a humanitarian response and/or assists in preventing migration through development actions that address the causes and effects in the medium and long terms.

⁹ G. Auxume, *Impacto de la violencia en 220 centros educativos de Tegucigalpa. Análisis de los riesgos, necesidades y propuestas de los docentes en riesgo de desplazamiento forzado*, Tegucigalpa, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (OUNHCR) / Save the Children, n/d.

¹⁰ International Organization for Migration (IOM), *Migration Flows Report in Central America, North America, and the Caribbean*, No. 7, San Jose, IOM Regional Office in San Jose, April-June 2018.

¹¹ Ministry of the Interior, "Menores migrantes en México: extranjeros presentados ante las autoridades migratorias y mexicanos devueltos por Estados Unidos", Migration Policy Unit, January 2016.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Strengthened capacities of migrant centres and selected health facilities in areas with high migrant flows for comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care, with an emphasis on adolescents and young people.	Number of migrant centres and selected health facilities with the capacity and resources to provide sexual and reproductive health care to returning migrants.	15 migrant centres and health service networks in the areas with the highest migrant flows.	3 years
Strengthened capacities at the local level for the prevention of irregular migration by adolescent and young women, through awareness-raising, information and education campaigns.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of local information, education and communication (IEC) strategies designed and validated for the prevention of irregular migration by adolescent and young women aged from 10 to 29. 2. Design and validation of national awareness-raising, education and information campaigns on migrants' rights and the care services available to them. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local strategies working in municipalities with high levels of migration. 2. One national campaign implemented. 	3 years
Strengthened capacities of the Salvadoran, Guatemalan and Honduran consular networks to serve the needs of migrants in transit, especially adolescent and young women.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of a training programme for Salvadoran, Guatemalan and Honduran consular staff on the sexual and reproductive rights and care of adolescents and young people. 2. Percentage of consular staff trained. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Programme implemented. 2. 100% of consular staff involved with migrant care at transit or destination offices. 	3 years
Strengthened capacities at the local level for the reintegration of returning migrants, with an emphasis on women and young people, based on an integrated and territorial approach that includes a family reunification component and addresses the problem's various components: reintegration into school, violence prevention and resolution, health, income generation and others.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of local programmes for the reintegration of migrants designed and implemented, with an emphasis on the safe reintegration of women, adolescents and youth. 2. Number of municipalities with established or strengthened returning migrant support units for the care of women, adolescents and young people between the ages of 10 and 29 who are returning migrants or at risk of migrating. 	Operational local reintegration programmes.	3 years
Strengthened capacities for sexual, reproductive, maternal and new-born services at health institutions and shelters.	<p>Number of service points applying Minimum Initial Service Package for Reproductive Health (MISP).</p> <p>Number of people served by type of service.</p> <p>Number of timely references and counter-references completed.</p>	Integrated service networks for sexual, reproductive, maternal and new-born health services in Chiapas and Oaxaca effectively functioning.	3 years
Community participation established, with mechanisms for social cohesion.	<p>Number of migrants and local inhabitants participating in social cohesion processes.</p> <p>Number of safe spaces operating for adolescents and women to prevent gender-based violence.</p> <p>Number of local and migrant young people implementing social cohesion projects.</p>	Culture of peaceful coexistence established in migrant host communities in Chiapas and Oaxaca.	3 years
Strengthened intersectoral coordination for comprehensive attention of the migrant population.	<p>Number of protocols designed and implemented in the health, justice, national guard, migration, and civil society sectors, with a human security approach.</p> <p>Number of institutions from different sectors participating in the referral system for the protection of sexual and reproductive health and combating gender-based violence.</p>	Intersectoral networks for the comprehensive attention of the migrant population established, institutionalized and functioning in Chiapas and Oaxaca.	3 years

Main activities

- Strengthened capacities of migrant centres and selected health facilities for comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care in areas with high migrant flows, with an emphasis on adolescents and young people.
- Strengthened capacities at the local level for the prevention of irregular migration by adolescent and young women, through awareness-raising, information and education campaigns.
- Strengthened capacities of the Salvadoran, Guatemalan and Honduran consular networks to serve the needs of migrants in transit, especially adolescent and young women.
- Strengthened capacities at the local level for the reintegration of returning migrants, with an emphasis on women and young people, based on an integrated and territorial approach that includes a family reunification component and addresses the problem's various components: reintegration into school, violence prevention and resolution, health, income generation and others.
- Implementation of the essential services package: provision of dignity kits, sexual and reproductive health kits, HIV/AIDS kits, emergency kits, information/education kits and perishable goods for shelters, health facilities and integrated health organizations.
- Strengthen the intersectoral referral and counter-referral network to ensure the accessibility and relevance of the corresponding essential services in the areas of justice, migration institutions, the national guard, health services and comprehensive protection of human security, eliminating any communication barriers that may exist and providing beneficiaries with training on how to access those services.
- Establish participatory platforms for disseminating community dialogues and public information to promote social cohesion and guarantee respect for human rights.
- Activities for the empowerment of women, adolescents and girls.
- Prevent early and forced pregnancies from early marriages and unions and sexual violence, which cause girls to drop out of school and increase poverty as a driver for migration.
- Strengthened sexual and reproductive health services for providing attention through an adolescent-friendly service model, with social oversight for continuous service improvement.
- Promotion of an approach based on human rights, and on sexual and reproductive rights in particular, in addition to the human security approach, in order to create synergies and bolster the freedoms that are the essence of human life and dignity.
- Implement the essential service package to improve shelter infrastructure and provide safe spaces to mitigate sexual and gender-based violence.
- Strengthen national public institutions in the capital cities and border departments, to guarantee migrants access to justice services and migration institutions, eliminating any communication barriers that may exist and providing beneficiaries with training on how to access those services.
- Promotion of safe spaces for the empowerment of girls and adolescents in order to prevent violence, especially sexual violence.
- Capacity-building to improve the production, analysis and dissemination of migration data, with emphasis on services for the migrant population, and production of qualitative information for public decision-making in favour of the human rights of persons in situations of mobility.

Project governance

The proposal by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) focuses on promoting a comprehensive regional response to migration with the participation of the UNFPA country offices in Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico, in addition to its Regional Office, and it is based on the political declaration made by the governments, stating: “We believe that no country can face these challenges alone and we agree that good migration governance must be jointly managed to ensure that migration is safe, orderly and regular from a comprehensive regional perspective, including priority attention for the entire migration cycle (origin, transit, destination and return) and guided by the principle of shared but differentiated responsibility.”

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Synergies could be established with activities already being pursued by the national governments and by subnational and municipal authorities; support could also be forthcoming from the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system.

Duration

3 years.

Budget: US\$ 7,209,361

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Strengthening immediate and long-term responses to forced displacement and human mobility in El Salvador, with an approach based on gender equality and human rights.	National Development Plans. National poverty reduction strategies. National plans for youth and inclusion.	2010-2030 Central American Strategy for Rural Territorial Development (ECADERT), targeting rural youth in the member countries of the Central American Integration System (SICA).	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). United States Agency for International Development (USAID).	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). World Bank. Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI). International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Sustainable Development Goals Fund (SDGF).	National Youth Platform of El Salvador (PLANJES). Alliance for Community Youth Development (ADEJUC), Guatemala. Koinonia Association of Honduras. Youth Support Foundation, Mexico.
Protection and empowerment of women and girls throughout the migration cycle in the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico.	2019 Youth Employment and Employability Programme, El Salvador. 2020 Migration and Development Plan, Mexico.		United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). International Organization for Migration (IOM). International Labour Organization (ILO). United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID). German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).		
Improved access to community-based mental health and psychosocial services for displaced persons and host communities in the borderlands of Northern Central America and Mexico.	2019 Youth Building the Future programme, Mexico. 2012-2020 National Youth Policy, Guatemala. 2007-2021 National Youth Policy, Honduras.					
Ensuring safe, resilient and violence-free educational environments for children and studying basic and intermediate education in the regions with the highest emigration rates.	National Plan for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy (PLANEA), Guatemala. Social prevention of violence with youth participation, El Salvador.					
Preventing and responding to violence against children and adolescents.						
Regional programme for the protection, assistance and access to justice of migrants from the countries of Northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) and Mexico, with a focus on combating corruption.						

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

E. Violence prevention and culture of peace programme

No.	Name of proposal
2.20	Strengthening human security at the local level
2.21	Preventing and responding to violence against children and adolescents and promoting the responsible use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico
2.22	Regional programme for the protection, assistance and access to justice of migrants from Northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) and Mexico, with a focus on combating corruption
2.23	Reinforcing Assistance to Child Victims of Trafficking (ReACT)
2.24	Strengthening the rule of law, the human rights approach, the administration of justice and the fight against impunity in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico
2.25	Support for the implementation of comprehensive security and public coexistence policies
2.26	Information management for gender-sensitive, evidence-based public policies on citizen security
2.27	Implementation of an arts and crafts factory and provision of attention facilities for inclusive social development, a culture of peace and the prevention of violence and crime, State of Quintana Roo (*)

(*) Projects prepared or requested by the Northern Central American countries or the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico.



Proposal 2.20

Strengthening human security at the local level



Implementing agency:

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Geographical coverage:

Eight cities in southern and south-eastern Mexico: (a) Campeche, State of Campeche, (b) Tapachula, State of Chiapas, (c) Chilpancingo, State of Guerrero, (d) Oaxaca, State of Oaxaca, (e) Villahermosa, State of Tabasco, (f) Cancún, State of Quintana Roo, (g) Mérida, State of Yucatán, (h) Veracruz, State of Veracruz.

Territories with the highest migration rates in Northern Central America: (a) El Salvador, in the departments of San Miguel, Usulután, San Salvador and Ahuachapán, (b) Guatemala, in the Departments of Huehuetenango, Quiché and San Marcos, and (c) Honduras, in the Departments of Cortés, Olancho and Yoro.

Number of beneficiaries:

The number of beneficiaries will be based on the population of the cities, municipalities and departments where the project is to be carried out.

In Mexico: Campeche: 220,000; Tapachula: 320,450; Chilpancingo: 190,000; Oaxaca: 255,000; Villahermosa: 353,500; Cancún: 628,300; Mérida: 777,000; Veracruz: 430,000.

In El Salvador: San Miguel: 434,003; Usulután: 344,235; San Salvador: 1,567,156; Ahuachapán: 319,503.

Guatemala: Huehuetenango: 1,205,500; Quiché: 769,364; San Marcos: 905,516.

In Honduras: Cortés: 1,562,394; Olancho: 777,670; Yoro: 570,595.

Main topics:

- Social well-being
- Human security
- Governance and governability
- Urban safety
- Data collection and analysis
- Crime prevention

Context

Demographic, social and economic tensions have led to the emergence of increasingly complex dynamics of crime and insecurity in municipalities and communities. This situation primarily affects the human security of populations living in vulnerable conditions, which in turn influences national migration cycles. In the states and cities of south-eastern Mexico in particular, federal and local authorities face greater pressure to deal with, at the local level, the demands generated by the increase in migratory flows, particularly those coming from Northern Central America. Those countries face specific challenges related to the massive return of their nationals from the United States and Mexico, coupled with the dynamics of internal forced displacement.

That dynamic that affects the security of women and men in different ways. Destination countries receive migrants who are mostly young men, while women generally remain in their countries of origin. For many of those women, this means higher levels of insecurity and increased economic instability, accompanied by a decline in social cohesion in the community.

Although the challenge of migration is one that the region shares, its effects, components and dimensions are different in each of the urban centres covered by the initiative. Accordingly, there is a need to develop methodological tools to provide a thorough understanding of the problem based on objective and reliable information, with the maximum level of disaggregation, so that evidence-based policies that maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of the available resources can then be devised. The ultimate goal of this approach is to improve governance and security by developing policies that respond to the causes of the problems at the local level and that incorporate respect for the economic, social, civil and political rights of these cities' inhabitants and of the migrants who cross through their territories.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has implemented its proposed security audits methodology within the framework of human security policies in several countries (Colombia, Mexico and South Africa), where it has helped provide an understanding of social and criminal phenomena that affect communities and the contexts in which they arise.

In line with the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency, the New Urban Agenda highlights the importance of involving various levels of government and institutions in addition to the police. Urban crime prevention has a major impact on the ability of the international community and national governments to fulfil the commitments of both the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda. Urbanization must be harnessed as an engine of sustained, inclusive economic growth and social development, and security and protection provide an important foundation for that undertaking.

Objective

Develop and implement a plan of action to address local insecurity and crime based on a gender-aware qualitative and quantitative analysis of those problems, in order to improve the inhabitants' human security conditions.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Local analyses of this kind seek to increase the well-being of the population, governability and the governance of security and coexistence at the local level, taking into account that the way it impacts women and men differently requires differentiated responses, through the analysis of quantitative and qualitative information to develop a prevention and security policy that responds to the problems encountered and their causes.

The expected results in the medium and long terms are the following:

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Social problems of insecurity and crime are understood at their highest level of disaggregation.	Gender-aware participatory social assessment of the risks of insecurity and crime.	Qualitative and quantitative document with risk assessments for each neighbourhood, with indicators for security issues, socio-demographics, economics and development.	8 months (from project start date).
Evidence-based policies responsive to gender inequalities are implemented.	Action plan comprising strategies and recommendations to tackle local insecurity and crime.	Targeted intervention strategy for prevention. Intervention strategy for dismantling criminal groups and gangs.	1.5 years (from project start date).
Policy monitoring with a medium- and long-term perspective is carried out.	Report of the workshops to follow up on the proposed strategies and recommendations.	Inter-institutional workshops for strategy monitoring and evaluation. Advisory services for the design and implementation of policies, as requested by partners.	1.5 years (from project start date).

Main activities

According to the implementation plan, the following activities will be carried out simultaneously and synchronously in the four beneficiary countries:

1. Establish a multidisciplinary work team, with a gender expert, to collect and analyse multidimensional qualitative and quantitative information.
2. Produce the initial overview of the information, which will entail: (a) desk work: assessing the available data and local capacities for data collection and processing, and (b) field work: the audit team will collect information from primary sources and/or support local authorities in generating and analysing data on specific indicators and contribute to their capacity-building.
3. Develop a framework of holistic, sex-disaggregated indicators: analysing data in a meaningful way and understanding the full complexity of the local context requires creating a framework of specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) indicators on which to base the analysis and which, once a policy is developed and implemented, can help measure impact and progress. The city's context must be analysed and understood: urban development, demographics, economic development and employment, social development, education, health, crime trends.
4. Perform data collection: once the indicator framework has been established, the security audit team will collect the relevant information from the data sources identified above (e.g. police records, administrative records, others) and store them in a clear, organized and user-friendly way.
5. Data analysis: comprehensive review of all available quantitative and qualitative data, selected for their relevance, accessibility and reliability. The data analysis must be gender sensitive and seek to determine which types of crime, population groups and territories should be the focus of the local actions to be taken after the conclusion of the audit, such as a local crime prevention strategy or an action plan.
6. Present and validate results for the design of public policies: present the information into a final report, to be shared for future action with relevant local authorities and with community stakeholders, including findings, recommendations and lines of action.
7. Design a crime prevention and public security strategy based on the results obtained for each city, to be implemented by the counterparts as technical assistance priorities are identified.

8. Technical assistance actions: after establishing priorities among the findings and recommendations, a technical assistance plan to strengthen local capacities will be presented and implemented and specialized advice will be provided on the topics covered by the mandate of UNODC, as required by the local counterparts.

Project governance

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), through its offices in Mexico and Panama, will be responsible for project implementation. In order to achieve the objectives and guarantee the sustainability of the proposed strategies and actions, the active involvement of the local authorities in all stages of the initiative will be required.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

UNODC in Mexico is already implementing the Local Safety Audits project in two of the country's cities (Querétaro and Guadalajara) and in one borough of Mexico City (Iztapalapa), and the work teams' experiences, good practices and lessons learned will be used for the development and implementation of this project. The proposal involves conducting the audits in parallel in the target cities. This initiative will also coordinate with the project to prevent and combat migrant smuggling and human trafficking that UNODC is carrying out in the three countries of Northern Central America.

Duration

3 years

Year 1:

- Establishment of the work team (activity 1)
- Identification of local partners and organization of initial meetings to lay the groundwork for the work schedule (activity 2)
- Initial overview of available information (activity 2)
- Development of holistic indicator framework (activity 3)

Year 2:

- Data collection (activity 4)
- Data analysis (activity 5)
- Presentation of results (activity 6)
- Design of strategies for crime prevention and public security (activity 7)

Year 3

- Implementation of technical assistance actions (activity 8)

Budget: US\$ 5,039,800

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Ensuring safe, resilient and violence-free educational environments for children and adolescents studying basic and intermediate education in the regions with the highest emigration rates. Preventing and responding to violence against children and adolescents. Implementation of an arts and crafts factory and provision of attention facilities in Quintana Roo for inclusive social development and the prevention of violence and crime. Strengthening the rule of law, the administration of justice and the fight against impunity in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico. Support for the implementation of comprehensive security and public coexistence policies. Information management for gender-sensitive, evidence-based public policies on citizen security.	2016-2020 Strategic Plan for National Security, Guatemala. 2018-2022 Government Strategic Plan, Honduras. National Strategy for Prevention and School Safety of Honduras. Territorial Control Plan, El Salvador. 2018-2024 National Peace and Security Plan, Mexico.	UNODC OHCHR UNFPA UNICEF IOM UN-Women	GIZ, AECID, SDC, USAID, JICA, AMEXCID, HIVOS.	IDB, World Bank, CABEL.	CESAL, El Salvador. Organization of Salvadoran Women for Peace (ORMUSA), El Salvador. <i>Asociación Nuevos Horizontes</i> , Guatemala. Centre for Research, Training and Support for Women (CICAM), Guatemala. RE.TE.ONG, Honduras. <i>Grupo Sociedad Civil</i> , Honduras. Mexico United Against Crime. <i>Cauce Ciudadano</i> , Mexico.	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.21

Preventing and responding to violence against children and adolescents and promoting the responsible use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico



Implementing agencies:

The programme will be carried out through direct actions by the countries, in conjunction with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and its implementing partners and associates. The programme's main partners will be the agencies of the central and municipal governments and of the judiciary responsible for taking concrete actions for the *prevention, detection and referral of cases and direct care of children victims of violence*. The main civil society actors working for the protection of children will also be programme partners.

Among others, the institutional partners will include:

- Municipal governments and development council systems
- Secretariat against Sexual Violence, Exploitation, and Trafficking in Persons (SVET)
- Secretariat for Social Welfare of the Office of the President of the Republic
- Ministry of Social Development
- Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of the Interior and National Civilian Police
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its consulates in Mexico and the United States.
- National Institute of Forensic Sciences
- Public Criminal Defence Institute
- Public Prosecution Service
- Judicial branch
- National Registry of Persons (RENAP)
- Office of the Attorney General
- Ombudsman for Human Rights
- National Adoption Council
- Congress of the Republic
- Academic sector, universities
- Civil society organizations
- Faith-based sector
- Private business sector
- Youth organizations

Geographical coverage:

Priority will be given to those territories with the highest rates of migration. The territories where the interventions will take place will be those where children are most affected by violence and those with high levels of indigenous inhabitants.

The programme will be implemented at four levels of territorial influence, in accordance with the political and administrative division of the countries, in the following way:

The selection criteria will be defined on the basis of previous interventions in each country, through an analysis of feasibility, child population affected by violence, level of community organization and political disposition of local actors and authorities, prevalence of indigenous population, among other factors. For the protection of migrant children, the actions will be carried out in the countries' territories and at their consulates in Mexico and the United States, in order to establish mechanisms to ensure the protection of migrant children's rights.

Number of beneficiaries:

3.5 million children and adolescents and their families. The programme's interventions will emphasize advocacy with the most vulnerable groups (*equity approach*) and, within that population, it will place a priority on girls and adolescent women, particularly those of indigenous origin, as the target population (*gender approach*: positive gender intervention and *intercultural approach*).

Main topics:

- Preventing and responding to violence against children and adolescents.
- Migration by accompanied and unaccompanied children and adolescents, and by their parents.

Context

Violence is an everyday phenomenon in Central America, but Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras report the highest rates of violence in the region, with some of the world's highest murder rates. The average global homicide rate is 5.3 per 100,000 people. However, the figure for El Salvador is 82.8, alongside 56.5 in Honduras and 27.3 in Guatemala, making El Salvador the country with the highest rate in the world. Honduras ranks second highest in the world, while Guatemala is fourteenth. Of the 15 countries with the highest rates of intentional killings per 100,000 inhabitants, 13 are in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Guatemalan migrant children are the largest contingent recorded in the United States; in fiscal year 2019, U.S. Customs and Border Protection reported that as of July, at least 212,069 Guatemalan children—both accompanied (182,467) and unaccompanied (29,602)—had been detected at the southern border of the United States, for an average daily figure of 633.

Since Guatemala is a post-conflict country, its children face harsh realities that affect their human rights. Although the Peace Accords were signed in 1996, the country has been unable to confront the challenges of its social and political reconstruction in an orderly and strategic manner. This has led to increasing violence, crime, poverty and precariousness that directly affect children's daily lives. State institutions in general are weak, and this is particularly true of those charged with protecting children's rights. In general, the most affected segment of the population is indigenous children.¹

¹ See United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), *¡Mírame! Soy indígena y también soy Guatemala*, Guatemala City, 2017.

On many occasions, out of fear of reprisals, child victims of violence do not express their suffering and do not report it.² Children and adults even come to perceive violence as “normal”,³ and therefore the statistics for reported crimes against children are only an approximation of the actual violence experienced by children and adolescents in Guatemala (around 123 reports of crimes against children are reported nationally per day).⁴ The levels of violence against children and the types of crimes committed have reached serious extremes, with 23 sexual assaults, 31 physical punishments, 15 disappearances and 15 arrests of adolescents in conflict with the law reported every day. Physical punishment is not considered violence,⁵ and although child marriage has been legally banned, in many communities girls are paired on a de facto basis with older males.⁶ The birth rate among girls and adolescent women averages more than 200 per day.⁷

Children in the region’s countries face the social, political, economic and institutional challenges inherited in the aftermath of war. As post-conflict countries, democracy and the rule of law are still being built, developed and consolidated.

The countries’ institutional frameworks for child protection are weak, and a culture of citizenship has yet to develop. That is the framework for the cooperation that Sweden and UNICEF have been providing over the past decade, promoting, implementing and working for the construction, transformation and institutional development of a System for the Protection of Children and Adolescents, as well as for a culture of citizenship that respects children’s human rights.

In 2003, with the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency and in partnership with civil society, UNICEF managed to influence the adoption of the country’s first specific legislation on children: the Act on the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents. Between 2009 and 2012, with its project to develop a system for the protection of children and adolescents, UNICEF succeeded in consolidating the legal framework through the Adoption Act, the Act Against Sexual Violence, Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons, and the Alba-Keneth Alert System Act. These three laws represented a major advance in regulating the trafficking of children for irregular adoptions, and this allowed the first steps to be taken towards constructing child protection systems at the municipal and departmental levels. Much of the institutional framework, however, still has to be created, and much of what exists needs to be restructured.

² Normally only one out of every five children files a formal complaint when they are victims of violence. Another source of information that highlights the under-reporting of cases of violence against adolescent girls is the Maternal-Child Health Survey (ENSMI), which shows that teenagers between the ages of 15 and 19 who have experienced physical or sexual violence are unlikely to file a complaint with law enforcement authorities; further, 29.7% never seek help or indeed tell anyone. Maternal-Child Health Survey 2014–2015.

³ According to a UNICEF study on behaviours, attitudes and practices, violence against children is normalized in the country’s families and communities. See Institute for Research and Citizen Advocacy/Universalía, *Apoyo a la estrategia nacional para la protección de los derechos humanos de las niñas y los niños*, Guatemala City, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), 2017.

⁴ The Public Prosecution Service has records of more than 45,000 reported crimes against children per year.

⁵ According to a UNICEF study, in Guatemala the use of violence is justified as a disciplinary mechanism for children. See Institute for Research and Citizen Advocacy/Universalía, *Apoyo a la estrategia nacional para la protección de los derechos humanos de las niñas y los niños*, Guatemala City, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), 2017.

⁶ See United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and others, “Uniones tempranas, embarazos y vulneración de derechos en las adolescentes: resumen ejecutivo”, Guatemala City, 2015 [online] <https://guatemala.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/REsumen%20ejecutivo%20Me%20cambi%C3%B3%20la%20vida.pdf>. The study confirms the high correlation between pregnancy and partnering in adolescents. Of the women surveyed in the study, all had been pregnant while still minors, and 91.89% stated that they had been married or in a de facto union at some point, even if only for a short time. More than half of the respondents who had been pregnant before the age of 18 reported that they were currently in a de facto union (53.91%), with another 27.74% stating they were married.

⁷ According the National Institute of Statistics, 74,041 births to mothers under 18 were reported in 2016. In addition, according to data from the Maternal-Child Health Survey, one in five respondents between the ages of 15 and 19 was already a mother or was pregnant at the time of the survey. The proportion was slightly higher among indigenous adolescents and the areas in which the respondents lived was also a factor, with a higher proportion in rural areas than in towns and cities.

From 2014 to 2017, UNICEF cooperated with the country through the project to support the national strategy for the protection of the human rights of children, with support from the Government of Sweden; this allowed the installation of municipal child protection systems in 35% of the national territory, with the municipal governments themselves taking the lead and assigning funds. Progress was also made in sectoral protection (health, foreign relations and education) with the establishment of road maps for prevention and case detection; additional progress was made in the area of specialized justice for children and in combating impunity for crimes against children. The first criminal investigation unit for crimes against children (within the National Civilian Police) was opened, as was a special section for children within the Public Prosecution Service. In addition, substantial progress was made by extending the coverage of the children's courts across the country and by approving a judicial management model in line with international standards.

UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in developing the Protocol on Consular Attention for Unaccompanied Girls, Boys, and Adolescents, pilot implementation of which has begun at three consulates (Tucson, Arizona, and McAllen and Del Rio, Texas) in the United States and in Tapachula in Mexico, providing psychosocial interventions. In addition, support has been given to the institutions in charge of child protection in Guatemala for the creation of procedures and protocols for returnee children and family groups, including a national protocol for receiving migrant children. One of the greatest weaknesses is in the assistance given to communities of origin. The Municipal Offices for the Protection of Children and Adolescents (OMPNA) are available as a channel for communications between children, adolescents, families, communities, citizens, municipal authorities and institutions of the protection system at the community, municipal and departmental levels, and they can support follow-up and provide timely information on migration processes and the associated risks.

The national strategy for the protection of children's rights promoted by this cooperation programme is set out in the Act on the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents, which was approved on its second reading as Bill 5285. It sets out how social protection for children is to be organized, the creation of a governing body for special protection (the Child Protection Institute) and the regulation, by law, of municipal directorates for children and adolescents. This new legislation institutionalizes the strategy and ensures its future development.

This proposal seeks to follow on up and ensure the continuity of the interventions that the countries, with the support of cooperation agencies, have carried out in recent years. It will lay out the main lines of action that are essential to continue building a system for the protection of children and adolescents in Guatemala that takes concrete steps in **preventing and responding to violence against children**, and **empowering girls and boys** (*human security approach*).⁸ The challenge remains enormous. It entails encouraging the countries' society and institutions to place children at the focal point. The proposal seeks to generate actions not only to protect children from violence, but also to promote the prevention of violence against children in the environments where they grow up and develop (families, schools and communities). This means working directly with families, municipal authorities and national institutions in charge of child protection in the country.

⁸ According to the Commission on Human Security, human security means protecting essential freedoms. It means protecting people who are exposed to threats and specific situations, and bolstering their strength and aspirations. It also involves creating systems that provide people with the basic elements of survival, dignity and livelihood. Human security interconnects different types of freedoms: freedom from deprivation, freedom from fear and freedom to act on one's own behalf. See Commission on Human Security (CHS), "Esbozo del informe de la Comisión de Seguridad Humana: La seguridad humana, ahora" [online] https://www.iidh.ed.cr/multic/UserFiles/Biblioteca/IIDHSeguridad/12_2010/733e4b3f-3b8f-45d3-aa01-fe7c19326dee.pdf.

This requires working to empower children's citizenship: children must be given tools to enhance their development (empowerment). This includes those tools that allow them to organize themselves and demand that their rights be respected, so they can be free from deprivation and fear.⁹

The construction of a genuine child protection system is a fundamental step forward that will allow the country to **consolidate the democratic process** and instil a culture of respect for human rights, as set out in the agendas of the Peace Accords, the National Development Plan K'atun: Our Guatemala 2032,¹⁰ the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda, the 2018–2021 UNICEF Strategic Plan and the 2018–2021 UNICEF Gender Action Plan. Working to build and consolidate child protection systems at the community, municipal, departmental and national levels helps reduce violence against children.

The proposal emphasizes work with primarily indigenous girls and teenagers who, according to the UNICEF studies, represent the most vulnerable segment of the population.¹¹ The country's indigenous children and adolescents are excluded from different rights, environments and indicators of development and are at a greater disadvantage.¹² The proposal will also pursue activities to promote special protection for children with disabilities and migrant children, and it will involve concrete actions to prevent violence, exploitation and trafficking of children online.

In particular, the programme is a part of the United Nations 2015–2019 Development Assistance Framework in Guatemala, and it will be promoted as a major component of the new UNICEF programmatic proposal for the new period of cooperation with the Government of Guatemala between 2020 and 2024, in that it pursues the main lines of the 2030 Agenda and contributes to the achievement of the following objectives: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls (Goal 5), reduce inequality within and among countries (Goal 10), promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (Goal 16) and strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development (Goal 17). The proposal also addresses Goal 3 of the new UNICEF 2018–2021 Strategic Plan: "Every child is protected from violence and exploitation." The programme will pursue actions to defend against all forms of stigmatization and discrimination towards LGBTI people.¹³

In Northern Central America, young people between the ages of 15 and 29 account for almost 30% of the population. Most of the young people caught up in the current violence were born during the digital age. The main active users of social networks are young people, which underscores the importance of information and communications technologies (ICTs) in preventing youth violence. Today's young people are digital natives, and ICTs (the Internet and social networks in particular) are closely related to new ways of both preventing and committing violence.

Social networks have been used for both purposes: to defend human rights, and to violate them by spreading lies and inciting hatred and violence under the cloak of anonymity. Research has also shown that criminal groups in Northern Central America use social media and YouTube to recruit young people.

⁹ This is the concept of human security that is emerging from the proposal made by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). It was developed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and then by the Commission on Human Security itself. See United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), *Human Development Report 1994: New Dimensions of Human Security*, New York, 1994.

¹⁰ See National Council for Urban and Rural Development/Secretariat for Planning and Programming of the Office of the President, *Plan Nacional de Desarrollo K'atun: Nuestra Guatemala 2032*, Guatemala City, 2014.

¹¹ See United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), *¡Mírame! Soy indígena y también soy Guatemala*, Guatemala City, 2017.

¹² Eight out of ten indigenous children and adolescents live in poverty. Chronic undernutrition affects 61.2% of indigenous children, compared to 34.5% of non-indigenous children. Educational achievement at all levels is invariably lower in departments with indigenous populations than in those with predominantly non-indigenous inhabitants. Out of every ten indigenous girls and adolescents, only six finish primary school, two complete secondary education, and one goes on to university. See United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), *¡Mírame! Soy indígena y también soy Guatemala*, Guatemala City, 2017.

¹³ The recommendations of the United Nations Human Rights Council will be followed, including resolution 17/19, which recognizes that acts of violence and discrimination are committed against LGBTI people in all parts of the world.

Implementing a new architecture that minimizes the negative impact and side effects of ICTs requires efforts from governments and other actors, such as the private sector, civil society and individual users.

The use of social media must be understood beyond likes, retweets and posts. Content creators are called “influencers” because they have a strong influence on their followers —primarily adolescents and young people— regarding a variety of issues and perspectives. At a time when social relations are conducted predominantly through technology, digital influencers are shaping the interests and ambitions of young men and women, as well as their relationships with each other, society and their peers, and the way they perceive and interpret the world and social realities.

Objective

In light of the country’s limited capacity for the comprehensive protection of children against the various forms of violence they face in their daily lives, in both the formal (institutional) and informal (by reason of knowledge, beliefs and practices within their families and communities) spheres, the aim of this proposal is to contribute to:

- (a) creating favourable conditions to promote protective environments in the places closest to children, and
- (b) building the capacities of the institutions responsible for preventing and responding to violence against children.

The proposal follows the ecological model that seeks to address factors of risk and protection related to children, which implies direct work with children, families, communities and society in general, as well as intense capacity-building in the institutions with responsibilities for children’s affairs.¹⁴

The project also aims to build the capacities of the direct beneficiaries, policymakers and civil society organizations to use ICTs more effectively in preventing and reducing violence and promoting peaceful coexistence, especially among young people. The objective of the project is to support young people in building new forms of solidarity and to provide them with tools for developing online skills to prevent violence and to build resilience and confidence for resisting extreme violence.

This initiative’s focus on the ICT component of the Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (PVE) is intended to maximize its impact and contribute to its sustainability. At the institutional level, the project aims to encourage the member States to adopt better structural approaches to address high levels of violence over the long term, through the strategic use of ICTs (e.g. better use of big data to prevent violence).

¹⁴ In line with the recommendations of the *World Report on Violence Against Children*, all interventions in this area must be integrated and systematic and must include components for preventing violence in all settings, for victim care and rehabilitation, as well as for the development of a coherent legal and policy framework and intensive efforts to change social and cultural attitudes and practices that are incompatible with human rights. See P. Pinheiro, *World Report on Violence Against Children*, New York, Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, 2006.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Local analyses of this kind are intended to improve governability, governance and the population's well-being.

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
By 2024, children, families and civil society in communities in the priority municipalities have a greater capacity to transform social norms and practices that violate the rights of children and adolescents.	Number of community protection committees implementing actions to transform negative social norms into positive ones to guarantee respect for and compliance with the rights of children and adolescents in their communities.	600 communities in 40 priority municipalities have community child protection committees, with the participation of mothers, fathers, children and adolescents.	5 years
By 2024, children and adolescents in 50% of the countries' municipalities have access to municipal child and adolescent protection systems.	Number of municipalities in the countries that have the installed capacity to implement municipal systems for the comprehensive protection of children and adolescents in accordance with child protection standards.	170 municipalities in the countries have municipal child protection offices and coordination mechanisms with the agencies of the system.	5 years
By 2024, child and adolescent victims of violence have access to special child protection services.	Number of departments that have special protection services, particularly for migrant children and child victims of sexual violence, child abuse and human trafficking, based on a family and community approach.	12 departments in the countries have special protection services for children who have been victims of violence.	5 years
By 2024, children and adolescents have access to a specialized justice system for the special protection of children and adolescents.	Number of departments that have models for investigations, criminal prosecutions and specialized justice that promote the special protection of child and adolescent victims of violence.	12 departments in the countries have specialized justice services for child victims of violence.	5 years

Main activities

In order to achieve the expected objectives, activities and strategies will be pursued during implementation to generate changes in four social and institutional areas that play a key role in creating protective environments for children and adolescents in the four countries:

- 1. Children and adolescents enjoy family and community environments that protect their rights:** Social and cultural attitudes and practices that are incompatible with children's human rights must be tackled sensitively, because of people's attachment to their traditions. This implies major efforts in *communication for development*, encouraging the communities themselves to identify those social practices (both positive and negative) that protect or violate children's rights and to bolster the former while modifying the latter.

To that end, work will be carried out with existing social platforms, and the concept of early childhood protection will be integrated into community agendas. Efforts will also be made to build the capacities of children, so that they know their rights and how to exercise them. In this area, the proposal will also include actions to empower civil society to demand children's rights in the country. The organization of community-based child protection systems will be promoted to help reduce children's exposure to violence and promote organized responses to cases of child abuse.

- 2. Children and adolescents have access to municipal systems that protect their rights:** At the municipal level, the programme aims to make a quantitative (extending coverage to the national level) and qualitative leap forward to promote the real involvement of other actors and sectors in the municipalities in the construction of a municipal child protection system.

This requires bringing other municipal stakeholders on board: the social, business and faith-based sectors. The objective is to develop and validate tools that encourage the participation of a large part of the municipality's organized social sectors and groups in the protection of children.

3. Children and adolescents have access to special child protection services: In order to provide children with access to protection services, the programme must work directly with the countries' institutions, from advocacy strategies with the legislative sphere (Congress of the Republic) to working directly with sectoral agencies responsible for prevention and the detection of cases (ministries of health¹⁵ and education¹⁶) to promote the implementation of systems for reporting cases and of accessible and appropriate services for children;¹⁷ work will also be needed with the agencies responsible for providing victims with a concrete response and defending their human rights (Social Welfare Secretariat, Office of the Attorney General, National Adoption Council, others). The aim is to take a qualitative leap forward to consolidate processes that have already been launched and are under way, as well as a quantitative leap forward to expand service coverage at the national level. Capacity-building for the child protection and justice institutions cannot be limited to efforts with their staff; an intense institutional transformation is needed, directly affecting the regulatory framework, case management methods, attention protocols, service registration and follow-up, as well as other aspects. The goal is to create new child protection services and to transform the few that already exist. In addition, specific activities are planned to promote the use of alternative care measures instead of residential care. The aim is to transform the current services so they have a framework for action based on the international standards that govern children's human rights.

4. Children and adolescent victims of violence have access to a specialized justice system: In order to prevent violence against children, society's confidence in the country's justice system must be bolstered, and this can be achieved by expanding the justice sector's capacity (tools and coverage) to investigate, prosecute and sentence the perpetrators of those crimes and to avoid and reduce the secondary victimization generated by the multiple interviews and examinations to which child victims are subjected.

The aim is to specialize the current justice system so that it respects, promotes and applies international standards. Fighting impunity for crimes that affect children is a fundamental component of the proposal.

Implementation strategy:

As its strategy to ensure the programme results are attained, UNICEF emphasizes interventions based on human rights and a systemic and comprehensive approach. This enables consideration of the different dimensions or levels where actions can be targeted to promote appropriate and timely steps to protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation.

This involves promoting the establishment of child protection services and guidelines, as well as providing advice and guidance to parents, teachers, other authorities and all individuals who come into contact with children. To that end, the programme offers interventions at several levels (families, communities, municipalities and, finally, the central and national levels) and intense interactions with the children themselves (citizen empowerment).

¹⁵ Work with the ministries of health will promote the strengthening of committees against child abuse and sexual violence, within the framework of the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) methodology in priority geographical areas.

¹⁶ In priority geographical areas, work will be done with education ministries to detect and refer cases of violence against children.

¹⁷ For UNICEF, the work to be undertaken with the sectoral agencies of the executive branch is fundamental, since it is the line ministries that have the greatest contact with the child population and that, in their programmatic actions and within the confines of their jurisdiction, are most likely to be able to carry out effective actions of prevention, detection, registration, care and referral of "serious" cases of protection violations to the specialized justice system for children.

In order to promote a comprehensive working approach, coordination will take place with the ministries of health, education and social development, since they are responsible for many issues in preventing violence and abuse against children as well as for the detection and referral of cases.

The programme's interventions will emphasize advocacy with the most vulnerable groups (*equity approach*) and, within that population, it will place a priority on indigenous girls and adolescents as the target population (*gender approach*: positive gender intervention and *intercultural approach*). While the project will have a national scope, its interventions will focus on those territories where children are most affected by violence and those with high levels of indigenous population.

The communication for development methodology will be used to promote changes in behaviour and social practices that affect children's rights, which entails a social process based on dialogue (to explore how children are treated and perceived).

In general, sustainability will be sought in all the interventions, and this implies organizing participatory processes that ensure the ownership and empowerment of the actors involved, respect and appreciation of the processes themselves and avoiding actions that promote dependency.¹⁸ Supporting sustainable actions translates into interventions that: (a) ensure changes in the regulatory and institutional framework and in functional culture, (b) ensure that institutional action is taken in accordance with international child protection standards, which is achieved by establishing protocols, procedures and road maps, (c) ensure that the programmes are financially sustainable, and (d) encourage the generation of social commitments toward the projects to build social demand for them.

The empowerment of civil society is a strategy of this cooperation programme, with the aim of helping create a new political culture: a democratic culture that admits all people, especially children and women, as subjects of law who are able to influence the political and social decisions that affect them. The goal is for children's organizations to be able to drive positive change in the country from the local to the national level.

Project governance

The project's direction and orientation will be under the highest national political authorities responsible for child protection matters (prevention and response to violence against children).

A consultative council will be created with delegates from the three branches of government (executive, legislative and judiciary), together with delegates from law enforcement (Public Prosecution Service and Public Criminal Defence Institute) and representatives of municipal governments.

The council will be in charge of guiding and providing political support for the implementation of a national strategy for the protection of children and adolescents in the countries, and the UNICEF country offices will take due account of its guidelines, agreements and general lines of action.

In addition, there will be broad forums for participation and discussion at the national, departmental and municipal levels with grassroots civil society organizations, child and adolescent organizations and other local actors involved in child protection in the countries.

UNICEF will be involved in national-level representation and management and, when political advocacy is required, support may be sought from the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean or directly from UNICEF global executive management.

¹⁸ See United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), "Estrategia 2015-2019: marco conceptual y operativo del componente de protección de UNICEF Guatemala", Guatemala City, 2016, unpublished.

The project's technical and operational management will be the task of a child protection management specialist (cost to be covered by UNICEF) with technical assistance from child protection officers and administrative assistants. That team will receive operational and communications support from the UNICEF office team. In addition, other specialists in education, social inclusion and health will cooperate to ensure an intersectoral approach and more comprehensive interventions by the proposed programme. Together with the countries' planning ministries, they will also accompany planning, implementation and monitoring actions.

UNICEF has also established a permanent progress review mechanism with its implementing partners and stakeholders, involving two annual reviews. A mid-term review by an external evaluation consultant is planned to assess the results achieved. UNICEF will coordinate its actions with other national and international cooperation agencies to ensure that the expected results are achieved.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The programme's strategy aims to expand coverage and increase impact, in order to upscale the projects validated during the past cooperation period to the national level. This proposal therefore complements the actions that UNICEF is pursuing over the 2019 to 2022 period with the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. With this proposal, UNICEF and its partners will encourage countries to adopt municipal protection systems nationwide and to build the institutional capacity to respond to the social phenomenon of violence against children and adolescents.

Duration

The project is planned to last five years.

Budget: US\$ 29,120,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Ensuring safe, resilient and violence-free educational environments for children and adolescents studying basic and intermediate education in the regions with the highest emigration rates.	2013–2023 National Policy on Comprehensive Protection for Children and Adolescents, El Salvador. Public Policy and Plan of Action for the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents (2017–2032), Guatemala. Social Protection Policy, National Policy for the Prevention of Violence against Children and Youth in Honduras. National System for the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents of Mexico.		UNICEF UNESCO UNODC OHCHR UNFPA IOM UN-Women	GIZ, AECID, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), USAID, JICA, AMEXCID, Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries (HIVOS).	IDB, World Bank.	Save the Children, Global. <i>Infancia sin Fronteras</i> , Global. <i>Global Humanitaria</i> . Domenech Foundation, El Salvador His Children in El Salvador. La Alianza, Guatemala. Survivors Foundation, Guatemala. <i>Fundación Esperanza por Honduras</i> . Foundation for the Protection of Children in Mexico. <i>Fundación Pro Niños de la Calle I.A.P.</i>
Strengthening the rule of law, the administration of justice and the fight against impunity in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico.						
Support for the implementation of comprehensive security and public coexistence policies.						
Information management for gender-sensitive, evidence-based public policies on citizen security.						

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.22

Regional programme for the protection, assistance and access to justice of migrants from Northern Central America and Mexico, with a focus on combating corruption



Implementing agencies:

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in synergy with other agencies of the United Nations system.

Geographical coverage:

- Nines states in southern and south-eastern Mexico: Campeche, Chiapas, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Puebla, Quintana Roo, Tabasco, Veracruz and Yucatán.
- Three countries in North Central America: El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Number of beneficiaries:

350,000.

Main topics:

- Management of the migration cycle
- Security and access to justice
- Integrity
- Human rights
- Regional cooperation
- Multidimensional coordination

Context

The migration phenomenon in Northern Central America and Mexico is driven by historical and structural causes, including population growth, the failure to create jobs at a rate comparable to demographic change, and the differences between wages and living standards in Northern Central America, Mexico and the United States. The phenomenon is exacerbated by other factors, such as climate change, violence and corruption. The violence generated in Northern Central America by organized crime and the economic and social damage caused by corruption and the laundering of criminal proceeds has led to a significant

increase in migratory flows in transit through Mexico. According to figures from the Secretariat of the Interior, more than 85% of the migrants brought before immigration authorities come from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

Given the increase in these flows (made up of vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, unaccompanied minors, LGBTI+ people, women and people from indigenous communities) coming mainly from Northern Central America, a comprehensive response is needed that takes into account all the key stakeholders and offers measures that will reduce the vulnerability of migrants to violence and crimes with a major impact on the migration cycle, with a clear emphasis on institutional capacity-building and actions in the area of integrity.

This proposal's strategy aims to address the problem from its different angles in order to guarantee its sustainability:

1. In regard to the affected population: (a) by targeting communities of origin, transit and destination with information on the most frequent risks and crimes, (b) by working directly with the migrant population to build greater trust in the mechanisms for protection, assistance and access to justice, and (c) by ensuring differentiated and multi-stakeholder mechanisms to address the issue and by integrating gender, human rights and intercultural perspectives.
2. In regard to the essential services for those groups: (a) by strengthening the capacities of government authorities, civil society organizations and a wide range of other key actors for preventing violence against migrants, (b) by providing comprehensive assistance and access to justice, and (c) by creating and installing infrastructure and mechanisms for regional cooperation, alerts and communication.
3. In regard to the structural drivers of the migration phenomenon: (a) by supporting legal and punitive responses to corruption and organized crime, and (b) by promoting integrity and the recovery of stolen assets.

In order to guarantee a regional approach, the UNODC offices in Mexico and Panama (the regional headquarters for Central America and the Caribbean) will implement the actions simultaneously with teams in the field that will work together to foster exchanges between the beneficiary regions and generate international coordination ties.

Objective

Reduce the vulnerability of migrants to crimes committed against them in their communities of origin, destination and transit in Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, with a special emphasis on the crime of trafficking in persons.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Local analyses of this kind are intended to improve governability, governance and the population's well-being.

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
The region's migrant population (origin, transit and destination) informed through data on the risks associated with the most common crimes during the entire migration cycle, their rights and the available justice access mechanisms. Migrant population informed through data on the crime of trafficking in persons (manifestations, causes, risk factors) and other serious offences committed by organized crime.	50 000 media impacts of the designed content in traditional and digital media. Number of shelters, half-way houses and refuges with information materials from the campaign. 100 000 comments/reactions on social networks. 50 000 media impacts of the designed content in traditional and digital media. Number of shelters, half-way houses and refuges with information materials from the campaign. 100 000 comments/reactions on social networks.	The migrant population is aware of the risks of the crimes most frequently committed during the entire cycle, as well as of the available mechanisms for protection and access to justice. The migrant population has information regarding the crime of trafficking in persons and knows where they can report it, as well as information on other serious offences committed by organized crime.	Two years Two years
A network of effective coordination, transparency, integrity and accountability schemes established by government authorities, civil society organizations, migrant host communities and key actors engaged with the migration issue, and safe corridors set up to protect and care for migrants in the face of the most serious crimes.	50 000 migrants have used, over the course of two years, at least two services provided by the safe corridors that they say were useful to them. A multi-stakeholder protocol installed to guide anticorruption efforts within each network. At least three joint initiatives for crime prevention, care and investigation proposed and implemented by three or more key actors, with an anti-corruption focus. 50% of the selected key actors state, in surveys, that coordination has improved.	Effectively interconnect national and regional responses to the crimes most frequently committed against migrants, under an anticorruption approach.	Three years
Government authorities, civil society organizations and key actors at the regional level effectively detect and investigate possible crimes against migrants, corruption and organized crime, and provide migrants with comprehensive assistance.	1 000 trainers for trainers (with gender parity) trained to replicate the training plan in their home countries (10 training sessions). Number of services provided and formalities carried out and reported through the regional transparency portal.	The networks of actors prevent, attend to and investigate crimes committed against migrants with an anti-corruption approach.	Three years
State authorities strengthen the legal and operational framework to fight corruption and organized crime and to strengthen asset recovery.	The authorities in each country have an analysis of legal shortcomings and an assessment of strategic and policy needs. Number of draft legislative amendments, policies, strategies and action plans submitted to the competent bodies for approval.	State actors address the structural drivers of the migration phenomenon that are linked to organized crime, the diversion of public funds and other crimes of corruption.	Three years

Main activities

According to the implementation plan, the following activities will be carried out simultaneously and synchronously in the four beneficiary countries:

- (a) Disseminate information among the migrant population in the region (origin, transit and destination) on the risks of the crimes most frequently committed during the migration cycle, their rights and the available justice access mechanisms, with emphasis on the crime of trafficking in persons.
- Recommendations to reduce migrants' levels of vulnerability, and to increase the transparency and robustness of formalities for their attention.

- Design and implementation of communication campaigns, differentiated by sectors and with a gender and life cycle approach, on the risks related to the most common crimes committed during the migration cycle, the available attention and reporting mechanisms and the determinants of vulnerability, and training actions to build trust in authorities and institutions.
 - Organization of sports, cultural and academic activities (in partnership with civil society organizations, government authorities and the private sector) to inform and raise awareness about the most prevalent crimes and corruption, as well as to call for action for the reporting of suspected acts of corruption.
- (b) Forge a network of interconnections between government authorities, civil society organizations, migrant host communities and key actors engaged with migration issues, in order to promote transparency, integrity and accountability models and to establish measures for the protection and care of migrants in the face of the most serious crimes.
- Formation and installation of a network of key actors from the four countries that will meet periodically to address the problem.
 - Design and launch of an information exchange platform at the regional level, including transparency mechanisms.
 - Organization of two international meetings in borderland areas for the exchange of challenges, experiences and good practices in preventing and combating high incidence crimes in the migration context.
- (c) Strengthen the authorities' capacities to detect and investigate possible cases of crimes against migrants, corruption and organized crime, from a cross-border perspective, and to provide them with comprehensive assistance.
- Design of a comprehensive, multi-stakeholder training plan for the detection, attention and follow-up of cases.
 - Organization of operational training workshops (local and regional) for the detection and investigation of crimes against migrants, including such as aspects as: (a) detection, investigation and prosecution of cases of violence, organized crime and corruption, (b) differentiated attention for migrants, (c) preventing corruption and strengthening integrity, (d) human rights approach and gender perspective, (e) inter-institutional coordination, (f) participation by international experts, (g) portrayal of scenarios and real cases, (h) intelligence work, rescues, evidence gathering and record keeping, (i) cybersecurity: use of information technology in the commission of human trafficking crimes, (j) use of technological tools to reinforce learning and information bulletins, and (k) certification mechanisms.
 - Based on the results of the workshops, a regional group of experts in the field will be established to replicate the knowledge.
 - Organization of training workshops (trainer-training methodology) to replicate knowledge in the region.
- (d) Strengthen the legal and operational framework for combating corruption and organized crime and recovering assets, among other structural drivers of the migration phenomenon.
- Design and implementation of national diagnostic assessments to conduct an analysis of legal gaps and evaluate strategic and policy needs.
 - Legal advisory services in the field of criminal policy.
 - Development of an action plan for the implementation of the advisory teams' recommendations.
 - Technical workshops with political and legislative stakeholders (awareness-raising for members of the government, including the legislature and judiciary, on legislative gaps related to the criminal justice response to organized crime and corruption).

Project governance

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), through its offices in Mexico and Panama and in accordance with its responsibility for overseeing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, will be responsible for project implementation and will seek synergies with various other offices and programmes of the United Nations system.

All the actions will be taken in close coordination with the authorities of the nine southern and south-eastern states of Mexico and of the three Northern Central American countries. Coordination will also be sought with civil society organizations and migrant groups (project beneficiaries) as implementing partners. Thus, the governance mechanism will be aligned with the expert network structure proposed by the project, and it will be made up of a key actor from each established beneficiary category.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This project is in alignment with Mexico's National Development Plan, the National Programme for the Strengthening of Shelters that Provide Assistance to Victims of Human Trafficking in Mexico, the Detection and Prevention of Trafficking in Persons in Indigenous Communities in Mexico project (both UNODC initiatives) and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. It also aligns with the Cuscatlán Plan of the Government of El Salvador, particularly its citizen security, development and human rights pillars, as well as with the national development plans and strategic security frameworks of Guatemala and Honduras.

The framework for action of all the programmes implemented in this area is provided by the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and, in particular, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Duration

This initiative will have a duration of three years (36 months).

Budget: US\$ 7,260,815

Annex

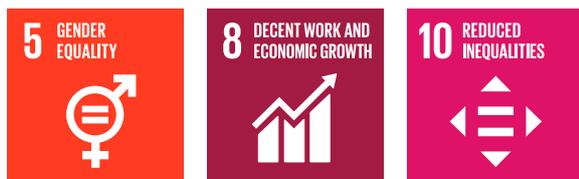
Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Strengthening immediate and long-term responses to forced displacement and human mobility in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, with an approach based on gender equality and human rights. Human mobility information management. Protection and empowerment of women and girls throughout the migration cycle in the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico. Promoting regular labour migration and access to labour justice. Preventing and combating migrant smuggling and crimes committed against migrants in Northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) and southern and south-eastern Mexico.	National Development Plan, Mexico. National Programme for Strengthening Shelters that Provide Assistance to Victims of Human Trafficking in Mexico. Project for the Detection and Prevention of Human Trafficking in Indigenous Communities in Mexico. Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Cuscatlán Plan of the Government of El Salvador, in particular, its citizen security, development and human rights pillars. National development plans. Strategic security frameworks in Guatemala and Honduras.		UNODC IOM UNHCR UNFPA OHCHR UN-Women	GIZ, AECID, SDC, USAID, JICA, AMEXCID (to address the causes and consequences of migration processes).	IDB, World Bank	Foundation for Justice and the Democratic Rule of Law, Mexico. Jesuit Migrant Service, Mexico. Committee of Relatives of Deceased and Missing Migrants (COFAMIDE), El Salvador. Committee of Families of Disappeared Migrants of El Progreso (COFAMIPRO), Honduras.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.23

Reinforcing Assistance to Child Victims of Trafficking (ReACT)



Implementing agencies:

The project will be led by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in coordination with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and a group of national and international partners. IOM will implement the project in coordination with the authorities responsible for women's affairs and anti-trafficking efforts in the participating Northern Central American countries. Project partners will include civil society organizations, UN-Women and other United Nations agencies, and other relevant partners in the region.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador and another Northern Central American country (to be determined).

Number of beneficiaries:

The project's direct beneficiaries include multi-sectoral governmental and civil society actors engaged in dealing with human trafficking and gender-based violence. The partners in the country will participate in the development of: (a) new integrated training tools in response to gender-based violence and human trafficking, (b) implementation of multi-sectoral capacity-building strategies and training sessions, and (c) a model for a national service and referral mechanism to support survivors. The final (indirect) beneficiaries are the women, men, children and LGBTI people who have been victims of human trafficking and gender-based violence and who will benefit from greater protection and assistance in the future. This project will also benefit global partners, who will be able to build on its models and lessons learned. Multi-sectoral representatives from across the region, expected to include government partners, civil society partners, other UN agencies and academia, will establish a learning consortium to help disseminate the final research outcomes.

Main topics:

- Migration, trafficking, gender-based violence, protection, human rights

Context

Violence, abuse and exploitation are prevalent worldwide, and women and girls are at particular risk of gender-based violence. Estimates suggest that around 42 million people worldwide are affected by “modern forms of slavery” or human trafficking.¹ One in three women experience intimate partner violence in their lives, and approximately 7% of women suffer sexual violence.² Studies of human trafficking and gender-based violence indicate that these types of abuse have very similar consequences for the physical and psychological health, personal safety and social well-being of survivors.³ Studies have repeatedly shown that health care providers and other professionals are willing to support survivors. Despite the many similarities in the needs of survivors and the readiness of multi-sectoral professionals, there has been little effort to investigate how lessons can be shared between services that work with gender-based violence and human trafficking and where service delivery responses can be integrated or linked.

Based on existing research and practice on gender-based violence and human trafficking, the Reinforcing Assistance to Child Victims of Trafficking project (ReACT) will identify promising practices in integrating or separating victim services.

Objective

- Objective 1: Create an evidence base on current practices, quality, overlaps and gaps in national resources and systems for responding to human trafficking and gender-based violence in the participating countries.
- Objective 2: Develop, pilot test and carry out an evaluation of the intersectoral responses with a view to producing an integrated service and referral network model for survivors of human trafficking and gender-based violence.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

The research will map services for victims of gender-based violence and human trafficking in the participating countries and examine what mechanisms for detection, needs assessment and referral exist at the national level and within specific sectors, together with the similarities and differences in assistance and survivors’ needs. The study will investigate how an integrated service model could leverage the similarities while simultaneously addressing the differences in survivors’ service access and support needs. At the end of the project, the participating countries will benefit from a pilot integrated training package for multi-sectoral service providers responding to gender-based violence and human trafficking, as well as a road map for future efforts to further improve the quality of their responses. The project will also strengthen the evidence base, helping increase the ability of policymakers and other practitioners to access rigorous research and data of relevance to their responses to trafficking and gender-based violence.

¹ See International Labour Organization (ILO), *Global Estimates of Modern Slavery: Forced Labour and Forced Marriage*, Geneva, 2017.

² See N. Abrahams and others, “Worldwide prevalence of non-partner sexual violence: a systematic review”, *The Lancet*, vol. 383, No. 9929, Amsterdam, Elsevier, 2014.

³ See L. Ottisova and others, “Prevalence and risk of violence and the mental, physical and sexual health problems associated with human trafficking: an updated systematic review”, *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences*, vol. 25, No. 4, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2016; N. Abrahams and others, “Worldwide prevalence of non-partner sexual violence: a systematic review”, *The Lancet*, vol. 383, No. 9929, Amsterdam, Elsevier, 2014.

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Mapping and report on the scope of systems, tools and resources for human trafficking and gender-based violence in the participating countries, identifying current efforts, overlaps, gaps and promising approaches.	Review of regional literature on human trafficking and gender-based violence and existing models in other regions.	Yes	Year 1
	Key tools, resources and other inputs collected from national and local government partners through national and local level actions in the participating countries.	Yes	
Report of regional civil society consultation on the support needs of survivors of human trafficking and gender-based violence in the participating countries.	Number of participants in the regional civil society consultation workshop.	20 (7 countries + survivors' representatives)	Year 1
ReACT research protocol jointly validated by survivors and service providers.	ReACT Advisory Committee incorporates recommendations from the consultation and evidence base into the research plan.	Yes	Year 1
Policymakers and practitioners better able to access rigorous research and data needed to address sex trafficking and forced labour at the international level.	Number of multi-sectoral representatives identified as part of regional learning consortia to ensure regional and cross-sectoral impact of research results and outputs.	21 (7 countries, and at least 3 sectors)	Year 1
Integrated training toolkit developed.	Number of pilot tests conducted to finalize the toolkit.	6 (3 per country)	Year 2
Participating countries have new evidence-based tools to improve responses to human trafficking and gender-based violence.	Number of national validation events.	2	Year 2
	Number of national road maps for improved and integrated violence responses delivered to governments.	2	
	Dissemination of the mapping and bibliography of human trafficking and gender-based violence tools available in the region.	Yes	
Participating countries have enhanced capacity to improve responses to human trafficking and gender-based violence.	Number of trained human trafficking and gender-based violence partners demonstrating increased capacity after training (disaggregated by sex and other relevant indicators).	30 in each country, in various sectors.	Year 2
Increased participation of qualified, multidisciplinary and policy-oriented researchers conducting rigorous studies on sex trafficking and forced labour issues.	Summary report of research on integrated response models for violence disseminated to global stakeholders in the fight against trafficking and gender-based violence.	Yes	Year 2
	Number of articles submitted to peer-reviewed journals.	1	

Main activities

The ReACT investigation will comprise two phases: Phase I: mapping and analysis of practices and systems in the countries and Central American, as well as examples of good practice from other regions, and Phase II: development, implementation and evaluation of professional learning tool processes, training sessions and a multi-sector service and reference model. The research will be developed in conjunction with key stakeholders, including multi-sectoral government partners, civil society and survivors' representatives (who may come from outside the region if necessary). The work will be based on principles of adaptive programming, methodologies for intervention development studies and participatory approaches.⁴

- Activity 1.1: Mapping of human trafficking and gender-based violence systems, tools and practices (scope of systems and resources in several countries), and consultation with survivors and service providers to analyse the support needs of human trafficking and gender-based violence survivors in the participating countries.

⁴ See C. Valters, C. Cummings and H. Nixon, "Putting learning at the centre: adaptive development programming in practice", London, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), 2016; P. Hoddinott, "A new era for intervention development studies", *Pilot and Feasibility Studies*, vol. 1, Berlin, Springer, 2015.

- Activity 2.1: Conduct adaptive programming research in the participating countries (intervention development research) on complementary and specialized services for human trafficking and gender-based violence.

Project governance

IOM will be responsible for project implementation, in close coordination with national gender and anti-trafficking authorities and key partners at the local, national and regional levels. IOM will subcontract the Gender Violence and Health Centre (GVHC) at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) as the main academic partner for the study. To ensure that the project is based on existing good practice, two highly experienced partners will also be subcontracted as technical experts to sit on the project's Advisory Committee: Ashley Garrett of the International Coach Federation (ICF), currently director of the National Training and Technical Assistance Center in the United States, and Dr. Hanni Stoklosa, a Harvard University faculty member and director of Health, Education, Advocacy, Linkages (HEAL) Trafficking, a leading NGO in health sector responses to human trafficking. The project will be implemented by IOM in coordination with other relevant partners and sub-beneficiaries. The project's Advisory Committee will also include IOM project staff and technical experts.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

IOM is implementing anti-trafficking projects in the region at the national and regional levels, and it is also actively involved in regional and global processes related to human trafficking. IOM is a leading organization in anti-trafficking efforts, and it has been working on all aspects of anti-trafficking responses—including prevention, protection and punishment—for over 20 years. IOM encourages the entire international community to engage in the fight against trafficking by participating in and leading global multilateral processes, including the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) and the Alliance 8.7. IOM also works with the humanitarian community to ensure that trafficking risks are mitigated and addressed from the very first stages of humanitarian responses. Since the mid-1990s, IOM and its partners have provided protection and assistance to nearly 100,000 men, women and children victims of human trafficking. IOM is the world's largest provider of direct assistance to trafficking victims. In addition to country-level programming, which may include victim assistance funds, IOM has global emergency assistance funds, which can be used to support victims of trafficking and other vulnerable migrants where there are gaps in local protection and assistance efforts.

IOM is also implementing national- and regional-level actions for migrant women in the region, and it also actively participates in regional and global processes related to gender issues. Proactively including gender equality in the migration work of IOM means advocating for equal rights before the law, fighting discrimination and violence (including human trafficking), understanding how gender influences migration, knowing and responding to how gender impacts access to social services, economic growth, capacities, risks and vulnerabilities, and understanding how migration impacts gender roles and gender equality. Taking all these steps is central to the IOM mandate and essential for the development of safe, humane and orderly migration for all.

Duration

24 months.

Budget: US\$ 1,350,000

Proposal 2.24

Strengthening the rule of law, the administration of justice and the fight against impunity in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico



Implementing agencies:

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Panama.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Potentially the entire population of the four participating countries.

Main topics:

- Impunity
- Rule of law and use of force
- Administration of justice and prosecutions
- Serious human rights violations
- Victims' rights

Context

To eliminate the conditions that force people to resort to irregular migration, the full upholding of their human rights must be guaranteed. Often, people flee their places of origin because they have been direct or indirect victims of some scourge. The prospect of not receiving justice and the possibility of recurrences may force them to leave their homes to seek protection and security. In the countries covered by the project's geographical scope, difficulties have been observed in creating a legislative, institutional and public policy framework to prevent or redress (serious) human rights violations.

In El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, high levels of impunity still surround both recent and historical human rights violations, including forced disappearances, torture, extrajudicial killings, excessive use of force, arbitrary detention and other offences.

International assistance for national institutions in strengthening the rule of law will help prevent violations and ensure that victims have access to justice and a fair trial. There are several civil society organizations and victims' groups in the region advocating for a reform of local structures in order to improve the implementation of their States' international human rights obligations.

One of the main causes of the region's human mobility is the high rate of people living in poverty and extreme poverty, along with the vast economic inequalities that continue to exist. Their countries of origin are characterized by difficulties in making economic, social and cultural rights a reality, including the right to a healthy environment, the right to decent housing, the right to health, the right to education, the right to food, the right to water and others. Their low rates of economic growth work against people who need higher incomes to provide for their basic needs. Moreover, there are certain groups of people in those societies, such as women, who are disproportionately affected by this situation.

Large economic projects, including renewable energy projects, have occasionally reported problems in their design or implementation. The people affected frequently claim that they did not receive the necessary information or were unable to access the real shared benefits. In addition, such projects regularly do not involve proper processes for free, prior and informed consent, and human rights impact studies are not always carried out properly. At the same time, the failure to consult with the affected individuals and communities can be a missed opportunity to ensure that projects are devised in a way that respects the characteristics of the ecosystems where they are located and do not cause harm to the environment or biodiversity. Several human rights defenders have been attacked in the context of their efforts to assert the full enjoyment of human rights in the context of large development projects.

There are several relevant international standards to help resolve or prevent these situations, such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention of 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Universal Declaration on Indigenous Rights, the Escazú Agreement, the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and others. Consolidated action is required to work with the different stakeholders to promote the acceptance and implementation of these standards, as well as to mainstream a human rights approach in development strategies and policies, to ensure that the affected populations are involved in the design, development and evaluation of projects that impact them.

Objective

Strengthen respect, protection and promotion of human rights in countries of origin to avoid the forced relocation of rights holders. In this way, in collaboration with those responsible and other actors, including the private sector, ensure that democratic venues are strengthened and that the affected people are involved in the design, development and evaluation of development projects.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Goal	Period
Respect for human rights in countries of origin.	In the four countries.	36 months
Strengthened legislative and institutional framework to prevent human rights violations and, when necessary, provide redress.	In the four countries.	36 months

Main activities

1. Provide technical assistance to the executive and legislative branch authorities to strengthen the legal framework and public policies for preventing and providing redress for serious human rights violations, such as forced disappearances, torture, extrajudicial executions, excessive use of force, arbitrary detentions and others.

2. Work with the judiciary and other relevant actors to strengthen mechanisms for the administration of justice in order to combat impunity.
3. Training in human rights and victims' rights for civil society organizations and victims' groups.
4. Facilitate dialogue and advocacy venues for civil society organizations to strengthen their advocacy processes.
5. Work with national law enforcement institutions to improve their operational compliance with human rights, including by reviewing protocols, assisting in the design of curricula and training exercises, etc.
6. Organize events and publish thematic public reports to raise awareness of the countries' situations, issue recommendations and/or empower actors for change in countries of origin.
7. Advise the States' institutions —including the executive, legislative and judicial branches— on the interpretation of international standards and the creation of legislation, institutional frameworks and public policies to improve the upholding of economic, social and cultural rights.
8. Provide technical assistance to executive branch authorities so they can create public policies to strengthen the enforcement of the human rights approach in development strategies and policies.
9. Work with local partners —including indigenous peoples, businesses, civil society organizations and entities of the State— to improve the upholding of indigenous peoples' rights, including consultation and free, prior and informed consent.
10. Organize training programmes on business and human rights for interlocutors from the States, civil society organizations, companies and other relevant actors.
11. Collaborate with different stakeholders to promote the ratification and enforcement of the Escazú Agreement.
12. Present thematic reports on development and human rights or other relevant issues in the participating countries.
13. Work with human rights defenders and local authorities to strengthen public policies and/or mechanisms for the protection of those actors.

Project governance

Project implementation will be the task of the different OHCHR field presences in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, with logistical and substantive coordination from OHCHR Geneva. In several thematic areas, partnerships exist with international bodies, State authorities, national human rights institutions and civil society organizations. State partners include the legislative, executive and judicial branches, as well as decentralized and autonomous bodies, such as national human rights commissions.

Duration

Estimated duration is 36 months (3 years).

Budget: US\$ 8,000,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Strengthening human security at the local level. Strengthening the rule of law, the administration of justice and the fight against impunity in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico. Strengthening immediate and long-term responses to forced displacement and human mobility in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, with an approach based on gender equality and human rights. Human mobility information management. Protection and empowerment of women and girls throughout the migration cycle in Northern Central America and Mexico. Preventing and combating migrant smuggling and crimes committed against migrants in Northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) and southern and south-eastern Mexico.	2019-2024 National Human Rights Programme, Mexico. 2007-2017 National Action Plan on Human Rights, Guatemala. Public Policy and National Action Plan on Human Rights, Honduras.	OHCHR UNODC UNHCR UNFPA IOM ILO UN-Women ECLAC	GIZ AECID SDC USAID JICA AMEXCID	IDB World Bank	Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL), El Salvador. <i>Equipo Nizkor</i> , El Salvador. Center for Research and Promotion of Human Rights (CIPRODEH), Honduras. Mexican Commission for the Defence and Promotion of Human Rights (CMDPDH). Mexican League for the Defence of Human Rights (LIMEDDH). Centre for Human Rights Legal Action, Guatemala. Rigoberta Menchu Tum Foundation, Guatemala.	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.25

Support for the implementation of comprehensive security and public coexistence policies



Implementing agencies:

Ministries responsible for public security policies, in partnership with ministries of education, youth and women's institutions, ministries of social development, local governments, agencies of the criminal justice system (public prosecutors' offices, ministries of justice and security, judiciary, police). In addition, interconnection mechanisms will be forged with the private sector and academia.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico.

Main topics:

- Citizen security
- Violence prevention
- Attention for and protection of victims of violence
- Criminal oversight and prosecution
- Rehabilitation and reintegration

Context

The Latin American and Caribbean region is home to 8% of the world's population but accounts for 33% of its homicides. El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras have murder rates 5.5 times the global average, while southern and south-eastern Mexico has a rate 3.4 times that average. The region also reports high levels of other forms of violence that have a particularly fierce impact on more socially and economically vulnerable geographical areas and population groups. Law enforcement and justice institutions are overtasked and have limited capacities to deal with high levels of crime. Violence is one of the four main reasons why people decide to migrate.

The population see violence and insecurity as the main problem hampering their countries' development. High levels of multiple manifestations of violence and feelings of fear and insecurity impact on people's daily lives, limit human development options and wear down the social fabric and public trust in institutions.

Although in recent years the countries have designed and implemented citizen security policies and programmes aimed at preventing, addressing and controlling violence and insecurity, they still face major challenges. The progress made is fragile and, if it is not deepened, expanded and bolstered by other protective and development interventions, there is a risk of reversal and even of conflict escalation.

Objective

Contribute to the development of national and territorial capacities for the coordinated implementation of comprehensive citizen security policies that encourage, consolidate or pursue initiatives for the prevention, control and attention of violence and crime.

Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico: identification of obstacles and challenges for the management of citizen security, 2019

Technical obstacle	Proposed solution
<p>The institutional platforms and legal frameworks for dealing with violence and crime are inadequate and uncoordinated, they lack an integrated and systemic approach to understanding, addressing, decision-making, resource allocation and capacity-building in connection with those phenomena, and they are vulnerable to corruption and criminal infiltration.</p> <p>In destination countries and during return and deportation processes, there are no public policies to strengthen municipal capacities to preventively manage the economic and social pressure that those processes exert on assistance and protection systems and on development programmes. That lack of coverage heightens the vulnerability of some returnees and deportees, especially young people, who find it more advantageous to involve themselves in the informal and illicit economies.</p>	<p>Adequacy of the legal and institutional framework to act as a system with mechanisms for the coordination, planning, management, information analysis and enforcement of joint action protocols, as well as with institutionalized procedures for combating and cleaning up corruption.</p> <p>Promote the development of municipal capacities for including the most vulnerable population groups and returnees in development processes, so they can connect with work opportunities.</p>
<p>Violence and insecurity are concentrated in territories characterized by high levels of socio-economic exclusion, a convergence of risk factors, restricted access to and weak interconnection of public services, and cultural patterns that perpetuate and reproduce violence. In contexts with high levels of violence and limited development options, the population becomes vulnerable to organized crime and its thirst for human trafficking, human smuggling and forced labour victims.</p>	<p>Under the leadership of local governments and with the support and assistance of central governments, an interconnected intersectoral intervention will be put in place to regain control of the territories, focusing actions on the population groups that are most vulnerable to violence and socio-economic exclusion.</p> <p>Promote the development of prevention strategies under the leadership of local governments and with community participation, not only to change unfavourable structural or violent conditions that drive the decision to migrate, but also to include interventions that comprehensively address the social and economic inclusion of those returning to their places of origin.</p>
<p>Low levels of effectiveness of the criminal justice system for dealing with the most serious crimes —due to the incapacity of the overloaded system to deal with high levels of criminality, its limited interconnections, its weak capacity for criminal prosecutions and trials and its vulnerability to corruption and infiltration by organized crime— violate the right of access to prompt, correct justice, undermine confidence in the sector's institutions and increase levels of violence.</p>	<p>Inter-institutional coordination and legal, functional and territorial reforms, with the allocation of resources for strategic law enforcement and criminal prosecutions, with emphasis on the most serious crimes that have a social impact.</p>

Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico... (concluded)

Technical obstacle	Proposed solution
Prison overcrowding weakens the capacity to oversee, attend to, rehabilitate and effectively reintegrate detainees, encourages corruption, undermines the security of prison facilities and encourages the commission of criminal acts from within prisons.	Strategies that contribute to the reduction of overcrowding, improvements in the management of prisons and in their infrastructure, and the use of technology to ensure security and the expansion of rehabilitation and reintegration programmes.
High levels of violence and crime lead to violations of citizens' rights, causing direct and indirect psychological, physical and material damage to many individuals, families and communities, who do not receive adequate and sufficient attention and protection from the State. This generates a loss of trust in the institutions and in public support for them.	Development of a policy and legal framework for the interconnection of institutional services to guarantee comprehensive attention and protection for individuals, families and communities that are victims of violence.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
A coordinated and coherent institutional system for the control and prevention of violence and crime that enjoys public trust.	Harmonized and coherent functioning of law enforcement and criminal justice institutions.	Revised legal and institutional framework.	1 year
		Reformed legal and institutional framework.	3 years
	Harmonized and coherent functioning of violence prevention institutions.	Revised legal and institutional framework.	1 year
		Reformed legal and institutional framework.	3 years
Transformation of territories and people's lives to reduce the incidence and impact of violence and crime through prevention and control.	Number of cases (individuals and families, disaggregated by demographic characteristics) served by violence prevention services at the national/local level.	To be determined.	Annual
	Number of communities served by local prevention agencies.	To be determined.	Annual
	Perception of fear in public spaces at national and local levels.	To be determined.	Annual
	Number of reported crimes.	To be determined.	Annual
	Number of reports of domestic violence and sexual violence.	To be determined.	Annual
The State guarantees sentences will be served in places and conditions suitable for rehabilitation and reintegration in strict compliance with the law.	Percentage of overcrowding among the prison population.	To be determined.	Annual
	Percentage of prison inmates with adequate basic services.	To be determined.	Annual
	Percentage of the prison population benefiting from integration programmes.	To be determined.	Annual
State guarantees comprehensive attention and protection for victims in order to restore their rights and reduce the impact of criminal violence and other crimes.	Number of victims of violence who have access to a comprehensive attention system.	To be determined.	Annual
	Number of victims of violence catered to by specialized programmes.	To be determined.	Annual

Main activities

Institutional strengthening

1. Review and reformulate the legal and institutional framework for security and justice, with an integrated system perspective and a territorial approach.
2. Develop the monitoring and evaluation system for the security and criminal justice management cycle (planning, implementation and results).
3. Implement a single system for quantitative and qualitative inter-institutional information on security and justice, to be used as a tool for planning, monitoring and evaluation.
4. Implement results-oriented, territorially based, sectoral and cross-sectoral planning, with publicly accessible indicators.
5. Carry out a load analysis of the public security system to define and plan human resource needs and their functional and territorial distribution.
6. Review the organic or career laws of justice sector institutions and work for the adoption of civil service bills in countries that do not have them.
7. Update the methodology and harmonize the contents (produce a handbook), roles and powers of the justice and security sector's different schools and training facilities, and universities, according to identified citizen security needs.
8. Review and update education plans with an intercultural and diversity-inclusion approach that facilitates the social and cultural reintegration of migrants returning to their places of origin.

Violence prevention

9. Define the leadership of the institution responsible for leading and coordinating prevention matters and equip it with the resources for its effective operation, including the development and transfer of capacities to the municipalities.
10. Create an information system on threats and vulnerabilities associated with citizen security that supports decision-making at the national, departmental and municipal levels.
11. Design tools to transfer violence prevention management capacities to local governments.
12. Implement, in conjunction with private enterprise, social responsibility initiatives for prevention, in coordination with government efforts.
13. Build, remodel and empower quality, safe public spaces that contribute to people's interactions and integrate and transform their lives, such as footpaths, city centres, markets, child development centres, libraries, sports facilities, technological innovation centres, others. In addition, adopt incentives for public works tenders and contracts that include safe urban design standards.
14. Implement security plans on public transport.
15. Implement a police strategy for the recovery of territories and reasserting control over them by focusing criminal investigation and public security resources, with strict respect for human rights.
16. Publicize crime reporting mechanisms (for extortion, theft, robbery, threats) in the priority territories, and set up citizen service offices with an emphasis on women.
17. Review and update the legal frameworks for the regulation and control of firearms, explosives and related materials.

18. Implement arms bans in coordination with the police and municipal governments.
19. Conduct awareness campaigns on the impact of firearms on the commission of crimes.
20. Implement a programme to prevent and reduce bullying, threats, drug and alcohol use in schools.
21. Develop training programmes to build technical capacities and skills for the labour insertion of female heads of household who have been victims of violence.
22. Develop national and local programmes for the attention and social and economic reintegration of returning migrants in their places of origin.
23. Develop psychosocial programmes to build the capacities of young people in life, work and community skills.
24. Design and implement an attention plan for families in the communities most affected by violence, including the development of programmes to meet basic needs and reinforce values.
25. Implement programmes to transform relations between men and women, in the community, school and work spheres.
26. Establish community centres for the care of children aged under six.
27. Establish community-level conflict mediation centres to help resolve everyday problems in a peaceful way.
28. Harmonize ordinances that are in breach of the Framework Act for Citizen Coexistence and Administrative Contraventions and implement those ordinances, especially regarding noise, solid refuse and the consumption and sale of alcoholic beverages.
29. Develop educational campaigns that promote respect for the rules of coexistence and legality in road traffic matters, trading in stolen goods and payment of taxes.

Criminal oversight and prosecution

30. Develop and implement a plan for the coordination, reorganization, distribution and increase of human, material and technological resources available to investigative agency staff, to allow strategic decision-making and the preparation of work plans for criminal investigation (organizational development, human resources, case priorities, formation of specialized inter-institutional teams, training, etc.).
31. Design and implement a single computerized criminal investigation system (general database: crimes, offenders, suspects, modus operandi, statistics, management follow-up, migration information).
32. Institutions of the criminal justice system review, update and implement —jointly and with a gender and victimology approach— the training curriculum for crime investigation and case prosecution in order to provide a common conceptual framework that contributes to an inter-institutional vision.
33. Review criminal prosecution policies, in order to establish criteria for prioritizing cases, for example: (a) filters for when complaints are received (business-related cases), (b) prioritization of certain high-impact crimes, (c) territorial priorities.
34. Update mechanisms for evaluating, preventing, controlling, sanctioning and eliminating corruption in justice and security sector institutions, in accordance with international anticorruption standards.
35. Enact a probity law in accordance with international anticorruption standards.

Rehabilitation and social reintegration

36. Develop mechanisms in accordance with the human rights framework to reduce overcrowding in detention centres and police jails by applying substantive measures, as established by law.
37. Review the legal and institutional criteria for the applicability of alternative or substitute measures instead of provisional detention or remand.
38. Assess the infrastructure and basic services available at detention centres and police jails.
39. Develop inter-institutional agreements that allow persons deprived of liberty access to health, education and other services to encourage their social reintegration.
40. Review or modify the existing criteria for prison visit protocols and establish safe physical conditions to strengthen family unity and community interactions.
41. Adapt facilities and equip prisons to ensure that different types of detainees are kept separate, in accordance with prison law, and to provide conditions for rehabilitation.
42. Introduce, at social reintegration centres, teams for individual psychological attention and therapeutic community programmes.
43. Design and implement socioeconomic reintegration programmes in the priority municipalities for people who are on conditional release or have served their sentences.
44. Create an accompaniment programme that supports reintegration for people released from the prison system and their families.
45. Implement a programme for the reintegration of people who have served their sentences into the labour market, in partnership with private enterprise.
46. Create an incentive that contributes to the social reintegration of people who have served their sentences: tax breaks for contracting companies, favourable qualifications in the evaluation of public bids.
47. Develop productive programmes in prisons and social reintegration centres, in partnership with private enterprise and using the productive chain approach.
48. Implement a programme for the family and community reintegration of children in women's prisons who are under the care of their detainee mothers.

Victim attention and protection

49. Establish an intersectoral and inter-institutional technical commission to design the legal and institutional framework for the protection, attention and redress of victims of violence in line with international human rights standards.
50. Approve comprehensive legislation for the attention, protection and redress of victims.
51. Design a policy for the attention, protection and comprehensive redress of victims of violence.
52. Create the institutional framework for the enforcement of the law and its budget.
53. Implement a national victim registration system that assigns a single register per person, promotes search efforts, develops a genetic information bank and promotes other aspects related to the authorities' actions in cases of missing persons due to criminal violence.
54. Establish protection mechanisms for public servants who, in the performance of their duties, identify and report crimes and human rights violations.

55. Improve capacities and provide infrastructure at public hospitals for the attention of victims of violence, with emphasis on sexual violence.
56. Provide health sector operators with qualifications for the provision of physical and psychological care to victims and for evidence collection.
57. Provide judicial operators with qualifications for the collection of evidence, with a focus on demonstrating the harm caused, and the recognition of reparations and complementary measures for the restitution of rights within judicial processes.
58. Increase coverage of, interconnections between and human and material resources for shelters, refuges and safe houses.
59. Design and implement a permanent register or census of persons internally displaced by crime, through networks of civil society organizations and institutional information sources.
60. Train public officials in the proper application of the protocols and to raise their awareness of the issue of victim attention, protection and redress.
61. Create an inter-institutional commission to search for missing persons.
62. Adapt the infrastructure of the justice sector to guarantee the security (physical and psychological) of victims and witnesses during all phases of criminal proceedings.
63. Install offices for the reception of complaints at police stations and prosecutors' offices.

Project governance

Secretariats or ministries of security, in conjunction with interior secretariats/ministries and other justice system institutions, ministries of education, women's and youth institutes, local governments, with technical assistance from UNDP and other United Nations agencies, such as UNICEF, UN-Women and UNODC. Participation and coordination with the private sector and civil society organizations will be promoted.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The project has cross-cutting links to national government plans, regional plans, United Nations agency programmes and other programmes with NGOs engaged in security, justice, the rule of law and multidimensional violence.

Duration

The total execution time is 36 months (3 years).

Budget: To be determined.

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Ensuring safe, resilient and violence-free educational environments for children and adolescents studying basic and intermediate education in the regions with the highest emigration rates.	2016-2020 Strategic Plan for National Security Guatemala.		OHCHR UNODC IOM	GIZ AECID SDC	IDB World Bank	CESAL, El Salvador. Organization of Salvadoran Women for Peace (ORMUSA), El Salvador.
Preventing and responding to violence against children and adolescents.	2018-2022 Government Strategic Plan of Honduras.		UNHCR UNFPA	USAID JICA		<i>Asociación Nuevos Horizontes</i> , Guatemala.
Implementation of an arts and crafts factory and provision of attention facilities in Quintana Roo for inclusive social development and the prevention of violence and crime.	National Strategy for Prevention and School Safety of Honduras.		ILO UN-Women ECLAC	AMEXCID HIVOS		Centre for Research, Training and Support for Women (CICAM), Guatemala.
Strengthening the rule of law, the administration of justice and the fight against impunity in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico.	Territorial Control Plan, El Salvador. 2018-2024 National Peace and Security Plan of Mexico.					RE.TE ONG, Honduras. <i>Grupo Sociedad Civil</i> , Honduras. Mexico United Against Crime. <i>Cauce Ciudadano</i> , Mexico.
Support for the implementation of comprehensive security and public coexistence policies.						
Information management for gender-sensitive, evidence-based public policies on citizen security.						

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.26

Information management for gender-sensitive, evidence-based public policies on citizen security



Implementing agencies:

Ministries responsible for internal affairs and security (Ministry of Justice and Public Security of El Salvador, Ministry of the Interior of Guatemala, Ministry of Security of Honduras and Secretariat of Security and Civil Protection of Mexico), in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Other affected ministries and primary sources of information will also be involved.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Main topics:

- Citizen security
- Multidimensional violence
- Gender violence
- Access to justice
- Rule of law

Context

In recent years, Northern Central America has seen a reduction in the incidence of crime, primarily in its homicide rates. However, it still has one of the highest rates of violence in the world, and insecurity continues to be an obstacle to improving people's lives and moving towards peaceful, just and inclusive societies that can guarantee development that leaves no one behind.

As a development challenge, the subregion's countries need to strengthen their capacities to manage information in order to design multidimensional, evidence-based policies to improve the living conditions of citizens and ensure the full development of their opportunities, without fear of losing their lives or property or seeing their integrity affected.

Various studies—including two Human Development Reports,¹ various analyses by the InfoSegura Project and studies by IOM, UNHCR, ECLAC, UNICEF and other United Nations system agencies— point to the existence of a range of factors that make the problem more complex, assist its reproduction and deepen it.

These analyses also identify that the experiences that have helped lower the incidence of crime in the region involve the adoption of comprehensive public policies with an emphasis on prevention, institutional strengthening and democratic governance, designed on the basis of evidence, with a human rights and development approach and a territorial focus.

Although the countries now have more information on the various dimensions of citizen security and data can be obtained to help understand some of the factors that facilitate violence, the region needs further progress in using information for the design, monitoring and management of public policies that are gender-sensitive and that help the multidimensional pursuit of a better quality of life for its citizens.

Northern Central America: identification of obstacles and challenges to information management, 2019

Technical obstacle	Proposed solution
Constant changes in organizations' technical staff hamper the sustainability of processes.	To minimize this obstacle, efforts will be made to ensure the institutionalization and documentation of protocols and processes developed for the analysis and exchange of information, so those processes do not depend on individuals. Another important element is the inclusion of more than one actor per work institution.
Limited information collection tools and insufficient data disaggregation to deepen knowledge about insecurity.	Generate one-to-one support strategies for staff members, to optimize their data-collection methodologies, routines and software, and automating some of them.
Weak design and implementation of information systems and tools on the effectiveness of security and justice institutions.	Promote time keeping and the use of human and other resources to optimize them with the process of automation and efficiency in identifying priority territories and themes.
Criminal justice institutions too weak and overloaded to prosecute high levels of crime.	A comprehensive proposal for monitoring the efforts of cooperation agencies and governments against chronic violence, with a multidimensional analysis.
Limited institutionalized technical capacities for statistical production and phenomenological analyses to prevent violence and crime.	A comprehensive training proposal for technical staff, and promotion of its institutionalization to ensure the processes' sustainability.

¹ See United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), *Human Development Report 2013*, New York, 2013; *Human Development Report 2009*, New York, 2009.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Mechanisms established for regional and national cooperation and analyses regarding the production, analysis, use and dissemination of multidimensional analyses of violence and insecurity, opportunities and institutional inclusion and trust.	Number of analyses, proposals for multidimensional policy interventions and application of comprehensive analyses.	At least three per country and one regionwide, per year.	36 months
Capacities installed for subregional monitoring and implementation of activities to prevent chronic violence and mitigate its impact.	Number of progress indicators registered at the subregional level with the backing of the countries and United Nations agencies.	Three multidimensional violence indexes, with baselines and annual monitoring, over the three years.	36 months
Capacity-building tools and mechanisms developed for evidence-based and gender-sensitive public policy design.	Number of citizen security proposals and policy recommendations developed with project support.	Two per country per year.	36 months
Digital platforms to support information production and analyses of multidimensional violence.	Number of websites and platforms in operation.	Two per country per year.	36 months
Comprehensive proposal for training technical staff and promotion of its institutionalization to ensure process sustainability developed.	Number of staff trained.	At least 15 per country per year.	36 months

Main activities

- Technical assistance to further efforts in Northern Central America to compile information and improve its quality and levels of disaggregation with a gender and territorial approach.
- Establishment of coordination mechanisms to advance the comparability, periodic reporting and expansion of the set of indicators for analysis in order to take on board the relationship between migration, violence and insecurity.
- Technical assistance for Northern Central America in support of the design of indicators and data collection tools to monitor multidimensional and chronic violence.
- Technical and technological assistance for the development and compilation of databases from different institutions (police, prisons, migration and immigration, ministries of education, victim attention offices, forensic medicine, public prosecutors' offices), with digital automation and georeferencing tools for data analysis in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.
- Support for national analysis capacity-building by training human resources in multidimensional analysis, georeferenced analysis, gender analysis and others. Building bridges for sustainable capacity-building in the analysis and use of information.
- Establishment of regional venues for discussion, analysis and reflection among the sources of information provided with technical support.
- An analysis of regional perceptions and attitudes.
- Consolidation of the periodic analysis by-products generated with the countries, through multidimensional analyses and with a human rights and multidimensional analysis approach.
- Interconnection of governments to the knowledge network within the framework of the venues established to support the Comprehensive Development Plan.

- Forging agreements with the network's institutions for the collection, analysis and dissemination of information, according to the priority themes identified in the regional strategies.
- Development of digital platforms for the multidimensional analysis of violence and the dissemination of information.

Project governance

Secretariats or ministries of security, in conjunction with other secretariats/ministries of the interior and justice, statistics institutes, planning secretariats and civil society organizations, with technical assistance from UNDP, will be responsible for designing protocols and tools for capacity building, regional analysis mechanisms and violence monitoring capacities.

Those secretariats or ministries will be in charge of implementation, and monitoring will be carried out by secretariats/ministries and by civil society organizations and United Nations institutions (UNDP, in coordination with UN-Women, UNICEF, UNODC, IOM, others).

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The project has cross-cutting links with national government plans, regional plans, United Nations agency programmes, and NGO programmes in the areas of security, justice, rule of law and multidimensional violence.

Duration

Total execution time will be 36 months.

Budget: To be determined.

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
<p>Human mobility information management.</p> <p>Strengthening human security at the local level.</p> <p>Regional programme for the protection, assistance and access to justice of migrants from Northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) and Mexico, with a focus on combating corruption.</p> <p>Strengthening the rule of law, the administration of justice and the fight against impunity in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico.</p> <p>Ensuring a human rights approach in development strategies and policies in Northern Central America and Mexico.</p>	<p>The strategies for strengthening their statistical institutes that the countries have implemented should also be considered under this heading, especially if those strategies entail the accurate gathering of sex-disaggregated and gender-sensitive data.</p>		<p>ECLAC</p> <p>UN-Women</p> <p>ILO</p> <p>OHCHR</p> <p>UNODC</p> <p>IOM</p> <p>UNHCR</p> <p>UNFPA</p>	<p>AECID</p> <p>OECD</p>	<p>IDB</p> <p>World Bank</p> <p>CABEI</p>	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 2.27

Implementation of an arts and crafts factory and provision of attention facilities for inclusive social development, a culture and the prevention of violence and crime, State of Quintana Roo



Implementing agencies:

Government of the State of Quintana Roo, Mexico.

Geographical coverage:

State, focusing on the municipalities of Benito Juarez, Isla Mujeres, Puerto Morelos, Solidaridad, Cozumel and Tulum.

Number of beneficiaries:

825,000 local inhabitants.

Main topics:

- Violence
- Culture
- Risk factors
- Skills
- Social peace
- Gender alert
- Education
- Health
- Productivity
- Physical activation
- Culture and art
- Innovation

Context

Quintana Roo is the state with second fastest rate of population growth, which has led to situations such as the lack of urban services, disorderly growth and major public security problems.

The social breakdown seen in Quintana Roo, and in the northern part of the State in particular, is due to a series of factors: low levels of social development, high rates of violence, high population densities, the absence of places that offer possibilities for comprehensive personal development. This has in turn led to increased rates of violence, disorder and crime.

The “arts and crafts factory” model and the planned attention facilities seek to implement practically free cultural and training opportunities in marginalized areas that have scant access to cultural goods and services, through actions that favour prevention, inclusion, cohesion and social and the economic insertion of the population, based on processes of education, training and occupation in arts and crafts that can help improve their quality of life under the principle of “learning by doing”.

To that end, public spaces will be reclaimed and adapted to provide the inhabitants of the most vulnerable areas with comprehensive attention, as well as to apply citizen participation models based on precise analyses of social, economic and situational risk factors.

The project will be strengthened with special attention for women through programmes that address the recommendations of the declaration of a gender-violence alert in the State of Quintana Roo.

The arts and crafts factory will mainly address the demand for teaching in film-making skills, including scriptwriting, lighting, make-up, acting, dance and music; the other area to be strengthened will be that of eco-techniques. The attention facilities will impart and promote education, health, productivity, art, culture, innovation and social organization; ten of them will be opened, in areas with high risk factors, and civil society participation will logically be needed.

Objective

Create a physical facility that catalyses human development through the use of technology and digital media in different arts and crafts for which demand exists among women and men in Quintana Roo.

Impact the prevention of crime, disorder and violence, and strengthen the social fabric and cohesion by reclaiming public spaces where various education, health, productivity, physical activation, culture and innovation programmes will be offered.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Local analyses of this kind are intended to improve governability, governance and the population’s well-being.

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Increasing the availability of cultural educational.	Courses.	10	Short term
Improving the professional skills of women and men living in Quintana Roo.	People trained.	10 000	Medium term
Increasing the number of facilities for the comprehensive attention of the population of Quintana Roo.	Appropriate venues for comprehensive attention.	20 venues	Short term
Promoting the comprehensive development of children, women and men living in the state of Quintana Roo.	People served.	90 000 people	Medium term

Main activities

1. Refitting, adaptation and preparation of public spaces.
2. Specialized equipment for cinematography.
3. Hiring professional services.
4. Organization of courses, workshops and other forms of training.
5. Refitting of public spaces.
6. Adaptation, preparation and equipment of the refitted public spaces.
7. Management of collaborative work with State secretariats and municipal institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector.
8. Contacts with programmes run by the three levels of government.

Project governance

- Secretariat of Social Development: project execution.
- Municipal governments: partners who provide access to the facilities.
- Municipal and State government secretariats and/or agencies: facilitators for talks, workshops, training and integral development programmes.
- Civil society organizations: facilitators for talks, workshops, training and services.
- Business sector: facilitators for talks, workshops, training and services.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

National plans

National development plan

II. Social policy. Culture for peace, for well-being and for all. No person should be excluded from cultural activities and circuits, which represent, in the present circumstances, factors for peace, social cohesion, coexistence and spirituality.

National development plan

III. Economy. Boost economic recovery, the internal market and employment. The public sector will encourage job creation through sectoral programmes, regional projects and infrastructure projects.

Regional programmes

2016–2022 Quintana Roo state development plan. Guiding principle 4, “Social Development and Combating Inequality”, Agenda 21: Fighting Poverty.

Duration

Both the arts and crafts factory and the attention facilities are planned for an execution period of 20 years, addressing the theme of education for life and comprising the following stages: first year, implementation; and subsequent years, evaluation and, if necessary, adaptation of courses on cultural, arts and film subjects according to trends in technologies and potential markets.

Budget: US\$ 3,971,193

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Sustainable labour insertion for socially at-risk youth in Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and southern and south-eastern Mexico.	National Development Plan II. Social policy Culture for peace, for well-being and for all. No person should be excluded from cultural activities and circuits, which represent, in the present circumstances, factors for peace, social cohesion, coexistence and spirituality.		UNFPA UNESCO UNODC OHCHR IOM UNHCR UN-Women	GIZ AECID SDC USAID JICA, AMEXCID HIVOS (on the issue of violence or education).	IDB World Bank	Salvadoran Foundation for Integrated Education (FEDISAL), El Salvador. <i>Equipo Nahual por la Juventud</i> , El Salvador. <i>Asociación Grupo Ceiba</i> , Guatemala. Civil Society for Youth Development (SODEJU), Youth Foundation (FUNDAJU), Guatemala. Coordinating Office for Private Institutions Working for Children and Children's Rights (COIPRODEN), Honduras. SES Foundation, Honduras. <i>Alianza NEO</i> , Mexico. <i>Fundación Por México</i> .
Reclaiming public spaces and creating technological research projects through the promotion of and training for employment among young people aged between 15 and 29 in southern and south-eastern Mexico.	III. Economy Boost economic recovery, the internal market and employment. The public sector will encourage job creation through sectoral programmes, regional projects and infrastructure projects.					
Youth employment with gender awareness.						
Training for the future of work.						
UNFPA development and humanitarian interventions in Mexico.						
Strengthening human security at the local level.						
Support for the implementation of comprehensive security and public coexistence policies.	2016–2022 Quintana Roo State Development Plan. Guiding principle 4, “Social Development and Combating Inequality”, Agenda 21: Fighting Poverty.					

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).



**3. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY,
CLIMATE CHANGE AND ADAPTATION,
AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PILLAR**

A. Generation of knowledge, data and tools for adaptation to climate change and disaster risks programme

No.	Name of proposed project
3.1	Strengthening technical and institutional capacities to generate climate and geological data to prevent and manage disaster risks
3.2	System of satellite accounts to measure disasters and their impact on regional and national development: methodological guide



Proposal 3.1

Strengthening technical and institutional capacities to generate climate and geological data to prevent and manage disaster risks



Implementing agencies

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Geographical coverage

Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, populations close to the Lempa river and southern states of Mexico identified as a priority for this initiative.

Number of beneficiaries

Total population of each country, and numbers of public servants trained and retained in the country at project conclusion.

Main topics

- Statistics on disaster events
- Economic appraisal of disaster events
- Early-warning systems
- Disaster risk reduction

Context

The countries of Northern Central America and the southern states of Mexico are highly vulnerable to the impact of natural disasters. In the Mesoamerican region, 32,000 people have died and 23 million have been affected as a result of disasters over the past 20 years.¹ The associated economic losses have been estimated at US\$ 34 billion.² The Germanwatch “Global Climate Risk Index” has identified Honduras as one of the countries most severely affected by extreme events between 1996 and 2015; Guatemala is also on that list, where it ranks tenth among the most severely impacted countries over the same period.³ These phenomena pose a growing risk for the region, and there is an urgent need for access to relevant information for decision-making and the development of effective tools for minimizing their impact.

¹ Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC).

² See CATHALAC, “Sistema Mesoamericano de Información Territorial para la Reducción de Riesgos y Desastres Naturales”, [online] <https://www.cathalac.int/proyectos/ejecutados/smit.html#>.

³ S. Kreft, D. Eckstein and I. Melchior, “Global Climate Risk Index 2017: who suffers most from extreme weather events? Weather-related loss events in 2015 and 1996 to 2015”, *Briefing Paper*, Bonn, Germanwatch.

Climate data must be produced with high quality and a high frequency. At present, in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, data are often biased, their coverage is partial and they are not analysed in such a way as to allow optimal use to be made of them, on account of shortages of technical capacities and infrastructure. The countries are at different levels of development with these topics, which offers a splendid opportunity for coordinating and exchanging knowledge to strengthen their platforms for producing, analysing, storing and publishing information on climate and geological phenomena, volcano activity, and other social and natural threats, in order to benefit of priority populations and sectors.

Statistical information is also an important tool for understanding the potential impact and costs of disasters in Northern Central America and southern Mexico. By analysing exact data, political decisions can be taken for preventive purposes as well as during emergency situations. In addition, the proper monitoring of those data and the installation of multi-hazard early warning systems (EWSs) with updated hydrometeorological and geological data can save lives, reduce costs and enable better decision-making. Tools are also needed for analysing regional and national human exposure to dangers and the associated risk of disasters, as well as —taking active volcanoes as an example— improved geographical information on the distribution, proximity and densities of settlements.⁴ In that regard, it is important for the relevant information to be made available to the public and published in a systematic, proactive, timely, accessible and understandable way.

Framework for action

Expected impact: Developing technical and institutional capacities for the creation, analysis and publication of data and information and strengthening data and early warning systems (EWSs) will enhance access to environmental information, contribute to disaster risk reduction and pursue compliance with the commitments set out in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. Information is currently needed to determine, with the greatest possible precision, climate variables, including their extreme values and not only their average ranges.

The project will constitute a good practice in regional cooperation for developing national capacities in access to environmental information, in line with the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement). That agreement was adopted on 4 March 2018, and Mexico and Honduras are among its signatory countries.

Objective

Strengthen technical and institutional capacities for updating and producing hydrometeorological and geological data and disaggregated statistical data, and for creating and ensuring access to timely information for preventing and responding to natural phenomena. Contribute to the updating and strengthening of multi-hazard early warning systems.

⁴ S. Freire and others, “An improved global analysis of population distribution in proximity to active volcanoes, 1975–2015”, *International Journal of Geo-Information*, vol. 8, No. 8, July 2019 [online] <https://www.mdpi.com/2220-9964/8/8/341/htm>.

Expected outcomes

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
1. Diagnostic assessment to identify gaps and opportunities in technical and institutional capacities for the creation, analysis, storage and use of data. Indicator: preparation of diagnostic assessments as requested by each country, including recommendations.	Diagnostic assessments produced.	The four countries have clear and timely information for defining an intervention strategy for developing the capacities of climate and geological information services and statistical data to facilitate risk management.	One year
2. Current capacities strengthened for the creation of updated hydrometeorological and geological data for decision-making in the selected territories, and for the production of extreme event scenarios.	Number of public employees and technicians (men and women) applying knowledge to specific products and services.	% of public employees and technicians trained and working in agencies responsible for climate information services.	Four years
3. Updating information for multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWSs), according to the requirements of each country and budget availability, without taking equipment into account.	Number of EWSS operating with an institutional structure and updated information.	General population enjoys easy access to climate information and alerts for possible risks arising from climate and geological events.	Four years
4. Updating of data disaggregated by gender and by vulnerable populations, including geospatial data, updating censuses and maps of urban settlements and processing of data produced by different radars, related to disaster management, depending on each country's priorities.	Data on vulnerable populations updated.	The countries have updated data on vulnerable populations.	Three years
5. Strengthening mechanisms for regional institutional coordination to allow the management of the information created through a selected existing regional platform, updated with the data generated by means of this project.	At least one agreement signed between the countries, and a work plan designed and adopted by all the participants.	The countries of Northern Central America and the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico have a regional coordination mechanism for managing hydrometeorological and geological information, along with an updated online platform as a regional hub for managing the data.	Three years

Project governance

The project will be coordinated by UNEP and the national agencies in each country responsible for managing hydrometeorological and geological information, together with national disaster prevention and relief centres. Similarly, coordination will take place with the offices of the Central American Integration System (SICA) to determine their interest in joining this initiative. The project will abide by each country's legal and political frameworks for handling information and for assigning roles within institutional coordination for risk management and information management. Similarly, joint efforts are expected to take place with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) to address the gaps detected in the diagnostic assessments carried out and the most urgent needs for integration with the Sendai Framework and with other reports overseen by UNDRR.

This proposal will create a venue for coordination and collaboration with the regional institutions that produce and handle data and information for risk management. Those agencies include: Mexico's National Disaster Prevention Centre (CENAPRED), Guatemala's National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology and Hydrology, General Directorate of the Environmental Observatory (DGOA) of El Salvador, the Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC), the Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC), SICA, through the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), and the relevant agencies of the United Nations and other interested organizations with experience in the area.

Priority actions

1. Diagnostic assessment to identify gaps and opportunities in the generation of statistical information on adaptation to climate change and risk management, specifically as regards hydrometeorological and geological information in Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and the southern states of Mexico.
2. Facilitate regional coordination with the institutions involved in the generation of data and information for risk management, particularly hydrometeorological and geological data.
3. Technical and institutional capacity-building through workshops and regional meetings with different institutions to identify opportunities and to generate and update information.
4. Generation and updating of the statistical and hydrometeorological information identified through the prior diagnostic assessments by trained personnel equipped with the tools developed.
5. Design and/or updating of an existing platform for inclusion of the generated and processed regional information to facilitate access and storage. This outcome will depend on consensus-based work among the countries and the regional institutions that currently have platforms for managing the information but which have not been updated. Updating of early warning systems, in accordance with the countries' priorities and budget availability.

Budget: US\$ 3,040,000

Proposal 3.2

System of satellite accounts to measure disasters and their impact on regional and national development: methodological guide



Implementing agencies

El Salvador: Central Reserve Bank, Department of Statistics and Censuses (DIGESTYC), General Directorate of Civil Protection and Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Finance. Guatemala: Bank of Guatemala, National Institute of Statistics (INE), National Coordination Office for Disaster Reduction, Ministry of Public Finance. Honduras: Central Bank, National Institute of Statistics (INE), Permanent Commission for Contingencies (COPECO), Finance Secretariat. Mexico: Bank of Mexico, National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), National Disaster Prevention Centre (CENAPRED), Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), UNDRR.

Geographical coverage

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the south-eastern region of Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries

The proactive approach to disaster risk management based on proper measurements will indirectly benefit the entire population of the three participating countries and the southern region of Mexico.

Main topics

- National accounts
- Disaster risk management
- Development and disasters
- Financial protection
- Data and information

Context

Disasters can reduce developing countries' GDP by 2%.¹ With specific reference to Central America, ECLAC calculates a fall in the first year of approximately 0.8 and 0.5 percentage points in the rate of change of

¹ T. Rasmussen, "Macroeconomic implications of natural disasters in the Caribbean", *IMF Working Paper*, No. WP/04/224, Washington, D.C., International Monetary Fund (IMF), 2004.

per capita GDP, and a recovery rate of close to 0.45 percentage points during the third year.² Moreover, many such disasters occur in rural areas, where their combined impact on the housing sector and on those sectors that employ most of the population (such as farming) creates incentives for migration, given how they affect people's living standards and means of subsistence.

At present, the effects of disasters are measured in an unsystematic way, using different methodologies that are not always mutually compatible and that do not necessarily reflect the impact on national accounts. In addition, the few evaluations that exist tend to focus on large-scale disasters, ignoring a sizeable number of high-frequency and low-intensity events that have a major cumulative effect on public finances. That fragmentation and lack of consistency hampers a proper understanding of disasters, their causes and their effects on national finances, and their relationship with development.

The experience that ECLAC has accrued in assessing disasters allows it to identify certain priority areas, addressing which would lead to comprehensive strategies for disaster risk management. Primarily, there are weaknesses in the quality, disclosure and availability of data and in their use for decision-making, and capacities must be developed for the design of comprehensive public policies that take on board all phases of disaster risk management (DRM) as they affect all social and productive sectors. At the same time, there is something of a silo mentality, in which responsibility for DRM is assumed to lie solely with the institutions charged with disaster response. That situation, together with other factors, has delayed the adoption of a more proactive approach and has prevented the further development and cross-cutting implementation of DRM strategies.

The development of a methodology for compiling a Disaster Measurement Satellite Account would fine-tune the criteria for quantifying changes in flows in the System of National Accounts (SNA) and would develop institutional capacities for comprehensive and proactive disaster risk management. That would enable the systematic determination, in monetary and physical terms, of the effects of natural and human-made phenomena and their impact on the economy, society and the environment, revealing the impact of disasters on development achievements and highlighting the setbacks faced by those achievements and potential delays in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals.

To that end, support must be given to the 2020–2021 regional working group, which comprises national statistics offices and has been charged with preparing a document on a harmonized methodological framework for measuring disaster-related indicators pertaining to the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. That group was recently established, on 21 November 2019, by the directors of the countries' national statistics offices at the tenth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, held at ECLAC headquarters. That action necessarily demands multisectoral work within each country and provides evidence of South-South and triangular cooperation in the region, offering opportunities for exchanges of experiences and learnings on this topic.

Objective

Promote a proactive approach to developing resilience to disasters by generating data for measuring the impact of disasters on development and for capacity-building within national and international agencies working on that issue in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the southern region of Mexico.

² O. Bello, "Disasters, economic growth and fiscal response in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1972–2010", *CEPAL Review*, No. 121 (LC/PUB.2017/8-P), Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), April 2017.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals:

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Methodological guide for compiling Disaster Measurement Satellite Accounts, to complement the methodological toolkits of Systems of National Accounts and for application in other interested countries.	Preparation of the methodological guide.	One (1) methodological guide for compiling Disaster Measurement Satellite Accounts.	12 months
Production of Disaster Measurement Satellite Accounts, and inclusion of experiences and lessons learned in the methodological guide.	Pilot implementation of the methodological guide in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the southern region of Mexico.	Four (4) technical documents on Disaster Measurement Satellite Accounts, one for each pilot country.	24 months
Public officials trained in the methodology of the guide, for its proper implementation.	Number of public officials trained in the methodology of the guide for its implementation.	At least eighty (80) public officials trained in the implementation of the methodological guide, with women accounting for at least 40% of the trainees.	12 months
International recommendations that establish guidelines for compiling basic and multidisciplinary statistics on disasters.	Presentation of proposed international recommendations for disaster statistics for consideration by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD).	One (1) document with proposals for the production of International Disaster Statistics Recommendations.	9 months
Systematic and periodic generation of data, information and statistics on disaster risks.	Regional proposal for statistical classification relating to disasters.	One (1) document with a regional proposal for statistical classification relating to disasters.	

Note: Some of the activities under each expected result will be carried out simultaneously.

Main activities

1. Design of the preliminary structure for the methodological guide for compiling Disaster Measurement Satellite Accounts.
 - (a) Review of the bibliography on existing methodologies and initiatives for the systematic measurement of the effects of disasters on development.
 - (b) Organize interviews with national and international experts.
 - (c) Organize a workshop in each country to reveal needs and the availability of information and other resources.
 - (d) Propose a structure for the development of a methodological guide for compiling the Disaster Measurement Satellite Accounts and implement it in pilot experiments in the participating countries.
 - (e) Develop a methodological guide based on the investigation carried out and after obtaining recommendations from the pilot phase (activity 2).
2. Compile Disaster Measurement Satellite Accounts through four pilot experiments.
 - (a) Apply the proposed methodological guide (developed in activity 1) in the participating countries to obtain feedback on its relevance, information needs and opportunities for improvement and adjustment.
 - (b) Document the methodological proposal's findings, lessons learned and adaptations.
 - (c) Document each country's experiences in technical documents to facilitate replicability and learning.

- (d) Incorporate the lessons learned and other recommendations into the methodological guide.
 - (e) Prepare reports on technical assistance activities in each country.
 - (f) Prepare four technical documents on the Disaster Measurement Satellite Accounts developed in each participating country.
3. Strengthen the capacities of public officials in implementing the methodology and compiling information through training events and use of the “learning by doing” working method.
- (a) Two workshops per country to discuss the scope, model, and sequence of the accounts and the main concepts and indicators used, together with the final results.
 - (b) A regional seminar to disseminate the results.
 - (c) An on-site training course for trainers, for replication in different sectors and levels of government.
 - Prepare a proposal of guidelines and international recommendations for compiling basic and multidisciplinary statistics on disasters, incorporating the lessons learned during the pilot implementation, for presentation to the UNSD for analysis and discussion by countries from other regions and by international organizations involved with the issue.
 - The region’s countries facilitate the systematic and periodic generation of data and information statistics on the economic, social and environmental impact of disasters and hazard risks, based on codes of good practice for validating those data and that information in official statistics, thereby contributing to disaster risk management through the regional disaster reduction statistics group.

Main activities:

- Produce a tool for the self-diagnosis of shortcomings in and the availability of variables on disasters and disaster risk reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean, in order to respond to the 38 global indicators of the Sendai Framework, including the five in the SDGs.
- Contribute to the definition or adaptation of highly relevant recommendations for the countries of our region and to the use of administrative records for the production of SDG and Sendai indicators.
- Prepare a regional proposal for statistical classification relating to disasters, covering social, natural and human-made threats.

Project governance

ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico, Statistics Division, and the Unit for Sustainable Development and Disasters of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean. An Interdivisional Committee will be set up and charged with administrative and financial aspects of the project’s technical execution and logistical follow-up; it will also be attended by an officer from the Programme Planning and Operations Division (PPOD) and representatives of the project donors. The Committee will provide technical guidance for the national teams, which will be responsible for project implementation. UNDRR will be in charge of outcome 5 in support of the regional disaster reduction statistics group.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

ECLAC: System of National Accounts, supply and use tables, integrated economic accounts and experience in the development and compilation of other satellite accounts. System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA). Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) as the Technical Secretariat of the Latin American and Caribbean Network of National Public Investment Systems (SNIP Network).

CENAPRED: Although none of the countries has a satellite account for disasters, use must be made of Mexico's accrued experience in systematic disaster evaluation. Its experience and the role played by the National Disaster Prevention Centre (CENAPRED) in this task offer important contributions and lessons for inclusion in the South-South cooperation activities.

Duration

36 months. First year: design of the preliminary structure of the Disaster Measurement Satellite Account and pilot experiments in four countries. Second year: finalization of the methodological guide, and its implementation for compiling satellite accounts in the four participating countries. Third year: conclusion of the training process for public officials and of the methodology's dissemination. Preparation of international recommendations on disaster statistics that incorporate the experiences of the four pilot countries and can be presented to the United Nations Statistical Division for analysis and discussion by countries from other regions and by international organizations involved with the issue.

Budget: US\$ 1,638,500

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
System of satellite accounts to measure disasters.	Latin American and Caribbean Network of National Public Investment Systems (SNIP Network).	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). ECLAC-ILPES.	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR): Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD).	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).		

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

B. Programme for strengthened resilience to prevent disaster-driven displacement

No.	Name of proposed project
3.3	Institutional strengthening of the resilience of local and national governments in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico for disaster risk reduction and preventing migration
3.4	Protecting national public investments through disaster risk reduction and climate change response
3.5	Agricultural microinsurance with climate change adaptation measures for small producers of basic grains and coffee
3.6	Assisting and building the resilience of households and communities vulnerable to food insecurity in the Dry Corridor of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras
3.7	Agricultural microinsurance with climate change adaptation measures for small producers of basic grains and coffee, Honduras (*)
3.8	Strengthening the sustainable and climate change-resilient coffee value chain, Honduras (*)

(*) Projects prioritized by the Governments of the Northern Central American countries, the Government of Mexico, or the states of South-Southeast Mexico.



Proposal 3.3

Institutional strengthening of the resilience of local and national governments in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico for disaster risk reduction and preventing migration



Implementing agencies:

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and International Organization for Migration (IOM). This initiative will be under the responsibility of the UNDRR Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean. It is aligned with the action priorities of the 2015–2030 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction¹ and with the Central American Policy on Comprehensive Risk Management (PCGIR).² IOM will carry out the activities under its direct responsibility. The project will be implemented in collaboration with the following entities in El Salvador: Directorate General of Civil Protection and Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DGPCPMD), Ministry of Finance (MH); Guatemala: National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (CONRED), Secretariat of the National Economic Planning Council (SEGEPLAN), Ministry of Public Finance (MINFIN); Honduras: Permanent Commission for Contingencies (COPECO), Secretariat of Finance (SEFIN); and Mexico: National Disaster Prevention Centre (CENAPRED), Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit (SHCP). Local authorities and private companies will also be included. Specific reports and studies will be produced in conjunction with specific specialized entities, such as the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies (ARISE) networks for outcome 4.

Geographical coverage:

Borderland municipalities in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico. Municipalities with the highest rates of irregular migration and at risk from disasters (from climate, hydrological, meteorological, geophysical and human-made threats). Actions at the national level with relevant institutions.

Number of beneficiaries:

Direct: 13,000.

Indirect: 16 million.

¹ United Nations, *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 (A/RES/69/283)*, 2015 [online] <https://undocs.org/A/RES/69/283>.

² Coordination Center for the Prevention of Disasters in Central America and Dominican Republic (CEPRENAC), *Central American Policy on Comprehensive Risk Management: PCGIR*, Guatemala City, 2017.

Main topics:

- Disaster risk reduction
- Climate change
- Capacity-building and strengthening
- Local governance
- Resilient cities
- Cross-cutting disaster risk management (DRM)
- Disaster-driven displacement
- Resilient investments

Context

Cities in Central America and Mexico have an important role to play in reducing internal and cross-border displacement in the aftermath of disasters. According to figures from the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC),³ climate-related disasters impacted a number of countries in the Americas in 2018 and caused 1,687,000 internal displacements.

In Mexico and Central America, sudden disasters linked to natural hazards caused at least three million people to be internally displaced over the past ten years (2008–2017), the vast majority in Mexico (UNHCR, PDD, 2019).⁴ The historical drought conditions that persisted for several years, exacerbated by changes in climate patterns and unmitigated by changes in human behaviour, policies or development infrastructure, have increased the risk factors faced by rural families in the Dry Corridor.⁵

According to the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land published in 2019, “the food system is heavily dependent on maize and bean production and long-term climate change and variability significantly affect the productivity of these crops and the livelihoods of smallholder farmers,”⁶ which has a bearing on a relationship between migration and climate variability. The increase in displacement figures is related to both intense events (large-scale but infrequent) and extensive events (smaller-scale, affecting small localities but more recurrent). Rather than being triggered immediately, however, international movements generally occur a considerable time after the event.

The urban dimensions of disaster-driven displacements also pose challenges for cities, which now play an increasingly important role in sustainable development. The dynamic, interrelated and multidimensional risks found in urban areas require a systemic approach that works to explain the nature of interacting systems and for the adoption of context-specific governance. The countries are characterized by fragile and complex urban contexts, and that is exacerbated by the impact that large-scale internal and cross-border migration has on a particular series of challenges faced by local and national risk reduction and integrated risk governance. Land use and urban planning processes in cities are key factors in risk reduction.

Since the risk context is constantly changing, flexibility and agility in the national and local processes are required to adapt to new and emerging risks. The region’s countries need support in this systemic approach in order to understand the complex and interdependent set of factors that drive large-scale migration. In particular, Central American cities are characterized by rapid growth from peripheral urbanization, often in areas of risk, and that factor accentuates socioeconomic inequalities and social

³ Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), *Global Report on Internal Displacement: GRID 2019*, Geneva, 2019.

⁴ D. J. Cantor, *Desplazamiento transfronterizo, cambio climático y desastres: América Latina y el Caribe*, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)/Platform on Disaster Displacement, 2018.

⁵ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, Geneva, 2019.

⁶ World Food Programme (WFP), quoted in Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), *Climate Change and Land: an IPCC Special Report on Climate Change, Desertification, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Food Security, and Greenhouse Gas Fluxes in Terrestrial Ecosystems*, 2019 [online] <https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2019/08/Fullreport.pdf>.

and migratory problems in the region. It is essential to understand the role of cities in the migration cycle, to strengthen their resilience to disasters and to establish better links between actions at the local and national levels, mainly with the national risk reduction policies, legislative frameworks and strategies that governments implement to address the issue.

For that reason, the 2015–2030 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction promotes the participation of multiple sectors in the formulation of public policies for disaster risk reduction. The framework calls for strengthened partnerships to make informed risk-related decisions. In particular, the private sector is by far the world's largest employer of migrants and a key source for addressing the risks of restraining movement.

One of the main limiting factors in conducting disaster assessments is the lack of data. The challenges include inconsistently collected information, differing methodologies, outdated data, lack of disaggregation and the failure to disseminate public information. There is also a silo approach, where it is assumed that disaster risk management is the sole task of the institutions responsible for responding to disasters. Nevertheless, the region has made important progress with disaster assessment efforts. Examples of this are the systematic disaster evaluations conducted in Mexico by the National Disaster Prevention Centre (CENAPRED), the creation of a national network of evaluators in Peru through the Centre for Estimation, Prevention and Disaster Risk Reduction (CENEPRED) and the collection of evidence on the impact of disasters in Costa Rica, with the aim of incorporating DRM into public investments, an effort led by the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy (MIDEPLAN).

National and local governments must therefore be equipped with capacities and evidence-based information for the formulation of public risk reduction strategies. Those strategies must take into account the complexities of interconnected risk factors, in order to “build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters”⁷ as set out in various documents, including the Sendai Framework and target 1.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals. It is also important to promote access to risk information and knowledge to support the development of these plans and strategies, as well as the integration of this knowledge into public and private investments, in order to reduce existing risks and avoid the creation of new ones that could lead to disaster-driven displacement.

UNDRR already has experience in addressing disaster displacement in Africa and the Asia-Pacific region, and it has also recently developed the *Words into Action Guidelines – Disaster Displacement: How to Reduce Risk, Address Impacts and Strengthen Resilience*.⁸ Producing this guide on disaster-related displacement was a collaborative effort, led by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) with the support of the Platform on Disaster Displacement.⁹

Objective

Strengthen the resilience of national and local governments in the Northern Central American countries and the states of southern and south-eastern Mexico to reduce disaster risks and help reduce disaster-driven migration flows.

⁷ United Nations, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015 [online] <https://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1>.

⁸ See [online] <https://www.undrr.org/publication/words-action-guidelines-disaster-displacement-how-reduce-risk-address-impacts-and>.

⁹ See [online] <https://disasterdisplacement.org/>.

Expected impacts

The specific goal of this comprehensive intervention is to address disaster-induced displacement by improving the capacity to implement concrete sustainable development actions that are risk-informed and guided by the updating of disaster-driven displacement information specific to the region's vulnerabilities. The new information made available and the strengthening of capacities and of local and national disaster risk reduction policies will inform decision-making and investments and reduce the risks threatening the most vulnerable populations. This will have the following impacts:

- Reduce disaster-driven displacement by reducing existing risks, preventing the creation of new risks and strengthening resilience.
- Increase the information available for risk-informed decision-making and build the capacities of relevant actors.
- Increase the resilience of urban and rural territories with a gender approach.
- Promote public policies with a development approach that is sensitive to climate change and disaster risk, thus strengthening the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Increase risk-informed public and private investments and reduce economic losses from climate change and disasters.
- Improve the planning of preventive relocation processes demanded by the impacts of climate change.

Expected outcomes

The outcomes are focused on the priorities for action of the 2015–2030 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.¹⁰

1. *Understanding displacement caused by disaster risk in the beneficiary countries.*

Public policies need to be based on an understanding of disaster risk in all its dimensions: vulnerability, capacity, exposure of people and their property, hazard characteristics and environment. This outcome is intended to contribute to the collection, analysis and exchange of disaggregated information. The proposed approach is based on systemic analyses, with risk assessment studies as an important tool for improving regional knowledge of current risk trends and patterns, increasing the understanding of DRR with awareness of development, climate and other emerging issues, devising specific policy recommendations for the region and facilitating the understanding and monitoring of the Sendai goals. The outcome is strongly linked to opportunity area 1 on data generation, information and tools for decision-making on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

2. *Strengthen national and local governance to manage disaster-driven displacement and systemic approaches to risk, and share best practices and management models.*

Target (e) of the Sendai Framework, which has a deadline of 2020, emphasizes the importance of significantly increasing the number of DRR strategies and plans at the national and local levels.¹¹ The laws, regulations and public policies for different levels and sectors need to take on board the disaster displacement approach and ensure that the agendas are coherent.

¹⁰ See United Nations, *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 (A/RES/69/283)*, 2015 [online] <https://undocs.org/A/RES/69/283>.

¹¹ Ibid.

3. *Strengthened institutional capacities for DRM mainstreaming through a multisectoral approach to disasters and by producing baseline surveys.*

Mainstreamed disaster risk management by leveraging multisectoral baseline data. Technical officials trained in post-disaster assessment.

4. *Encourage investments in disaster risk reduction to reduce disaster-driven displacement.*

Disaster risk reduction seeks to reduce all forms of disaster risk, including the risk of displacement and other forms of mobility that are generally characterized by vulnerability. Greater public and private investment in DRR builds resilience, increases the quality of infrastructure, services and housing that are resilient to climate change hazards and, consequently, reduces risk through informed and risk-sensitive development initiatives. The private sector plays a key role in adopting resilience actions in its own investments, in partnerships with the public sector and in contributing to reducing risks in surrounding communities.

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
1. Understanding displacement caused by disaster risk in the beneficiary countries.	Regional disaster risk assessment report, including the disaster-driven displacement variable.	An evaluation report.	0.5 years
2. Strengthening national and local governance to manage disaster-driven displacement, and integration with legislative networks for disaster risk reduction, sharing best practices and management models.	Number of cities with a disaster risk reduction plan that covers disaster-driven displacement. Number of exchange activities between officials from the participating countries. Number of training grants awarded by specialized centres.	15 cities included in the plan. Two regional workshops for the exchange of good practices with four officials from each participating country. Two training scholarships for each participating country offered by specialized centres.	1 year
3. Strengthened institutional capacities for DRM mainstreaming through a multisectoral approach to disasters and by producing baseline surveys.	Number of public officials (male and female) trained in disaster assessment. Number of disaster assessment training exercises completed. Number of baselines produced.	400 civil servants, with women accounting for at least 40%, in the following sectors: social, infrastructure, productive and environmental. 16 baselines produced (four in each participating country) in the following sectors: social, infrastructure, productive and environmental.	2 years
4. Encouraging investments in disaster risk reduction to reduce disaster-driven displacement.	Number of public-private partnerships that promote the strengthening of resilience in the region's local governments.	12 public-private partnerships.	1 year

Main activities

Outcome 1. Understanding displacement caused by disaster risk in the beneficiary countries.

- 1.1 Production of regional reports on disaster risk in the Northern Central American countries. *Indicator: Databases updated, regional risk report produced.*
- 1.2 National studies on vulnerability to gradual and sudden factors related to climate change, as well as their connection to both internal and cross-border human mobility. *Indicator: Number of reports published.*
- 1.3 Preparation of a report on projections for disaster displacement and the impact of climate change on the region's cities. *Indicator: Report on projections for disaster displacement and the impact of climate change on the region's cities.*

- 1.4 Strengthening national and local capacities to understand the existing risks and forecast impact of climate change and its repercussions for disaster-driven displacement. *Indicator: Number of staff trained in understanding disaster displacement scenarios.*
- 1.5 Mapping of resources and safe spaces (such as shelters and community centres) for the evacuation of people at imminent risk, as well as of access routes.

Outcome 2. Strengthened national and local governance to manage disaster-driven displacement.

- 2.1 Capacity-building for national and local governments and other strategic actors to strengthen resilience to disaster risk, the impacts of climate change, disaster-driven displacement and environmental migration. *Indicator: Number of officials trained in the implementation of the pertinent recommendations of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the instruments of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change (Nansen Initiative) and the Sendai Framework, and the formulation of disaster risk reduction plans with an emphasis on disaster-driven displacement.*
- 2.2 Assisting national entities in charge of developing programmes for the adoption of initiatives based on the legal frameworks applicable to environmentally driven migration. *Indicator: New policy initiatives to address the different phases of environmental migration.*
- 2.2 Preparation of a report on the state of local governance for disaster risk management and disaster displacement in Northern Central America and Mexico. *Indicator: Completed map of national and local governance shortfalls for addressing disaster displacement and the impact of climate change.*
- 2.3 Support and technical assistance to local governments in the formulation of the Disaster Risk Reduction Plan, with a focus on disaster-driven displacement and environmental migration. *Indicator: Number of local governments with Disaster and Climate Change Resilience Plans to address disaster-driven displacement.*
- 2.4 Support and coordination for carrying out learning exchanges on disaster-driven displacement in cities of Northern Central America and Mexico. *Indicator: Number of exchanges on disaster displacement organized among cities in Northern Central America and Mexico that are part of the migration cycle.*
- 2.5 Design and validation of national guidelines for planned relocation processes in areas of risk, following established legal frameworks and international best practices. *Indicator: National guidelines for the planned relocation of at-risk communities.*
- 2.6 Organization of two regional workshops for exchanges of experiences, good practices and lessons learned between the participating institutions and countries. Creation of a programme for exchanges of officials and experiences between the participating countries, including scholarships and specialized training courses, taking advantage of the facilities and experience that specialized institutions can offer.

Outcome 3. Strengthened institutional capacities for DRM mainstreaming through a multisectoral approach to disasters and by producing baseline surveys.

- 3.1 400 national officials: Five officials trained from each of the sectors identified (approximately 100 people per country). At the very least: social (population, education, health, housing, culture and heritage), infrastructure (transport, water and sanitation, energy, telecommunications), productive (agriculture, industry, micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, tourism), environment, finance/treasury, planning, statistics, gender and disaster risk management. Four training sessions will be held per country, serving 25 officials each, with a duration of three days each. Depending on the availability and suitability of staff members, at least 40% of the trainees must be women.

- 3.2 400 regional/local officials (approximately 100 regional/local officials per country). Depending on the number of departments, between three and four training sessions will be held per country, serving 25 officials each, and each lasting three days. Depending on the availability and suitability of staff members, at least 40% of the trainees must be women.
- 3.3 Production of 16 baselines: Develop four baselines on a pilot basis in each country, taking advantage of intersectoral networking and the training of officials. One subsector will be selected from the social, infrastructure, productive and environmental sectors, and its baseline will be produced. The baselines selected for the productive sector should include MSMEs, opening up opportunities to improve their registration and promote their formalization. This will also allow for the informal sector to be taken into account and included in prevention and reconstruction strategies, and for the design of public policies focused on building resilience in this sector. The production of baselines in four different sectors will enable an understanding of the cross-cutting nature of the potential effects of a disaster and the adoption of proactive resilience-building decisions, moving away from siloed approaches under the sole responsibility of disaster response agencies. Understanding a disaster's multisectoral effects allows the development of sectoral public policies aimed at reducing the potential impact and the highlighting of the links between all social, economic, infrastructure and environmental sectors.

Outcome 4. Encouraging investments in disaster risk reduction to reduce disaster-driven displacement.

- 4.1 Strengthening the capacities of small and medium-sized enterprises to formulate disaster risk reduction action plans and business continuity plans. *Indicator: Number of people trained in disaster-resilient business plans and practices.*
- 4.2 Evaluation report on the state of disaster resilience among large and medium-sized enterprises. *Indicator: Completed evaluation report of large and medium-sized enterprises.*
- 4.3 Report on good practices in the private sector to increase the resilience of small and medium-sized enterprises in Northern Central America and Mexico. *Indicator: Good practice exchange platform for the business sector operating on the basis of UNDRR-supported ARISE networks in the countries of Northern Central America.*

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The initiative will promote synergies with initiatives under way by other UN agencies, such as the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and others. It also provides for coordination with regional bodies such as the Central American Integration System (SICA), the Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Disasters in Central America and Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC) and others, and with the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD). Activities will be coordinated primarily through the countries' national risk management systems, acting as national focal points for the Sendai Framework.

UNDRR will support the other pillars of the CDP —economic development, social welfare and management of the migration cycle— in order to integrate a risk-based approach to development and disaster risk reduction throughout the development plan. This will support the sustainability of investments and enhance disaster protection in the region.

Budget: US\$ 5 million

Proposal 3.4

Protecting national public investments through disaster risk reduction and climate change response



Implementing agencies:

El Salvador: Ministry of Finance, Secretariat of Trade and Investment of the Office of the President of the Republic, General Directorate of Civil Protection and Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation. Guatemala: Ministry of Public Finance, Secretariat of the National Economic Planning Council, National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction. Honduras: Secretariat of Finance, Permanent Commission for Contingencies. Mexico: National Disaster Prevention Centre, Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit. Entities responsible for approving public investment funding.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-eastern Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

The protection of public investment will indirectly benefit the users thereof: potentially the entire population of the three participating countries and the southern region of Mexico.

Main topics:

- Protection of public investments
- Resilient infrastructure
- Disaster risk reduction
- Disaster risk management
- Capacity-building
- Information systems

Context

Between 1972 and 2010, ECLAC assessed 88 disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean; it calculated their social and economic impact at US\$ 213 billion, 70% of which was damage to physical assets.¹ Although disasters of geophysical origin tend to affect infrastructure more, climate-caused disasters

¹ O. Bello, L. Ortiz and J. Samaniego, "Assessment of the effects of disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean, 1972–2010", *Environment and Development series*, No. 157 (LC/L.3899), Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2014.

have a major impact on the housing sector and on the interruption of transport and energy services. Both expose weaknesses in construction practices and materials, in the selection of locations and in the quality —or absence— of maintenance schemes for public and private infrastructure. They also have a direct effect on public assets, such as roads or infrastructure for water, electricity and education. However, they also affect social sectors that despite being private, require State attention: housing being the most notable example.

In this scenario, strategies for structural, non-structural and financial protection of public investments become important, covering all stages from design and feasibility to execution and maintenance. By protecting public investments, risk reduction and climate change response criteria are also met by incorporating multi-hazard analyses into project design and by implementing measures for adaptation to increased temperatures and changes in precipitation.

Comprehensive structural and non-structural protection strategies bolster governments' ability to manage the impact of disasters, reduce budget volatility, improve planning and budgetary processes, set priorities and courses of action and, in general, protect gains earned through development. Other benefits include transparency, efficiency in the use of resources, increased responsiveness, financial discipline and risk sharing. The role of the State, as the owner of public infrastructure as well as the provider of assistance, highlights the need to protect its investments, both because of the effect on public finances and because of its responsibility to protect the population. It is therefore essential that these investments are hazard-proof and include both structural and non-structural measures for disaster risk reduction. This is particularly true given that El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico require infrastructure investments of around 6% of annual GDP.²

Incorporating multi-hazard analyses and vulnerability reduction into any new public infrastructure investment is critical in protecting investments from the design phase onwards, and it is also a powerful way to effectively mainstream disaster risk management (DRM) and the response to climate change. In addition to increasing the resilience of projects, this practice promotes a better understanding of hazards, vulnerabilities and risks; it also showcases potential damage and losses, thus underscoring the need for disaster risk reduction measures. Once hazards, vulnerabilities, risks and their potential negative impacts are understood and taken into account, proactive, corrective and reactive measures can be introduced to reduce disaster risk and respond to climate change. Compartmentalized and autonomous disaster risk reduction projects are no longer a sustainable practice. Public works planning and budgeting play a crucial role in promoting and implementing structural and non-structural measures to protect public investments and to place integrated risk management measures and climate change response at the centre of national development agendas, so that disasters and the effects of climate change do not derail development achievements.

Objective

Reduce capital losses caused by the effects of disasters by incorporating multi-hazard criteria, vulnerability reduction and climate change response measures in the identification, formulation and evaluation of public investment projects as a financial protection measure in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico.

² Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), "Infrastructure investment in Latin American and Caribbean countries remains below the needs of the region", 15 May 2017 [online] <https://www.cepal.org/en/news/infrastructure-investment-latin-american-and-caribbean-countries-remains-below-needs-region>.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Showcase the impact of disasters on public investments as a motivation for incorporating disaster risk reduction criteria.	Systematize the effects and fiscal cost of past disasters in areas with high public investment.	Four documents, one per country, systematizing the fiscal and sectoral effects of disasters in a pre-determined period.	4 months
Incorporate multi-hazard and vulnerability analysis criteria for disaster risk reduction and climate change response in the identification, formulation and evaluation of public investment projects.	Four technical and regulatory instruments for including disaster risk reduction and climate change response criteria into public investments.	Four methodological instruments (one per country) for the incorporation of disaster risk reduction and climate change response criteria into public investment projects, based on their regulations and processes for designing and approving public investment projects.	12 months
Public officials and decision makers with greater awareness of the importance of protecting public investments from the effects of disasters and trained in the use of the technical instrument. Dissemination of good practices in incorporating disaster risk reduction and climate change response criteria into public investments.	Number of training and awareness-raising activities for public officials on the importance of incorporating disaster risk reduction and climate change response criteria into new public investments. Number of exchange events held.	Twelve awareness-raising sessions with decision makers and public investment institutions (three per country). Four train-the-trainers workshops, with women accounting for at least 40% of the trainees. One exchange with the Latin American network on risk management and climate change in public investment.	5 months*

Note: Some of the activities under each expected outcome will be carried out simultaneously.

* Awareness-raising and training activities will be conducted during the entire project duration.

Main activities

1. Showcase the effects of disasters on public investments.
 - (a) Develop an inventory of past disasters based on existing assessments, including the EM-DAT database,³ disaster assessments conducted by ECLAC, the World Bank, the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) and the European Union,⁴ sectoral assessments conducted by each government, others.
 - (b) Estimate the economic cost of past disasters as evidence to demonstrate the effects of disasters on sectors with significant public investments and to demonstrate the benefits of *ex-ante* financial protection measures for those investments.
2. Develop methodological tools for the incorporation of disaster risk reduction and climate change response criteria in public investments, taking into account each participating country's regulations and processes.
 - (a) Identify good practices and exchange experiences for the incorporation of disaster risk reduction and climate change response criteria in public investments.
 - (b) Review the technical and regulatory instruments for public investment and disaster risk management in each country.
 - (c) Identify opportunities for the incorporation of multi-threat criteria and vulnerability analyses in each country's technical and regulatory instruments.

³ Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), EM-DAT International Disaster Database [online] <https://www.emdat.be/>.

⁴ See United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), "Post-disaster needs assessments", 2020 [online] <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development/planet/disaster-risk-reduction-and-recovery/post-disaster-needs-assessments.html>.

- (d) Adapt each country's methodological instruments to incorporate disaster risk reduction and climate change response criteria in the identification, formulation and evaluation of public investment projects.
3. Raise decision makers' awareness of the importance and benefits of incorporating disaster risk reduction and climate change response criteria into public investments, and build capacity for the application of the methodological instrument (activity 2).
 - (a) Conduct 12 awareness-raising workshops with decision makers responsible for public investment, disaster risk management and climate change response: primarily ministries of planning, finance and public works.
 - (b) Conduct four train-the-trainers workshops for institutional capacity-building for the implementation and dissemination of the methodological instrument.
 - (c) Develop disaster impact assessment and methodological tools in coordination with public officials, using the learning-by-doing method to contribute to the institutionalization of measurement capabilities.
4. Dissemination of good practices in incorporating disaster risk reduction and climate change response criteria in public investment:
 - (a) Meeting at the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean and, as appropriate, participation of ministries of finance and/or planning.
 - (b) Exchange with the Latin American network on risk management and climate change in public investment.
 - (c) Systematization of good practices.

Project governance

The project will be implemented by the heads of each National Public Investment System, with technical support from ECLAC. The ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico and the Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit at the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean will serve as the technical committee for the systematization of disaster impacts and the development of a methodological guide for the incorporation of disaster risk reduction and climate change response criteria into public investments. Outcome 4 will be handled by UNDRR.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The Network of National Public Investment Systems (SNIP) —which has the support of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank— is a venue for the identification of good practices and lessons learned, and it serves to disseminate and socialize the methodology for possible adoption by other countries in the region and by international organizations. Use should be made of the experiences of Costa Rica, where the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy has a risk analysis methodology for public investment projects at the profile stage,⁵ and of Honduras, where the Secretariat of Finance has a

⁵ The Mountain Institute/International Research Centre on El Niño (CIIFEN), "Metodología de análisis de amenazas naturales para proyectos de inversión pública en etapa de perfil", n/d [online] <http://www.para-agua.net/biblioteca/guias/512-metodologia-de-analisis-de-amenazas-naturales-para-proyectos-de-inversion-publica-en-etapa-de-perfil>.

general methodological guide for the formulation and evaluation of public investment programmes and projects,⁶ as well as a series of sectoral methodologies, which are produced by analysing the effects of disasters on public finances.

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction has issued recommendations for guidelines to incorporate DRM and climate change adaptation into public investments. The Latin American network on risk management and climate change in public investment currently comprises Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and Uruguay. This network was formed as an outcome of the first Regional Dialogue for Mainstreaming Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation in Public Investment, Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas, and it has held exchange meetings on financial protection practices, including resilient public investments.

The ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico has launched a project to strengthen national public investment systems by introducing disaster risk reduction and sustainable and inclusive adaptation to climate change in the member countries of the Council of Ministers of Finance of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (COSEFIN), an agency of SICA. The project will be involved in regulations, pilot projects, capacity-building and a geographic information system for the formulation and evaluation of resilient public investment projects. The countries of Northern Central America are included in this project, and there will be important synergies with this proposal's interventions.

Financial organizations —Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), World Bank, Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)— that make loans or donations for the construction of public infrastructure or for post-disaster reconstruction processes.

Duration

18 months. Months 1 to 4: systematization and compilation of the effects of disasters over a selected period, and collection of information on public investment management processes. Months 4 to 16: design of a methodological instrument that allows DRM criteria to be incorporated into any public investment project. The instrument has a multi-threat approach, takes into account each participating country's regulations and processes and will be applied by the institutions in charge of approving and financing projects. Months 13 to 18: training the trainers.

Throughout the implementation period, institutional capacity-building will be carried out using the learning-by-doing method and through awareness-raising with decision makers.

Budget: US\$ 463,300

⁶ Secretariat of Finance (SEFIN), "Guía Metodológica General para la Formulación y Evaluación de Programas y Proyectos de Inversión Pública", 2015 [online] https://fondohondurasespana.bcie.org/fileadmin/fhe/espanol/archivos/publicaciones/documentos_del_programa/SEFIN_Guia_Metodologica_II-Edicion-2015.pdf.

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Protecting national public investments through disaster risk reduction and climate change response in the countries of Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico.	Public investment policy/plan. Disaster risk management strategy.	Network of National Public Investment Systems. Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean.	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR): Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).	CABEI. IDB. World Bank. CAF. Other international financial institutions that provide resources for infrastructure construction or that participate in post-disaster reconstruction processes.	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 3.5

Agricultural microinsurance with climate change adaptation measures for small producers of basic grains and coffee



Implementing agencies:

ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico in coordination with the Executive Secretariat of the Central American Agricultural Council (CAC), in the framework of the work programme with the CAC Technical Group on Climate Change and Integrated Risk Management and the following institutions: in Guatemala, *Aseguradora Rural*, which belongs to the National Rural Credit Bank (Banrural) and to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food and the Ministry of Public Finance; in El Salvador, the State-owned *Banco de Fomento Agropecuario*; and in Honduras, the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development. In Mexico, efforts will be made to integrate officials from the Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER), development banks, AGROASEMEX, insurance funds, and private entities related to agricultural insurance in the southern states of Mexico into working groups to develop and evaluate proposals based on best practices.

Geographical coverage:

Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and southern states of Mexico (Chiapas, Oaxaca and Guerrero).

Number of beneficiaries:

Approximately 99,000 small-scale farmers in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Mexico. (28,000 in Guatemala; 13,000 in El Salvador; 20,000 in Honduras; 38,000 in the southern Mexican states of Chiapas, Oaxaca and Guerrero).

Main topics:

- Agricultural microinsurance
- Small producers of basic grains and coffee
- Comprehensive risk management
- Sustainable and inclusive adaptation to climate change

Context

Climate variability and change are, in several ways, exacerbating the vulnerability faced by rural populations in the countries of Northern Central America and the southern states of Mexico. Rising temperatures caused by anthropogenic factors have affected the intensity of hydrometeorological events (intense rains and/or droughts), causing vast losses and damage in the agricultural, commercial and infrastructure sectors. In addition, variations in precipitation patterns and increased evapotranspiration resulting from interactions with higher temperatures will continue to have a negative impact on the yields of basic grains, which are the main goods produced and consumed by poor rural and lower-income families in the rural areas of the Northern Central American countries and the southern states of Mexico. These factors bring pressure to bear on food and income security and can trigger migration decisions.

The key to improving the vulnerability and social exclusion of small-scale farmers in rural areas of the countries of Northern Central America and the southern states of Mexico is to involve them in comprehensive productive and financial services that support productive and organizational development and sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth with a clear orientation towards comprehensive disaster risk management and sustainable and inclusive adaptation to climate change. In that framework, a microinsurance project is proposed in direct response to climate challenges, in line with SDGs 8 and 13.

In the countries of Northern Central America, initiatives have been launched by development banks, public institutions, international organizations and national and foreign private insurance companies (see the annex for other initiatives related to agricultural insurance in the Northern Central American countries and Mexico). In Northern Central America, the efforts are in the earliest stages and have yet to be scaled up nationally. In Mexico, agricultural insurance is much more developed, mainly in those states where farmers are highly organized, most of whom are medium- and large-scale producers who finish their production cycle in agro-industry and/or in the marketing thereof. However, in the relatively less developed states —such as those in southern Mexico— small farmers are dispersed and less organized, and therefore they must be included in the Mexican insurance mechanism through the constitution of insurance funds.

Objective

Reduce the vulnerability and improve the socioeconomic inclusion of small-scale producers in rural areas of the Northern Central American countries and southern states of Mexico. The following specific objectives will help to achieve that goal:

- Develop and/or strengthen versatile, flexible and open insurance mechanisms for small farmers in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and the southern states of Mexico.
- Promote South-South exchanges and cooperation through the regional community of practice, placing priority on small-scale producers of basic grains and coffee, with a focus on integrated risk management, comprehensive service packages and sustainable adaptation to climate change.
- Promote the generation of the basic agricultural and climate data necessary for insurance and integrated risk management and for use by small producers in decision-making.
- Involve agricultural cooperatives, mutual associations and microfinance institutions active in rural areas in the marketing of agricultural microinsurance.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Agricultural microinsurance products based on climate indices available and functioning.	Number of farmers insured.	28,000 in Guatemala, 13,000 in El Salvador, 20,000 in Honduras. 38,000 in the southern states of Mexico.	5 years
National information systems developed and/or strengthened.	National agroclimatic information systems in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and the southern Mexican states strengthened, functioning and updated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four information systems strengthened. • Four information systems functioning. • Four information systems updated annually. 	5 years
Capacities for sustainable climate change adaptation measures, risk management and risk transfer and retention mechanisms developed and/or strengthened.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of officials and members of public institutions. • Number of extension workers from producer organizations and agriculture ministries. • Number of designers of institutions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officials and members of public institutions: 500. • Extensionists from producer organizations and agriculture ministries: 500. • Members of technical and scientific teams: 70. 	5 years

Main activities

1. Carry out technical studies on institutional developments, prospecting and actuarial analyses of agricultural microinsurance based on climate indices, adapted to the climate risk conditions and the comprehensive needs of micro- and small-scale producers of basic grains and coffee in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and the southern states of Mexico.
2. Conduct feasibility studies of agricultural microinsurance based on climate indices, to be distributed by agricultural cooperatives, mutual associations and microfinance institutions.
3. Design and implement a pilot programme of agricultural microinsurance based on climate indices targeting the beneficiaries of microcredit programmes (of private companies and/or development banks).
4. Scale up agricultural microinsurance based on climate indices to the national and/or regional level.
5. Strengthen national information systems on agroclimatic information and basic grain and coffee yields. The information is required for the design, implementation and operation of agricultural microinsurance.
6. Train officials and members of public institutions, cooperatives, mutual associations and microfinance institutions in rural areas on integrated risk management techniques.
7. Train extensionists from producers' organizations, agriculture ministries and others on sustainable climate change adaptation measures and on how to promote and dialogue with small-scale producers on their knowledge of climate and potential responses in production, post-harvest, marketing and credit and insurance options.
8. Establish technical and scientific teams in the countries of Northern Central America and the southern states of Mexico and build their technical capacities for the design, evaluation and periodic adjustment of agricultural microinsurance programmes and other risk transfer and retention mechanisms, with the assistance of experts from institutions in Mexico and other Central American and Latin American countries.

Project governance

The ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico, the Executive Secretariat of the Central American Agricultural Council and the delegates of the agriculture ministries of the Northern Central American countries to the Technical Group on Climate Change and Integrated Risk Management will form the project's steering committee, along with technical officials from Agroasemex and Mexico's SADER, who will be responsible for approving the project's annual operating plans and technical assistance.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

ECLAC will undertake this intervention in coordination with the CAC Executive Secretariat and the agriculture ministries' delegates to the Technical Group on Climate Change and Integrated Risk Management. Since there are no national institutions responsible for agricultural insurance in Guatemala, *Aseguradora Rural*, belonging to Banrural, as well as MAGA, MINFIN and delegates from the office of the President will be included. In El Salvador, the working partnership with the State-owned *Banco de Fomento Agropecuario* will be consolidated. In Honduras, through the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG). In Mexico, with SADER, the development banks, Agroasemex, insurance funds and private entities engaged in agricultural insurance.

Duration

The project is expected to last five years.

Planning: 3 years

1. Technical studies on institutional developments, prospecting and actuarial analyses of agricultural microinsurance. Microinsurance feasibility studies. National information systems developed and/or strengthened and operational: 2 years.
2. Pilot exercise for agricultural microinsurance based on climate indices designed and implemented: 3 years.

Execution: 5 years

1. National technical capacities developed.
2. Agricultural microinsurance based on climate indices gradually scaled up to the regional and/or national level.

Budget: US\$ 6,150,000

Annex

Initiatives related to agricultural insurance in Northern Central America and Mexico

CDP proposal	National plans	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Development banks (insurance)	Private sector, NGOs
Agricultural microinsurance.	2015 National Plan on Climate Change, El Salvador. 2013 Framework Act to Regulate the Reduction of Vulnerability Compulsory Adaptation to the Effects of Climate Change and the Mitigation of Greenhouse Effect Gases, Guatemala. National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change and Technology Action Plans for adaptation and mitigation (Honduras 2018). General Act on Climate Change, Mexico, 2012, as amended in 2018.	Parametric agricultural microinsurance in Guatemala in towns located in the Guatemalan dry corridor, in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food and other government agencies.	Microinsurance Catastrophe Risk Organisation (MICRO), a subsidiary of Swiss Reinsurance Company in Guatemala and El Salvador, which promotes parametric microinsurance against the risks of earthquake, drought and excessive rainfall. The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) / Research Programme on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CAAFS) and the Panamerican Agricultural University, Zamorano, in coordination with the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development of Honduras, have promoted education and dialogue on climate threats through participatory agroclimatic roundtables, and have promoted parametric microinsurance as a non-commercial pilot experience, pending its commercial promotion through <i>Seguros Equidad</i> . Upscaling climate resilience measures in the dry corridor agroecosystems of El Salvador (RECLIMA).	<i>Produce Seguro</i> . <i>Banco de Fomento Agropecuario</i> (BFA), El Salvador. Agroasemex, Mexico.	Central American and Caribbean Microfinance Network (REDCAMIF). Environmental productive line of credit. Microfinance Network of Honduras (REDMICROH). PILARH OPDF (rural microfinance company in Honduras). CREDISOL (Honduras) Esfuerzo Seguro, Aseguradora Rural, Guatemala Insurance funds in Mexico.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 3.6

Assisting and building the resilience of households and communities vulnerable to food insecurity in the Dry Corridor of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras



Implementing agencies:

El Salvador: World Food Programme (WFP) in partnership with national and local governments.

Guatemala: WFP in partnership with national and local governments.

Honduras: WFP in partnership with national and local governments.

Geographical coverage:

Dry Corridor of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Number of beneficiaries:

1,400,000 drought-affected people facing food insecurity, as identified by emergency food security assessments in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Context:

The agroclimatic and socioeconomic characteristics of the Dry Corridor make it one of the areas of the world most susceptible to climate variability.¹ Land degradation and deforestation exacerbate the effects of climate shocks, such as droughts and heavy rains that cause floods, landslides and mudslides in mountain areas. These extreme weather events cause losses of crops, seeds and animals, together with reduced employment opportunities and incomes; in turn, this contributes to worsening food insecurity and malnutrition. In many cases, those factors combine to make migration an obligation rather than a choice.

¹ Germanwatch, "Global Climate Risk Index 2017", 2016 [online] germanwatch.org/en/12978.

Climate variability affects rural livelihoods: in particular, those of one million small-scale farmers in this subregion, along with day labourers working in the agricultural sector, where about 25% of people already live in extreme poverty and depend on the cultivation of basic grains, such as rice, beans and maize. The vulnerability of these communities is also affected by the prevailing levels of violence and insecurity. As a result, this subregion has the highest levels of food insecurity in Latin America: 27% in El Salvador, 37% in Guatemala and 25% in Honduras.

Although El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras are considered lower-middle income countries, inequality runs high. The Gini coefficient in terms of access to land for the three countries is 0.7. Women have even less access to land than men: only 15% of women farmers own land and 44% depend on others for their income. In rural areas, women have less access than men to resources, including agricultural supplies, credit and training. Additionally, high rates of teenage pregnancy and domestic violence are further challenges that women face in securing development. Another aspect is that of violence and insecurity, which leads to the fragmentation and breakdown of the social fabric. In 2015, among the ten countries with the world's highest homicide rates were El Salvador (in first place), Honduras (in second place) and Guatemala (in ninth place).² Additionally, femicide rates in the subregion are among the highest in the Americas, with El Salvador ranking highest in the Latin American region and one of the highest in the world, followed by Honduras in second place and Guatemala in fourth place.³

Droughts and low rainfall in this region of Central America are becoming more frequent, intense and prolonged. The region is also affected by the opposite phenomenon: intense rains that cause floods and affect livelihoods. The historical rainfall trends shows that the Dry Corridor has been facing a very dry period from 2013 to the present, likely to be the driest on record since 1981. According to WFP emergency food security assessments, 2.2 million people are directly affected by drought. In April 2019, WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) warned that 1.4 million people urgently required food assistance in the Central American Dry Corridor.⁴ WFP estimates that eight out of every ten households are adopting emergency coping strategies and, on average, 10% of households reported that at least one family member had migrated in search of better opportunities. In addition, 30% of the interviewed households with migrant members confirmed that one of the main reasons their relatives migrated was the adverse effects of the climate on food production and access; 70% also replied that they were looking for employment.⁵

Between 2016 and 2018, WFP implemented the Pro-Resilience Action (PRO-ACT) programme “El Niño Response in the Dry Corridor of Central America”, funded by the European Union. The design of this intervention is based on the results, best practices and recommendations of the programme evaluation, with the aim of scaling up the actions.

² United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), “Intentional homicide victims”, 2016 [online] <https://dataunodc.un.org/crime/intentional-homicide-victims>.

³ Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), “Femicide or feminicide”, Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2018 [online] <https://oig.cepal.org/en/indicators/femicide-or-feminicide>.

⁴ FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (RLAC), “Adverse climate events in the Central American Dry Corridor leave 1.4 million people in need of urgent food assistance”, 25 April 2019 [online] <http://www.fao.org/americas/noticias/ver/en/c/1191838/>.

⁵ World Food Programme (WFP), “Evaluación de Seguridad Alimentaria en Emergencias (ESAE)”, 2018 [online] <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000104242/download/>, and “Evaluación de la seguridad alimentaria: el Corredor Seco de Honduras”, 2018 [online] <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000104237/download/>.

Main topics:

- Food and nutritional security
- Resilience
- Climate change adaptation
- Social protection
- National, local, household and individual capacity-building
- Economic empowerment of women

Objective

This project, as part of the Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Rural Territories (“Territorial Plan”, designed with support from ECLAC, FAO, WFP and other partners) aims to improve the living conditions of the people most vulnerable to food insecurity, those facing high levels of poverty and those affected by recurring crises, through non-conditional food assistance in the short term and, in the medium term, by building resilience, climate change adaptation and strengthening social protection systems in the Dry Corridor of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Inhabitants affected by extreme climate events have improved access to adequate food supplies.	Number of individuals receiving non-conditional food assistance, broken down by sex and age.	1,400,000 people.	3 months
Improved capacities for adaptation and resilience toward climate-caused crises among the most vulnerable households, including the families of small-scale producers, subsistence farmers and day-labourers, through transfers conditioned on asset creation.	Number of individuals receiving food assistance for asset creation during times of shortage, broken down by sex and age.	200,000 people.	5 years
	Food consumption score.	Reduction in the proportion of the population with poor food consumption receiving assistance.	5 years
	Consumption-based coping strategies index.	Reduction/stabilization of negative coping strategies.	5 years
	Proportion of the population in the selected communities reporting benefits obtained from the increase in the asset base.	80% of the communities with improved asset scores.	5 years
Sustainable increase in agricultural productivity and income of food-insecure small-scale producers and their organizations.	Percentage of small farmers (men/women) selling their produce through WFP-supported cooperatives.	Increase in the percentage of farmers selling their produce through their cooperatives.	5 years
Strengthened national, local and household capacities for risk management and reduction, nutrition, and crisis preparation and response.	Number of national programmes receiving WFP support to strengthen their capacities.	At least three WFP-supported programmes in the three countries.	5 years

Main activities

Phase 1: Crisis

Activity 1: *Provide food assistance to the most vulnerable drought-affected households in the Dry Corridor of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.*

A1.1: Distribution of non-conditional cash transfer assistance for three months to cover the food needs of the targeted households.

Phase 2: Resilience- and capacity-building

Activity 2: *Strengthen the resilience of individuals, households and communities and reduce disaster risks.* This activity is part of the actions under pillars 3 and 4 of the Territorial Plan: “Investments for the territory’s productive and social inclusion” and “Basic household services”.

A2.1: Cash transfers conditioned on asset creation at the household and/or community level to strengthen crisis resilience.

A2.2: Using a participatory approach with three-pronged approach (3PA) tools, design and implement asset-building projects at the household and community levels with a territorial watershed approach, to increase access to food and other basic requirements and build resilience through the gender-sensitive introduction of technology and knowledge and the promotion of youth participation. Asset creation activities include soil and water conservation, agroforestry and living barriers, orchards, water harvesting for domestic and small-scale irrigation, construction of rural roads for market access, gully control, others.

A2.3: Training and awareness-raising on nutrition, social communication for behaviour change, adaptation to climate change, gender, good agricultural practices, others.

A2.4: Support territorial planning processes for rural development, paying attention to small-scale production and making communities’ livelihoods more resilient.

Activity 3: *Support for small producers through their cooperatives to link them to institutional and formal markets.* This activity is part of pillar 3 of the Territorial Plan: “Investments for the territory’s productive and social inclusion”.

A3.1: Provide a comprehensive assistance package of training, technical assistance and supplies to improve the productivity of small producers, especially women and youth, and the quality of their crops, and to improve the organizational strength of cooperatives.

A3.2: Facilitate access to informal, formal and institutional markets, in their own communities and nearby urban centres, including WFP purchases for its food assistance and social protection programmes, particularly school meal programmes.

A3.3: Implement a strategy for the economic empowerment of women producers to increase their incomes through links with the formal market.

Activity 4: *Strengthen national, local, community and household capacities in risk reduction and management, nutrition, food security and crisis preparedness and response.* This activity is part of pillars 2 and 3 of the Territorial Plan: “Strengthening participation and territorial institutions” and “Investments for the territory’s productive and social inclusion”.

A4.1: Design a climate microinsurance product, and increase access to it for small-scale and subsistence farmers.

- A4.2: Improve access to “last mile” climate information services by the targeted households.
- A4.3: Implement a social outreach campaign for behaviour change on nutrition and health topics and basic entrepreneurial knowledge.
- A4.4: Strengthen the capacity of national and local governments in risk reduction and management and crisis preparedness and response, including by means of early warning systems.
- A4.5: Encourage youth entrepreneurship, in particular among at-risk young people (social risks, violence), to build local capacities.
- A4.6: Strengthen national social protection systems to make them more responsive to emergencies in order to meet the needs of people affected by crises.
- A4.7: Increase investment in human capital by strengthening social protection programmes that play an important role in poverty reduction and prevention, food and nutritional security and reducing vulnerabilities.

Project governance

The World Food Programme (WFP) will lead the implementation, in coordination with national and local governments, United Nations partners and other relevant agencies in the territory. WFP has country offices in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras and a Regional Office in Panama that will support the coordination of actions. The activities are aligned with the three countries’ Strategic Plans, as approved by the WFP Executive Board, and the strategies and policies of their respective governments.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This intervention, as part of the Territorial Plan, will forge synergies with the Mesoamerica Hunger Free programme being implemented in the countries of Northern Central America and elsewhere, which works to strengthen public policies and legal frameworks for overcoming hunger and rural poverty, and with the “100 territories free of poverty and hunger” (100T) strategy, which aims to develop, implement, monitor, evaluate, systematize and disseminate intervention tools and models suited to the realities of vulnerable rural territories that are lagging behind.

In addition, synergies will be established with the programmes and policies of SICA and the Governments of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras in the areas of food and nutritional security, territorial development, social protection, agricultural productivity and climate change adaptation.

Duration

A duration of five years is planned.

Budget: US\$ 150,000,000

Proposal 3.7

Agricultural micro-insurance with climate change adaptation measures for small producers of basic grains and coffee, Honduras



Implementing entities:

ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico in coordination with the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG) of Honduras, as part of the work programme with the Technical Group on Climate Change and Integrated Risk Management of the Central American Agricultural Council (CAC) and its Executive Secretariat.

Geographical coverage:

Departments of Honduras belonging to the Central American Dry Corridor.

Number of beneficiaries:

At least 20,000 Honduran small-scale farmers.

Main topics:

- Agricultural microinsurance
- Small-scale producers of basic grains and coffee
- Comprehensive risk management
- Sustainable and inclusive adaptation to climate change

Context

Climate variability and change are exacerbating the vulnerability of the rural population of Honduras in several ways. Rising temperatures caused by anthropogenic factors have affected the intensity of hydrometeorological events (intense rains and/or droughts), causing vast losses and damage in the agricultural, commercial and infrastructure sectors. In addition, variations in precipitation patterns and increased evapotranspiration resulting from interactions with higher temperatures will continue to have a negative impact on the yields of basic grains, which are the main goods produced and consumed by poor rural and lower-income families in rural Honduras. These factors bring pressure to bear on food and income security and can trigger migration decisions.

The key to improving the vulnerability and social exclusion of small-scale farmers in rural areas of Honduras is to involve them in comprehensive productive and financial services that support productive and organizational development and sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth with a clear orientation towards comprehensive disaster risk management and sustainable and inclusive adaptation to climate change. In that framework, a microinsurance project is proposed in direct response to climate challenges, in line with SDGs 8 and 13.

Initiatives on agricultural microinsurance in Honduras have been led by the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock, with the support of the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and El Zamorano. The instrument in question is a non-commercial pilot parametric microinsurance policy. Negotiations have progressed for *Seguros Equidad* to be the company that issues the risk transfer instrument.

At the regional level, working in coordination with the Executive Secretariat of the Central American Agricultural Council, ECLAC has promoted the Community of Practice in Comprehensive Agricultural Insurance and Risk Management, which held four meetings within the framework of SICA/CAC between 2013 and 2018. These meetings were held within the framework of the CAC Technical Group on Climate Change and Integrated Risk Management and were attended by experts from other national and international institutions.

Objectives

Reduce the vulnerability of small-scale farmers in rural Honduras and bolster their socioeconomic inclusion. The following specific objectives will help achieve that goal:

- Develop and/or strengthen versatile, flexible and open insurance mechanisms for small-scale agricultural producers in Honduras.
- Promote South-South exchanges and cooperation through the regional community of practice, placing priority on small-scale producers of basic grains and coffee, with a focus on integrated risk management, comprehensive service packages and sustainable adaptation to climate change.
- Promote the generation of the basic agricultural and climate data necessary for insurance and integrated risk management and for use by small producers in decision-making.
- Involve agricultural cooperatives, mutual associations and microfinance institutions active in rural areas in the marketing of agricultural microinsurance.

Expected outcomes, indicators, goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Agricultural microinsurance products based on climate indices implemented and in operation.	Number of farmers insured.	20,000 farmers in Honduras.	5 years
National information systems developed and/or strengthened.	National agroclimatic information systems in Honduras strengthened, functioning and updated.	One information system strengthened. One information system functioning. One information system updated annually.	5 years
Capacities for sustainable climate change adaptation measures, risk management and risk transfer and retention mechanisms developed and/or strengthened.	Number of officials and members of public institutions. Number of extension workers from producer organizations and agriculture ministries.	Officials and members of public institutions: 75. Extensionists from producer organizations and agriculture ministries: 25. Members of technical and scientific teams: 15.	5 years

Main activities

- Carry out technical studies on institutional developments, prospecting and actuarial analyses of agricultural microinsurance based on climate indices, adapted to the climate risk conditions and the comprehensive needs of micro- and small-scale producers of basic grains and coffee in Honduras.

- Conduct feasibility studies of agricultural microinsurance based on climate indices, to be distributed by agricultural cooperatives, mutual associations and microfinance institutions.
- Design and implement a pilot programme of agricultural microinsurance based on climate indices targeting the beneficiaries of microcredit programmes (of private companies and/or development banks).
- Scale up agricultural microinsurance based on climate indices to the national and/or regional level.
- Strengthen national information systems on agroclimatic information and basic grain and coffee yields. The information is required for the design, implementation and operation of agricultural microinsurance.
- Train officials and members of public institutions, cooperatives, mutual associations and microfinance institutions in rural areas on integrated risk management techniques.
- Train extensionists from producers' organizations, agriculture ministries and others on sustainable climate change adaptation measures and on how to promote and dialogue with small-scale producers on their knowledge of climate and potential responses in production, post-harvest, marketing and credit and insurance options.

Project governance

The ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico, the Executive Secretariat of the Central American Agricultural Council and the delegates of the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock of Honduras will form the project's steering committee.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Coordination of activities and expected outcomes with CIAT and Zamorano in the implementation of the pilot non-commercial parametric microinsurance with *Seguros Equidad*. The aim is to avoid the duplication of efforts and to complement the actions already under way.

Duration:

The project is expected to last five years.

Planning: 3 years.

- Technical studies on institutional developments, prospecting and actuarial analyses of agricultural microinsurance. Microinsurance feasibility studies. National information systems developed and/or strengthened and operational: 2 years.
- Pilot exercise for agricultural microinsurance based on climate indices designed and implemented: 3 years.

Budget: US\$ 2,000,000

Annex

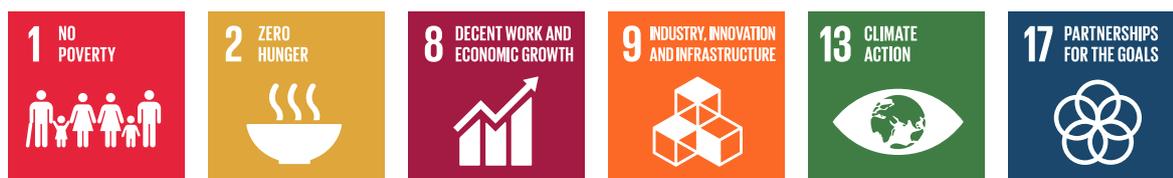
Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion:

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Agricultural micro-insurance with climate change adaptation measures for small producers of basic grains and coffee.	2010-2022 National Plan. 2018-2022 Strategic Government Plan.	Central American Agricultural Council (CAC) of SICA. Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).	International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT).	Multilateral Investment Fund of the Inter-American Development Bank (MIF/IDB).	Panamerican Agriculture University, Zamorano. Microfinance Network of Honduras (REDMICROH).
Institutional strengthening and capacity-building for disaster risk management in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico.						

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 3.8

Strengthening the sustainable and climate change-resilient coffee value chain, Honduras



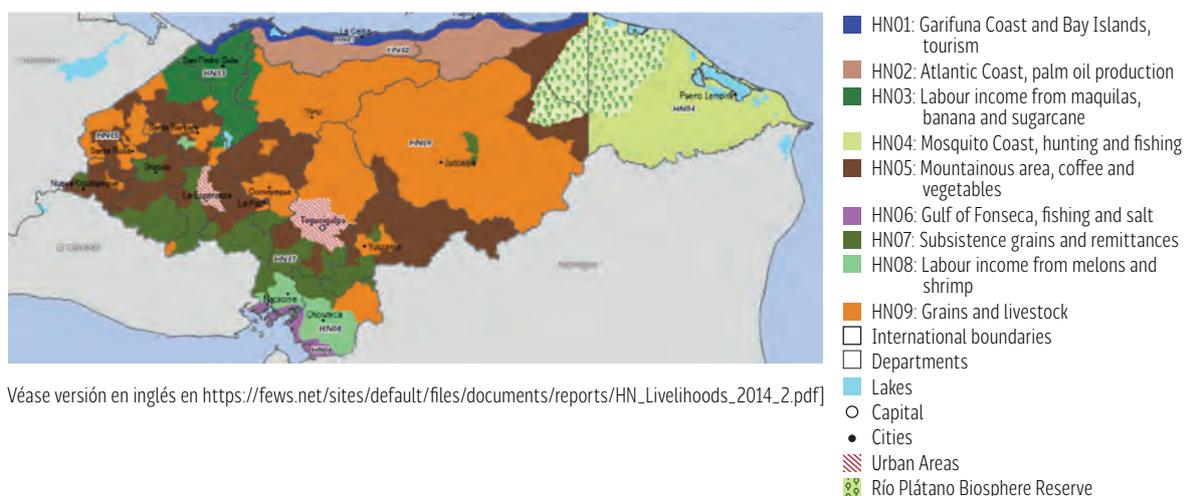
Implementing entities:

- Core institutions: Municipal governments, Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG), Secretariat of Natural Resources and the Environment (MiAmbiente), Honduran Coffee Institute (IHCAFE).
- Support institutions: Civil society, private sector, Honduran Association of Coffee Producers (AHPROCAFE), National Association of Coffee Producers of Honduras (ANACAFEH), Federation of Honduran Coffee Cooperatives (CCCH – La Central) and National Union of Coffee Cooperatives (UNIOCOOP).

Geographical coverage:

Most coffee is produced in the west (45%), with 25% in the east and 20% in the south-central region, areas that make up the mountainous zone where coffee and vegetables are grown. Coffee crops are of economic importance in 15 of the country's 18 departments. The main production areas are located in the Departments of El Paraíso, Santa Bárbara, Olancho, Copán, Comayagua, La Paz and Lempira. They are followed in importance by the Departments of Cortés, Ocotepeque, Yoro, Francisco Morazán and Intibucá.¹

Livelihood zones



Véase versión en inglés en https://fews.net/sites/default/files/documents/reports/HN_Livelihoods_2014_2.pdf

Source: Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), "Honduras zonas de medios de vida y descripciones", March 2015 [online] https://fews.net/sites/default/files/documents/reports/HN_LH_descriptions_2015_es.pdf.

¹ Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), "Honduras zonas de medios de vida y descripciones", March, 2015 [online] https://fews.net/sites/default/files/documents/reports/HN_LH_descriptions_2015_es.pdf.

Numer of beneficiaries:

50,000 coffee producers, with farms smaller than 1.4 hectares, primarily located in the municipalities of the Dry Corridor: Alauca, Campamento, Trojes (Department of El Paraíso), Aguanqueterique, Ajuterique, Cane, Chinacla, Comayagua, El Rosario, Esquías, Humuya, La Libertad, La Paz, La Trinidad, Lamaní, Las Lajas, Lejamaní, Lepaterique, Meambar, Minas de Oro, Ojos de Agua, San Jerónimo, San José, San José del Potrero, San Luis, San Pedro, San Sebastián, Santa María, Santiago de Puringla, Siguatepeque, Sulaco, Talgua, Taulabé, Villa de San Antonio.

Main topics:

- Value chains and strengthening
- Productive development and innovation
- Food and nutritional security
- Poverty
- Job creation
- Sustainable and inclusive adaptation
- Ecosystem services
- Biodiversity
- Sustainability

Context

Approximately 28% of the surface area of Honduras is agricultural land, and agriculture employs approximately 30% of the population. Coffee plays a fundamental role in the national economy, accounting for 5% of the gross domestic product (GDP) and 30% of agricultural GDP. Coffee is the country's main export product, representing 13% of total exports in 2018. For the 2015/2016 harvest, IHCAFE recorded a total of 102,047 producers, 18% of whom were women. 50.2% of coffee growers are smallholders with farms of less than 1.4 hectares. It is estimated that 2.3% of coffee growers live in extreme poverty: 2,800 families live on less than a dollar a day (IHCAFE, 2010, 2018).²

The total area under coffee cultivation is around 291,000 hectares. About 60% of the farms are located between 900 and 1300 metres above sea level, with 30% above 1300 m and 10% below 900 m. Coffee is grown under an agroforestry system, with 95% of the area planted with different shade species. Mountainous terrain makes up 60% of the coffee-growing area, while the other 40% is flat. The population is largely of Lenca origin. The region's altitude, topography and agroecological conditions make it highly productive, particularly the northern part.

The economy of the coffee areas revolves around the cultivation of coffee. The sale of labour during the coffee harvest is an important source of income for more than 70% of the population; temporary immigrants also come from Guatemala, but they return after the harvest. Large producers own the processing plants and they control domestic prices and the coffee export trade to the United States and Europe.

The threats the sector faces include fluctuations in international coffee prices and declining coffee output due to climate change, extreme events and pests. These threats impact the incomes and food security of the population in the coffee-growing areas. Volatile and low coffee prices threaten the incomes and livelihoods of small farmers and people employed in production and processing of green coffee, causing low levels of investment. Moreover, a high price does not automatically translate into higher incomes

² M. Álvarez Welchez, *Análisis de la cadena de valor de café en Honduras*, Tegucigalpa, Heifer International, 2018.

for producers, as intermediaries and consumers react by adjusting their demand. Climate variability directly impacts crop yields. Increased temperatures accelerate the ripening of the fruits, reducing growth and production and affecting the final quality of the drink, while the lack of rain reduces output and compromises quality.

According to the International Coffee Organization, low coffee prices in 2018 and 2019 did not cover the sector's high production costs. Low prices also have considerable economic and social effects, such as job losses, falling wages for agricultural workers and increased food insecurity as household food consumption decreases due to curtailed incomes and purchasing power. They also lead to lower spending on health and education and increased poverty. There is also an environmental impact, as some coffee cultivation in agroforestry areas are turned over to other crops.

In contrast to production, which significantly fluctuates from season to season while following an overall upward trend, global consumption increased by an average of 2% per year.³ However, the growth rate for differentiated coffees was much higher. If this rate of growth continues, the sector will require 300 million bags of coffee by 2050, which means doubling or even tripling current global output. If no efforts are made to adapt coffee production to climate change, however, the current system of coffee production will be unable to meet the growing demand.

Differentiation by quality and certification of production conditions have been gaining ground and represent new ways to compete in the market, but they require large investments in technology, more infrastructure, training and possibly a big change in sector attitudes. They do, however, offer an interesting prospect with social and environmental benefits for the future.

Objectives

- Increase the productivity and incomes of small-scale coffee growers with environmental sustainability and including climate change adaptation measures.
 - Strengthen the coffee value chain through mechanisms that incorporate greater added value in order to counter international price fluctuations, to dynamize production processes through innovation and green technology in order to identify strategies for developing a resilient coffee culture that is adapted to climate change and low in greenhouse gas emissions.
 - Improve coffee quality and achieve better marketing and better conditions of access to international markets.
 - Increase the incomes of small-scale producers.
 - Improve the working conditions of day labourers and the livelihoods of small producers within a framework of climate change mitigation and adaptation.
 - Design and launch support funds for the strengthening of value chains, particularly in the areas of technological innovation and partnerships.
 - Promote good agricultural practices (GAPs) that incorporate climate-smart agriculture (CSA).
 - Boost the transition towards more sustainable and low-carbon economies through Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) for Sustainable Coffee, with adaptations,⁴ the primary objective of which is to transfer technologies and capabilities. NAMA aims to increase productivity, but in a sustainable way by reducing GHG emissions.

³ International Coffee Organization Blog, "Coffee prices in August fall to 57-month low", 7 September 2018 [online] <https://icocoffeeorg.tumblr.com/post/177839830440/coffee-prices-in-august-fall-to-57-month-low>.

⁴ The Agro-Environmental, Climate Change and Risk Management Unit of the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG) presented the "NAMA, Sustainable Coffee" project, the primary objective of which is to transfer technologies and capacities with a focus on increasing productivity, production and, above all, environmental protection; for the purposes of this project, however, it is recommended that climate change adaptation activities be explicitly included in NAMA.

Expected outcomes, indicators, goals

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goals
"NAMA Sustainable Coffee" country project with climate change adaptation, to transform the coffee sector, incorporate greater added value and encourage innovation and technology in coffee production and processing.	Development and implementation of the "NAMA Sustainable Coffee" strategy with adaptation to climate change.	NAMA Sustainable Coffee fully implemented.
Increased production of sustainable coffee (resilient, and low in GHG emissions).	Percentage increase in production of quality coffee through climate change adaptation practices.	50% of small producers implementing adaptation practices.
Promotion of eco-efficient and quality-oriented processing.	Percentage reduction of GHGs (mitigation) and number of certifications for the coffee produced by small-scale farmers.	50% of small producers' output is processed by them, and they also have certifications and produce less GHGs in their processes.
Capturing the value of sustainable and verifiable coffee.	Best prices obtained by growers.	50% of small-scale producers sell their output at prices better than the international market price.

Main activities

- Design and approve the "NAMA, Sustainable Coffee" project with adaptation to climate change, to strengthen the value chain and raise competitiveness. The project can help make the chain more resilient and productive and identify a unique market for quality, low-GHG coffee.
- Promote GAPs and agro-forestry techniques that take the landscape and diversification into account.
- Generate financing strategies for small-scale producers, for a technological transformation of the coffee sector that is compatible with environmental sustainability and climate change resilience.
- Establish demonstration plots in each coffee-growing region, in particular to monitor and showcase the behaviour and results of climate change adaptation measures (including irrigation and water harvesting).
- Train producers for the incorporation of nitrogen-fixing forestry species, which increase the vigour of plants (helping optimize the use of nitrogen fertilizers).
- Cultivation zoning with a climate change approach (current and future suitability of the territory, considering the quality of the coffee and other species (robusta)).
- Diagnostic assessment of the needs and current conditions of the processing facilities and the management of honey water in the different regions.
- Design a training programme focused on optimizing the use of resources (water, energy) and good practices in the different processing operations, to ensure cleaner production.
- Define a model of biodigester in line with the needs of the growers and processors (according to their capacity for coffee cultivation and processing and the amount of water used in the process).
- Disseminate knowledge and experiences related to measuring and reducing environmental footprints (carbon footprint reduction, water use optimization, liquid and solid waste management).
- Launch a measuring, reporting, verification (MRV) system for the coffee sector.
- Determine the characteristics of the coffee grown in different regions (designation of origin) and enhance its quality as a basis for marketing.

- Conduct a market study of the potential market for quality coffee, to identify niches or specific markets in the country.
- Develop, polish and promote the country brand, creating a direct association with the concept of quality coffee.

Project governance

The recommended coordinating entities are the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG), the Secretariat of Natural Resources, Environment and Mines (MiAmbiente) and the Honduran Coffee Institute (IHCAFE). It is recommended that the project be led and implemented primarily by value chain support actors: State institutions and those that give the sector its structure, viability and policy coherence.

Duration

Preparation: 36 months.

NAMA execution: 10 years.

Budget: US\$ 10 million

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion:

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Strengthening the coffee chain and the production systems of small coffee producers in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico. Institutional strengthening and capacity-building for disaster risk management in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico.	2010–2022 National Development Plan. 2018–2022 Strategic Government Plan.	Central American Agricultural Council (CAC) of SICA. Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA).	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).	<i>Sembrando Vida</i> programme of the Mexican Government. United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Resilient Coffee in Central America project. The Norman Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture.	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). World Bank.	Honduran Coffee Institute (IHCAFE). National Association of Coffee Producers of Honduras (ANACAFEH). Federation of Honduran Coffee Cooperatives (CCCH-La Central). National Union of Cooperatives (UNIOCOOP).

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

C. Climate change and nature-based solutions programme

No.	Name of proposed subprogramme
3.9	Sustainable seas and coastlines in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico
3.10	Sustainable production activities with nature-based solutions
3.11	Small-scale afforestation, payment for ecosystem services and construction of a forest corridor in Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico
3.12	Climate change mitigation and adaptation, and creation of green jobs
3.13	Tacaná Volcano Binational Geopark
3.14	Sustainable water management for food security and sustainability, Guatemala (*)
3.15	Strengthening mechanisms for environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation and adaptation, Guatemala (*)
3.16	Sowing life in southern and south-eastern Mexico and Northern Central America, Mexico (*)

(*) Projects prioritized by the Governments of the Northern Central American countries, the Government of Mexico, or the states of South-Southeast Mexico.



Proposal 3.9

Sustainable seas and coastlines in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico



Implementing agencies:

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in collaboration with water commissions, the National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (CONABIO), local and municipal governments, ministries of agriculture, livestock and fisheries, ministries of the environment, local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), authorities in each country.

Geographical coverage

Hydrological basins, with an emphasis on those that flow to the coasts, located in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico, as well as fishing communities on the Caribbean and Pacific coasts and the countries' inland waters.

Main topics

- Climate change
- Basin management
- Conservation of coastal marine ecosystems
- Sustainable blue economy
- Economic activities based on marine and coastal ecosystems; aquaculture; small-scale fishing
- Handling of plastics

Context

The ocean economy consists, in general terms, of all ocean-based human activities that generate income, employment and other monetary and non-monetary benefits. It is critical to the global economy, to which it contributes an estimated US\$ 2.5 trillion (Gaines and others, 2019).¹ According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), market-based ocean industries are projected to expand at least as rapidly as the global economy as a whole over the coming decade. Those industries mainly contribute production value (primarily in energy, tourism and transport) and jobs (fishing and food production). The ecosystem services that oceans provide, however, contribute far more to the market. These non-commercial services are estimated to be worth almost as much as the world's entire market-based gross domestic product.² They include water circulation flows, energy and chemicals, as well as the oceans' role in climate regulation, carbon dioxide absorption and coastal protection.

However, coastal and marine ecosystems are being dramatically affected by global warming, the adverse effects of which include rising water temperatures, acidification, oxygen loss, saline intrusion and rising sea levels, and these combine with the negative impacts of human activities, such as wastewater discharge from inland watersheds and plastic pollution.³ Those adverse effects and extreme events result in habitat loss for marine fauna, especially in Arctic ecosystems and coral reefs, resulting in changes in community dynamics, imbalances in interactions between predators and their prey and local extinction events. Similarly, habitat loss, along with the other impacts already identified, will cause changes in the productivity of marine species used for human consumption.

Small-scale fisheries are the backbone of many coastal communities' socioeconomic well-being, especially in the developing tropics, where most of the countries that depend on fish are located. Fish and fishery products are also among the world's most traded food products (*op. cit.*), but climate change is reducing the productivity of the world's marine fisheries. Regional impacts are especially pronounced, with some regions enjoying large productivity gains while others experience significant losses. The implementation of certain key subprogrammes will help build socio-ecological resilience to climate change, especially in the most vulnerable coastal nations, including the geographic area where this programme is targeted. Those strategies must focus on equity, on anticipating risks and changes by applying the precautionary principle and on cross-border cooperation (*op. cit.*). The river basin integration approach is imperative, since the results of all actions taken on the coast depend on processes in the surrounding basins and wetlands, in particular as regards the quantity and quality of water flows.

In the short and medium terms, the programme will assist Northern Central America and Mexico in their transition towards sustainable blue economies. It will strengthen and build a range of capacities in the countries and support the implementation of sustainable development policies and measures based on intersectoral integration and the conservation and restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems, using a watershed-based approach. At the same time, various activities of the Sustainable Seas and Coastlines programme directly link with the Escazú Agreement in order to guarantee the promotion and full and effective implementation in the Latin American and Caribbean region of the rights of access to environmental information, of public participation in decision-making processes and of access to justice in environmental matters.

¹ S. Gaines and others, *The Expected Impacts of Climate Change on the Ocean Economy*, High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy, Washington, D.C., World Resources Institute, 2019 [online] www.oceanpanel.org/expected-impacts-climate-change-ocean-economy.

² A leading assessment by R. Costanza and others ("Changes in the global value of ecosystem services", *Global Environmental Change*, vol. 26, May 2014) estimated the value of global ocean ecosystem services at nearly US\$ 50 billion in 2011.

³ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), "Summary for policymakers", *IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*, 2019.

Objective

Promote economic development in coastal communities in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico under an integrated watershed management approach, and conserve the health of maritime and coastal ecosystems.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

The pillars of the programme are the following:

- (a) Integrated approach to wetlands and watersheds.
- (b) Sustainable blue economy strategy.
- (c) Fostering innovation and building commercial capacities in aquaculture value chains.
- (d) Sustainable and inclusive development of small-scale fisheries in the countries of Northern Central America.
- (e) Reduced pollution from single-use plastics.

The pillars will use the following proposed indicators:

Pillars	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Integrated approach to wetlands and watersheds. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Knowledge and tools for decision-making.	Policymakers and administrators have access to up-to-date information on wetlands and on mangrove cover and disturbance, threatened species, water flows and quality needs, to maintain viable mangrove populations.	15 staff trained.	5 years
	Addressing the causes of mangrove degradation with a watershed approach.	Higher Ecosystem Health Index (EHI) score for wetlands (to be developed during implementation).	Index for the basins of the four countries.	5 years
	Regional and local mangrove restoration programmes.	Regional and local mangrove restoration programmes.	1,000 ha of mangroves restored by networks or alliances comprising public stakeholders, civil society and private organizations, and involving local communities.	5 years
Blue Economy. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	More sustainable use of the fishery resources on which small-scale fishing is based in the three countries, to enable the activity to continue. Improved infrastructure for small-scale fisheries.	Percentage of fishery resources linked to small-scale fishing with proposals for sustainable management plans.	80%	3 years
		Percentage of artisanal fishers informed about the support programme for modernizing fishing vessels and gear.	80%	3 years
		Percentage of artisanal fishers who have modernized their boats and, as a result, can fish further from the coast or spend more days at sea.	80%	3 years

Indicators (continued)

Pillars	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	Innovations in and expansion of aquaculture value chains.	Regional development, and road map for cooperation and contributions to the SDGs agreed by national value chain coordination committees.		
		The countries are aware of the opportunities for regional cooperation in the aquaculture sector.		
	Regional integration is achieved through partnerships, cooperation for innovations and the promotion of best practices in the aquaculture sector.	Number of strategic partnerships established; memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed.	At least four.	
		Regional meetings organized.	Three.	
		Companies adopting best practices and advanced technologies, promoting innovation in the participating countries and contributing to raised awareness of the potential benefits of replicating success stories.	At least ten.	
		Regional know-how, technology and innovation exchange activities.	At least four.	
	Increased value creation and sustainability throughout aquaculture value chains.	Creation of direct and indirect jobs.		
		Increased wages for workers throughout the value chain.		
		Promotion of schemes for the adoption of advanced technologies (Industry 4.0) and implementation of pilots.	At least five pilot projects.	
		Promotion of participation by women and youth in sectoral associations.		
	Strengthened national and international trade, and compliance with quality standards and certification programmes.	Increased export value.		
		Percentage and value of certified products.		
		Number of environmental sustainability certification pilot programmes.		
	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	More sustainable use of the fishery resources on which small-scale fishing is based in the three countries, to enable the activity to continue.	Percentage of fishery resources linked to small-scale fishing with proposals for sustainable management plans.	80%
Improved infrastructure for small-scale fisheries.		Percentage of artisanal fishers informed about the support programme for modernizing fishing vessels and gear.	80%	3 years
		Percentage of artisanal fishers who have modernized their boats and, as a result, can fish further from the coast or spend more days at sea.	30%	3 years
Improved capacity of small-scale fishers to make their activity profitable.		Percentage of small-scale fishers informed about the technical assistance and training programme.	80%	2 years
		Percentage of small-scale fishers who have received assistance or taken at least one training course.	50%	2 years
		Percentage of small-scale fishers grouped together in associations to market products.	30%	2 years
Increased employment options available to small-scale fishers.		Percentage of small-scale fishers or members of their families who have received information on alternative work related or complementary to small-scale fishing.	80%	2 years

Indicators (concluded)

Pillars	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Reduced pollution from single-use plastics.	Implementation of a national outreach strategy.	Number of people reached and committed.	Nationwide dissemination, 80% of the total population.	2 years
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico have a robust legal framework for waste disposal, recovery and recycling.	Number of national, local and municipal regulations formulated or modified.	Four environmental and/or waste laws amended or enacted.	2 years
	Capacity-building for the enforcement of national and local laws.	Number of countries, states and municipalities with strengthened knowledge of circular economies.	Four countries with strengthened knowledge of circular economies.	2 years
	Strengthening and capacity-building of local industry to encourage recovery, recycling and reuse of potentially recyclable waste.	Number of local industries trained.	15 companies trained.	3 years
	Creation of business models that encourage the sustainable collection of recoverable and recyclable waste, promoting reverse logistics in the value chain.	Number of business models created.	15 businesses created.	3 years

Main activities

Pillar/Agency	Activities
Integrated approach to wetlands and watersheds. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of specific causes of mangrove and wetland disturbance and of the barriers to their resolution. Creation of an integrated field monitoring system for mangrove and wetland coverage and disturbance, threatened species and their habitats, provision of ecosystem services, water flows and quality, to be managed by a multi-stakeholder network. Proposals and identification of sites for mangrove restoration, based on biological, soil, hydrological and social viability assessments. Outreach strategy to disseminate the information provided by the project. Strategy for the incorporation, into development policies, of an integrated approach for protecting and restoring mangrove and wetland ecosystems. Evaluation of integrated watershed and coastline management programmes and projects planned or already under way by government actors and civil society organizations in selected sites, with a view to strengthening those initiatives. Capacity-building to contribute to the empowerment of government actors and civil society organizations involved in integrated watershed and wetland management. Evaluation of regional networks, alliances and initiatives involving civil society and government actors for the protection, restoration and sustainable use of mangroves. Capacity-building programme on mangrove, wetland and hydrological restoration for local communities and other civil society and government stakeholders.
Blue Economy. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review existing national and regional policies and processes that provide support frameworks for a sustainable blue economy and that could provide a basis for planning the transition. Develop a national or regional decision support framework and enabling conditions to identify cross-sectoral blue economy policies and plan for the transition. Capacity-building and training with local, national and regional planners, decision-makers and cross-sectoral stakeholders. Develop and/or adapt existing blue economy principles, criteria and application tools for marine coastal ecosystem services in Northern Central America and Mexico. Provide training in cross-sector planning based on marine and coastal areas. Develop mechanisms to facilitate exchanges of knowledge, experiences, skills and expertise between regional and national agencies and stakeholders from all sectors.

Main activities (concluded)

Pillar/Agency	Activities
Innovations in and expansion of aquaculture value chains. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize a regional launch workshop to discuss formulating the action plan at the local and regional levels and its contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals. Strengthen the existing regional network of National Committees. Organize an Expert Group meeting to formulate a plan for regional development and cooperation and for contributing to the SDGs. Update the content of the digital platform to include more information about national initiatives and thematic research, as a means of sharing and disseminating the project's results. Develop a certification system based on international standards (Codex Alimentarius) to be validated by the competent national authorities. Improve the national quality system by strengthening testing methods (accreditation), and build promote a quality management system (including laboratory infrastructure). Build the capacities of production units for issues related to quality, including best practices in industrial processing, harvesting, biosafety and other areas.
Strengthening small-scale fisheries. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate existing stocks of the main fishery resources used by small-scale fishing in the project countries. Issue recommendations to ensure the sustainability of fishery resources: for example, by establishing closed seasons and, for shared resources, coordinating them. Design and implement a financial support programme to modernize the small-scale fishing fleet and the fishing gear it uses. Design and implement a technical assistance programme to professionalize all aspects of the small-scale fishery value chain: for example, through partnership-based marketing schemes. Conduct studies into the potential for diversification offered by the exploitation of new products and the pursuit of alternative or complementary activities to small-scale fishing: for example, aquaculture, fishing-related tourism or the observation of marine species.
Reduced pollution from single-use plastics United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the best methods to implement a national strategy, in each country, to inform, raise awareness about and publicize the impact of pollution by plastics. Working panels with decision-makers, the private sector, civil society, others. Technical proposals for the amendment of laws and regulations that justify those legal reforms. Institutional strengthening with key actors in waste, conservation and production. Design of concrete programmes of action covering the production and consumption aspects of waste management. Creation of a partnership (regional and national) with key actors for the promotion and development of a circular economy in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. Encourage innovative production to promote the creation of new products and green jobs. Creation of business models that encourage the sustainable collection of recoverable and recyclable waste, promoting reverse logistics in the value chain.

Project governance

Pillar	Actors involved in governance
Integrated approach to wetlands and watersheds. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in collaboration with the four countries' water commissions, CONABIO, secretariats of finance, local governments and local non-governmental organizations.
Blue Economy / Fisheries. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) / Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	The project's general coordinator should be the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), which has an active presence in the field of small-scale fishing in Central America. FAO would be responsible for designing the activities in collaboration with the Central American Fisheries and Aquaculture Organization (OSPESCA), an agency of the Central American Integration System (SICA). OSPESCA would in turn coordinate the implementation of the activities through each country's fisheries authorities.
Aquaculture value chains. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	A steering committee will be established for the project, comprising a representative from each of the participating countries' governments, a representative of the donor(s) and a representative of the implementing agency that is to serve as the technical secretariat.
Reduced pollution from single-use plastics. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) office in Mexico, in conjunction with the Regional Office, will be charged with governance of the component and will create a committee comprising the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and other United Nations system agencies, national, local and municipal governments, and NGOs.

Budget: US\$ 26,210,896

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Pillar	Initiatives with possible synergy
Integrated approach to wetlands and watersheds. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National water plans. • Mangrove-related plans of the National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (CONABIO). • Forest commissions. • Natural protected area commissions. • Plans under the Convention on Biological Diversity. • Convention on Wetlands.
Blue Economy/Fisheries. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2015–2025 Fisheries and Aquaculture Integration Policy, adopted by the Central American countries in 2015 within the framework of the Central American Fisheries and Aquaculture Organization (OSPESCA). • Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication, developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
Aquaculture value chains Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible synergies and linkages with other similar projects at both the national and regional levels will be identified during the preparation of the technical proposal.
Reduced pollution from plastics, metals and paper. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA 4)-Resolution EA.4. • Global Partnership on Marine Litter. • Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA). • Clean Seas Campaign. • Regional Seas Convention. • United Nations Ocean Conference. • Group of 20 – G20 Action Plan on Marine Litter. • Cancún Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being, adopted at the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. • New Urban Agenda-United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). • Commitment to Reduce Marine Pollution. • International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL). • United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. • International Marine Debris Conference. • New Plastics Economy – Ellen MacArthur Foundation.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 3.10

Sustainable production activities with nature-based solutions



Implementing agencies

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in collaboration with various government and civil society institutions from Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and southern and south-eastern Mexico. Primarily, with those countries' environment ministries and secretariats.

Geographical coverage

Natural protected areas, connectivity areas, rural territories, land and marine tourist sites located in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the south and south-east of Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries

350,000 beneficiaries in the four countries.

Main topics

- Ecosystem conservation and management
- Production, productive chains and green trade
- Forest corridor
- Conservation ecotourism

Context

Rural migration to cities and other countries is a problem that is getting worse every day. Factors such as insecurity, resource degradation and a lack of public and private investment affect many rural territories in the Central American countries and the south and south-east of Mexico. Coupled with the loss of livelihoods due to the impact of climate change and natural disasters, the lack of opportunities drives people from their territories of origin.

At the same time, women and young people are an important part of the problem. A high percentage of the three countries' rural women are indigenous who usually travel with their children, although they increasingly do so from the countryside to the city as independent workers to work in domestic service. Such women are triply excluded and vulnerable: on account of their status as women, as indigenous people and as migrants. Other issues affecting rural and indigenous women include the lack of social protection and public services in rural areas. The same applies to young people, who do not have many employment opportunities and are important actors in migration flows.

The programme posits that the ecosystem approach to sustainable productive activities, including nature-based solutions, can be useful in encouraging many families in these countries to remain in their places of origin. The result could be a mosaic in which people will be able to find sustainable livelihood options while preserving their natural capital and improving production processes, incentives and the economic financing of value chains. In other cases, new economic activities could be created to reassert the worth of territories, their landscapes and their biocultural heritage.

Since a large proportion of the territories of the Northern Central American countries and south-eastern Mexico belong to the same historical, cultural and natural continuum, rescuing and preserving the structures of their ecosystems—including forests and national and transboundary watersheds—is important: not only for the benefit of the inhabitants of the agroforestry areas (particularly indigenous populations, women and youth), but also to maintain biological diversity through corridors that facilitate the movements of animal species, pollination and the dispersion of flora and fauna.

Objective

Implement a programme of sustainable productive activities that seeks to bind people and their families to their places of origin through productive projects related to the sustainable management of ecosystems.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Pillar	Component	Expected outcomes	Indicator	Goal	Period
Conservation and adequate management of ecosystems in areas of connectivity in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern Mexico through a public-private financing strategy.	Territorial management strategy and financing strategy for local development with a territorial approach and with the conservation of ecosystems. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Existence of a territorial management strategy for local development with a territorial approach and with the conservation of ecosystems.	Number of territorial management and financing strategies.	At least one strategy per country.	5 years
	Territorial management models for connectivity. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Existence of territorial management models for connectivity.	Number of locations with territorial management.	Twelve locations.	5 years
	Strengthen local governance, capacity-building and productive projects in microbasins.	Existence of models for local governance, capacity-building and productive projects in microbasins.	Number of microbasins with strengthened local governance systems. Number of productive projects.	Six microbasins. 100 productive projects.	5 years
	Integrated system for an outreach strategy to report on the process. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Existence of an integrated system for an outreach strategy to report on the process.	Number of outreach strategies. Number of digital platforms per country. Number of outreach mechanisms.	One outreach strategy per country. One digital platform per country. Different outreach mechanisms.	5 years
	Evaluation and monitoring system to report on the process.	Existence of an evaluation and monitoring system to report on the process.	Number of monitoring and evaluation toolkits.	One monitoring and evaluation toolkit per country.	5 years

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Pillar	Component	Expected outcomes	Indicator	Goal	Period
Production, productive linkages and green trade to increase opportunities and improve market access in impoverished rural areas of the Northern Central American countries.	Adoption of restoration and productive practices with economic incentives and market access. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)	Existence of sustainable nature-based production systems that assist production and the restoration of nature.	Number of nature-based sustainable production systems with priority crops. Deforestation rate. Number of hectares restored for conservation purposes.	5000. Zero net deforestation in areas identified as critical. 50,000 ha reforested in critical areas (25,000 ha in Guatemala, 10,000 ha in Honduras, 5,000 ha in El Salvador)	5 years
		Existence of economic incentives that support sustainable production systems.	Number of economic incentives that support sustainable production systems.	Depending on the tools that are developed.	5 years
		Women and young people with access to markets and financing.	Number of rural women and young people improving their incomes through sustainable ventures. Number of rural women and youth accessing financial services for business development and/or technical capacities, with a gender perspective.	3,000 rural women and young people. 5,000 rural women and young people.	5 years
		Strengthening value chains for priority products.	Number of value chains strengthened.	As a minimum, priority value chains strengthened.	5 years
Conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, raising incomes in marginalized rural areas and promoting productive and tourist diversification through a public-private financing strategy.	Implementation of ecotourism projects that will conserve and make sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, generating incomes in marginalized rural areas and diversifying productive and tourism activities in ecosystems. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Creation of ten Nature Tourism Destinations per country.	Number of Nature Tourism Destinations. Number of direct jobs created.	40 nature sites. 1000.	5 years

Main activities

Pillar	Component	Activities
Conservation and adequate management of ecosystems in areas of connectivity in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern Mexico through a public-private financing strategy.	Territorial management strategy and financing strategy for local development with a territorial approach and with the conservation of ecosystems. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a territorial management strategy for local development with a territorial and ecosystem conservation approach.
	Territorial management models for connectivity. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design a territorial management model for connectivity. • Implement sustainable nature-based productive activities that improve connectivity and sustainable livelihoods.
	Strengthen local governance, capacity-building and productive projects in microbasins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions to strengthen local governance. • Train local actors to strengthen local governance and to equip them with sustainable nature-based productive projects.
	Integrated outreach strategy to report on the process. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish outreach strategies that report on the process in the different territories where ecosystem conservation is carried out. • Establish outreach platforms and tools. • Establish an evaluation and monitoring system to report on the process.
Production, productive linkages and green trade to increase opportunities and improve market access in impoverished rural areas of the Northern Central American countries.	Adoption of restoration and productive practices with economic incentives and market access. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the adoption of productive restoration practices and climate-adapted sustainable agriculture practices. • Adopt technical assistance mechanisms to strengthen those systems. • Promote access to climate information. • Develop economic incentive instruments, based on a gender- and youth-sensitive diagnostic assessment in rural areas. • Promote and ensure gender- and youth-sensitive financing. • Perform a diagnostic assessment of the main value chains for the priority products. • Identify the main obstacles in the priority value chains. • Strengthen the selected value chains.
Conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, raising incomes in marginalized rural areas and promoting productive and tourist diversification through a public-private financing strategy.	Implementation of ecotourism projects that will conserve and make sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, generating incomes in marginalized rural areas and diversifying productive and tourism activities in ecosystems. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of ten Nature Tourism Destinations per country.

Project governance

Pillar	Component	Actors
Conservation and adequate management of ecosystems in areas of connectivity in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern Mexico through a public-private financing strategy.	Territorial management strategy and financing strategy for local development with a territorial approach and with the conservation of ecosystems.	Initially, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the ministries of the environment and the institutions responsible for natural protected areas and biodiversity can set up a steering committee for project guidance and decision-making. This committee could be made up of key actors from the four countries' environment ministries, research and academic institutions, and civil society organizations. Mechanisms must be created so that local communities are taken into account and so that the mutually agreed terms (MAT) and prior informed consent (PIC) provisions of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention (International Labour Organization Convention No. 169 of 1989) and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples are taken into account when working with native or Afrodescendent communities. Private sector support for these initiatives is another important element.
	Territorial management models for connectivity.	Academic institutions, research centres, civil society organizations, to create and test these management models. Local capacities must be strengthened and, if necessary, new models of territorial management must be created. Private sector engagement must also be secured.
	Strengthen local governance, capacity-building and productive projects in microbasins.	Train local actors in governance and management topics. Involve the local private sector and local social and productive organizations. Strengthen public policy instruments that help bolster local governance.
	Integrated outreach strategy to report on the process.	Outreach specialists will develop the proposal under the supervision of UNEP and national environment ministries. The work of the environmental institutions' outreach areas must be taken on board in order to generate synergies. The steering committee will have to give its endorsement.
	Evaluation and monitoring system to report on the process.	Specialists in evaluation and monitoring systems, and training for local actors in the use of these tools for management, conservation and productive projects in the territories. Under UNEP supervision, and with the steering committee's endorsement.
Production, productive linkages and green trade to increase opportunities and improve market access in impoverished rural areas of the Northern Central American countries.	Adoption of restoration and productive practices with economic incentives and market access.	UNEP and UN-Women, national focal points: A project steering committee will be established for planning and monitoring and to ensure transparency in the use of resources. The participation of the ministries of agriculture, environment and finance is important. Research centres, civil society organizations, extensionists and other specialists will be brought on board to strengthen the process. It will report to the main steering committee. A gender approach must be maintained both in the planning process and in the implementation of the sustainable productive activities. Involve producers' organizations for production, processing and market research. Companies and financial services must be brought on board. The beneficiaries' financial and administrative culture must also be strengthened, and gender approaches must be used in that process.
Conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, raising incomes in marginalized rural areas and promoting productive and tourist diversification through a public-private financing strategy.	Implementation of ecotourism projects that will conserve and make sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, generating incomes in marginalized rural areas and diversifying productive and tourism activities in ecosystems.	UNEP, in partnership with the tourism and environment ministries, and with civil society organizations engaged in those areas. The communities and families that will work with nature tourism must be trained and strengthened.

Budget: US\$ 42,065,000

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Pillar	Component	Initiatives
Conservation and adequate management of ecosystems in areas of connectivity in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern Mexico through a public-private financing strategy.	Territorial management strategy and financing strategy for local development with a territorial approach and with the conservation of ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural protected areas system and other conservation instruments, such as areas voluntarily destined for conservation and wildlife management units. • Ecological zoning policies and regulations. • Inter-municipal and biocultural landscape committees. • Mesoamerican Alliance for Peoples and Forests. • National Strategy on Biodiversity. • National REDD+ strategies. • Subnational REDD+ strategies. • Comprehensive development programmes.
	Territorial management models for connectivity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural protected areas system and other conservation instruments, such as areas voluntarily destined for conservation and wildlife management units. • Ecological zoning policies and regulations. • Inter-municipal and biocultural landscape committees. • Mesoamerican Alliance for Peoples and Forests. • National Biodiversity Strategy. • National REDD+ strategies. • Subnational REDD+ strategies. • Integral development programmes.
	Strengthen local governance, capacity-building and productive projects in microbasins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural protected areas system and other conservation instruments, such as areas voluntarily destined for conservation and wildlife management units. • Ecological zoning policies and regulations. • Inter-municipal and biocultural landscape committees. • Mesoamerican Alliance for Peoples and Forests. • National Biodiversity Strategy. • National REDD+ strategies. • Subnational REDD+ strategies. • Integral development programmes.
	Integrated outreach strategy to report on the process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural protected areas system and other conservation instruments, such as areas voluntarily destined for conservation and wildlife management units. • Ecological zoning policies and regulations. • Inter-municipal and biocultural landscape committees. • Mesoamerican Alliance for Peoples and Forests. • National Biodiversity Strategy. • National REDD+ strategies. • Subnational REDD+ strategies. • Integral development programmes.
	Evaluation and monitoring system to report on the process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural protected areas system and other conservation instruments, such as areas voluntarily destined for conservation and wildlife management units. • Ecological zoning policies and regulations. • Inter-municipal and biocultural landscape committees. • Mesoamerican Alliance for Peoples and Forests. • National Biodiversity Strategy. • National REDD+ strategies. • Subnational REDD+ strategies. • Integral development programmes.
Production, productive linkages and green trade to increase opportunities and improve market access in impoverished rural areas of the Northern Central American countries.	Adoption of restoration and productive practices with economic incentives and market access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water, Forest and Soil Master Plan • Environmental services restoration programme of the Government of Honduras. • Ecosystem restoration programme of Guatemala (<i>Vivamos Mejor</i>). • National Ecosystems and Landscapes Restoration Programme of El Salvador. • Bonn Challenge.
Conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, raising incomes in marginalized rural areas and promoting productive and tourist diversification through a public-private financing strategy.	Implementation of ecotourism projects that will conserve and make sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, generating incomes in marginalized rural areas and diversifying productive and tourism activities in ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-creation of the community tourism destination on the Oaxaca Coast. • Co-creation of the Lacandon Jungle as a nature tourism destination. • Global Environment Facility (GEF) sustainable landscapes project in Oaxaca and Chiapas. • GEF biodiversity project. • Mayan Train in southern Mexico. • Subregional plan for sustainable tourism on the Oaxaca Coast. • Sustainable Tourism Master Plan in Guatemala. • <i>Impulsa</i> programme for sustainable tourism ventures.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 3.11

Small-scale afforestation, payment for ecosystem services and construction of a forest corridor in Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico



Implementing agencies:

National institutions: El Salvador: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), Ministry of Local Development (MINDEL); Guatemala: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), Ministry of Social Development (MIDES); Honduras: Secretariat of Natural Resources and Environment (MiAmbiente+), Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG), Secretariat of Development and Social Inclusion (SEDIS); Mexico: Secretariat of Welfare (SB) and Secretariat of Foreign Affairs (SRE). *Support institutions:* Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Central American Integration System (SICA), Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD).

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-eastern states of Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

100,000 direct jobs in activities associated with environmental and ecosystem services in forests and watersheds in selected rural locations of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras (including communities in the Dry Corridor) and south-eastern states of Mexico.

Main topics:

- Combating climate change
- Fighting poverty
- Job creation
- Afforestation and reforestation
- Integral forest and watershed management
- Payments for ecosystem services

Context:

On 1 March 2019, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 2021 to 2030 as the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration,¹ in order to bring about a major increase in the restoration of degraded and destroyed ecosystems as an effective measure to combat climate change and contribute to the protection of biodiversity and improved food security and water supplies.

Ecosystems have been suffering degradation at an unprecedented rate, affecting food systems and the livelihoods of millions of people. The United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration will help combat the impact of climate change and reduce biodiversity loss, opening up new avenues for forest restoration.

Forest restoration is a process of productive, ecological and functional recovery to improve livelihoods in deforested or degraded landscapes. This restoration is a way to recover, improve and maintain the vital productive, ecological and social functions that generate more resilient and sustainable ecosystems.

That process is essential in achieving the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 13 (climate action). Forest restoration can also contribute to poverty alleviation (SDG 1), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), responsible production and consumption (SDG 12) and the protection and maintenance of life on land (SDG 15). Ecosystem restoration will assist in achieving the global forest goals of the 2017–2030 United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests. It is also a pillar of various international environmental conventions, including the Ramsar Convention, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention to Combat Desertification and the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The recovery of terrestrial ecosystems —forests in particular— is an urgent task in south-eastern Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, where the loss of tree cover has been accentuated in recent years. According to the Global Forest Watch initiative of the World Resources Institute, between 2001 and 2018 the countries of Northern Central America lost approximately 2.5 million hectares of forest cover, equivalent to almost 800 million tons of CO₂. Over the same period, Mexico lost about 3.67 million hectares of forest cover, equivalent to 891 million tons of CO₂. In addition to its negative repercussions on biodiversity and the environment, forest loss has an impact on the production of raw materials used to manufacture a wide range of goods.

Forest loss also has an impact on the businesses and families that depend on the extraction of forestry products and on forest-related tourism and cultural services. FAO estimates that non-wood forestry products provide food and incomes for one fifth of the world's population. In the countries of Northern Central America (47% of the population) and Mexico (11% of the population), forests are of vital importance for around 32 million people, as they provide the firewood needed for cooking. Forest loss can be a factor that drives migration when the resources provided by forest areas are no longer adequate.

In order to conserve, protect and expand forests, to improve the living conditions of the rural communities that benefit from them and to prevent migration (by young people in particular), lost coverage must be reforested and other actions must be taken for the integrated management of forests and watersheds. Since a large proportion of the territories of the Northern Central American countries and south-eastern Mexico belong to the same historical, cultural and natural continuum, rescuing and preserving the structures of their ecosystems —including forests and national and transboundary watersheds— is important: not only for the benefit of the inhabitants of the agroforestry areas (particularly indigenous populations, women and youth), but also to maintain biological diversity through interconnected corridors that facilitate the movements of animal species, pollination and the dispersion of flora and fauna: in other words, the construction of a forest corridor.

¹ See [online] <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1182090/icode/>.

In order to promote forest restoration processes that are appropriate to the needs of the Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico, actions are needed that will help:

- Improve the political, institutional and technical environment for forest restoration and the capacity for collaboration.
- Ensure correct land use as an opportunity to address the climate crisis and to reduce biodiversity loss through nature-based solutions.
- Establish business models that mobilize investments at the required scale through public and private schemes and that include payment for ecosystem services.

Payments for ecosystem services are a valuable tool for promoting the conservation and sustainable use of the services provided by ecosystems such as forests. These services can help greenhouse gas mitigation, carbon sequestration, watershed protection, water supply improvements, and the regulation of nutrient cycles and pollination, among other benefits. Payment for ecosystem services is an innovative financing mechanism that provides economic incentives to farmers, foresters and forest owners in exchange for the conservation and sustainable management of forest areas.

This proposal has the potential to improve employment conditions and soil conservation, increase resilience to the effects of climate change, protect biodiversity, combat poverty and contribute to reducing migration.

Objective

Promote sustainable development in Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico by creating a forest corridor, through payment for ecosystem services provided by farmers, foresters and forest owners, forest plantations and agro-silvo-pastoral systems, improving governance systems and institutional interconnections and implementing nature-based solutions.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Improved policies, strategies and institutional interconnections for forest restoration.	Number of participating countries with policies, strategies and institutional arrangements for forest restoration updated, defined, formulated and under way.	Four countries.	5 years
Reforestation of land in Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico through innovative models for the sustainable and integrated management and restoration of territories that include nature-based solutions.	Number of hectares reforested.	1 million hectares.	5 years
Introduction of payments for ecosystem services.	Number of countries that have implemented a self-sustaining scheme for ecosystem service payments.	Four countries.	5 years
Job creation in Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico in activities related to environmental services in forests and watersheds.	Number of jobs created in activities related to environmental services in forests and watersheds.	100,000 direct jobs.	5 years

Main activities

- Conduct studies that produce recommendations for improving and implementing governance processes, policies, strategies, capacity-building and institutional interconnections for forest reforestation.
- Conduct studies leading to the implementation of innovative schemes for ecosystem service payments that will attract investment and enable the financing of these schemes, the adoption of better land use practices (agriculture, agroforestry and forestry) and local development.
- Identify and compile a portfolio of projects for afforestation in small and medium plots and for the maintenance of community areas and reserves, applying ecosystem service payment schemes, with a focus on indigenous communities, women and youth based on the studies carried out.
- Implement reforestation projects in Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico.
- Promote meetings between the countries to strike agreements for the integral management of transboundary basins and biological routes that will make up the forest corridor.

Project governance

It is expected that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) will be in charge of project formulation and coordination, and of providing the countries with technical assistance. The Central American Integration System (SICA), the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), FAO and Mexico's Secretariat of Foreign Affairs (SRE) will be responsible for the regional strategy to shape the forest corridor. The project will combine with national forest strategies and programmes in Northern Central America (under their ministries of the environment and natural resources and ministries of agriculture) and in Mexico (under the Secretariat of Welfare). The local development strategy will be a joint effort by the ministries of environment and natural resources, agriculture ministries and social development ministries of the Northern Central American countries and the Secretariat of Welfare of Mexico.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The proposal is in alignment with the Regional Strategic Programme for Forest Ecosystems Management (PERFOR), the 2018–2030 Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy for the SICA Region and the Regional Strategy on Agro-Environment and Health.

The proposal may also offer synergies with the forest landscape restoration programme of the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), Initiative 20x20, the Bonn Challenge, the 4 per 1000 Initiative, EuroClima+ and others. Several SICA countries are implementing initiatives funded by the Green Climate Fund that are closely related to this proposal's objectives.

All four countries have forestry strategies and programmes: El Salvador's Forest Strategy, the National Strategy for the Approach of Deforestation and Degradation of Forests in Guatemala, the Honduras National Forest Programme (PRONAFOR) and Mexico's *Sembrando Vida* programme. FAO supports El Salvador's strategy; the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is involved in Guatemala's strategy; while Honduras's PRONAFOR is being conducted through the reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) mechanism. In turn, through its *Sembrando Vida* ("Sowing Life") programme, the Mexican Government has transferred funds to low-income farmers to encourage agro-forestry activities.

Duration

- Study into governance, policies, strategies and institutional interconnections for reforestation in Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico: 1 year.
- Study into innovative ecosystem service payment schemes: 1 year.
- Planning: 1 year.
 - Identification and compilation a project portfolio, taking account of the programmes already under way in the Northern Central American countries and the complementarities with the *Sembrando Vida* programme in Mexico.
- International agreements on transboundary basins and biological routes: 3 years.
- Execution: 5 years.
 - Implementation of governance, policies, strategies and institutional interconnections.
 - Reforestation of 1 million hectares.
 - Training and development of ecosystem services programme.

Budget: US\$ 2,553,575,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Small-scale afforestation, payment for ecosystem services and construction of a forest corridor in the countries of Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico.	Forest Strategy of El Salvador. National Strategy for the Approach of Deforestation and Degradation of Forests in Guatemala. Honduras National Forest Programme (REDD+). <i>Sembrando Vida</i> programme, Mexico.	Regional Strategic Programme for Forest Ecosystems Management (SICA). 2018–2030 Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy for the SICA Region (SICA). Regional Strategy on Agro-Environment and Health (SICA). Initiative 20x20 (World Resources Institute (WRI), International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) and International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)).	National Forest Monitoring Systems (FAO). EU-FAO Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Programme (EU-FAO FLEGT Programme). Adapting rural communities to climate variability and change to improve resilience and livelihoods in Guatemala. (FAO and Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)). Adaptation to climate change in the Dry Corridor. (World Customs Organization (WCO), Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI)). Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity (UNDP). Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (UNDP, World Bank, IDB and REDD+). Sustainable Productive Landscapes (UNDP, REDD+). United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme) (FAO, UNDP and WCO). Climate Change Resilient Productive Landscapes in Guatemala (UNDP). CBA Guatemala: Adapting to Climate Change through the Application of Green Forest Borders (UNDP). Bonn Challenge (Global Environment Facility (GEF), International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), UNDP and FAO)). 4 per 1000 Initiative, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Green Climate Fund (GCF), UNFCCC.	Community-based forest management and adaptation to climate change (CLIFOR), German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and European Union (EU). Regional Forest Landscape Restoration in Central America and the Dominican Republic (GIZ). EuroClima+ (EU). Our Land-Our Forests: Forest Governance of Indigenous People and Forest Communities in REDD+ and FLEGT (EU). EU REDD Facility (EU). EU FLEGT Facility (EU).	Recovery of the natural capital of the Dry Corridor and climate adaptation of its population (IDB and MIF). Support for the preparation of the Sustainable Forest Management Project (IDB). Phase II of the preparations for the National Strategy for Reducing Emissions by Avoiding Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Guatemala REDD+ (IDB). Funding for climate change adaptation in Honduras and Mexico (IDB and MIF). Sustainable forest management in Honduras (IDB). Increasing the Competitiveness of Small Producers and Forest Communities in Honduras (IDB, IIC, MIF, FAMA).	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 3.12

Climate change mitigation and adaptation, and creation of green jobs



Implementing agencies

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), in partnership with national governments (ministries or secretariats of the environment and labour, and related institutions such as vocational training centres, employment services and others as needed), local governments, workers' organizations, national and international organizations and funds, and academia.

Geographical coverage

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern states of Mexico.

Main topics

- Climate change
- Ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA)
- Resilience of urban systems
- Ecosystem conservation
- Local and industrial development
- Sustainable small and medium-sized enterprises
- Employment policies
- Urban planning

Context

One of the threats posed by climate change is the increase in mass migration driven by climate disasters and the potential stress this could bring to bear on already overcrowded urban areas. In 1990 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) noted that human migration could be the most serious impact of climate change, with millions of people displaced by shoreline erosion, coastal flooding and agricultural disruption. Since then various analysts have tried to put numbers on future flows of climate-driven migrants (sometimes called climate refugees or environmental refugees), but the most widely repeated prediction is 200 million by 2050.¹

While migration is a global phenomenon, whereby one person out of every seven in the world is a domestic or international migrant (International Organization for Migration (IOM), using figures from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) 2013),² the effects of migration are felt most keenly at the local level, primarily on the urban scale. There are numerous reasons for this: first, migrants naturally congregate in urban centres, where there are more work opportunities and life choices; second, migrants are supported by a system of family and social networks that invariably lead them to migrate to cities; and third, urban areas, especially larger ones, offer opportunities for a degree of anonymity and low-profile integration.

Various studies have noted that migration is a key factor in the growth of cities and urbanization processes which, as they diversify, encourage development and opportunities, especially when migration processes take place under judiciously devised policies and actions.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, 77% of the population currently lives in cities, and the figure is expected to reach 85% over the next two decades. Those statistics place the cities of Latin America and the Caribbean among the fastest growing in the developing world. This rapid urban expansion is particularly noticeable in small and medium-sized cities, which are growing faster than most megacities. Rapid urbanization is putting increasing pressure on urban authorities to increase their provision of basic services and infrastructure, oftentimes against a backdrop of limited capacity for urban planning. As a result, approximately 50 million people in Latin America and the Caribbean do not have access to clean water.

Uncontrolled population growth in cities has clearly been detrimental to urban ecosystems. This anthropogenic degradation has negative effects on urban communities because it leads to a reduction in the services that the biophysically degraded ecosystems can provide. If the adverse effects of climate change are also taken into account, the result will be an increase in harm to the ecosystems and to the population.

In terms of their land area, cities occupy only 2% of the world's landmass. In terms of electricity consumption and its implications for climate impact, however, they leave an enormous footprint. Cities consume more than two-thirds of the world's energy and account for more than 70% of global CO₂ emissions.³ As part of the climate change problem, cities can also be an integral part of its solution.

The entire Latin American and Caribbean region makes a relatively small contribution to the global carbon footprint (9.5%). However, the regional average for per capita greenhouse gas emissions (7 tons CO₂-eq) is higher than the global average (5 tons CO₂-eq). The region's transport sector has a significant and growing carbon footprint, and its power generation sector has a comparable emissions footprint; taken

¹ International Organization for Migration (IOM), "Migration and climate change", *IOM Migration Research Series*, No. 31, Geneva, 2008.

² United Nations, *International Migration Report 2013* (ST/ESA/SER.A/346), Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), Population Division, December 2013.

³ C40 Cities, "Why cities?" [online] https://www.c40.org/why_cities.

together, they accounted for 25% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in 2019. According to this report, under the business as usual (BAU) scenario, emissions from those two sectors are expected to double by 2050. This will further distance the region from the 1.5°C pathway.⁴

As part of this programme, electromobility has been identified as an element in mitigating those emissions. One of the actions needed to promote it is the electrification of public transport systems. At the same time, energy efficiency offers the most cost-effective and high-impact way to reduce global GHG emissions. Calculations indicate that energy efficiency has the potential to reduce 50% of the GHG emissions needed to achieve the 2°C target. In addition to their environmental contribution, energy efficiency measures in the industrial sector can further the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): increased disposable income and economic growth, improved industrial productivity, cleaner local air, with the associated health benefits, and poverty alleviation. Such gains could add another 50% in economic benefits, in addition to the direct reductions in energy costs.

In addition, meeting the nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to which all the countries have committed will require focusing efforts on the national economic sectors with the greatest support needs for the implementation of emission reduction policies and strategies, in addition to the forestry, agriculture and transport sectors and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), so that the Paris Agreement can be complied with and, at the same time, jobs and growth can be created. That is why an industrial approach to reducing emissions would have a dual impact: mitigation, and productive development.

Against that backdrop and at the recent 2019 United Nations Climate Action Summit (23 September 2019), three of the Comprehensive Development Plan countries (Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico) committed themselves to supporting a fair ecological transition. In particular, they committed to formulating national plans for a fair transition, creating decent work and green jobs to enable ambitious action to be taken against climate change. A fair transition towards sustainable development entails ensuring that the economic, social and environmental consequences of the ecological transformation of economies and societies are managed in ways that maximize decent work opportunities for all, reduce inequalities and promote social justice, while supporting those industries, communities and workers that are negatively impacted.

It is important that a gender approach be incorporated into the subprogramme, because women are particularly affected by the material conditions of the territory, its form, its extension, the quality of urban services, distances and monetary and time costs, as well by the difficulties of travelling around cities. In addition, those factors combine with and feed off the scourge of violence they invariably experience and perceive.

Objective

Implement a subprogramme that addresses both the environmental component, through mitigation and adaptation actions, and the socioeconomic component, through the creation of green jobs, with an urban focus.

⁴ United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), *Zero Carbon: Latin America and the Caribbean*, 2019.

Main activities

Pillar	Component	Activities
Climate change mitigation.	Electromobility. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a diagnostic assessment of each selected city, to include a baseline of the current public transport system and the main technical, legal, economic and social barriers (with an emphasis on gender issues) to the electrification of public transport. • Define the technical specifications for electric buses, the related charging infrastructure and monitoring sensors for the pilot project. • Conduct an outreach campaign to raise awareness among public transport users about the benefits of electrifying public service buses. • Purchase and deploy the electric buses, associated charging infrastructure and monitoring sensors. • Provide stakeholders with training, and carry out activities for the selected cities to exchange experiences about the pilot process.
	Energy efficiency focused on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop country-specific energy efficiency policy measures for industry. • National capacity-building to train a team of experts in energy efficiency and management strategies. • Pilot projects for industrial energy efficiency projects suitable for investment. • Financial solutions to unblock the implementation of energy efficiency.
Climate change adaptation.	Ecosystem based adaptation in ten cities. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support local institutions in designing and implementing local gender-sensitive interventions, regulations and policies to prevent violence against women and girls in urban green spaces, and in investing in security, including public infrastructure and gender-inclusive plans. • Integration of the gender perspective into the protocols developed to guide the implementation of ecosystem based adaptation (EbA) interventions. • Facilitate the participation of women in ecological agriculture value chains and markets, and provide training on financing, microcredits, business management and ecological agriculture markets. <p>Adaptation actions at the basin level, in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve riparian ecosystems, forests and jungles. • Restore degraded natural areas. • Adopt sustainable practices in farming activities. • Monitor and provide access to information on the state of the basin as it is produced. • Involve and train communities in adaptation activities. • Vulnerability and EbA training strategy. • Climate vulnerability study with an EbA approach. • Creation of an ecological land management programme. • Climate action plan.

Main activities (concluded)

Pillar	Component	Activities
Green jobs.	National plans and sectoral strategies. International Labour Organization (ILO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on estimates of potential green job creation under climate action policies (mitigation and adaptation). • Design of innovative social protection measures to accelerate the transition to inclusive, green growth. • Organization of specific working groups to develop the plan for the creation of green jobs in the rural economy with a gender perspective. • Plan for the creation of green jobs with a gender perspective in the mining and energy sector. • Plan for the creation of green jobs with a gender perspective for a circular economy • Programme for the creation of green jobs with a gender perspective for sustainable cities. • Plan for the creation of green jobs linked to climate change adaptation measures following ILO employment-intensive methodologies. • Analysis of opportunities for green job creation within the coffee value chain and other relevant chains in each of the countries. • Organization of strategic dialogue events with employers' organizations on investment opportunities in priority sectors. • Mapping exercise to identify sustainable companies that exist in the priority sectors in each country. • Training programmes for the development of new ventures and business initiatives in environmental sectors. • Design of a programme to make micro, small and medium-sized enterprises more sustainable. • Study of the new professional skills needed in each country for green jobs. • Forging of strategic public-private partnerships for training in green jobs. • Training programmes on green job creation opportunities for identified key actors. • Mapping exercise to identify key actors to join the social dialogue body and the commissions, working groups and other agencies, able to incorporate decisions regarding the fair transition and green job creation. • Road map for decision-making related to the formulation of national plans for green job creation as part of a fair transition.
Mitigation of forced migration	The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Territorial urban analysis of priority municipalities for attention. • Regulatory, programmatic and institutional analysis of local capacities in priority municipalities of origin. • Migrant profile and general urban description of the priority municipalities of origin in the region. • Identification of the main urban shortcomings and opportunities in the priority municipalities of origin. • Inventory of urban interventions to prevent or mitigate forced migration in priority municipalities of origin. • Guidelines for the implementation of urban interventions in priority municipalities of origin. • Identification of one municipality in each country for the application of the guidelines and the rapid intervention tool. • Technical capacity-building workshops and train-the-trainers strategy for local officials, to develop urban interventions at the neighbourhood level for promoting socioeconomic inclusion and social cohesion. • Document identifying and analysing urban planning instruments for priority cities. • Document proposing strategic components for strengthening urban planning instruments in the region's border cities. • Document proposing specific guidelines to create a synthetic model of urban planning instruments. • Regional urban analysis based on the City Prosperity Index (CPI). • Document identifying and analysing existing studies on the natural, built and heritage physical environment, and analysing the region's economic, social, environmental and territorial elements. • Document detailing economic and population flows and interactions between population centres. • Document analysing and profiling microregions and urban-rural corridors in the region, with emphasis on the spatial and territorial dynamics of migration. • Identification of economic microregions and strategic areas for investment and economic development according to the territory's resources, vocation and potential. • Regional, territorial and urban design and planning document for Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico • Document with a strategic component for environmental sustainability, climate change and integrated risk management, from the regional perspective. • Visioning workshops on regional development for local authorities in the region's countries, with an emphasis on the phenomenon of forced migration. • High-level political-territorial ministerial forum on the programme for land management in Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico. • Scheme for the implementation of integrated urban operations (IUOs) in priority cities and definition of financial arrangements. The scheme will work towards the following results at each stage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of between eight and ten precarious neighbourhoods and definition of priority urban areas for IUO implementation. • Formulation of partial or master plans for the implementation of IUOs in precarious neighbourhoods and priority areas. • Implementation of IUOs in priority areas, based on operational and land management instruments, with the definition of financial arrangements. • Ecosystem of funds for financing the integral urban and territorial operations resulting from the process.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Pillar	Component	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Climate change mitigation.	Electromobility United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Public transport buses introduced in four Latin American cities.	Number of electric buses deployed.	At least 30 electric buses in total.	2 years
	Energy efficiency, focusing on SMEs. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	Plan for the adoption and coherent implementation of energy efficiency by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) at the national level developed and/or improved.	Countries and eight states in southern and south-eastern Mexico adopt norms and standards for energy efficiency (EE) in appliances, buildings and industry.	At least all three countries and the states adopt EE action plans and adopt EE equipment standards and norms for household appliances, buildings and industrial processes.	12 months
Climate change adaptation.	Ecosystem-based adaptation in ten cities. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)	Diagnostic assessment of energy efficiency opportunities in industrial sectors developed and/or improved.	Number of SMEs assessed by certified experts in the target countries and states.	At least 80 trainers certified and at least 10,000 SMEs assessed.	24 months
		Design of interventions to help unlock opportunities for industrial energy efficiency in the three countries and the eight south-eastern Mexican states; through the use of four pillars (policy, capacity- and capability-building, project development, financing).	Number of SMEs interested in interventions from experts trained by certified trainers and/or institutions.	Organizations of SMEs agree to implement targeted interventions at SMEs to improve EE.	12 months
	Urban rivers under management and conservation.	Kilometres of urban rivers under management and conservation.	20 km.	24 months	
	Natural wetlands preserved and cleaned.	Hectares of natural wetlands reclaimed and under management.	40 ha.	24 months	
	Forests and woodlands on steep slopes in periurban areas under management with an ecosystem-based adaptation approach.	Hectares of forest or woodland with improved or conserved ecosystem services.	100 ha.	36 months	
	Best practices for agro-silvo-pastoral activities and for maize fields intercropped with fruit trees.	Area under agro-silvo-pastoral management and best practices.	100 ha.	36 months	
	Best practices in livestock farming that respect ecosystems and encourage their conservation.	Area under regenerative livestock management schemes.	50 ha.	24 months	
	Connectivity of urban green areas to encourage biological corridors and thermal comfort for inhabitants.	Biological corridors identified and intervened.	10 km.	24 months	
	Remote local communities with access to domestic wastewater sanitation.	Families with access to anaerobic biogas systems in communities that cannot access sanitation.	50 systems.	24 months	
	Integrated water management in cities as a strategy for supply and public health.	Number of schools and public buildings with rainwater collection systems.	50 systems.	24 months	
Local communities benefiting from vegetable cultivation in urban gardens installed in schools and urban public spaces.	Local communities with livelihood alternatives through the production of edible mushrooms while supporting the care and conservation of ecosystems.	Local communities benefiting from vegetable cultivation in urban gardens installed.	Number of urban gardens installed.	50 gardens.	36 months
		Local communities with livelihood alternatives through the production of edible mushrooms while supporting the care and conservation of ecosystems.	Number of women's groups benefiting from edible mushroom production.	300 women in 30 production units.	24 months

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Pillar	Component	Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Climate change adaptation.	Ecosystem-based adaptation in ten cities.	Local governments with the capacity to develop climate change vulnerability studies for decision-making at the city planning level.	Number of cities with climate change vulnerability studies.	10 studies.	24 months
	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)	Local governments using the vulnerability study results and creating or updating urban planning tools (e.g. plans, programmes).	Number of instruments created or updated.	20 planning tools updated or created.	36 months
		Municipalities in the selected cities improve their ability to adopt an ecosystem-based adaptation approach combined with a gender approach in medium- and long-term urban planning.	Number of tools created by the project that contribute to gender-sensitive EBA planning at the local level. Number of cities planning with an ecosystem-based adaptation approach and a gender approach.	At least five tools created. At least ten cities.	3 years
Green jobs.	National plans and sectoral strategies.	Women in situations of greater economic vulnerability implementing ecosystem-based adaptation interventions and improving their access to decent employment opportunities.	Number of women implementing ecosystem-based adaptation interventions.	At least 2,000 women.	3 years
	International Labour Organization (ILO)	Communities most exposed to the effects of climate change, with a particular focus on women and children, with improved capacities for resilience and for understanding women's rights.	Percentage of beneficiary women with improved access to decent work opportunities.	30% at the project's end.	3 years
		National plans for the creation of green jobs in a fair transition framework are formulated in Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico.	Percentage of most-at-risk communities reporting improved resilience at project's end. Percentage of men in project communities reporting an improved understanding of women's rights.	50% of the communities. 30% of the men in the participating communities.	3 years
Mitigation of forced migration.	National plans and sectoral strategies.	At least three national plans formulated and implemented in Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico.	At least three national plans formulated and implemented in Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico.	Three national plans.	4 years
	International Labour Organization (ILO)	A programme for sustainable businesses is devised in each country to encourage economic transformation and sustainable and inclusive growth.	Number of companies involved in the sustainable business programme.	At least 150 companies.	
		Programmes designed to reduce the professional skills gaps for green jobs and the provision of specific educational services.	At least three national plans on professional skills for green jobs formulated and under way in Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico.	500 people (youth, women, rural populations, indigenous people) benefited by the programmes.	
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)		Creation of a forum for social dialogue on green jobs and fair transition.	Number of institutions and organizations that are part of the social dialogue forum.	Three social dialogue forums created.	
		Rapid migration-related contingency interventions in municipalities of origin that promote urban actions to attack the causes of forced migration at the neighbourhood level.	Number of neighbourhood-level contingency interventions in municipalities.	Implementation of a rapid intervention tool in five municipalities.	15 months
		Strengthening local capacities to work at the neighbourhood level to consolidate conditions and opportunities for social and economic integration.	Number of local officials trained.	Strengthening the technical capacities of municipalities of origin identified by SRE.	32 months
Improved conditions of origin.		Development of integrated urban operations in strategic neighbourhoods.	Number of integrated urban operations carried out.	Implementation in ten cities that are migrant departure points.	27 months
		Improved conditions of prosperity in migrants' neighbourhoods of origin.	City Prosperity Index.	Solid CPI scores in the intervention settlements.	15 months

Project governance

Pillar	Component	Actors involved in governance
Climate change mitigation.	Electromobility United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Multisectoral working groups will be set up for each of the cities, comprising representatives from the public sector (e.g. authorities responsible for mobility or transport, energy, customs, as well as city governments), the private sector (e.g. electricity companies, transport operators, banks, insurance companies) and civil society (e.g. representatives of public transport users, non-profit organizations and other related groups of organized citizens).
	Energy efficiency, focusing on SMEs United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	Ministers or secretaries of energy (or equivalent) from the three countries and from the south-eastern Mexican states, associations of SMEs representing the countries and/or states, local and/or municipal governments, and representatives of educational and technical training institutes. Coordination with regional bodies such as the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the UNIDO project with SICA (Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, SICREE), among others. Activities will be coordinated primarily through national energy management committees.
Climate change adaptation.	Ecosystem-based adaptation in ten cities United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)	UNEP and UN-Women, country focal points: a project steering committee will be set up and charged with planning, follow-up and transparency in the use of funds. In addition, at the city level, project technical committees will be set up, comprising representatives of local governments, academia, private businesses and organized civil society, to support the pursuit of each city's objectives in support of the country coordinators.
Green jobs.	National plans and sectoral strategies International Labour Organization (ILO)	Advisory Board for the three countries: the Board will provide strategic programme guidance and advise on key developments and trends relevant to its work, as well as project management at the technical level. The Board will be composed of representatives of governments, social partners and other relevant actors with a role in programme implementation (academia, researchers) as well as a representative of the donor community for the project, a representative of the United Nations system and a representative of the International Labour Organization (ILO). National steering committees: committees will be set up in each country and will benefit from national support for the programme. The committees will be responsible for providing strategic direction on national programme implementation. They will comprise government representatives, social partners and other relevant actors with a role in the implementation of the programme at the national level. Secretariat: the secretariat will be responsible for coordinating the programme and its operations in the three countries, for monitoring the initiative's implementation, and for financial and administrative reporting. ILO will serve as the secretariat.
	Mitigation of forced migration United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)	UN-Habitat will carry out the design and implementation of the initiative, in partnership with national and local governments in the locations where the interventions are to take place. It will also create a collaborative forum to promote public, private and cooperation agency investment schemes in the priority municipalities, with the participation of local communities, for the implementation of local development projects that are socially, economically and environmentally sustainable over time and generate lasting urban prosperity.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Pillar	Component	Initiatives
Climate change mitigation.	Electromobility. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2019–2022 Strategic Plan (Alliance for Electromobility in Mexico). • Mexico City 2018–2030 electromobility strategy (C40 Cities Finance Facility (CFF) in partnership with Carbon Trust Mexico).
	Energy efficiency focused on SMEs. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The initiative will be complemented by initiatives by other United Nations agencies, such as the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) others. • Coordination will also take place with regional bodies such as SICA and the UNIDO/SICA project (SICREE), among others.
Climate change adaptation.	Ecosystem-based adaptation in ten cities. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal presented in this Comprehensive Development Plan: <i>Satellite Account System for Disaster Measurement</i>. • National Plan for a Public Investment Systems Network. • Regional programmes, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) – Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES). • United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR): Sendai Framework. • United Nations Statistics Division. • German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).
Green jobs.	National plans and sectoral strategies. International Labour Organization (ILO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Agrarian Productive Development Programme (AGRORURAL), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
	Mitigation of forced migration. United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This UN-Habitat proposal is based on the Government of Mexico's vision and strategy set out in the 2019–2024 National Development Plan (NDP), in particular the approach to human mobility, and on the ECLAC Comprehensive Development Plan. • Synergies will also be built with the UN-Habitat programme <i>Inclusive Cities – Enhancing the Positive Impact of Urban Migration</i>, which aims to support local and national authorities affected by the phenomenon of forced migration by seeking solutions that benefit the most vulnerable populations in migrants' places of origin and arrival. • National projects such as the Mayan Train in Mexico and the Urban Agenda in Guatemala. • International Urban Cooperation Programme (European Union). • Creating prospects for children and young people at risk of displacement (GIZ). • Regional Integral Urban Development Forum (Central American Bank for Economic Integration, cABEI). • Housing and Sustainable Habitat Development Programme (VIDHAS), CABEL. • Emerging and Sustainable Cities Programme (Inter-American Development Bank, IDB).

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Budget: US\$ 263,600,000

Proposal 3.13

Tacaná Volcano Binational Geopark



Implementing agencies:

Government of Mexico: Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, Secretariat of Tourism, Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources, Secretariat of Public Education, National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH), National Commission of National Protected Areas (CONANP), Secretariat for Culture, National Human Rights Commission (CNDH), Secretariat of the Economy.

Government of Guatemala: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Guatemalan Institute of Tourism, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Education, Institute of Anthropology and History, National Council for Protected Areas (CONAP), Ministry of Culture and Sports, Ministry of Economic Affairs.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations, schools, non-governmental organizations.

Geographical coverage:

Border between Mexico (Chiapas) and Guatemala.

Number of beneficiaries:

500,000 local residents.

Exact number, and beneficiaries in the surrounding areas, will depend on the demarcation of the Geopark. In principle, the area of the Geopark will cover 2000 km², with a conservative goal of creating 5,000 direct jobs.

Main topics:

- Inclusive and sustainable economic growth
- Creating well-being in marginalized communities
- Natural resources
- Geological resources
- Climate change
- Education
- Science
- Arts and culture

- Women
- Sustainable development
- Local and indigenous knowledge
- Geoconservation
- Sustainable rural tourism

Context

The goal is to unify a territory, based on connecting the elements it comprises and promoting a participatory democracy in which each individual finds his or her place to contribute to sustainable development.

UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development.

They use a bottom-up approach, combining conservation with sustainable development and the involvement of local communities. At present, there are 161 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 44 countries.

In November 2015, at the UNESCO General Conference, 195 member States ratified the creation of the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP), thus recognizing the importance of the holistic management of outstanding geological sites and landscapes.

UNESCO Global Geoparks tell the 4.6 billion-year story of planet Earth and the geological events that shaped it, as well as the evolution of humanity itself. They not only show evidence of past climate change, but also inform local communities of current challenges and help them prepare for risks such as earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions.

The UNESCO Global Geoparks Programme seeks to raise awareness of geodiversity and promote best practices in protection, education and tourism. Together with World Heritage and Biosphere Reserve sites, UNESCO Global Geoparks offer a comprehensive range of tools for sustainable development and contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by combining global and local perspectives.

Through the Global Geoparks Network, Geoparks have expanded enormously across the world, becoming an increasingly important tool for UNESCO and enabling member States and their communities to engage holistically with earth sciences and the conservation of geological heritage.

Objectives

The binational geopark will address the following pillars:

Pillar 1. Effective and honest government

- 1.1.2. Resilience and risk management
- 1.3.2. Social prevention of violence

Pillar 2. Social welfare

2.1. Comprehensive social development

- 2.1.1. Well-being for society
- 2.1.2. Inclusive societies
- 2.1.3. Well-being for indigenous peoples

2.2. Health

- 2.2.1. Primary health care
- 2.2.2. Self-care of health among the population
- 2.2.3. Universal coverage of health services

2.3. Young people building the future

- 2.3.1. Youth with well-being

Pillar 3. Education, science, and culture

3.1. Cultural identity

- 3.1.1. Promotion of cultural and artistic expressions
- 3.1.2. Multiculturalism and identity preservation

3.2. Education for all

- 3.2.4. Quality education
- 3.2.5. Addressing backlogs in physical and educational infrastructure

3.3. Science and technology

- 3.3.1. Science, technology, innovation and communications for development

Pillar 4. Economic development and competitiveness

4.1. Sustainable economies

- 4.1.1. Investment for development
- 4.1.2. Business and commercial development
- 4.1.3. Labour inclusion and productivity
- 4.1.4. Productive and sustainable tourism

4.2. Land use planning and public works

- 4.2.1. Land use planning for human settlements
- 4.2.2. Infrastructure for social development
- 4.2.3. Territorial connectivity
- 4.2.4. Infrastructure for economic development
- 4.2.5. Infrastructure for an inclusive society

4.3. Development of farming, fishing and aquaculture

- 4.3.1. Sustainable rural development
- 4.3.2. Sustainable agriculture
- 4.3.3. Sustainable and profitable livestock raising
- 4.3.4. Fisheries for well-being

Pillar 5. Biodiversity and sustainable development

5.1. Biodiversity

- 5.1.1. Protecting biological diversity

5.2. Sustainable development

- 5.2.1. Environmental education and culture
- 5.2.2. Sustainable forest development
- 5.2.3. Water resource management
- 5.2.4. Preservation of natural heritage and the right to a healthy environment
- 5.2.5. Environmental protection and energy development
- 5.2.6. Action against climate change

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goals	Period
Development of locally managed and environmentally sustainable rural tourism entrepreneurship.	Number of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) strengthened.	Creation and development of 50 rural tourism centres.	3 years
Reduction of the unemployment rate in the State of Chiapas and neighbouring departments in Guatemala	Direct jobs created.	5,000.	3 years
Sustainable increases in agricultural productivity and incomes of food-insecure smallholders and their organizations.	Percentage of smallholders (men/women) selling their products through e-commerce.	1,500.	3 years
Increased tourism in the region.	Number of annual visitors.	5% growth.	5 years
Safe and resilient educational environments.	Students benefited. Schools and educational centres created.	All the schools within the Geopark are implement geoeducation, creating a sense of belonging. 30% reduction in the migration rate.	5 years
Protection of human rights of migrants who stay in the Geopark area.	Number of migrants served.	Five migrant shelters strengthened.	5 years
Fewer fires in the region.	Km ² protected and not affected by fire.	250 km ² of fire-protected forest.	2 years
Creation of the Tacaná Volcano Arts Festival.	Artists benefited. Festival attendees. Percentage hotel occupancy.	50 artists benefited per year.	Undefined
Care for women and children using traditional medicine.	Number of people served.	50,000 inhabitants per year.	5 years
Broad binational agreement to ensure sustainability in the region.	Points of agreement reached between native peoples, governments and private enterprise.	Road map for achieving sustainability in the region, with goals and commitments from the parties.	1.5 years

Main activities

- Creation of the Tacaná Volcano Binational Geopark Commission, which will serve as a liaison between the Geopark's line management and different government agencies.
- Implementation of public policies for the following sectors:
 - Health: Care for children and women using traditional medicine as an alternative to the health sector, to reduce the financial, technical and administrative burden on the agencies responsible for providing the population in the project area with comprehensive health care.
 - Education: Geo-education programmes, encouraging a sense of belonging and the conservation not only of the physical space, but also of its cultural aspects, and inspiring future professionals to apply their knowledge in the region.
 - Economy: Encourage the establishment of bureaux de change at the border, to promote and facilitate trade.
- Access to financing for the primary and productive sectors.
- Financial and technical advice and training.

- Assistance for and strengthening of rural tourism companies in the region, promotion of enabling technologies.
- Inauguration of the Tacaná Volcano Arts Festival, positioning it as a leading attraction in the region and internationally.
- Actions and programmes to address the current migration crisis on Mexico's southern border: temporary employment, human rights, shelters, security, health, education.
- Creation of clusters for the development of productive chains.
- Model for organization and/or partnerships between productive sectors and private businesses in the area.

Project governance:

The Management Board of the Tacaná Volcano Binational Geopark, comprising representatives of civil society, governments and the private sector, will be responsible for activities and administration related to the project's pillars, and those activities will be carried out jointly with the local and national governments of both Mexico and Guatemala.

International cooperation is essential: the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other agencies will play a leading role in managing and advising on the effective achievement of the Geopark's aims and objectives in accordance with the relevant agreements and treaties.

Possible synergies with other initiatives:

Duration:

5 years.

Budget: US\$ 3,637,064

Proposal 3.14

Sustainable water management for food security and sustainability, Guatemala



Implementing agencies:

Core institutions: Municipal governments, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Secretariat for Planning and Programming of the Office of the President, Municipal Development Institute, Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance, National Association of Municipalities, Executive Coordination Secretariat of the Office of the President, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food, National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction, Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing, Ministry of Social Development, Secretariat for Food and Nutritional Security, Development Councils System, communities.

Support institutions: Rural Aqueduct Project Executive Unit (UNEPAR), Guatemalan Association of Structural and Seismic Engineering (AGIES), civil society, private sector, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Guatemalan Standards Commission (COGUANOR), academic sector (San Carlos de Guatemala University, Rafael Landívar University, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala), Coordinating Committee of Agricultural, Commercial, Industrial and Financial Associations of Guatemala, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), non-governmental organizations engaged with food security issues.

Geographical coverage:

Basins of the Negro River (Chixoy River or Salinas River) and Motagua River. The upper and middle part of the Chixoy River basin covers almost the entire area of the Departments of Quiché, Alta Verapaz and Baja Verapaz and some parts of Huehuetenango and Totonicapán. The Motagua River basin covers the Departments of El Progreso, Zacapa, a large part of Jalapa and Chiquimula, the northern part of Guatemala and Chimaltenango and the southern part of Quiché and Baja Verapaz (on the border with the Chixoy River basin), and it reaches the eastern part of Izabal on the border with Honduras.

Number of beneficiaries:

2,742,286 inhabitants of the Motagua River basin.

Main topics:

- Afforestation and reforestation
- Integral forest and watershed management
- Employment
- Ecosystem services
- Biodiversity
- Ecosystem conservation and management
- Food production, production chains and green trade
- Adaptation to climate change
- Poverty
- Infrastructure
- Water and irrigation
- Local species with high nutritional value

Context

Climate variability affects rural livelihoods: in particular, those of a million small-scale farmers in the Central American Dry Corridor, as well as day labourers working in the agricultural sector, where about 25% of people already live in extreme poverty and depend on the cultivation of basic grains, primarily beans and maize. As a result, this subregion has the highest levels of food insecurity in Latin America, reaching 37% in Guatemala.

Droughts and periods of low rainfall in this region of Central America are becoming increasingly frequent and prolonged. The region is also affected by the opposite phenomenon: intense rains that cause floods and affect livelihoods. In addition, its vulnerability has increased through deforestation. According to the Global Forest Watch initiative of the World Resources Institute, between 2001 and 2018 El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras lost approximately 2.5 million hectares of forest cover, equivalent to almost 800 million tons of CO₂.

In order to conserve, protect and grow the forests, and to improve the living conditions of the rural communities that benefit from them and to avoid migration (mainly by the youngest segments of the population), the lost coverage must be reforested and other actions for the integrated management of forests and watersheds must be taken. The recovery and conservation of ecosystem structures —including national and transboundary forests and watersheds— is important not only for the benefit of the inhabitants of agroforestry areas (particularly indigenous populations, women and youth) but also to maintain biological diversity through corridors that facilitate migrations by animal species, pollination and the dispersion of flora and fauna.

Objectives

Conserve, protect, restore and ensure the sustainable use of the water resources of the Motagua River basin, in order to guarantee access to water and to reduce food vulnerability caused by climate variability and change.

The specific objectives are:

- Promote improved quality of life for rural populations through access to efficient and appropriate irrigation infrastructure.
- Expand access to individual or collective non-reimbursable financing to increase investment in productive units (technology, equipment and production infrastructure, working capital), thereby boosting productivity and family incomes, while at the same time ensuring the sustainable management of production systems and territories.

- Promote economic development in communities of the Motagua River basin using an integrated approach to the management and handling of hydrological basins.
- Implement a programme of sustainable productive activities that seeks to bind people and their families to their places of origin through productive projects related to the sustainable management of water resources.
- Implement a subprogramme that addresses both the environmental component, through mitigation and adaptation actions, and the socioeconomic component, through the creation of green jobs, with an urban focus.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goals	Period	
Economic and environmental assets have been created for the population, helping to reduce vulnerability to climate change-induced threats.	Forest cover.	By 2024, a 10% increase in forest cover in the Motagua River basin.		
		A 8% increase in forest cover in the Motagua River basin, through ecological and productive restoration.		
		Maintain the land area of the Motagua River basin covered by forestry plantations at 15%.		
		A 20% increase in the area of community forests under sustainable forest management in the Motagua River basin.		
		A 5% increase in the area of natural forest under forest management in the Motagua River basin.		
Water resources are managed sustainably through the implementation of integrated practices.	A water law has been adopted, along with its operational instruments.	By 2024, the country has a water law and its operational instruments.		
		Percentage of areas considered to have very high hydrological regulation and catchment capacity that is protected and sustainably managed with a basin approach.		By 2024, 100% of the areas considered to have a very high hydrological regulation and catchment capacity in the Motagua River basin will be protected and sustainably managed using a watershed and land management approach with cultural, ethnic and gender relevance, in line with the social context.
		Number of river basins with water quality and quantity index results.		By 2024, the Motagua River basin and priority microbasins will have water quality and quantity indices.
		Percentage of population with access to drinking water.		By 2024, 87.1% of the population will have access to drinking water.
		Percentage of used water treated.		By 2024, 30% of the water used in the municipalities of the Motagua River basin will be treated and reused.
The ecosystems of the coastal-marine zone (dry forest, mangrove, beach, inland waters, sea grasses and coral reefs) have contributed to reducing the population's vulnerability to the threats of climate change.	Number of hectares under conservation mechanisms in the marine coastal zone.	Increase the representative and high-pressure ecosystems (mangrove, reefs, estuaries) under conservation mechanisms in the coastal-marine zone to 20 000 hectares.		

Main activities

- Design and implementation of a water resource management and irrigation management programme, using non-reimbursable funds (grants), which will enable: (i) access by family farmers to different types of investment projects, with an emphasis on rainwater collecting schemes and storage in tanks for irrigation and human consumption, (ii) specialized irrigation advisory services, (iii) technical training for irrigation and energy engineers and technicians, and (iv) installation of National Agricultural Drought Assessment and Monitoring Systems based on the Agricultural Drought Surveillance System (ASIS), with the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP), all using these non-refundable resources.
- Soil and water conservation, agroforestry and living barriers, orchards, water harvesting for domestic and small-scale irrigation, construction of rural roads for market access, gully control and other actions, with a territorial watershed approach to increase access to foodstuffs and other basic needs.
- Evaluation of integrated watershed and sea management programmes and projects planned or already under way by government actors and civil society organizations at selected sites, in order to strengthen those initiatives.
- Capacity-building to contribute to the empowerment of government actors and civil society organizations involved in integrated watershed and wetland management.
- Promoting the adoption of climate-adapted productive restoration and sustainable agriculture practices.
- Promoting access to climate information.
- Implementation of sustainable nature-based productive activities that improve connectivity and sustainable livelihoods.

Project governance:

A core committee should be set up to manage the project, comprising the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA). This could be expanded to create an operational committee including the remaining public institutions (municipal governments, Secretariat for Planning and Programming of the Office of the President, Municipal Development Institute, Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance, National Association of Municipalities, Executive Coordination Secretariat of the Office of the President (SCEP), National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction, Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing, Ministry of Social Development, Secretariat for Food and Nutritional Security, Development Councils System, communities). Technical assistance will be required from such United Nations agencies as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Possible synergies with other initiatives:

With the local development policies and plans of the departments involved in this initiative.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Guatemala and the Secretariat of Natural Resources and Environment of Honduras are carrying out the *Pro Río Motagua* project to improve the management of the basin and reduce pollution and emissions.

Synergy with the Comprehensive Development Plan:

- Proposal 1.7: Infrastructure for the territorial development of underprivileged areas.
- Proposal 1.37: Basic investment for productive development, innovation and entrepreneurship: single investment fund.
- Proposal 3.9: Assisting and building the resilience of households and communities vulnerable to food insecurity in the Dry Corridor of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.
- Proposal 3.10: Sustainable seas and coastlines in Northern Central America and southern and south-eastern Mexico.
- Proposal 3.11: Sustainable production activities with nature-based solutions.
- Proposal 3.12: Small-scale afforestation and construction of a forest corridor.
- Proposal 3.13: Payment for ecosystem services to encourage forest and landscape restoration.
- Proposal 3.14: Climate change mitigation and adaptation, and creation of green jobs.

Duration:

5 years.

Budget: US\$ 25,000,000

Proposal 3.15

Strengthening mechanisms for environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation and adaptation, Guatemala



Implementing agencies:

- Core institutions: 1. Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, 2. Ministry of Health and Social Assistance, 3. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food, 4. Ministry of Energy and Mines, 5. National Forest Institute, 6. National Council for Protected Areas, 7. Municipal Development Institute.
- Support institutions: 1. Organization of American States (OAS), 2. Central American Integration System (SICA), 3. Development Councils System (SISCODE), 4. Civil society, 5. Secretariats, 6. municipalities, 7. Non-governmental organizations. 8. Congress of the Republic of Guatemala. 9. Ministry of the Interior, 10. Ministry of Defence, 11. State Territorial Reserves Control Office.

Geographical coverage:

Guatemala is made up of 22 departments and 340 municipalities, covering a total of 108,890 km². Including both protected and non-protected areas, 33% of the country's territory is covered by forests.

Number of beneficiaries:

Guatemala has a population of 16,346,950 (last population census in 2018, corrected figure for 2019), with a population density of 150 inhabitants/km², with 53.8% concentrated in urban areas and 46.2% in rural areas. It is home to numerous indigenous groups, including 22 Mayan peoples and Garifuna, Xinca and Ladino or mestizo communities. The project interventions will focus on strategic territories in the country: protected areas, water recharge zones, protection zones under incentives, communal lands, coastal and marine zones (lakes, mangroves, others).

Main topics:

- Creation of decent jobs
- Renewable energy
- Environmental protection and management
- Water access
- Afforestation and reforestation (restoration)
- Ecosystem conservation and management
- Mitigation of greenhouse gases
- Adaptation in ecosystems
- Sustainable forest management

Context

Ecosystems are suffering degradation at an unprecedented rate, affecting the food systems and livelihoods of many millions of people. The proclamation of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration will help countries in the race against climate change and biodiversity loss and it will also open up new avenues for forest and landscape restoration. Forest and landscape restoration means a process of productive, ecological and functional recovery to improve livelihoods in deforested or degraded landscapes. That restoration is not an end in itself: instead, it is a means to recover, enhance and maintain vital long-term productive, ecological and social functions that lead to more resilient and sustainable landscapes.

Loss of tree cover in the countries of North Central America has increased in recent years. According to the Global Forest Watch initiative of the World Resources Institute, between 2001 and 2018 El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras lost approximately 2.5 million hectares of forest cover, equivalent to almost 800 million tons of CO₂. In addition to its negative repercussions on biodiversity and the environment, forest loss has an impact on the production of raw materials used to manufacture a wide range of goods.

At the recent United Nations Climate Action Summit (23 September 2019), Guatemala pledged to support a fair ecological transition. Specifically, it committed to formulating a national plan for a fair transition by creating decent work and green jobs so that its national commitments and strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation could yield concrete results. A fair transition to sustainable development is about ensuring that the economic, social and environmental consequences of the ecological transformation of economies and societies are managed in ways that maximize decent work opportunities for all, reduce inequalities, promote social justice and support negatively affected industries, communities and workers.

In order to conserve, protect and expand forests and improve the living conditions of the rural communities that benefit from them, lost coverage must be reforested and other actions must be taken for the integrated management of forests and watersheds.

The programme is based on the belief that the ecosystem approach to sustainable productive activities, including nature-based solutions, can be useful in helping bind families to their places of origin in these countries. The result could be a mosaic in which people will be able to find sustainable livelihood options while preserving their natural capital and improving production processes, incentives and economic financing of value chains. In other cases, new economic activities could be created to reassert the worth of territories, their landscapes and their biocultural heritage.

Another issue to be considered for sustainability in the face of climate change is pollution by solid and liquid waste. The 2018 Municipal Management Ranking revealed that of the 340 municipalities in the country, only 12.35% carry out solid waste management and only 15.9% treat their liquid waste at the municipal level.

Similarly, as regards water coverage and quality, according to the 2014 National Survey of Living Conditions (ENCOVI), 76.3% of the population has a water supply. However, according to the Health Information Management System (SIGSA) / Information System for Water Quality (SIVIAGUA), in 2018 there were 11,175 registered water systems nationwide, of which only 339 systems (3.06%) met two parameters (residual chlorine and microbiological agents) out of fourteen established for human consumption (COGUANOR 29001 standards).

It is estimated that annual national firewood consumption in 2016 was 17.7 million tons of dry wood, an increase of 15.27% over the 2010 figure. Rural areas represented 83% of the total consumption, while household demand in towns and cities accounted for 15%. Firewood consumption in Huehuetenango, San Marcos, Quiché, Alta Verapaz and Quetzaltenango accounts for 50.5% of the national total (2017–2032 Strategic Institutional Plan (PEI), National Forest Institute (INAB)).

According to the 2018–2022 INAB Strategic Plan, the five departments with the highest firewood consumption (Huehuetenango, San Marcos, Quiché, Alta Verapaz and Quetzaltenango) total 15,922,424 m³/year (8,973,665 tons/year), equal to 50.5% of the country's total consumption. Huehuetenango alone accounts for 15% of the total. Given that these departments are mostly composed of rural areas, they are a priority target for intervention strategies intended to reduce firewood consumption by making other options and development viable.

Of the total number of households in the country, 2,441,955 consume firewood: 70.9% of all the country's households in 2016. The 2016 update of the Woodfuel Integrated Supply/Demand Overview Mapping (WISDOM) study showed that the proportion of rural households consuming firewood remained high and constant compared to the previous study, at over 93% of all rural households. In urban areas, WISDOM also reported an increase in the proportion of households consuming firewood from 47% in 2010 to 52% in 2016 (residential demand for firewood in the Republic of Guatemala, 2016).

Similarly, the National Survey of Living Conditions (ENCOVI) estimated that 70% of the country's households (2.34 million) consumed firewood in 2014, of which 61% were located in rural areas.

Since much of Guatemala's territory belongs to the same historical, cultural and natural continuum, rescuing and conserving the structures of its ecosystems—including forests and national and transboundary watersheds—is important: not only for the benefit of the inhabitants of the agroforestry areas (particularly indigenous populations, women and youth), but also to maintain biological diversity through corridors that facilitate the movements of animal species, pollination and the dispersion of flora and fauna.

Objectives

Promote processes and mechanisms for climate change mitigation and adaptation and environmental sustainability in Guatemala.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Adaptation

Outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Increased adaptive capacity of forest-dependent people.	Beneficiary population.	People benefit from forest resources as a basis for their livelihoods (incentives, jobs, training, employment opportunities, decision-making, food security, other goods and services).	4 years
Increased resilience of forests to climate change.	Hectares placed under conservation, sustainable forest management and recovery.	No less than 0.90% of the land area of plantations has been maintained. 0.70% increase in community forest management. Less than 5% of species in danger of extinction. No more than 7% of the area covered by forest management and under conservation is affected by forest fires, pests and diseases.	4 years

Adaptation (concluded)

Outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Water resources are sustainably managed through integrated practices.	<p>Climate change variables have been incorporated into water management and planning.</p> <p>Percentage of areas considered to have a very high hydrological regulation and catchment capacity that are protected and sustainably managed with a subbasin and microbasin approach.</p> <p>Percentage of population with access to drinking water and improved sanitation.</p> <p>Percentage of municipalities implementing their municipal development and land-use plans, including variables covering risk management, adaptation and resilience.</p>	<p>Design and implementation of plans for adaptive management of water resources.</p> <p>By 2024, 34% of the areas considered to have a very high hydrological regulation and catchment capacity are protected and sustainably managed using a watershed and land management approach, with cultural relevance and a gender focus in accordance with the social context.</p> <p>By 2024, 75% of the population has access to basic sanitation and 85.6% of the population has access to drinking water.</p> <p>By 2024, 100% of the municipalities have adopted specific and concrete measures for climate change adaptation, to protect the water sources that supply the services and for the efficient use and recycling of water.</p>	4 years
Existence of a territorial management strategy and a financing strategy for local development with a territorial and ecosystem-conservation approach.	Number of territorial management and financing strategies.	At least one strategy.	4 years
Job creation in activities associated with environmental services in forests and watersheds.	Number of jobs created in activities related to environmental services in forests and watersheds.	25,000 direct jobs.	4 years
A sustainable business programme to stimulate economic transformation and sustainable and inclusive growth.	Number of companies involved in the sustainable business programme.	At least 50 companies.	4 years
Subnational public investment systems strengthened against disaster risks and climate emergencies.	Subnational public investment systems.	Pilot: 10 municipalities. Subsequently, scale-up to the national level.	1 year
Strengthened technical capacities of municipalities' technical officers.	Municipal technical officers.	Pilot: 100 technical officers. Subsequently, scale-up to the national level.	6 months
Methodological guides, policies and strategies adopted for the inclusion of disaster risk and climate emergency issues in subnational public investment systems.	Methodological guides	Pilot: 10 general methodological guides. 10 sectoral methodological guides. Subsequently, scale-up to the national level.	1 year
Strengthened public investment.	Strengthened public investment projects, including sustainable and inclusive adaptation to climate change.	Pilot: 10 investment projects.	1 year

Mitigation

Outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Reduced deforestation.	Deforestation rate -0.50% (18,350 hectares in 2016).	Decrease the annual rate of deforestation to -0.45% (16,515 hectares per year).	4 years
Increased forest cover.	Forest cover 33% (3,574,244 hectares in 2016).	Increase in forest cover from 33% to 33.7% (3,650,061 hectares in 2024).	4 years
Reduced greenhouse gas emissions from solid and liquid waste through its integrated management.	Percentage of municipalities with adequate solid and liquid waste treatment systems.	By 2024, 50% of the municipalities are in the medium-high category on the municipal management ranking.	4 years
	Gigagrams of greenhouse gases.	Reduce the percentage of gigagrams of GHGs emitted by household residual waste and liquid waste.	4 years
Reduced carbon dioxide equivalent emissions per megawatt generated (tCO ₂ /MW).	Gigawatts generated with renewable and non-renewable energies.	Promote renewable energy for electricity generation to diversify the energy supply matrix.	4 years
	GHG emissions from firewood.	Reduce GHG emissions from burning firewood.	4 years
A GHG inventory, broken down by type of transport.	Broken down GHG inventory.	Existence of a GHG inventory, broken down by type of transport.	4 years
	Gigagrams of GHGs from the transport subsector.	Reduced emission intensity from the transport subsector.	4 years

Main activities:

- To reduce the use of firewood, the following actions are suggested:
 - Identification and compilation of a project portfolio, taking on board the existing programmes for the provision of solar energy, (re)forestation for firewood and the distribution of clean and efficient stoves.
 - Technical assistance for the development of sustainable sources of firewood, to be combined with technical assistance for the adoption of energy-efficient technologies to reduce the demand for firewood.
 - Technical assistance for the development of protocols for the adoption of energy-efficient technologies to reduce the demand for firewood (e.g. efficient charcoal ovens, wood drying).
- To address water access, technical assistance for the adoption of water-efficient technologies should be provided, including:
 - Develop protocols for the adoption of water-efficient technologies by households (e.g. rainwater harvesting systems), by communities (e.g. wells) and by small and commercial farmers (e.g. drip irrigation, solar water pumping).
 - Provide training for the adoption of water- and energy-efficient technologies.
- For local development with a territorial and ecosystem-conservation approach to preserve and adequately manage the Guatemalan ecosystem, a territorial management strategy is being developed. In addition, in the area of productive use and green trade to increase opportunities and improve market access in impoverished rural areas, the following activities are suggested:
 - Promoting the adoption of climate-adapted productive restoration and sustainable agriculture practices.
 - Adopting technical assistance mechanisms to strengthen those systems.
 - Promoting access to climate information.

- Developing economic incentive instruments, based on a gender- and youth-sensitive diagnostic assessment in rural areas.
- Promoting reforestation requires identifying and compiling a portfolio of afforestation projects in small and medium plots, as well as the maintenance of community areas and reserves, using ecosystem service payment schemes focused on indigenous communities, women and youth.
- Finally, to promote the creation of green jobs and responsible enterprises, the following actions are suggested:

Establishing a gender-sensitive green job creation programme for sustainable cities.

Analysing opportunities for the creation of green jobs within the coffee value chain and other relevant chains.

Conducting mapping to identify sustainable businesses in each country's priority sectors.

Conducting training programmes for the development of new business ventures and initiatives in environmental sectors.

Developing a programme to make micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) more sustainable.

Developing a decision-making road map related to the formulation of national plans for green job creation in a fair transition framework.

- Promoting land management and the legal certainty of land ownership, in coordination with communities and organized social groups. The responsible management and use of natural resources will also be encouraged.
- Strengthening land management for the sustainable use of natural resources, agricultural production, adaptation to climate change and the mitigation of its effects.
- Ensuring the proper handling of solid, liquid and toxic waste in the country's hydrological basins.
- Creating efficient inter-institutional coordination mechanisms, and improving and strengthening technical and financial institutional capacities for the administration of forestry resources, biodiversity and protected areas.
- Designing and implementing a methodology for measuring, capturing and analysing forest information for the construction of adaptation and vulnerability indices.
- Implementing a monitoring, reporting and verification system for forestry resources and biological diversity, including the main causes of deforestation and degradation (illegal logging, land use change, fire reduction, others).
- Performing sustainable management of forest ecosystems to reduce vulnerability to climate change and improve carbon capture.
- Strengthening community forest concessions, and promoting the organization and participation of local communities and indigenous peoples in sustainable forest management activities.
- Implementing and strengthening incentive schemes for the conservation, protection, restoration and management of forestry resources and biodiversity.
- Developing and implementing efficient local governance mechanisms.
- Creating and maintaining a national system of water information, knowledge and appraisal.
- Promoting the public investment required for regulatory works of public interest.
- Estimating the cost of water management.

- Developing and implementing sectoral use and conservation plans for adaptive water management (domestic, agricultural, industrial, energy, tourism).
- Determining, at the national level, the priority sites for the conservation, protection, management and restoration of water catchment, storage and regulation areas, considering the population's socioeconomic context and how they are currently organized.

Project governance

Project leadership to be provided by the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), in partnership with the National Forest Institute (INAB), the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), the Ministry of Health and Social Assistance (MSPAS), the Municipal Development Institute (INFOM), non-governmental organizations, the National Association of Municipalities (ANAM) and other national entities.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The project will be linked to the local development policies and plans of the departments involved in the initiative.

Duration

Estimated duration of four years.

Budget: US\$ 100,000,000

Proposal 3.16

Sowing life in southern and south-eastern Mexico and Northern Central America, Mexico



Implementing agencies:

Secretariat of Welfare (SB), Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) and receiving country authorities responsible for agricultural and rural development issues.

Geographical coverage

Southern and south-eastern Mexico and Northern Central America

Number of beneficiaries

Beneficiaries in the participating Mexican states and up to 10,000 beneficiaries in each of the recipient countries.

Main topics

Agriculture, employment, poverty, rural development, production, migration.

Context

The migration phenomenon in Northern Central America involves factors such as environmental degradation—exacerbated by climate change and natural disasters— together with economic factors such as the lack of jobs and the precariousness of employment on account of low income and rising inequality between rural and urban territories. Currently, about half the population of Northern Central America lives in poverty, and between 12% and 19% suffer from extreme poverty.

Given that poverty is concentrated in the rural areas of Latin America, ECLAC¹ identified the need to diversify and scale up productive activities, to raise producers' incomes and to develop the potential for innovation in rural sectors. In addition, surface temperatures in Central America and in the two oceans that border the subregion are beginning to increase and historical climate patterns are becoming more pronounced, with longer periods of drought associated with the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) phenomenon and the intensification of hydrometeorological events with devastating impacts on ecosystems and agriculture.

¹ Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *The Inefficiency of Inequality* (LC/SES.37/3-P), Santiago, 2018.

During July and August 2018, an extreme shortage of rainfall caused severe crop losses, affecting approximately 282,000 hectares of maize and beans in Central America, impacting an estimated 2.2 million people, mainly subsistence farmers and salaried agricultural workers. The crop losses led to reduced incomes, lower food consumption and asset depletion, leaving many households with little or no food reserves and a high propensity to migrate.

Objective

Raise the living standards of the adult rural population of southern and south-eastern Mexico and Northern Central America by encouraging the production of traditional crops combined with the intercropping of maize with fruit trees, together with fruit and timber trees, subsistence consumption, the sale of surpluses and job creation through the granting of different types of support:

- Cash: Direct transfers of 5,000 pesos or US\$ 250 per month, or the equivalent thereof in other national currencies.
- Kind: Plants, supplies and tools.
- Technical: Technical accompaniment and weekly meetings with productive professionals to share experiences.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Encourage production from agroforestry farming systems.	Percentage of active programme beneficiaries within the target population.	At least 10,000 beneficiaries in the four participating countries.	Eight months to one year, and medium term.
Compliance with the guidelines and planned activities by beneficiaries.	Number of beneficiaries completing the programme.	At least 10,000 beneficiaries in the four participating countries.	Eight months to one year, and medium term.
Improve the quantity and quality of output.	Percentage change in output levels and crop adaptation.	Marketing of surpluses.	Eight months to one year, and medium term.
Encourage the recovery of idle land for cultivation.	Total land area recovered and available for production.	Plots used in their entirety with agroforestry crops.	Eight months to one year, and medium term.

Main activities

- Implementation of the programme in the states of southern and south-eastern Mexico.
- Signature of letter of intent between Mexico and the receiving country.
- Presentation of the project data sheet to the Technical Committee.
- Signature of the donation contract and collaboration agreement.
- Development of the electronic registration platform.
- Determination of operational specifications.
- Selection of the local bank and disbursement procedure.
- Designation of technical personnel from both countries responsible for programme implementation.
- Definition of the operations calendar.
- Signing and dissemination of the programme operating guidelines.
- Call for applications to enrol in the programme.
- Applicant registration.
- Validation of applicant information.

- Compilation of the register of beneficiaries, and notification of beneficiaries of their selection.
- Start of programme activities.
- Technical visits to check land and identify needs.
- Distribution of agricultural supplies.
- Allocation of activities to beneficiaries by agricultural technicians.
- Validation of compliance with the activities by agricultural technicians.
- Disbursement of economic support funds to beneficiaries, subject to compliance with the programme's operating guidelines.
- Community technical accompaniment meetings.
- Programme evaluation.

Project governance

The programme will be implemented by the Secretariat of Welfare (SB) in the Mexican states and, in the three countries of Northern Central America, programme governance will be provided by the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs (SRE) through the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) on behalf of Mexico and by the ministries or secretariats responsible for agriculture and rural development in the partner countries.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The programme is intended to further the Comprehensive Development Plan for southern and south-eastern Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, in pursuit of the United Nations 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals.

Duration

For southern and south-eastern Mexico, as indicated by the operating rules, and, in the countries of Northern Central America, up to eight months. Extensions will be possible using funds from cooperating partners and donors from countries and international organizations interested in participating in the programme.

Budget

A total of US\$ 15.5 million from the Mexico Fund, to be determined and distributed in accordance with the agreements with the recipient countries, using the following proportions:

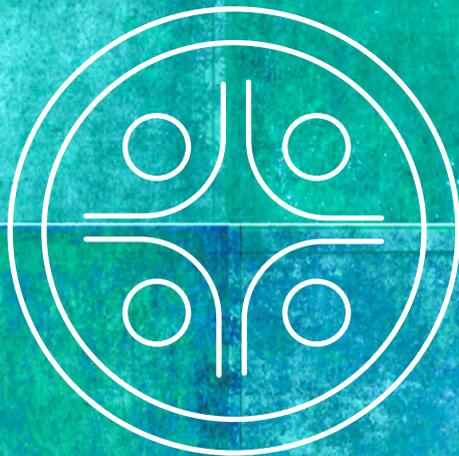
Expenditure categories by activity	Percentage of total
Supports for beneficiaries	93%
Monitoring and technical tools	4%
Management and administration costs	3%
Gross total	100%

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
<p>Agricultural microinsurance with climate change adaptation measures for small producers of basic grains and coffee in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.</p> <p>Small-scale afforestation and building of a forest corridor in the countries of Northern Central America and south-eastern Mexico.</p> <p>Climate change mitigation and adaptation and creation of green jobs subprogramme.</p>	<p><i>Sembrando Vida</i> programme, Secretariat of Welfare, Mexico.</p> <p>National Development Plan K'atun: Our Guatemala 2032.</p> <p>2017-2030 National Family Farming Strategy, Honduras.</p>	<p>2018-2030 Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy for the SICA Region.</p> <p>Central American Council for Agriculture (CAC) - Central American Integration System (SICA).</p>	<p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).</p> <p>World Food Programme (WFP).</p> <p>United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).</p> <p>World Meteorological Organization (WMO).</p>	<p>German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).</p> <p>Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).</p> <p>European Union (EU).</p>	<p>Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).</p> <p>Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI).</p> <p>World Bank.</p>	

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).



4. PILLAR FOR THE INTEGRAL MANAGEMENT OF THE MIGRATION CYCLE

A. Comprehensive national response programme

No.	Name of proposal
4.1	Strengthening immediate and long-term responses to forced displacement and human mobility in El Salvador, with a gender-equality- and human-rights-based approach
4.2	Strengthening immediate and long-term responses to forced displacement and human mobility in Honduras
4.3	Meeting the immediate needs and fostering the long-term local integration of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Mexico
4.4	Provide greater opportunities and social inclusion for children, adolescents and their families by promoting local governance in the municipalities with the largest migrant populations in Honduras
4.5	Strengthening immediate and long-term responses to forced displacement and human mobility, Guatemala (*)
4.6	Meeting the immediate needs and fostering the long-term local integration of Honduran migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Mexico, Honduras (*)
4.7	Strengthening humanitarian assistance for migrants, State of Puebla (*)
4.8	Human mobility, assisted repatriation and reintegration, State of Puebla (*)

(*) Projects prioritized by the Governments of the Northern Central American countries, the Government of Mexico, or the states of South-Southeast Mexico.



Proposal 4.1

Strengthening immediate and long-term responses to forced displacement and human mobility in El Salvador, with a gender-equality- and human-rights-based approach



Implementing agencies:

- *Central government:* Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Ministry of Health, National Civilian Police, Directorate-General for Migration and Alien Affairs, Office for Assistance to Migrants, Directorate for Victim Attention and Forced Displacement, Executive Secretariat of the National Council against Human Trafficking, *Ciudad Mujer* programme, Human Rights Ombudsman.
- *Other State institutions:* Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women, Office of the Attorney General of the Republic.
- *Local governments:* Territorial Control Plan priority municipalities: Ahuachapán, Apopa, Ciudad Delgado, Cojutepeque, Colón, Ilopango, La Unión, Mejicanos, San Marcos, San Martín, San Miguel, Santa Ana, San Salvador, Sonsonate, Soyapango, Usulután.
- *United Nations agencies:* Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).
- *Civil society organizations:* SOS Children's Villages, CARITAS, COMCAVIS, FUNDASAL, UCA Institute of Human Rights (IDHUCA, Plan Internacional, Save the Children, World Vision).

Geographical coverage

El Salvador, nationwide.

Number of beneficiaries

35,000 beneficiaries.

Main topics

- Internal forced displacement
- Emergency response
- Employment and economic empowerment
- Development
- Preventing gender-based violence
- Protection of migrant children
- Reintegration of returned migrants
- Non-discrimination and human rights

Context

Gang violence is widespread in El Salvador and its impacts on society affect health, security, the economy, education and migration. According to the 2018 publication *Characterization of internal mobility due to violence in El Salvador: Final report*, 1.1% of all families had at least one member forced to change his or her usual place of residence within El Salvador between 2006 and 2016 as a result of violence or to avoid its effects. The phenomenon more severely affects families with adolescent (aged 12 to 17) or young (aged 18 to 29) members, with threats, intimidation and coercion being the main drivers of their relocation (69% of cases).¹

At the same time, an increasing number of people are being returned or deported to El Salvador after trying to journey northwards. Many people are detained before they reach their destination and returned to the country, where humanitarian assistance upon arrival and reintegration programmes for returnees are limited. According to the Directorate-General for Migration and Alien Affairs, El Salvador received 18,161 people between January and June 2019, of whom 49.5% were returning from the United States and 50.3% from Mexico. Of that total, 15,110 were adults (78.5% men and 21.5% women) and 3,051 were children and adolescents (57.4% male and 42.6% female). Comparing the total number of returnees with the previous year's figure, these numbers represent an increase of 46.9% (21.4% more returns from the United States and 86.5% more returns from Mexico). Among children and adolescents, the figures indicate an increase of 258% (853 in June 2018 compared to 3,051 in June 2019).

Taking into consideration the numerous factors that influence a person's decision to migrate, data from the Directorate-General for Migration and Alien Affairs (June 2019) indicated that 67.1% of returnees identified economic reasons as the main driver of irregular migration, followed by security concerns (18.5%) and the wish for family reunification (15.8%).²

Reports reveal that violence against women occurs throughout their life cycles³ and with a prevalence different from that recorded among men. The *Report on the state and situation of violence against women in El Salvador* of 2018⁴ shows that 67 out of every 100 women reported having suffered some form of violence during their lives; however, only six out of every hundred reported the fact or sought support. Violence against women occurs with differences based on the age of the victims and the place where

¹ Ministry of Justice and Public Security, *Caracterización de la movilidad interna a causa de la violencia en El Salvador: informe final*, San Salvador, March 2018 [online] <https://www.refworld.org/es/pdfid/5ab96d624.pdf>.

² International Organization for Migration (IOM), "El Salvador", Northern Triangle Migration Information Initiative (NTMI) [online] <https://mic.iom.int/webntmi/el-salvador>.

³ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/United States Agency for International Development (USAID), *El continuum de la violencia contra las mujeres en la región centroamericana*, Tegucigalpa/La Libertad, January 2017 [online] <http://www.partnerselsalvador.org/css/Continuum%20VCM%20de%20la%20violencia.pdf>.

⁴ Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women, *Informe sobre el estado y situación de la violencia contra las mujeres en El Salvador 2018*, San Salvador, 2018 [online] <https://www.transparencia.gob.sv/institutions/instituto-salvadoreno-para-el-desarrollo-de-la-mujer/documents/informes-exigidos-por-disposicion-legal>.

it occurs. In the case of sexual violence, approximately two out of every three complaints over the 2016–2017 period were filed by adolescent girls (aged from 10 to 14) or young women (aged 15 to 19). Every day over 2015 to 2017, 13 women were victims of some form of sexual violence. The *Report on acts of violence against women: El Salvador, 2016 and 2017*, published by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security and the Department of Statistics and Census, highlighted that during that period, the number of victims of sexual violence rose by 14.7%.⁵

According to the study *Risk factors and care needs of migrant women in Central America*, conducted by IOM in 2016, migrant women account for 53% of the region's migration, with Nicaragua being the country with the highest number of migrant women.⁶

The same study noted that violence against women can be a trigger for migration from countries of origin and, at the same time, poses a threat along the migration route in countries of transit, destination and return. Statistical records on cases or reports of violence suffered by migrant women are scarce or non-existent; indicators for citizen security and violence against women in the region's countries, however, reveal that violence is both a factor of risk and a driving force in women's migration experiences.

Of the children and adolescents, 29.4% stated they had left their country because of insecurity. Gang violence, extortion and forced recruitment affect the lives of children and adolescents, both at school and in their homes and communities. For many children, this widespread violence is compounded by multidimensional poverty and by limited access to quality education, social services and options for economic empowerment. In addition, many of them have fathers, mothers and other relatives who have already migrated abroad and whom they would like to rejoin. All these factors influence the decision to embark on dangerous journeys in search of safety and opportunity.

In the area of health, in view of the complexity, magnitude and rapidly evolving nature of migration in the Americas, PAHO has placed a priority on the implementation of health actions focused on the promotion and protection of migrants' health, in the recognition that health problems transcend physical borders and that addressing the health needs of migrant and host populations is not only key to ensuring public health, but also has a positive impact on social integration and economic growth. Issues such as addressing communicable diseases in accordance with the International Health Regulations and the capacity of health facilities to respond appropriately at times of emergency must be taken into account in discussing migration and forced displacement.

Objectives

1. Improve systems for registering, receiving, housing, and providing emergency attention to internally displaced persons, deportees in need of protection and returnees, and bolster their access to justice in El Salvador.
2. Address violence-driven forced displacement by designing and establishing a model for a local attention system in affected communities, with gender equality and based on a human rights approach, through interconnected community interventions and financial inclusion, implemented in conjunction with local protection and attention networks.

⁵ Ministry of Justice and Public Security/Department of Statistics and Census, *Informe sobre hechos de violencia contra las mujeres: El Salvador, 2016 y 2017*, San Salvador, 2018 [online] http://aplicaciones.digestyc.gob.sv/observatorio.genero/docs/INFORME_LEIV_2016_2017.pdf.

⁶ International Organization for Migration (IOM), *Factores de riesgo y necesidades de atención para las mujeres migrantes en Centroamérica: estudio de actualización sobre la situación de la violencia contra las mujeres migrantes en la ruta migratoria en Centroamérica*, Managua, June 2016 [online] <https://nicaragua.iom.int/sites/default/files/Publicaciones/Factores%20de%20riesgo%20y%20necesidades%20de%20las%20mujeres%20migrantes%20en%20Centroam%C3%A9rica%20-%20WEB.pdf>.

Expected outcomes, indicators, goals and deadlines

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Registration systems and emergency accommodation facilities in existence and improved.	Single Migration Register of the Directorate-General for Migration and Alien Affairs.	One protection module within the Single Migration Register of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).	July 2020
	Single register of internally displaced persons.	One single register, with information broken down by sex, of persons internally displaced by violence and human trafficking in El Salvador.	June 2021
Temporary shelters for the attention and protection of people who have been forcibly displaced by violence and trafficking.	Safe, decent and differentiated reception and accommodation facilities for women, men and LGBTI people in need of protection.	Eight shelters built, improved and/or equipped, with separate spaces for women with minor children, men and LGBTI people.	December 2021
	Number of health facilities and International Health Offices (IHOs) equipped with kits for attention and education.	Ten IHOs and five intermediate Community Family Health Units (CFHUs).	
Online training module for consular officials.	El Salvador's consulate network (in Mexico, Guatemala and the United States) strengthened, including protection for the rights of migrant children.	El Salvador's consuls better equipped to afford protection to victims of violence-driven internal displacement and victims of human trafficking in order to facilitate their effective reintegration.	June 2021
	Dissemination and interconnection of computer tools to facilitate access to information on specialized services, attention points and shelters.	50% increase in users of MigApp and Help.	December 2022
	Prevention of discrimination, xenophobia and gender-based violence, including sexual violence, in places of origin, transit, destination and return.	One joint public information and awareness campaign by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).	June 2021
Strengthening the Executive Secretariat of the National Council against Human Trafficking of El Salvador, for the implementation of preventive actions under the Blue Heart Campaign against Human Trafficking.	Prevention of human trafficking with the systematic implementation of the Blue Heart Campaign, adopted by El Salvador on 11 October 2017.	Institutionalize the National Council on Human Trafficking's high-impact human trafficking prevention tools, including the Blue Heart Campaign and other prevention instruments of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and other strategic partners.	December 2023
Returnees, internally displaced persons and persons at risk of displacement are provided with non-reimbursable seed capital, allowing their economic and social reintegration, with special emphasis on young women and female heads of household.	Number of returnees, internally displaced persons and persons at risk of displacement with enhanced capacities for entrepreneurship and functioning productive ventures.	At least 40% of returnees, internally displaced persons and persons at risk of displacement have taken one or more courses on entrepreneurship.	December 2023
	Number of returnees, internally displaced persons or persons at risk of displacement who have developed ventures using the seed capital fund.	At least 40% of returnees, internally displaced persons and persons at risk of displacement have developed a business plan.	December 2023
	Adaptation and installation of the <i>SiProtejo</i> system for case management and local service referral installed in the Office for Assistance to Migrants.	Connected system between the Office for Assistance to Migrants and at least three municipalities.	December 2020
	Creation of safe spaces for children in reception centres, municipalities and shelters.	Eight safe spaces created.	December 2021

Expected outcomes, indicators, goals and deadlines (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Local Systems of Attention and Protection for Internally Displaced People or at Risk of Displacement created and implemented in priority municipalities.	Local Attention System, with specialized and differentiated care for women with minor children, men and LGBTI people, in 17 priority municipalities of the Territorial Control Plan.	17 local attention systems created and operational.	December 2024
Programmes and services for the reintegration of returnee children and adolescents.	Programmes and services for the reintegration of returnee children and adolescents in priority municipalities.	Services operating in priority municipalities.	December 2022
	Accelerated and flexible education models available in the priority municipalities.	Priority municipalities have flexible education models.	December 2022
Justice sector institutions strengthened for effective law enforcement and for providing warm, quality attention to returnees, internally displaced persons and persons at risk of displacement, especially vulnerable returnee women and families.	Improvements in the attention provided by the National Civilian Police to women victims of sexual and gender-based violence among returnees, internally displaced persons and persons at risk of displacement, especially vulnerable returnee women and families.	One filing route for complaints and attention prepared and in place in the selected municipalities.	December 2021
	Establishment of a filing route, at the Office for Citizen Complaints and Assistance (ODAC), with the institutions providing specialized attention for returnees, internally displaced persons and persons at risk of displacement, especially women and returnee families victims of violence.	17 units of the National Civilian Police in the selected municipalities providing specialized care to women victims of sexual violence and gender-based violence among returnees, internally displaced persons or persons at risk of displacement, especially vulnerable returnee women and families.	December 2023
	Improved capacities of the justice and health institutions for the comprehensive attention of returnees, internally displaced persons or those at risk of displacement, especially vulnerable returnee women and families.	At least eight National Civilian Police facilities improved and/or equipped, with separate installations for women, men and LGBTI people.	December 2023

Main activities

1. Registration systems and accommodation conditions

- Creation of a single migration and protection register to identify deportees in need of protection at the Office for Assistance to Migrants and at the territorial level.
- Creation and implementation of a single register of people displaced by violence.
- Support for government institutions and civil society organizations in building, equipping, staffing and developing tools for the management and attention of shelters for internally displaced persons (with the Ministry of Justice and Public Security) and for the attention and protection of deportees needing protection (with the Office for Assistance to Migrants).
- Strengthening of consular networks for the identification and assistance of persons in need of international protection through training, advice and regional-level coordination mechanisms for their protection.
- Coordination and updating of existing computer tools (MigApp and HELP) to raise the profile of specialized services, attention points and shelters for the care and protection of communities and individuals.

- Activities to promote rights and public information in communities of origin, transit, destination and return in order to prevent discrimination.
- Systematic implementation of the Blue Heart Campaign, adopted by El Salvador on 11 October 2017.
- Connection of the electronic case management system, and referrals between the Office for Assistance to Migrants and the municipalities to ensure that returnee children and adolescents are referred to the specialized services available locally.
- Creation of safe spaces in the municipalities and their empowerment through sporting, cultural and artistic activities that promote belonging and contribute to psychosocial rehabilitation and the acquisition of life skills.
- Implementation of the essential services package: Provision of dignity kits, reproductive health kits, HIV/AIDS kit, Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)/Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) kit, information/education kits and perishable goods for shelters and hostels, health facilities and International Health Offices (IHOs).

2. Local systems model for immediate and long-term attention in communities affected by internal displacement

- Identification of the protection needs of women, men and LGBTI people who have been internally displaced and are at risk of displacement, deportees in need of protection and returnees in the priority communities, through local registration.
- Provide humanitarian assistance for the identified beneficiaries' basic needs, housing, shelter, health care, food, legal advice and psychosocial assistance at the municipal level.
- Establish participatory platforms for disseminating community dialogues and public information to promote social cohesion and guarantee respect for human rights.
- Develop a training programme for health sector institutions on the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Reproductive Health in Crisis Situations.
- Promotion of mechanisms for economic autonomy through:
 - Access to entrepreneurship processes led by local governments and other key actors such as development centres for micro and small enterprises (CDMYPE), including the private sector.
 - Innovative programmes to bolster the economic empowerment of returnee migrants by providing funding mechanisms for productive ventures and providing specialized assistance, psychosocial care, monitoring and follow-up. *Gastromotiva* and *ConectArte*, WFP projects that focus on youth, are to be included. Both projects aim to improve food security and protection of socially vulnerable young people in El Salvador and to enhance their employment and income prospects through professional development. The projects are implemented in partnership with public and private sector entities, schools and universities, supermarket chains, cafeterias and restaurants, as well as with United Nations and non-governmental partners.
 - Job placement and access to employment through government/state and private sector programmes offered by Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Ministry of Labour (job bank, coordination panels) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (links with returnee population).
 - Technical training and reintegration into the education system, through government/state programmes led or implemented by local governments, the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the National Commission for Micro and Small Enterprises (CONAMYPE), the Ministry of Education and the National Institute for Youth (INJUVE).
- Establish mechanisms for inter-institutional follow-up and monitoring, to guarantee the effectiveness and sustainability of the intervention.

3. Creation of a seed capital fund suited to the needs of women who are returnees, displaced persons or at risk of internal displacement

- Creation of a seed fund to support productive ventures by women who are returnees, internally displaced or at risk of displacement.
- Strengthening of the economic autonomy of women who are returnees, internally displaced or at risk of displacement, through specialized courses in entrepreneurship and human rights.

4. Strengthening of justice sector institutions for effective law enforcement and for providing warm, quality attention to returnees, internally displaced persons and persons at risk of displacement

- Technical assistance to develop and implement the police assistance route for returnee and displaced women, young women and girl migrants, and those at risk of internal displacement, in the 17 identified municipalities.
- Improved attention provided by the National Civilian Police to women who are returnees, displaced persons or at risk of internal displacement and are victims of sexual and gender-based violence.
- Establishment of a route for reporting gender-based violence by women, young women and girls who are returnees, displaced persons or at risk of displacement through the Institutional Units for Specialized Attention to Women in Situations of Violence of the Office for Citizen Complaints and Assistance (UNIMUJER-ODAC).
- Improved capacities of justice institutions for comprehensively attending to women who are returnees, internally displaced or at risk of displacement.
- Strengthen and/or adapt the facilities of the Citizen Attention Section (National Civilian Police).

5. Programmes and services for the reintegration of returnee children and adolescents

- Strengthen programmes and services for returnee children and adolescents, such as the Centre for the Attention of Children, Adolescents and the Family (CANAF), to increase their ability to provide psychosocial rehabilitation, legal support and the preparation of a life plan.
- Expand flexible education models, including accelerated teaching, to facilitate children's reintegration into the education system.

Project governance

Project management and coordination will be carried out through a steering committee and a technical committee, made up of representatives of government institutions, United Nations agencies (UNHCR, IOM, UN-Women, PAHO, WFP, UNFPA, OHCHR, UNICEF y UNODC) and the participating civil society organizations. The steering committee will make decisions on strategic aspects of the project and approve work plans and budgets. The technical committee will plan and develop the actions planned to achieve the expected outcomes and will prepare work plans and budgets for submission to the steering committee.

The activities will be carried out by country technical groups, made up of coordination officers, government technical delegates and technical delegates from UNHCR, IOM, UN-Women, PAHO, UNODC, OHCHR, WFP, and UNICEF teams in each country. These groups will meet periodically, as needed. Each will designate a member of one of the agencies to serve as the technical secretariat and focal point for monitoring and follow-up.

Synergy with other initiatives

This proposal complements national initiatives currently under way in several municipalities of El Salvador, particularly the Ministry of Justice and Public Security's Territorial Control Plan, the aim of which is to "recover territories controlled by gangs".⁷

This initiative also complements the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS) of which El Salvador has been a member since July 2019, as well as the updating of the Strategic Plan of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM). MIRPS is a regional framework for cooperation between countries of origin and destination, intended to promote shared responsibility mechanisms for the prevention, protection and solutions for refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons and returnees in need of protection. RCM, of which UNODC is a permanent observer, is a forum for dialogue to coordinate policies and promote cooperation on migration among its eleven member countries: Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States.

In implementing the project, the member countries of RCM will seek synergies with the actions to prevent human trafficking carried out by UNODC under the Blue Heart Campaign against Human Trafficking, in keeping with the relevant obligations of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. RCM has provided a forum for the open discussion of regional migration issues and the exchange of information and experiences to achieve greater coordination and cooperation in the region; with this, it seeks to contribute to protecting migrants' human rights, creating a network of coherent and appropriate migration laws and strengthening the links between migration and development.

Links will also be sought between this project and the Spotlight Initiative implemented by four United Nations agencies (UN-Women, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF) under the leadership of the Office of the Resident Coordinator in El Salvador, in coordination with the Government and with the support of the European Union.

Synergies will also be sought with other development and economic transformation projects, such as the IFAD-funded *Rural Adelante* that is to be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock in the eastern part of the country to strengthen capacities for sustainable production with adaptation to climate change and the development of competitive, sustainable and inclusive value chains.

Duration:

4 years.

Budget: US\$ 25,087,536

⁷ National Council on Children and Adolescents, *Informe de labores 2019-2020*, San Salvador, June 2020 [online] <https://www.transparencia.gob.sv/institutions/minec/documents/memorias-de-labores>.

Proposal 4.2

Strengthening immediate and long-term responses to forced displacement and human mobility in Honduras



Implementing agencies:

Secretariat for Human Rights, Office of the National Commissioner for Human Rights, National Institute of Migration, Secretariat of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Property Institute, Department for Children, Adolescents and the Family (DINAF), municipal governments of Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula, Association of Honduran Municipalities (AMHON), Inter-Institutional Commission for the Protection of Persons Displaced by Violence (CIPPDV), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Human Development Centre (CDH), Pastoral Group on Human Mobility, Mennonite Social Action Commission (CASM), Centre for Investigation and Promotion of Human Rights (CIPRODEH), Honduran Foundation for Corporate Social Responsibility (FUNDAHRSE), Secretariat for Economic Development, Secretariat for Governance, Justice and Decentralization.

Geographical coverage:

Honduras: municipalities of San Pedro Sula, Central District, La Ceiba, Choloma, El Progreso, Juticalpa, Catacamas, Danlí and Choluteca.

Number of beneficiaries:

At least 30,000 direct beneficiaries.

Main topics:

- Forced displacement
- Migration
- Violence
- Employment and livelihoods
- Development
- Youth

Context

Honduras faces a complex human mobility situation on account of various structural causes that have disrupted the people's biopsychosocial stability and that drive them to embark on migratory routes in order to seek better conditions for their full development. The irregular migration phenomenon has

multiple causes. In Honduras, among the main factors are the lack of employment opportunities, family reunification and widespread violence; and the last of these has disproportionately affected women, children, adolescents, youth, community leaders, human rights defenders, teachers, transporters and traders, who are often forced to flee their homes in search of protection and humanitarian assistance. Violence and criminality are generating increasing numbers of human displacements, both within the country and beyond its borders. Not all the people fleeing Honduras have access to the international protection system, and many are deported to contexts where persecution or threats to their life, safety and freedom persist; therefore they cannot return to their home communities, where those risks are even greater. Records also exist of people who have been forced to leave their places of residence for reasons of violence and who move within the country to protect their lives, freedom and physical integrity.

Between 1 January and 31 August 2019 alone, the Consular and Migration Observatory of Honduras (CONMIGHO) recorded a total of 79,808 returns to the country: a 54.8% increase over the total number of returns for the whole of 2018, which was 75,279. It is expected that by the end of 2019, the returnee figures will amount to more than 100,000. Among the main drivers of these movements are economic factors and new forms of irregular migration such as the “migrant caravans”, which have mobilized population groups on a massive scale and have posed humanitarian assistance and protection challenges.

In that context, the priorities of the Government of Honduras are reintegrating returned migrants and preventing irregular migration through the creation of opportunities that provide alternatives for people to remain in their municipalities of origin and return. The scale of population movements in recent years can be seen from the figures on table 1.

Table 1

Honduras: population movements, 2016–2019

Year	Hondurans deported	Hondurans applying for asylum	Population in transit (registered)
2015	75,775	16,508	20,611
2016	69,370	25,003	26,239
2017	48,022	35,061	4,332
2018	75,279	41,484	5,785
2019	79,808 (as of 31 August)	Not yet available	35,998

Source: Consular and Migration Observatory of Honduras (CONMIGHO).

The priority municipalities are: San Pedro Sula, Distrito Central, La Ceiba, Choloma, El Progreso, Juticalpa, Catacamas, Danlí and Choluteca. These locations represent the confluence of the highest number of returnees, migrants in transit, internally and externally displaced persons and the highest levels of violence. They coincide with the priority municipalities identified by the Government of Honduras within the framework of the Comprehensive Development Plan for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Southern and South-eastern Mexico, hereinafter “the Comprehensive Development Plan”. The proposed approach for the interventions is sustainable reintegration with an integrated governance approach and different levels of coordination. The project seeks to ensure monitoring and work with the target population (case management) with a vision of protection, local planning and development, and to address the causes of the problem and the needs of the priority municipalities.

Objective

1. Build a regulatory and institutional framework for migration and internal displacement in Honduras.
2. Strengthen reception and assistance systems for populations in transit and returnees, especially those in need of protection.
3. Develop a sustainable reintegration response system with a clear allocation of responsibilities that allows returnees access to the services provided by the State and civil society.
4. Promote community interventions that allow the sustainable social and economic reintegration of the beneficiary population.
5. Strengthen mechanisms to prevent and respond to internal and external displacement.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Regulatory and institutional framework for migration and internal displacement developed and implemented.	Number of advocacy actions undertaken for the amendment of Decree No. 208/2003, the Migration and Immigration Act.	One action.	12 months
	Number of advocacy actions for the discussion and approval of the Internal Displacement Act.	Two actions.	12 months
	Number of actions for the development and implementation of a migration policy.	Two actions.	12 months
	Capacities of decision makers for the implementation of migration policy strengthened: Yes/No.	Yes.	12 months
Strengthen reception and assistance systems for populations in transit and returning migrants.	Mechanisms to identify and refer differentiated profiles developed and implemented: Yes/No.	Yes.	3 months
	Number of strengthened reception facilities.	Six facilities (three Returned Migrant Assistance Centres (CAMR) and three Irregular Migrant Assistance Centres (CAMI).	9 months
	Number of returnees receiving post-arrival humanitarian assistance during their reception process.	20,000 people at the CAMRs and CAMIs.	36 months
Sustainable reintegration system with clear responsibilities that allows returnees and internally displaced people access to the services offered by the State and civil society.	Programmes for the beneficiary population that facilitate sustainable reintegration into the identified communities, addressing three aspects: economic, social and psychosocial.	One programme coordinated.	36 months
	Number of people benefiting from the sustainable reintegration programmes.	500 beneficiaries of the reintegration programmes.	36 months
Community interventions that promote enabling environments for the social, psychosocial and economic reintegration of beneficiaries.	Number of priority municipalities that have carried out community interventions to promote protection and sustainable reintegration.	At least 10 priority municipalities.	36 months
	Outreach strategy developed and implemented in priority municipalities to promote opportunities and alternatives to irregular migration and to promote efforts against discrimination and xenophobia: Yes/No.	Yes	12 months

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Mechanisms to prevent internal and external displacement.	Number of communities with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention mechanisms for the protection of property, and for the prevention of the involvement and recruitment of children, adolescents and young people. Protection mechanisms for members of sectors particularly affected by extortion and violence: Yes/Or Response mechanisms, assistance and protection programmes. 	At least 15 communities.	36 months
	Number of community venues in high-risk communities receiving support.	At least eight community venues supported.	36 months

Main activities

1. Develop and implement a regulatory and institutional framework for migration and internal displacement.
2. Advocate for the reform of Decree No. 208/2003, the Migration and Immigration Act, and for the discussion and approval of the Internal Displacement Act.
3. Support the development and implementation of a migration policy, its interconnection at all levels, and the allocation of responsibilities between the national and local levels.
4. Strengthen reception and assistance systems for in-transit and returnee populations.
5. Facilitate the improvement of basic infrastructure for receptions and post-arrival humanitarian assistance, orientation and information.
6. Promote the identification and referral of victims of gender-based violence.
7. Strengthen the identification and referral of differentiated profiles among the returning migrant population, including those with a high level of uprooting.
8. Identify people in need of international protection, victims/survivors of trafficking, smuggling, sexual and gender-based violence, LGBTI population in need of protection.
9. Support the medical and psychological care response and, in the case of asylum seekers, strengthen the asylum system and improve the infrastructure for their reception and accommodation.
10. Develop response preparations through contingency plans for mass returns and deportations or for large numbers of in-transit migrants remaining in the country longer, including border monitoring.
11. Develop a sustainable reintegration response system with clear responsibilities that allows the returnee population access to services provided by the State and civil society.
12. Support the development of a sustainable reintegration response system with clear responsibilities that allows the returnee population to access services provided by the State and civil society and to obtain social and economic insertion, interconnecting civil society processes in communities of origin and return.
13. Develop the areas where migrants originate and return; and strengthen capacities and social networks to facilitate protection and assistance and create favourable conditions for reintegration.
14. Provide psychosocial assistance in communities of origin and return.
15. Promote community-based interventions that build environments conducive to the social and economic reintegration of the beneficiary population.

16. Identify at-risk persons for referral to protection services and community work in non-integration-friendly environments.
17. Favour the removal of obstacles that hinder the economic development of migrants, and provide support for reintegration.
18. Support the integration and livelihoods of the refugee population.
19. Provide public information for the prevention of risks and crimes related to irregular migration, promotion of alternatives and combating discrimination and xenophobia.
20. Develop mechanisms to prevent internal and external displacement.
21. Strengthen networks of youth organizations, vocational training programmes, actions to promote participation, leadership and youth empowerment to ensure greater social inclusion in the community.
22. Prevent, identify, attend to and/or refer victims of gender-based violence and trafficking.
23. Create systems of opportunities for women and youth.
24. Coordinate with local authorities to build their presence in the community, including community protection and the strengthening of protective environments, such as schools.
25. Strengthen community work, organizational models and participation by the population and community networks. Strengthen the child protection system.
26. Strengthen mechanisms for protection, relocation and access to protection systems, such as the child protection system.
27. Support the processes for reintegration into education and to prevent school dropouts.

Project governance

Project management and coordination will be carried out through a steering committee, made up of government representatives and United Nations agencies in Honduras, which will be responsible for the general direction of the project, including the definition of strategic issues and the approval of work plans and budgets.

The actual execution of the activities defined in Honduras will be the responsibility of technical country groups, made up of coordination officers, technical delegates from the Government, and technical delegates from the UNHCR and IOM teams. These groups will meet periodically, as needed. Each will designate a member of one of the agencies to serve as the technical secretariat and focal point for monitoring and follow-up.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This proposal for the implementation of the Comprehensive Development Plan complements existing regional processes, including MIRPS and the updating of the Strategic Plan of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM). MIRPS is the result of a broad process of consultations at the national level that has led to the translation of national priorities and commitments into action plans. MIRPS is a regional framework for cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination, intended to promote shared responsibility mechanisms for the prevention, protection and solutions for refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons and returnees in need of protection.

RCM is a forum for dialogue to coordinate policies and promote cooperation on migration among its eleven member countries: Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States. It has provided a forum for the open discussion of regional migration issues and the exchange of information and experiences to achieve greater coordination and cooperation in the region; with this, it seeks to contribute to protecting migrants' human rights, creating a network of coherent and appropriate migration laws and strengthening the links between migration and development.

This proposal also responds to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the global compact on refugees. In addition, in Honduras, UNHCR, IOM and UNDP are carrying out the Tri-national Project for Social Resilience and Cohesion in Northern Central America, which is a coordination effort working to address the challenges of returnee migrants, specifically in the area of reintegration and protection. This work platform has allowed UNHCR and IOM to develop an interconnected and harmonized proposal.

Duration

3 years

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion

Proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
			Tri-national Project for Social Resilience and Cohesion in Northern Central America			

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Budget: US\$ 16,906,000

Proposal 4.3

Meeting the immediate needs and fostering the long-term local integration of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Mexico



Implementing agencies

United Nations agencies: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with technical support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in collaboration with federal, state and municipal government institutions.

Government institutions: National System for Integral Family Development (SEDIF) and Puebla Migrant Assistance Institute (IPAM), Government of the State of Puebla through the Puebla Migrant Assistance Institute.

Academic institutions: Economic Research and Teaching Centre (CIDE).

Geographical coverage

Mexico: nationwide, with specific attention to the following States: Chiapas, Tabasco, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Veracruz, Quintana Roo, Yucatán, Campeche and Puebla.

Beneficiaries

- Migrants (500,000)
- Persons in need of international protection, asylum seekers and refugees (320,000)
- Local inhabitants of host communities (500,000)

Context

Mexico is a country of origin, transit, destination and return for mixed migratory flows (migrants and refugees). IOM estimates that more than 450,000 people arrive in Mexico each year to cross or stay in the nation's territory, most of them coming from Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador and, more recently, also from Venezuela, Haiti, Cuba and elsewhere. The situation of widespread violence in the countries of Northern Central America (Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador) has reached extremely worrying proportions. Those countries accounted for 76% of the applications for refugee status in 2018. According to the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees (COMAR), between January and November 2019, Mexico received 66,915 applications for international protection.

In 2016, 152,231 people from North Central America were detained by the National Institute of Migration and 141,990 were returned to their countries of origin. Trends in 2017 and 2018 suggested a decrease in detentions in the United States, while Mexico reported an increase. In 2019, however, the number of arrests on the southern border of the United States suddenly increased (according to figures from United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP), 811,016 as of August).¹ There has also been a change in the profile of the people on the move, with the proportion of women and girls detained in Mexico increasing since 2012: they accounted for 25% of all detained migrants in 2017. Girls and adolescent women represented 32% of the total number of minors detained by the National Institute of Migration in that year. According to COMAR, women asylum seekers represent 41% of the total, and girls and adolescent women 48%. The proportion of family groups and older adults has also increased.

Violence affects migrants and refugees entering Mexico. The most affected are women, some of whom are sexually abused during their journey. The "caravans" headed for Mexico and the United States from Mesoamerica have also triggered expressions of concern and rejection among the local Mexican population.

Climate change and natural disasters increase the vulnerability of communities and limit employment opportunities in Mexico's primary sector; this favours internal displacement, especially in the southern and south-eastern states of the country, which are also the most affected by poverty. Despite the limitations that exist, Mexico offers migrants, asylum seekers and refugees an opportunity to improve their living conditions, since it has a favourable legal framework for labour matters and there are opportunities for job creation in some states and sectors that could promote the local integration of migrant workers, refugees and their families.

In that context, the offices in Mexico of IOM, UNHCR, ILO, OHCHR, UNODC, UNDP, UNICEF, UN-Women, PAHO/WHO and UNFPA have joined forces to propose a strategy aligned with the priorities identified by the Government of Mexico, the global compact on refugees, the comprehensive regional protection and solutions framework (MIRPS) and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Protection and local integration are the most appropriate solutions for most displaced persons (both migrants and refugees), through coordinated work along the following four thematic lines:

- Access to employment and labour integration.
- Access to public services and promotion of peaceful coexistence.
- Violence prevention and access to justice.
- Migration management and access to the asylum procedure.

In parallel, a proposal will be developed to institutionalize the integration of migrants and refugees in various areas through policy and legislative changes.

¹ United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP), "Southwest border migration FY 2019", 2019 [online] <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/sw-border-migration/fy-2019#>.

Objectives

1. Develop a proposal to institutionalize the integration of migrants and refugees in Mexico through public policies and legislation at the federal and state levels.
2. Promote the labour integration of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees through decent work under conditions of equality and non-discrimination, responding to market needs and contributing to national development.
3. Strengthen the public health and education services, and promote the peaceful coexistence in the main host communities for migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in the south and south-east of Mexico.
4. Strengthen respect, protection and promotion of human rights and access to justice for migrants and their families, asylum seekers and refugees, ensuring comprehensive redress for harm, with a gender perspective.
5. Ensure access to migration and identity documents for migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals:

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goal	Period
1. Institutionalize the integration of migrants and refugees in Mexico's public policies and legislation			
Public institutions have a diagnostic assessment of the institutional framework for the integration of migrants and refugees, including the identification of needs and institutional response capacities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of migration and refugee trends. • Analysis of the institutional and regulatory framework for the integration of migrants and refugees. • Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) assessment. • Analysis of public policy needs, challenges and opportunities regarding integration, according to the objectives of integration policy. 	Diagnostic assessment of the current institutional and regulatory framework for migrant and refugee integration, and of needs, shortcomings and areas of opportunity.	1.5 years
Public institutions have a proposal for strategic and priority actions to integrate migrants and refugees and the tools to implement internationally successful models.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systematization of international models and experiences. • Analysis of the objectives and guiding principles of integration policy, and proposals for strategic and priority actions. • Local pilot test of one or more successful integration programmes or services. 	Proposal for strategic and priority integration actions and pilot test(s).	2.5 years
Public institutions have a proposal for the institutional architecture and legal reforms to institutionalize public policy for the integration of migrants and refugees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design of the institutional architecture. • Preliminary draft of legal reforms for the integration of migrants and refugees. 	Design of an institutional architecture for the public policy for the integration of migrants and refugees, and proposal for comprehensive reform of the national legal framework for the implementation of the integration policy.	2.5 years

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (continued)

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goal	Period
2. Access to employment and labour integration			
Migrants, asylum seekers and refugees have access to decent work (formal and decent employment or own-account work).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons hired by employers in integration zones. Persons enrolled in public vocational training programmes (south and south-east). 	24,000 people.	4 years
The labour market in areas of the country where the economy is growing receives an adequate response to its human resource needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of companies affiliated to the labour recruitment programme. 	100 companies.	4 years
Ensure access to gender-sensitive social protection and better care services, and creation of mechanisms to monitor labour rights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons covered by social security (Mexican Social Security Institute, IMSS). Persons benefiting from care services. 	32,000 people.	4 years
Create a paid internship programme for young women in companies belonging to non-traditional sectors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women completing paid internships. Women employed at the end of the internship. 	600 women.	4 years
3. Access to public services and peaceful coexistence			
Migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, and the local population in the host community, have access to quality physical health services, including sexual and reproductive health and mental health with a gender perspective and a human rights and child rights approach, in the south and south-east of Mexico.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities with strengthened public health services, with emphasis on sexual and reproductive health, mental health, prevalent diseases and physical and psychological abuse, which include a gender perspective and a human rights and child rights approach. 	10 communities.	4 years
Migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children and adolescents are included in compulsory formal school education. In addition, children and adolescents in the host community enjoy strengthened schools (infrastructure, supplies, training for teachers and parents).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities with strengthened public schools. Migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children and adolescents enrolled in public schools, following models. Federal and state agreements for the educational inclusion of migrant and refugee children. 	10 communities. 800 children and adolescents. Existence of an action plan to implement the educational inclusion agreement.	4 years
Reduction/elimination of levels of xenophobia in the community through the creation of shared venues and the implementation of activities involving the host communities' local populations and the migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee populations, with an emphasis on women and girls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared venues for peaceful coexistence established. Decreased negative perception of migrants and refugees among the host communities' local populations. 	20 venues. 25% decrease in negative perceptions of migrants and refugees.	4 years
Children and adolescents have access to the services they require thanks to the pursuit of their best interest and the coordination of inter-institutional actions carried out by the protection agencies for children and adolescents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of children and adolescents with a plan for the restoration of their rights drawn up by the protection agencies for children and adolescents. 	2,000 children and adolescents with a plan for the restoration of their rights drawn up by the protection agencies.	4 years
Migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children and adolescents have access to alternative accommodation, community-based residential arrangements and family-based care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children and adolescents in alternative accommodation, community-based residential arrangements and family-based care. 	500 migrant children and adolescents, asylum seekers and refugees in alternative accommodation, community-based residential arrangements and family-based care.	4 years

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (continued)

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goal	Period
Barriers to access to public services by migrants, asylum seekers and refugees are removed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One-stop shops to provide the migrant, asylum-seeker and refugee populations with comprehensive assistance are set up in all the states of southern and south-eastern Mexico. 	Eight, one per state.	4 years
At-risk youth and adult women access educational programmes with short-cycle scholarships, including technical and non-traditional sectors, skill certifications and Spanish classes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of young people and women receiving diplomas. 	350 women and 150 men.	4 years
Strengthened care services for migrant families, at temporary shelters under external arrangements, with the participation of migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of children and adolescents from migrant families benefiting from temporary care services. 	800 children and adolescents and 500 families.	4 years
4. Violence prevention and access to justice			
Migrants in need of international protection in the project states have information on risks associated with the most prevalent crimes throughout the migration cycle, their rights and mechanisms for access to justice, with a gender awareness and a life-cycle approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media impacts of differentiated campaign contents, designed on traditional and digital platforms. Number of shelters, half-way houses and refuges with information materials from the campaigns. 	50,000 media impacts from content designed on traditional and digital platforms. 20 shelters with information material.	4 years
Authorities, civil society organizations, host communities and key actors engaged with migration issues make up an effective network of interconnections and transparency, integrity and accountability schemes and establish safe corridors that serve as a mechanism for the protection and attention of migrants against the most common crimes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A network made up of key actors who implement a safe corridor that has a multi-stakeholder protocol to guide the network's actions. Migrants have used, over the course of two years, at least two services provided by the safe corridors that they say were useful to them. 	Network actors implement the protocol. 50,000 migrants have used, over the course of two years, at least two services provided by the safe corridors that they say were useful to them.	4 years
Authorities, civil society organizations and key actors at the regional level detect and effectively investigate, with an anti-corruption approach, possible cases of high rates of crime and provide comprehensive assistance to migrants and refugees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trainers of trainers (with gender parity) trained to replicate the training plan in their home countries (10 training sessions). Number of cases investigated with an anti-corruption approach. 	1,000 trainers of trainers trained. 25% increase in cases investigated with an anti-corruption approach.	4 years
Governability and the governance of security and coexistence are increased through the analysis of quantitative and qualitative information used to develop a prevention and security policy that responds to the problems encountered at the local level and their causes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of local plans that contribute to governability and governance of security and coexistence. Regional diagnostic assessments that provide qualitative and quantitative information on prevention and security policies. 	Implement one local plan per state that contributes to governance in matters of security and coexistence. Three regional diagnostic assessments.	4 years
Communities, organizations and/or women's networks implement community-based protection mechanisms to prevent risks and activate an early-warning system for migrant women and girls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of communities, organizations and/or women's networks. 	At least ten communities, organizations and/or women's networks.	4 years

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goal	Period
Migrants and their families have effective access to justice (including redress), on equal terms and without discrimination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the number of migrants reporting crimes committed against them. Specialized prosecutors and attorneys general trained to deal with crimes against migrants. 	<p>25% of migrant victims of crime file complaints.</p> <p>20 prosecutors and attorneys general trained.</p>	4 years
Design and implementation of a comprehensive programme specializing in the investigation of human trafficking and migrant smuggling.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of a comprehensive programme specializing in the investigation of human trafficking and migrant smuggling. The regional protocol for the effective prosecution of trafficking and smuggling cases has been implemented. 	<p>The comprehensive trafficking and smuggling programme is implemented.</p> <p>The regional protocol for the prosecution of trafficking and smuggling cases is implemented.</p>	4 years
Design of a regional protocol for the effective prosecution of cases involving both crimes.			
Serious human rights violations committed against migrants are properly investigated and punished.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levels of impunity for serious human rights violations committed against migrants are reduced. 	Percentage of impunity for serious human rights violations.	4 years
5. Migration management and access to the asylum procedure			
Mexico's asylum system is strengthened to ensure access to a fair and effective asylum procedure for persons in need of international protection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of the average time taken for refugee status rulings by the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees (COMAR). Increased recognition of refugee status on account of violence against women and girls. 	<p>45 days (limit established by law).</p> <p>The Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees annually reports the number of its positive rulings on the grounds of violence against women and girls.</p>	4 years
Strengthened management and regularization of migration, including the issuance of immigration documents and the Single Population Registration Code (CURP) for asylum seekers and refugees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asylum seekers and refugees have immigration documents and CURPs. 	100%	4 years
Reduction in the practice of immigration detention of persons in need of international protection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer detentions of persons in need of international protection. 	80%	4 years
Strengthened protection mechanism for children and adolescents who are migrants, asylum seekers and at-risk refugees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children and adolescents who do not have a diagnostic assessment and rights restitution plan. 	50%	4 years
Elimination of the practice of immigration detention of migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children and adolescents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer detentions of migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children and adolescents. 	100%	4 years
Authorities have specialized tools to interact with and adequately protect children and adolescents according to their stage of development and to prevent their re-victimization and detect violations of their rights and international protection needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of the authorities of the National Institute of Migration, Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees, National System for Integral Family Development, protection agencies for children and adolescents, public prosecutors and consulates that use specialized tools for the protection of migrant children and adolescents. 	By the end of 2023, at least 50% of the authorities of the National Institute of Migration, Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees, National System for Integral Family Development, protection agencies for children and adolescents, public prosecutors and consulates use specialized tools for the protection of migrant children and adolescents.	4 years

Main activities

Institutionalize the integration of migrants and refugees in Mexico's public policies and legislation

1. Prepare the project's methodological document.
2. Conduct a diagnostic assessment of trends and characteristics in migrant and refugee flows and numbers.
3. Analysis of the institutional and regulatory framework for the integration of migrants and refugees.
4. Prepare the "MIPEX-Mexico Country Report" (preparation of the study, presentation of results, publication) and carry out a replication exercise in one state.
5. Analysis of the needs, challenges and opportunities of public policy on integration
6. Draft the document systematizing successful international integration experiences.
7. Analysis of the goals and guiding principles of the integration policy and a proposal for strategic and priority actions, in accordance with the highest standards of human rights protection and the development goals of the country's international commitments.
8. Local-level pilot test(s) of a successful integration programme or service, with a focus on labour integration (local initiative for migrant and refugee labour integration, one-stop shop or a model for forging ties and coexistence between migrants and refugees and their host society).
9. Drafting of a manual for the implementation of the selected programme(s) or service.
10. Develop a technical proposal for the institutionalization of public policy for the integration of migrants and refugees, including the distribution of responsibilities at the state and municipal levels, the intergovernmental coordination mechanism and the mechanism for social participation, consultation and enforceability of rights.
11. Develop a proposal for legislative reforms on the integration of migrants and refugees.

Access to employment and labour integration

1. Conduct consultations with migrants and refugees to identify their job skills and produce sex- and age-disaggregated information.
2. Provide migrants, asylum seekers and refugees with information on regularization processes and employment possibilities, and empower people to demand their labour rights.
3. Collaborate with state governments and the National Employment Service (SNE) to design a labour market information system in the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico, to include migrants in public employment programmes and to provide them with opportunities for developing workplace skills.
4. Outreach, awareness-raising and training for institutions, trade unions, employers' organizations (Mexican Employers Confederation and Confederation of Industrial Chambers (CONCAMIN)) and companies, to expand and strengthen a network that facilitates the equitable recruitment of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.
5. Relocate refugees and migrants to places with employment integration opportunities, including timely economic support to ensure that it is sustainable and successful, in accordance with existing established UNHCR and IOM models.
6. Conduct studies on employability among migrants, refugees and host communities, and identify ways for them to access social protection, including care services.

7. Establish local working groups to address the challenges and opportunities in the recruitment of migrants and refugees.
8. Promote the employment of Mexican returnees, asylum seekers and refugees through the online platform developed by UNDP, as well as job training through that same platform.
9. Design and implement pilots empowerment centres for migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women, in partnership with local institutions.
10. Technical assistance for the enforcement of the Women's Empowerment Principles for women migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in labour secretariats, employment agencies, job banks and companies.
11. Advocate for access to care services for the migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee population to free up women's time and facilitate their incorporation into the workforce.
12. Strengthen inter-institutional coordination for the development of a cross-border temporary work programme for migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, paying particular attention to women.

Access to health services, education and peaceful coexistence

1. Conduct a diagnostic assessment of the main needs of the local, migrant and refugee populations in accessing quality public health and education services from a gender and life-cycle perspective.
2. Establish intersectoral working groups with authorities, international organizations and experts for the inclusion of the target population in public policies and programmes, with respect towards their human rights.
3. Promote specialized attention and the comprehensive guarantee of rights for child and adolescent migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, including care, psychosocial attention, education (access to scholarships), others.
4. Strengthen the capacities of protection stakeholders, first-contact personnel in shelters, health operators —especially for mental health and education— with a human rights approach, gender awareness and specialized care for children.
5. Provide technical assistance to generate regulatory changes and develop public policies and models of attention that guarantee access to public services for the entire population of the host communities and for migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.
6. Promote activities for peaceful coexistence and social cohesion that favour cultural change in order to curb xenophobia and gender discrimination, including youth sport campaigns and programmes for integration.
7. Technical assistance to strengthen resources, including emergency services, to improve the response of existing programmes and policies and to develop protocols for the identification, referral and protection of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, with a gender perspective.
8. Conduct social audits and gender-sensitivity assessments of service providers and the services they offer, through online tools such as maps and other innovative tools (such as CuéntaNos, <https://www.cuentanos.org/selectors>).

Violence prevention and access to justice

1. Conduct a diagnostic assessment on the context of violence and crime, highlighting routes (georeferenced maps), needs, vulnerabilities, primary manifestations and existing regulations, as well as the government procedures with the highest risk of corruption, with recommendations to reduce the vulnerability of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees and to make transparent and strengthen procedures for the attention of migrants.

2. Design and implement mass outreach campaigns with tools differentiated by sector (women, children and adolescents, older adults, persons with disabilities) that address the risks related to the most prevalent crimes committed during the migration cycle, the available attention and reporting mechanisms, conditions of vulnerability and training actions to build confidence in the authorities. To this end, set up strategic information and assistance points that are accessible to the migrant population.
3. Carry out sporting, cultural and academic activities (in partnership with civil society organizations, authorities and the private sector) to inform and raise awareness of the most serious crimes and corruption, and to encourage the reporting of probable acts of corruption.
4. Organize practical training workshops (local and regional) for the detection and investigation of the different crimes committed against migrants.
5. Organize training workshops (using the experiential and train-the-trainer methods) to build capacities and, subsequently, replicate the knowledge.
6. Develop and implement an action plan to address insecurity and crime in one locality based on a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the problems related to crime and insecurity in that location.
7. Train security forces in women's human rights to prevent institutional abuse against migrant and refugee women and girls.
8. Technical assistance for the legislature in strengthening the legal framework that governs access to justice for migrants and their families, asylum seekers and refugees.
9. Technical assistance for the executive branch in the design and implementation of public policies to prevent and provide redress for serious human rights violations, including forced disappearances, torture, extrajudicial executions, excessive use of force and arbitrary detentions.
10. Strengthen the Migrant Crime Investigation Unit (UIDPM) of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, as well as the Specialized Prosecutors' Offices for Migrant Attention.
11. Strengthen the judiciary to ensure the punishment of serious human rights violations committed against migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, in keeping with international human rights standards.
12. Technical support for the Federal Public Defender Institute and the National Institute of Migration in assisting migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.
13. Production of a guide to access to justice for relatives of missing migrants based on existing protocols for searching for missing migrants, such as the forensic protocol for searching for missing persons or the protocol of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) developed and adopted by the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM).
14. Assist civil society initiatives that seek to ensure access to justice by migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.
15. Produce a regional diagnostic of capacities in the area of access to justice and design a monitoring system that measures the actions taken by justice operators, based on indicators for access to justice for migrants (SDG 16).
16. Design and implement a comprehensive training plan with gender awareness and a human rights approach for justice operators.
17. Prepare a regional action protocol for justice operators, with emphasis on international cooperation mechanisms.

Migration management and asylum procedures

1. Strengthen legal, institutional and administrative structures in order to improve the attention paid to the dynamics of migrant origin, transit, return and destination and international protection.
2. Assume the role of a country of destination for migrants, through clearer and more streamlined policies in favour of the management and regularization of migration.
3. Promote migrant regularization programmes (alternatives to asylum) within the National Institute of Migration, with the dissemination of clear and precise information.
4. Study and implement more sustainable mechanisms for regularization through employment (avoiding departures from the country and the payment of fines: difficult to sustain economically for a large proportion of the Central American migrant population).
5. Support the use of technology for the registration of signatures with the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees and/or the National Institute of Migration during proceedings for refugee applications.
6. Develop specialized tools so that the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees, the National Institute of Migration, the National System for Integral Family Development, the prosecutors' offices and social assistance centres can interact appropriately with children and adolescents in accordance with their stage of development, to prevent re-victimizing them and thereby detect their needs for international protection and special protection.
7. Strengthen the role of the Migration Policy Unit at the Secretariat of the Interior, and build its coordination and interconnections with the National Institute of Migration.
8. Promote dialogue and joint work between the Secretariat of the Interior (as the lead agency for Mexico's migration policy), the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs and state and municipal governments.
9. Expand the presence of the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees in the territory to ensure access to asylum procedures and to improve those procedures.
10. End the practice of detaining migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, especially children and adolescents.
11. Develop gender-aware attention protocols for migratory stations until migratory detention is ended.
12. Strengthen inter-institutional coordination mechanisms to ensure protection for migrant children and adolescents and/or those in need of international protection and to uphold the best interests of children.
13. Ensure the issuance of migration and identity documents (Single Population Registration Codes, CURP) to asylum seekers and refugees and to migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children and adolescents.
14. Advocate for the legal recognition of granting refugee status to women and girls for reasons of violence.
15. Technical assistance to the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees to include the gender perspective in the asylum procedure and in the assistance provided to women and girls.
16. Advocacy with civil society to decrease the practice of accelerated repatriation of survivors of violence against women and girls.

Project governance

Entities responsible:

UNHCR, IOM, ILO, UN-Women, UNDP, OHCHR, PAHO/WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC.

Key partners:

National Employment Service (SNE) of the federal and state Secretariats of Labour and Social Security, Secretariat of the Interior, National Institute of Migration, Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees, Migration Policy Unit at the Secretariat of the Interior, National Population and Personal Identification Register, National Human Rights Commission, National Council for the Prevention of Discrimination, National Commission for the Search of Disappeared Persons (CNB), Executive Committee for Victim Assistance (CEAV), Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit, National Institute of Women, Office of the Attorney General of the Republic and state prosecutors' offices, employers' organizations (Mexican Employers Confederation and Confederation of Industrial Chambers, CONCAMIN) and other private sector representatives (Business Coordination Council, CCE). Representative Mexican trade unions, federal and state Secretariats of Health and Education (e.g. youth bodies), National System for Integral Family Development (protection agencies for children and adolescents), Secretariat of Security and Citizen Protection (includes the National Guard), Secretariat of Foreign Affairs (including the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation), State Migrant Attention Offices, Puebla Migrant Assistance Institute (IPAM), National System for Integral Family Development, Office of the Attorney General of the State of Puebla (FGEP), State General Directorate of Civil Protection, State Human Rights Commission, municipal governments, civil society organizations.

Possible synergies

This strategy complements the following initiatives:

- Mexico Plan of Action within the comprehensive regional protection and solutions framework (MIRPS).
- Mexican government initiatives to promote the development of the southern and south-eastern states, such as the Mayan Train, the Trans-Isthmus Corridor, the Dos Bocas refinery, others.
- The Route for the Comprehensive Protection of the Rights of Children and Adolescents in a Situation of Migration of the Commission for the Comprehensive Protection of Migrant Children and Adolescents and Applicants for Refugee Status of the National System for the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents.
- Other national initiatives: Repatriation Programme and Beta Groups of the National Institute of Migration, the Youth Building the Future programme, Initiatives of the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation, Committee for Comprehensive Development of the Southern and South-eastern Region of the National Conference of Governors (CONAGO), Plan for the Attention of Migrant Caravans with a Humanitarian Vision.

Duration

The strategies of the four main pillars (employment, access to services, prevention of violence and access to justice, migration management and asylum procedure) will have a duration of four years.

The strategy for the institutionalization of integration will have a duration of between 1.5 and 2.5 years.

Budget: US\$ 31,003,142

Proposal 4.4

Provide greater opportunities and social inclusion for children, adolescents and their families by promoting local governance in the municipalities with the largest migrant populations in Honduras



Implementing agencies:

This proposal involves several State institutions, including the Secretariat for Governance, Justice and Decentralization, the General Coordination Secretariat of Government, the Secretariat of Development and Social Inclusion, the Department for Children, Adolescents and the Family (DINAF), municipal governments in the selected territories, and non-governmental institutions that play a key role in municipal development such as the Association of Municipalities of Honduras and the academic sector.

Geographical coverage:

The municipalities with the highest number of returnee migrants since 2016 will be selected, namely:

Selected municipalities with the highest numbers of returnee migrants.

	Municipality	Department
1	Tela	Atlántida
2	Choluteca	Choluteca
3	Comayagua	Comayagua
4	Siguatepeque	
5	Choloma	Cortés
6	Puerto Cortés	
7	San Pedro Sula	
8	Villanueva	
9	El Paraíso	
10	Distrito Central	Francisco Morazán
11	Catacamas	Olancho
12	Juticalpa	
13	El Progreso	Yoro
14	Yoro	

Source: National Social Sector Information Centre (CENISS), “Sistema Integral de Atención al Migrante Retornado (SIAMIR): hondureños retornados”, Tegucigalpa, 2019.

Number of beneficiaries:

The total population of the fourteen municipalities selected for this proposal, which include the main cities in Honduras, is around 4 million people, or 44% of the national total. This proposal focuses particularly on serving children in severe multidimensional poverty (407,324 children and adolescents) and out-of-school children and adolescents (an estimated 428,700). There is most likely a large overlap between the those facing severe multidimensional poverty and those facing educational exclusion. Figures broken down by municipality appear in the table below.

Demographic data, multidimensional poverty and educational exclusion in selected municipalities

Department	Municipality	Total population 2019 ^a	Estimated number of families 2019 ^b	Total children 2019 ^a	Estimated number of children and adolescents in severe multidimensional poverty 2018 ^c	Estimated children and adolescents out of school 2018 ^d
Atlántida	La Ceiba	218,495	46,488	82,518	23,105	25,123
Atlántida	Tela	104,766	22,291	39,882	11,167	12,304
Colón	Tocoa	103,073	21,930	42,990	12,037	12,485
Comayagua	Comayagua	167,971	35,738	69,825	19,551	19,144
Comayagua	Siguatepeque	107,995	22,978	45,174	12,649	12,058
Cortés	San Pedro Sula	789,645	168,010	277,466	77,691	62,967
Cortés	Choloma	268,889	57,210	103,484	28,976	31,930
Cortés	Puerto Cortés	34,023	28,516	49,054	13,735	13,134
Cortés	Villanueva	173,640	36,945	68,485	19,176	17,002
Choluteca	Choluteca	166,712	35,471	60,613	16,972	4,937
El Paraíso	Danlí	218,391	46,466	81,203	22,737	23,439
Francisco Morazán	Distrito Central	1,259,646	268,010	425,238	119,067	79,562
Olancho	Juticalpa	140,194	29,828	54,339	15,215	17,600
Olancho	Catacamas	131,635	28,007	54,459	15,249	20,182
	Totals	3,985,073	847,888	1,454,730	407,324	428,700

Source: ^aNational Institute of Statistics, “BASEINE: proyecciones de población 2014-2030” [online] <https://www.ine.gob.hn/V3/baseine/>. ^bCalculation based on average household size. ^cCalculation based on the national incidence of severe multidimensional poverty. ^dCalculation based on school population projections and enrolment data from the Ministry of Education.

Main topics:

- Poverty reduction
- School inclusion
- Local governance
- Reintegration of migrant children

Context

According to the Comprehensive System for Assistance to Returnee Migrants (SIAMIR),¹ 47,790 migrant children and adolescents were returned to Honduras from January 2016 to date, representing 19% of all returnees. Of that total, 35% were women and 38% were unaccompanied children. Between January to September 2019, 17,660 children and adolescents returned, for an increase of almost 104% compared to the same period in 2018. The leading reason that all returnees, both adults and children, give for having migrated is economic factors (92.9%), followed by family reunification (15.8%) and insecurity and violence (5.4%).

The lack of economic opportunities that forces Hondurans to leave their country can be clearly seen in the poverty figures, which show that in 2018, 79.4% of children and adolescents lived in multidimensionally poor households (for a total of over 2.6 million) and 28.5% lived in conditions of severe multidimensional poverty. This level of poverty remains practically unchanged since 2012, when 80.1% of children were found to be in that situation.²

This proposal seeks to address some of the driving factors of migration, especially the lack of opportunities—in economic terms and access to services— by generating greater capacity within the local governments of the municipalities that generate the largest number of migrants and encouraging their actions by means of an incentive mechanism. The proposal is based on the idea that the greater the local capacity to provide and structure the supply of services, the less likely it is that the lack of opportunities will force families to make the decision to migrate. Incentives are a basic mechanism of results-based management that offers recognition—either monetary or non-monetary—to those actors who succeed in meeting predetermined objectives and goals. Recognition closely correlates with the performance of the institutions in achieving all the pre-established objectives. Incentive schemes therefore make it possible to encourage improvements in the provision of public services, align national and subnational objectives, improve the allocation of public resources and develop the management capacities of subnational governments. The aim is to design and implement an innovative incentive mechanism that rewards, in monetary and/or non-monetary forms, local governments that make progress in reducing the percentage of children and adolescents living in severe multidimensionally poor households, in promoting educational inclusion and in improving the targeting and monitoring systems of social protection programmes in their municipalities. It also aspires to encourage those that succeed in reintegrating children, adolescents and their families who return to the country after having migrated.

Honduras has made some recent advances that would allow this project to be grounded on a propitious foundation. In this regard, this year Honduras adopted the Comprehensive System to Guarantee the Rights of Children and Adolescents in Honduras (SIGADENAH) which, through its governance structure, creates a National Council for Children and Adolescents at the national level and, at the local level, Municipal Councils to Guarantee the Rights of Children and Adolescents, designed to structure the institutional offerings for children and adolescents available both nationally and locally. These are inter-institutional spaces that enable integrated actions towards establishing social protection systems, as well as the structuring of effective actions towards the inclusion of children and adolescents who are out of school. Within this framework, and with UNICEF support, the country has developed a training package for municipal governments, intended to equip them with results-oriented management tools for upholding the rights of children and adolescents. This proposal will complement the pre-existing modules (four modules, focusing on stages in local public management: situation analysis; planning and

¹ National Social Sector Information Centre (CENISS), “Sistema Integral de Atención al Migrante Retornado (SIAMIR): hondureños retornados”, Tegucigalpa [online] <http://www.ceniss.gob.hn/migrantes/MigrantesEstadisticas.aspx>.

² Data processed by the General Coordination Secretariat of Government based on the methodology of the Multidimensional Poverty Index in Honduras (IPM-HN).

budgeting; monitoring for results; accountability), with two additional modules focused on: (1) targeting and monitoring of social protection programmes, and (2) managing the institutional offerings for the reintegration of returned migrant children.

Objective

Reduce severe multidimensional poverty among children and adolescents, and reduce educational exclusion in the municipalities of origin of the largest numbers of migrants.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

The framework of outcomes for the proposed project is shown below. A distinction has been made between impact outcomes and effect outcomes for a better understanding of the logical framework.

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Impact outcome:			
Severe multidimensional child poverty is reduced in the selected municipalities.	Percentage of children and adolescents living in households with severe multidimensional poverty.	Reduction of at least one third.	5 years (medium term).
Effect outcomes:			
Out-of-school children and adolescents in selected municipalities are included in the education system.	Percentage of out-of-school children.	Reduction of at least one third (mainly in the third cycle of basic education and secondary school).	5 years (medium term).
Children and adolescents returnees from selected municipalities are successfully reintegrated into their communities.	Percentage of returnee children and adolescents who have been successfully reintegrated into their communities.	At least 80% of returnees.	2 to 5 years (short or medium term).
Product outcomes:			
Selected municipal governments increase their public management capacity to reduce both severe multidimensional child poverty and educational exclusion.	Number of selected municipal governments with high public management capacity for reducing multidimensional child poverty and educational exclusion.	14 municipal governments.	2 to 5 years (short or medium term).
	Training modules on management for the incorporation of children's rights, targeting of social protection programmes and management of the institutional offering for the reintegration of returnee migrant children designed or adjusted and implemented by 14 municipal governments.	Four existing modules adjusted. Two additional modules designed. Six modules implemented.	2 years (short term).
Institutions promoting municipal development have designed and implemented an incentive mechanism to encourage the actions of municipal governments towards reducing severe multidimensional child poverty and educational exclusion.	Incentive mechanism designed.	In existence.	1 year (short term)
	Incentive mechanism launched and implemented annually.	Five annual editions of the incentive mechanism organized.	2 to 5 years (short or medium term).

Main activities

The main activities for the achievement of each of the previous section's outcomes are outlined below.

Expected outcome	Main activities
Selected municipal governments increase their public management capacity to reduce both severe multidimensional child poverty and educational exclusion.	<p>Design of the two additional modules for the training package on local public management by results in pursuit of the fulfilment of the rights of children and adolescents (targeting of social protection programmes, and management of the institutional offerings for the attention of returnee migrant children).</p> <p>Train the 14 municipal governments in the training package on governance and local public management for results.</p> <p>Interconnect local and national (social protection system) policies for reducing severe multidimensional child poverty and educational exclusion, based on the governance mechanism of the Comprehensive System to Guarantee the Rights of Children and Adolescents in Honduras (SIGADENAH).</p> <p>Strengthen sustainability actions within the training package so it can be scaled up to municipalities with lower rates of migration.</p> <p>Design and implementation of a monitoring system on: (a) the situation with children and multidimensional child poverty in the municipalities, and (b) the management capacities of the local governments.</p>
Institutions promoting municipal development have designed and implemented an incentive mechanism to encourage the actions of municipal governments towards reducing severe multidimensional child poverty and educational exclusion.	<p>Design of the incentive mechanism for encouraging the actions of municipal governments for reducing severe multidimensional child poverty and educational exclusion.</p> <p>Forge a broad inter-agency partnership to oversee the incentive mechanism (General Coordination Secretariat of Government, Secretariat for Governance, Justice and Decentralization, Secretariat of Finance, Department for Children, Adolescents and the Family (DINAF), Association of Municipalities of Honduras, academia, others).</p> <p>Launch, implementation and annual monitoring of the incentive mechanism at the local level.</p> <p>Creation and administration of a seed fund for the monetary dimension of the incentive model.</p>

Project governance

The following institutions will be involved, with their main role by outcome:

- National Council for Children and Adolescents (coordinated by the Deputy General Coordinator of Government in the Social Cabinet), with the function of ensuring the interconnection and integration of interventions to reduce both severe multidimensional poverty among children and educational exclusion.
- Academic sector (Francisco Morazán National Pedagogical University), with its Inter-University Institute for Children to certify the local public management training package.
- Municipal governments as the main recipients of the training package.
- Municipal Councils to Guarantee of the Rights of Children and Adolescents (coordinated by the mayors), with the function of ensuring the interconnection and integration of interventions at the local level.
- Secretariat of Development and Social Inclusion and Ministry of Education, as lead agencies for the key interventions to be implemented.
- Department for Children, Adolescents and the Family (DINAF), as the coordinating institution for national children's policies.
- Secretariat for Governance, Justice and Decentralization, with the main role of leading the development of the incentive system.

- Association of Honduran Municipalities, with the task of co-leading, together with the Secretariat of the Interior, the incentive system's design and implementation.
- Secretariat of Finance (SEFIN), which will be tasked with developing the monetary dimension of the incentive mechanism.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This proposal will synergize with Honduras' social protection interventions aimed at poverty reduction, as well as with the Government's efforts to measure and monitor multidimensional poverty. It also offers synergies with the State's initiative to promote the Comprehensive System to Guarantee the Rights of Children and Adolescents in Honduras (SIGADENAH), which is being supported by all the institutions belonging to the Honduras Chapter of the Global Movement for Children. In this regard, the State is about to finalize the National Policy on Children, Adolescents and the Family, in which multidimensional poverty among children will serve as the supra-sectoral and core impact indicator.

This proposal ties in with the process undertaken by the Ministry of Education, the Association of Municipalities of Honduras and the Secretariat for Governance, Justice and Decentralization to further educational decentralization and restore the education incentive mechanism at the municipal level, which is being worked on with the support of UNICEF.

This proposal, which focuses on addressing some of the driving factors of migration, with an emphasis on generating opportunities for service access, is complemented by other initiatives already in place in the country to address violence, which is another of the factors behind migration.

Duration

This proposal has been designed for a period of five years. In the first two years, the project will focus on expanding the training package for municipalities and on developing those capacities, as well as on designing the incentive system.

Budget: US\$ 4,510,000.

International cooperation: *América Crece.*

Proposal 4.5

Strengthening immediate and long-term responses to forced displacement and human mobility, Guatemala



Implementing agencies:

National Registry Office (RENAP), Guatemalan Migration Institute (IGM), Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Health, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Social Welfare Secretariat of the Office of the President, Office of the Attorney-General of the Nation, municipal governments, Ombudsman for Human Rights, Guatemalan Red Cross, National Protection Network, National Migrant Assistance Council of Guatemala (CONAMIGUA), Social Welfare Secretariat of the Office of the First Lady, Council for Attention and Protection, Presidential Women's Secretariat (SEPREM).

International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Food Programme (WFP), International Red Cross.

Geographical coverage:

Departments of Izabal, Petén, San Marcos, Huehuetenango, Chiquimula, Jutiapa, Quetzaltenango and Guatemala, as well as departments still to be identified on the border with Honduras and El Salvador.

Number of beneficiaries:

1,500,000 people.

Main topics:

- Assistance, attention, protection, information and documentation.
- Migration policy and Decree No. 44-2016, the Migration Code.
- Human rights.

- Institutional strengthening.
- Procedures, protocols, operational criteria and action manuals.
- Forced displacement.
- Emergency response.
- Health.
- Employment and livelihoods.
- Preventing, highlighting and attending to violence against women and girls (prevention of trafficking, femicide and sexual violence) along the migration route.

Context

Guatemala is a country of origin, transit, destination and return of Guatemalan migrants and refugees. In addition, it is a transit territory for people —from both within the region and other parts of the world— headed to Mexico and the United States of America in search of better opportunities and international protection. The number of people transiting through Guatemala is uncertain, but based exclusively on the number of Salvadorans and Hondurans who were detained and deported from the United States and Mexico last year and who had previously passed through Guatemala, the annual figure exceeds 101,755. Between January and June 2019, 76,359 people were returned, and this, while not a representative figure for all flows, may provide a basis for quantifying the dynamic of human mobility in transit through Guatemala. There is no unified registration system for these populations: those that do exist are limited to only one segment, are extremely basic and do not allow the collection of statistical data that are reliable or adequate for decision-making.

In 2017 and 2018 Guatemala received 158,428 returnees (including deportees), of whom an estimated 15% were women. In 2018, 5,119 unaccompanied children returned from the United States (652) and Mexico (4,467), in addition to 1,462 family units comprising 1,815 children. As noted in a 2016 report by the Central American Integration System (SICA), the accounts of the migrant women interviewed and the information and perceptions shared by the authorities and women's and migrants' organizations agree that migrant women face different manifestations of gender-based violence throughout the migration process.¹ The number of returnees is significant, and the institutions have little capacity to provide them with the attention they require. There are only two reception centres for Guatemalans: one belonging to the Air Force for arrivals by air in the country's capital, and another at Ciudad Tecún Umán, Ayutla, on the border with Mexico for people who come back by land. In both cases, the services available are very limited. There is a need to provide assistance in the form of medical services and shelter for those who, because their communities are so remote, find it almost impossible to return the day they arrive and must therefore spend the night wherever possible because they do not have money for accommodation. In that sense, migrant centres play a fundamental role; their capacity is limited, however, and they are unable to meet all the demand. In addition, mechanisms are needed for a comprehensive approach to differentiated protection, including victims of sexual and gender-based violence, trafficking in persons, children and adolescents and others.

In 2018, Guatemala received 262 applications for asylum, a 75% increase compared to 2017; meanwhile, as of July 2019, 204 new applications had already been received, reflecting the fact that Guatemala is increasingly a country of asylum and destination for persons seeking international protection. Up until July 2019, Guatemala had admitted 390 refugees and 423 asylum seekers. The National Protection Network, which brings together UNHCR and civil society organizations, has served 108,467 people since

¹ Central American Integration System (SICA), *Factores de riesgo y necesidades de atención para las mujeres migrantes en Centroamérica: estudio de actualización sobre la situación de la violencia contra las mujeres migrantes en la ruta migratoria en Centroamérica*, La Libertad, 2016 [online] <https://nicaragua.iom.int/sites/default/files/Publicaciones/Factores%20de%20riesgo%20y%20necesidades%20de%20las%20mujeres%20migrantes%20en%20Centroam%C3%A9rica%20-%20WEB.pdf>.

its creation in 2015. Between 2017 and 2018 there was a 98% increase in the number of people assisted and, in 2019, more than 42,000 migrants and refugees were assisted, 24% of whom were women. For women, transit across such a violent region exposes them to situations of continuous and unpunished human rights violations and other serious risks: assaults, extortion, sexual violence, illness and death.

Guatemala is a post-conflict country, with a democracy that is not yet consolidated and weak institutions, particularly those responsible for security and justice, the protection of children and adolescents, migration issues and, in general, promoting the empowerment of women. Figures for violence against women remain a cause for alarm. From January to October 2018, the Public Prosecution Service registered 48,426 complaints of violence against women, of which 23,421 involved psychological violence, 17,774 were for physical violence, 324 for sexual violence and 218 for economic violence, with an additional 6,689 complaints in which the type of violence was not recorded. In 2018, 88% of acts of violence against women remained unpunished, along with 54% of femicides. This situation is compounded by the incidence of disappearances among women: according to Public Prosecution Service data, between 6 August 2018 and 23 August 2019, the Isabel-Claudina Alert was activated 1,912 times,² of which 1,453 have been deactivated and 459 remain active.

Although the conflict ended more than 20 years ago, its aftermath still lingers. Of Guatemala's total population, 59% live below the poverty line. Among children and adolescents, the situation is even more difficult: 68% live in poverty. Although Guatemala's gross domestic product (GDP) posted average growth of 3.5% between 2001 and 2017, income poverty between 2000 and 2014 rose from 56.4% to 59.3% and extreme poverty from 15.7% to 23.4%. This means that Guatemala was the only Latin American country that not only failed to meet the Millennium Development Goal for poverty, but also experienced a major setback. Poverty and food insecurity have become major drivers of migration in Guatemala, as has violence.

Health care for the migrant population poses a major challenge for the Guatemalan State. The detection and adequate care of people with undiagnosed chronic non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and hypertension, a population of children in transit with incomplete immunization histories, and high rates of physical and sexual violence and traffic accidents underscore the urgent need to strengthen Guatemala's health system. The incipient infrastructure is precarious in the rural areas crossed by the migratory route, in addition to its enormous shortfall of health personnel, supplies and medicines, and the lack of an information system for establishing epidemiological profiles to plan effective interventions.

Attention for the in-transit and returnee populations must also be included in the Ministry of Health's plans and programmes. Actions should be taken in the areas of safe water and correct disposal of human waste, based on the model of primary health care and integrated health service delivery networks, in order to meet the growing demand for services, with special emphasis on populations at risk of vulnerability and the migrant population itself.

In 2018, approximately 2,000 people living with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in Guatemala died from diseases related to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and approximately 2,300 new infections occurred. Only 43% of people living with HIV are in treatment and, at 34%, the coverage of the programme to prevent mother-to-baby transmission is exceedingly low. Specific attention for vulnerable groups is therefore critical, specifically including immigrants, youth, women, transgender women, sex workers and men who have sex with men.

With its very low tax collection rate of 9%, the Guatemalan State does not have sufficient resources to provide health and education services with the required coverage and quality, nor does it have a social protection system with universal coverage. At the same time, the meagre resources that the State manages to collect are unlikely to yield services for the population, due to the high levels of corruption

² The Isabel-Claudina Alert was designed to search for and locate women who have been reported missing.

that exist. In that context, Guatemala's reintegration programmes for returnees are insufficient to respond to people's socioeconomic needs and prevent further migration. Moreover, Guatemala has no integration programmes for people to whom it has granted refugee status.

Given the context described above and in accordance with the guiding principles of the 2030 Agenda—to leave no one behind and to do no harm—a gender equality and human rights perspective will be incorporated by ensuring the active but differentiated participation of people affected by forced displacement and human mobility in this joint initiative's programmatic cycle.

Objectives

- Develop and implement a comprehensive registration system for the migrant, asylum-seeking, refugee and returnee population that includes general details, biometric data, information on previous movements and the registration of protection needs and that is linked to the National Registry Office (RENAP) database with a gender, age and ethnic perspective. Measures will be taken to ensure the protection of personal data and to require informed consent.
- Facilitate the creation and implementation of cross-border work programmes that include, in addition to Guatemalan nationals, those who have been recognized as refugees in Guatemala, incorporating a gender perspective that promotes the inclusion in these programmes of women heads of household and adolescent, indigenous and Afrodescendent women, as well as unaccompanied and at-risk women.
- Provide humanitarian assistance to migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and returnees, in particular by promoting access to information and their rights from their points of entry onwards, with a particular emphasis on attention for victims of sexual and gender-based violence.
- Improve access to health services for migrant and host populations, including health monitoring, information management, and partnerships and networks that promote and protect health and provide those sectors of the population with quality care.
- Strengthen access to health services for migrant and forcibly displaced populations and for host communities, including primary health care services, disease prevention, access to essential medicines, food security and strengthening and diversification of their livelihoods.
- Prepare immediate and long-term conditions for the social integration of returnee, asylum-seeking and refugee families (family units) and unaccompanied children into Guatemalan host communities, and expand protection mechanisms for children and their families who have been forcibly displaced by violence in Guatemala.
- Ensure that development plans, policies and programmes at the central, departmental and municipal levels incorporate the differentiated demands and needs of people affected by forced displacement and human mobility in Guatemala.
- Guarantee the protection of human rights of people on the move (origin, transit, destination and return), especially women, indigenous people, children, adolescents and older adults.
- Generate conditions for the implementation of Decree No. 44-2016, the Migration Code, and the drafting and implementation of migration policy and regulations in accordance with the international human rights conventions to which Guatemala is a party.
- Improve the efficiency of assistance, attention, protection, information and documentation services through the Guatemalan consular network for migrants in transit, at borders and undergoing transfers.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Formal registration system established to generate disaggregated statistical data on returnees, asylum seekers, refugees and migrants, including the identification of their protection needs.	Registration system established and operating within the National Registry Office (RENAP): Yes/No.	One registration system.	3 to 5 years
Functional cross-border work programmes that respond to the specific and differentiated needs of the Guatemalan population and refugees in Guatemala.	Number of cross-border work programmes between Guatemala and Mexico designed and implemented.	10 programmes.	3 to 5 years
Strengthened and expanded humanitarian attention points along the migration routes, with a gender perspective.	Number of humanitarian attention points strengthened.	30 attention points.	3 to 5 years
Food assistance provided to returnees, asylum seekers, refugees, migrants and other forcibly displaced persons.	Number of people assisted in the context of an emergency intervention or in the event of a protracted crisis.	200,000 people.	3 to 5 years
Improved access to health services and health monitoring in communities along the migratory routes.	Number of communities supported with access to improved health services and monitoring.	10 communities.	3 to 5 years
Central and municipal government institutions have the capacity to promote the social, community and educational integration of returnee, asylum-seeking and refugee families and unaccompanied children in Guatemala.	Number of municipal institutions and governments with mechanisms that ensure the community, educational and social incorporation of family units and unaccompanied children. Number of children receiving assistance to promote access to and retention in education.	Five central government institutions. 80 municipalities. 7,000 children.	5 years
Ensure that development plans, policies and programmes at the central, departmental and municipal levels incorporate the differentiated demands and needs of people affected by forced displacement and human mobility in Guatemala.	Number of departments and municipalities that have plans, policies and programmes with an adequate budget to respond to differentiated demands and needs.	One national plan, policy or programme. Three departments. 20 municipalities.	5 years
Migrants are guaranteed their human rights through institutions that have been strengthened in the implementation of protocols.	Number of border stations and migrant assistance centres with protocols.	21 border stations.	3 to 5 years
Decree No. 44-2016, the Migration Code, implemented, and migration policy designed and implemented.	Decree No. 44-2016, the Migration Code, and migration policy in force.	Decree No. 44-2016 (Migration Code) and migration policy.	1 to 2 years
Consulates strengthened and able to attend to the Guatemalan population abroad.	Number of consulates that have improved their services and have a budget for it.	20 consulates.	3 to 5 years

Main activities

- Advocacy and technical support for IGM and RENAP at the national level for the development and implementation of a comprehensive system for the registration of migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and returnees that includes disaggregated data and encourages the regularization of migrants in the country.
- Technical support to the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Economic Affairs at the national and local levels for the design of cross-border work programmes with Mexico, El Salvador and Honduras for Guatemalan nationals and persons recognized as refugees in Guatemala, including persons in particularly vulnerable situations.

- Provide food assistance through cash transfers to enable people on the move to accumulate assets.
- Implement job creation projects that include intercultural awareness and conflict prevention.
- Strengthening of the Family Farming for the Strengthening of the Campesino Economy Programme in the priority departments, to bolster the livelihoods of host communities and boost the integration of populations on the move.
- Analysis of and response to humanitarian assistance needs at borderland attention points, especially regarding access to information, along the migration route.
- Design of a strategy and strengthening of coordination mechanisms between border attention points and the organizations involved to ensure adequate and comprehensive attention.
- Analysis of and response to the differentiated needs of communities along the migratory routes for food security and health services, including access to essential medicines.
- Guarantee access to health services (including primary care, health monitoring, information management and surveillance) for the migrant and forcibly displaced population, by strengthening differentiated basic health services in host communities and communities along the migratory routes.
- Strengthen multi-country partnerships, networks and frameworks to promote and protect the health of migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and other forcibly displaced persons.
- Adapt policies, programmes and legal frameworks to promote and protect the health and well-being of migrants, refugees and other forcibly displaced persons.
- Advocacy and technical support to ensure access to differentiated health services by migrant and forcibly displaced populations.
- Advocacy and technical support to ensure continued access to standardized treatment for chronic infections (HIV, tuberculosis, non-communicable diseases) for people on the move.
- Access to public justice services: National Civil Police, Public Prosecution Service, Office of the Attorney General of the Nation (PGN) for the detention, registration and attention of migrants (particularly women, adolescent women and girls) who have suffered violence along the migratory route and during the displacement cycle.
- Creation of special protection programmes for family units and unaccompanied children, with a gender perspective.
- Creation and implementation of community incorporation methodologies for family units and unaccompanied children.
- Creation, in coordination with the Ministry of Education, of programmes to promote the return to school of accompanied and unaccompanied children, using school meals as a key element in their implementation.
- Creation of programmes for the economic empowerment of women affected by forced displacement and human mobility in Guatemala, for their participation in decision-making that affects their lives, including activities to generate savings and credit and other financial services.
- Technical assistance with a human rights approach in the design of plans, policies and programmes with a differentiated approach that recognizes the link between humanitarian matters and development, within the framework of the System of Development Councils, including mechanisms for reporting potential violations of migrants' human rights.

- Design and implement mechanisms to counter xenophobia, stigmatization and discrimination.
- Support for data collection and disaggregated documentation for knowledge management.
- Capacity-building at consulates for the assistance, attention, documentation and protection of Guatemalans abroad.

Project governance

The management and coordination of the project will be carried out through an executive committee—comprising representatives of the Government of Guatemala and the United Nations System, as well as the regional teams of UNHCR, IOM, UN-Women and UNICEF—that will be in charge of the programme’s general direction, including the definition of strategic issues and the approval of country work plans and budgets. The actual implementation of the activities to be defined in each country will be carried out by technical country groups, made up of coordination officers, technical delegates from the Government and technical delegates from the UNHCR, IOM, UN-Women and UNICEF teams in each country. These groups will meet periodically, as needed. Each will designate a member of one of the agencies to serve as the technical secretariat and focal point for monitoring and follow-up.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This proposal for the implementation of the Comprehensive Development Plan for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico complements existing regional processes, including MIRPS and the updating of the Strategic Plan of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM). MIRPS is the result of a broad process of consultations at the national level that has led to the translation of national priorities and commitments into action plans. MIRPS is a regional framework for cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination, intended to promote shared responsibility mechanisms for the prevention, protection and solutions for refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons and returnees in need of protection. RCM is a forum for dialogue to coordinate policies and promote cooperation on migration among its eleven member countries: Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States. It has provided a forum for the open discussion of regional migration issues and the exchange of information and experiences to achieve greater coordination and cooperation in the region; with this, it seeks to contribute to protecting migrants’ human rights, creating a network of coherent and appropriate migration laws and strengthening the links between migration and development. Coordination with the Guatemalan Migration Authority, the country’s lead agency for migration matters, will be very important.

Duration

A duration of between 3 and 5 years has been estimated.

Budget: US\$ 75,530,400

Proposal 4.6

Meeting the immediate needs and fostering the long-term local integration of Honduran migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Mexico, Honduras



Implementing agencies:

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

Geographical coverage:

Southern and south-eastern Mexico

Number of beneficiaries:

- Migrants (500,000)
- Persons in need of international protection, asylum seekers and refugees (320,000)
- Local inhabitants of host communities (500,000)

Main topics:

- Migration
- Violence
- Employment and livelihoods
- Development
- Youth

Context

Honduras faces a complex human mobility situation on account of various structural causes that have disrupted the people's biopsychosocial stability and that drive them to take up migratory routes in order to seek better conditions for their full development. The phenomenon of irregular migration has multiple causes. In Honduras, among the main causes are the lack of employment opportunities, family reunification and widespread violence; and the last of these has disproportionately affected women,

children, adolescents, youth, community leaders, human rights defenders, teachers, transporters and traders, who are often forced to flee their homes in search of protection and humanitarian assistance. Violence and criminality are generating increasing numbers of human displacements, both within the country and beyond its borders. Not all the people fleeing Honduras have access to the international protection system, and many are deported to contexts where persecution or threats to their life, safety and freedom persist.

Mexico is a country of origin, transit, destination and return of mixed migratory flows (migrants and refugees). IOM estimates that more than 450,000 people arrive in Mexico each year to cross the nation's territory or to remain there, the majority coming from Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador and, more recently, also from Venezuela, Haiti, Cuba and other locations. However, 76% of the applications for refugee status in 2018 were made by people from Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador. According to the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees (COMAR), between January and November 2019, Mexico received 66,915 applications for international protection.

In 2016, 152,231 people from Northern Central America were detained by the National Institute of Migration and 141,990 were returned to their countries of origin. Trends in 2017 and 2018 suggested a decrease in detentions in the United States, while Mexico reported an increase. In 2019, however, the number of arrests on the southern border of the United States suddenly increased (according to CBP figures, 811,016 as of August).¹ There has also been a change in the profile of the people on the move, with the proportion of women and girls detained in Mexico increasing since 2012: they accounted for 25% of all detained migrants in 2017.

Girls and adolescent women represented 32% of the total number of minors detained by the National Institute of Migration in that year. According to COMAR, asylum-seeking women accounted for 41% of the total, and girls and adolescent women for 48%. The proportion of family groups and older adults has also increased. Violence affects migrants and refugees entering Mexico. The most affected are women, some of whom are sexually abused during their journey. The “caravans” headed for Mexico and the United States from Mesoamerica have also triggered expressions of concern and rejection among the local Mexican population.

The proposed strategy is in line with the priorities that the Government of Mexico has identified, with the global compact on refugees, the comprehensive regional protection and solutions framework (MIRPS) and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Protection and local integration are the most appropriate solutions for most displaced persons (both migrants and refugees), through coordinated work along the following four thematic lines:

- Access to employment and labour integration.
- Access to public services and promotion of peaceful coexistence.
- Violence prevention and access to justice.
- Migration management and access to the asylum procedure.

Objectives

- Develop a proposal to institutionalize the integration of migrants and refugees in Mexico through public policies and legislation at the federal and state levels.
- Promote the labour integration of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees through decent work under conditions of equality and non-discrimination, responding to market needs and contributing to national development.

¹ United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP), “Southwest border migration FY 2019”, 2019 [online] <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/sw-border-migration/fy-2019#>.

- Strengthen the public health and education services, and promote peaceful coexistence in the main host communities for migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in the south and south-east of Mexico.
- Strengthen respect, protection and promotion of human rights and access to justice for migrants and their families, asylum seekers and refugees, ensuring comprehensive redress for harm, with a gender perspective.
- Ensure access to migration and identity documents for migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Institutionalize the integration of migrants and refugees in Mexico's public policies and legislation at the federal and state levels.	Design of the institutional architecture. Preliminary draft of legal reforms for the integration of migrants and refugees.	Design of an institutional architecture for the public policy for the integration of migrants and refugees, and proposal for comprehensive reform of the national legal framework for the implementation of the integration policy.	2.5 years
Labour integration of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, through decent work under conditions of equality and non-discrimination, responding to market needs and contributing to national development.	Persons hired by employers in integration zones. People enrolled in public vocational training programmes (south and south-east).	24,000 people.	4 years
Strengthening public health and education services and promoting peaceful coexistence in the main host communities for migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in the south and south-east of Mexico.	Communities with strengthened public health services. Communities with strengthened public schools.	10 communities.	4 years
Strengthening the respect, protection and promotion of human rights and access to justice for migrants and their families, asylum seekers and refugees, ensuring comprehensive reparation of damages and with a gender perspective.	Number of shelters, half-way houses and refuges with information materials from the campaigns.	20 shelters with information material.	4 years
Access to migration and identity documents for migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees.	Reduced average time for the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees to grant refugee status. Increased recognition of refugee status on account of violence against women and girls.	45 days (time limit set by law). The Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees annually reports the number of its positive rulings on the grounds of violence against women and girls.	4 years

Main activities

- Institutionalize the integration of migrants and refugees in Mexico's public policies and legislation.
 - Prepare the project's methodological document.
 - Conduct a diagnostic assessment of trends and characteristics in migrant and refugee flows and numbers.
 - Analysis of the institutional and regulatory framework for the integration of migrants and refugees.
 - Prepare the "MIPEX-Mexico Country Report" (preparation of the study, presentation of results, publication) and carry out a replication exercise in one state.
 - Analysis of the needs, challenges and opportunities of public policies for integration.

- Draft the document systematizing successful international integration experiences.
- Analysis of the goals and guiding principles of the integration policy and a proposal for strategic and priority actions, in accordance with the highest standards of human rights protection and the development goals of the country's international commitments.
- Local-level pilot test(s) of a successful integration programme or service, with a focus on labour integration (local initiative for migrant and refugee labour integration, one-stop shop or a model for forging ties and coexistence between migrants and refugees and their host society).
- Drafting of a manual for the implementation of the selected programme(s) or service.
- Develop a technical proposal for the institutionalization of public policy for the integration of migrants and refugees, including the distribution of responsibilities at the state and municipal levels, the intergovernmental coordination mechanism and the mechanism for social participation, consultation and enforceability of rights.
- Develop a proposal for legislative reforms on the integration of migrants and refugees.
- Access to employment and labour integration
 - Conduct consultations with migrants and refugees to identify their job skills to produce sex- and age-disaggregated information.
 - Provide migrants, asylum seekers and refugees with information on regularization processes and employment possibilities, and empower people to demand their labour rights.
 - Collaborate with state governments and the National Employment Service (SNE) to design a labour market information system in the southern and south-eastern states of Mexico, to include migrants in public employment programmes and to provide them with opportunities for developing workplace skills.
 - Outreach, awareness-raising and training for institutions, trade unions, employers' organizations (Mexican Employers Confederation and Confederation of Industrial Chambers (CONCAMIN)) and companies, to expand and strengthen a network that facilitates the equitable recruitment of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.
 - Relocate refugees and migrants to places with employment integration opportunities, including timely economic support to ensure that it is sustainable and successful, in accordance with existing established UNHCR and IOM models.
 - Conduct studies on employability among migrants, refugees and host communities, and identify ways for them to access social protection, including care services.
 - Establish local working groups to address the challenges and opportunities in the recruitment of migrants and refugees.
 - Promote the employment of Mexican returnees, asylum seekers and refugees through the online platform developed by UNDP, as well as job training through that same platform.
 - Design and implement pilots empowerment centres for migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women, in partnership with local institutions.
 - Technical assistance for the enforcement of the Women's Empowerment Principles for women migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in labour secretariats, employment agencies, job banks and companies.
 - Advocate for access to care services for the migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee population to free up women's time and facilitate their incorporation into the workforce.
 - Strengthen inter-institutional coordination for the development of a cross-border temporary work programme for migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, paying particular attention to women.
- Access to health services, education and peaceful coexistence
 - Conduct a diagnostic assessment of the main needs of the local, migrant and refugee populations in accessing quality public health and education services from a gender and life-cycle perspective.

- Establish intersectoral working groups with authorities, international organizations and experts for the inclusion of the target population in public policies and programmes, with respect towards their human rights.
- Promote specialized attention and the comprehensive guarantee of rights for child and adolescent migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, including care, psychosocial attention, education (access to scholarships), others.
- Strengthen the capacities of protection stakeholders, first-contact personnel in shelters, health operators —especially mental health and education— with a human rights approach, gender awareness and ensuring specialized care for children.
- Provide technical assistance to generate regulatory changes and develop public policies and models of attention that guarantee access to public services for the entire population of the host communities and for migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.
- Promote activities for peaceful coexistence and social cohesion that favour cultural change in order to curb xenophobia and gender discrimination, including youth sport campaigns and programmes for integration.
- Technical assistance to strengthen resources, including emergency services, to improve the response of existing programmes and policies and to develop protocols for the identification, referral and protection of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, with a gender perspective.
- Conduct social audits and gender-sensitivity assessments of service providers and the services they offer, through online tools such as maps and other innovative tools (such as CuentaNos, <https://www.cuentanos.org/selectors>).
- Violence prevention and access to justice
 - Conduct a diagnostic assessment on the context of violence and crime, highlighting routes (georeferenced maps), needs, vulnerabilities, primary manifestations and existing regulations, as well as the government procedures with the highest risk of corruption, with recommendations to reduce the vulnerability of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees and to make transparent and strengthen procedures for the attention of migrants.
 - Design and implement mass outreach campaigns with tools differentiated by sector (women, children and adolescents, older adults, persons with disabilities) that address the risks related to the most prevalent crimes committed during the migration cycle, the available attention and reporting mechanisms, conditions of vulnerability and training actions to build confidence in the authorities. To this end, set up strategic information and assistance points that are accessible to the migrant population.
 - Carry out sporting, cultural and academic activities (in partnership with civil society organizations, authorities and the private sector) to inform and raise awareness of the most serious crimes and corruption, and to encourage the reporting of probable acts of corruption.
 - Organize practical training workshops (local and regional) for the detection and investigation of the different crimes committed against migrants.
 - Organize training workshops (using the experiential and train-the-trainer methods) to build capacities and, subsequently, replicate the knowledge.
 - Develop and implement an action plan to address insecurity and crime in one locality based on a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the problems related to crime and insecurity in that location.
 - Train security forces in women's human rights to prevent institutional abuse against migrant and refugee women and girls.
 - Technical assistance for the legislature in strengthening the legal framework that governs access to justice for migrants and their families, asylum seekers and refugees.
 - Technical assistance for the executive branch in the design and implementation of public policies to prevent and provide redress for serious human rights violations, such as forced disappearances, torture, extrajudicial executions, excessive use of force and arbitrary detentions.

- Strengthen the Migrant Crime Investigation Unit (UIDPM) of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, as well as the Specialized Prosecutors' Offices for Migrant Attention.
- Strengthen the judiciary to ensure the punishment of serious human rights violations committed against migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, in keeping with international human rights standards.
- Technical support for the Federal Public Defender Institute and the National Institute of Migration in assisting migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.
- Production of a guide to access to justice for relatives of missing migrants based on existing protocols for searching for missing migrants, such as the forensic protocol for searching for missing persons or the protocol of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) developed and adopted by the Regional Conference on Migration.
- Assist civil society initiatives that seek to ensure access to justice by migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.
- Produce a regional diagnostic of capacities in the area of access to justice and design a monitoring system that measures the actions taken by justice operators, based on indicators for access to justice for migrants (SDG 16).
- Design and implement a comprehensive training plan with gender awareness and a human rights approach for justice operators.
- Prepare a regional action protocol for justice operators, with emphasis on international cooperation mechanisms.
- Migration management and asylum procedures
 - Strengthen legal, institutional and administrative structures in order to improve the attention paid to the dynamics of migrant origin, transit, return and destination and international protection.
 - Assume the role of a country of destination for migrants, through clearer and more streamlined policies in favour of the management and regularization of migration.
 - Promote migrant regularization programmes (alternatives to asylum) within the National Institute of Migration, with the dissemination of clear and precise information.
 - Study and implement more sustainable modalities of regularization through employment (avoiding departures from the country and the payment of fines, which are difficult to sustain economically for a large proportion of the Central American migrant population).
 - Support the use of technology for the registration of signatures with the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees and/or the National Institute of Migration during proceedings for refugee applications.
 - Develop specialized tools so that the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees, the National Institute of Migration, the National System for Integral Family Development, the prosecutors' offices and social assistance centres can interact appropriately with children and adolescents in accordance with their stage of development, to prevent re-victimizing them and thereby detect their needs for international protection and special protection.
 - Strengthen the role of the Migration Policy Unit at the Secretariat of the Interior, and build its coordination and interconnections with the National Institute of Migration.
 - Promote dialogue and joint work between the Secretariat of the Interior (as the lead agency for Mexico's migration policy), the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs and the state and municipal governments.
 - Expand the presence of the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees in the territory to ensure access to asylum procedures and to improve those procedures.
 - End the practice of detaining migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, especially children and adolescents.
 - Develop gender-aware attention protocols for migratory stations until migratory detention is ended.
 - Strengthen inter-institutional coordination mechanisms to ensure protection for migrant children and adolescents and/or those in need of international protection and to uphold the best interests of children.

- Ensure the issuance of migration and identity documents (Single Population Registration Codes, CURP) to asylum seekers and refugees and to migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee children and adolescents.
- Advocate for the legal recognition of granting refugee status to women and girls for reasons of violence.
- Technical assistance to the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees to include the gender perspective in the asylum procedure and in the assistance provided to women and girls.
- Advocacy with civil society to decrease the practice of accelerated repatriation of survivors of violence against women and girls.

Project governance:

UNHCR, IOM, OHCHR.

Possible synergies with other initiatives:

This strategy complements the following initiatives:

- Mexico Plan of Action within the comprehensive regional protection and solutions framework (MIRPS).
- Mexican government initiatives to promote the development of the southern and south-eastern states, such as the Mayan Train, the Trans-Isthmus Corridor, the Dos Bocas refinery, others.
- The Route for the Comprehensive Protection of the Rights of Children and Adolescents in a Situation of Migration of the Commission for the Comprehensive Protection of Migrant Children and Adolescents and Applicants for Refugee Status, National System for the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents (SIPINNA).
- Other national initiatives: Repatriation Inside Mexico Procedure and Beta Groups of the National Institute of Migration, the Youth Building the Future programme, Initiatives of the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation, Committee for Comprehensive Development of the Southern and South-eastern Region of the National Conference of Governors (CONAGO), Plan for the Attention of Migrant Caravans with a Humanitarian Vision.

Duration:

4 years.

Estimated budget: US\$ 90,000,000

Annex:

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion:

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
<p>Sustainable labour integration of young people at social risk in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the south-eastern states of Mexico.</p> <p>Strengthening immediate and long-term responses to forced displacement and human mobility in Honduras.</p> <p>Meeting the immediate needs and fostering the long-term local integration of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Mexico.</p>	<p>Honduras Country Strategic Plan 2018-2022.</p>		<p>Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).</p> <p>International Organization for Migration (IOM).</p> <p>Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).</p>	<p>Youth Building the Future programme of the Government of Mexico.</p> <p>Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees.</p>		

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 4.7

Strengthening humanitarian assistance for migrants, State of Puebla



Implementing agencies:

National System for Integral Family Development (SEDIF) and Puebla Migrant Assistance Institute (IPAM).

Geographical coverage:

The reference areas are the following transit municipalities: (1) Acajete, (2) Acatzingo, (3) Altepexi, (4) Amozoc, (5) Ciudad Serdán (Chalchicomula de Sesma), (6) Mazapiltepec de Juárez, (7) Oriental, (8) Puebla, (9) Rafael Lara Grajales, (10) Tecamachalco, (11) Tehuacán, (12) Tepeaca, (13) Tlacotepec de Benito Juárez, (14) Tepanco de López, (15) San Gabriel Chilac, (16) San Salvador Huixcolotla, (17) Santiago Miahuatlán, and (18) Soltepec. They are crossed by different modes of transport: by rail, on foot and on board motor vehicles.

Number of beneficiaries:

An estimated 5,000 in-transit migrants each year.

Main topics:

- Reception mechanisms
- Humanitarian assistance
- Human rights
- Human security
- Convergent migration

Context

The problem that prompted the Puebla Migrant Assistance Institute (IPAM) to draw up this project is the lack of protocol and the budgetary and operational constraints for dealing with emerging humanitarian situations, such as the caravans that crossed the area in 2018 and the flows of persons on the move as of February 2019, which involved 3,314 men, women, families and unaccompanied minors from Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala aged between 18 and 45, who undertook the journey without bringing food or provisions with them.

These in-transit migrants presented health problems due to injuries caused by their journeys, fatigue, fear of their situation and legal insecurity, but above all the lack of food.

In light of this situation, the Government of the State of Puebla, in line with the 2019–2024 National Development Plan and through IPAM, will address the problem by developing a protocol for assistance, including humanitarian aid in the shape of food, medical and psychological care, advice for the protection of human rights and so on. The aim is to guarantee the human and physical security and well-being of all migrants in transit through the State of Puebla.

Objective

Provide a humanitarian service to in-transit migrants and their families by providing accompaniment on the road, health care, legal, social and psychological assistance and food sponsorship.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Meet the humanitarian needs of migrants in transit through the State of Puebla.	Number of in-transit migrants served.	Serve 5,000 in-transit migrants.	Medium term (2 to 5 years)
	Number of services provided.	Provide 15,000 services (not including human rights counselling).	Medium term (2 to 5 years)
Ensure respect for the human rights of in-transit migrants and their families.	Number of human rights counselling sessions.	Provide 5,000 counselling sessions.	Medium term (2 to 5 years)

Main activities

1. Preparation of the “Protocol for the Assistance of Migrants in Transit through the State of Puebla”, coordinated by the Puebla Migrant Assistance Institute (IPAM) and in collaboration with the National System for Integral Family Development, the State General Directorate of Civil Protection, the State Human Rights Commission, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the National Institute of Migration.
2. Training in pro-migrant awareness for public officials and civil society actors involved in the attention provided to in-transit migrants.
3. Installation of the temporary shelter, including: common areas, bedrooms, dining areas, medical and legal services.
4. Registration and access management at the shelter, in order to provide food, public safety services, preventive health services.
5. Referral of asylum and refugee applications, legal and human rights advice.

Project governance

The State Government, through the Puebla Migrant Assistance Institute (IPAM), will coordinate actions in the shelters, create databases and refer in-transit migrants requiring support to the relevant institutions. The National Institute of Migration will deal with applications for voluntary repatriation, asylum and refugee status. The National System for Integral Family Development will attend to cases of unaccompanied children and adolescents, and will provide supplies such as food, blankets, mats, diapers, sanitary napkins and personal hygiene kits. The Secretariat of Public Security (SSP) will ensure security during their journey and in the shelters. The Puebla State Attorney General’s Office (FGEP) will attend to those who

have been victims of crimes during their journey through the state. The Secretariat of Health will provide medical assistance with mobile units or hospital infrastructure in cases of emergency, as well as actions in conjunction with Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders). The State General Directorate of Civil Protection will implement the Civil Protection Plan. The State Human Rights Commission will monitor full respect for the human rights of in-transit migrants, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) will focus its attention on accompanying migrants during their journey through the State.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Synergies with the following national initiatives will be created: National Institute of Migration, Plan for the Attention of Migrant Caravans with a Humanitarian Vision. Regional: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Northern Triangle Countries of Central America; Agencies and programmes: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR).

Duration

It is intended that the project will be put in place within one year, with continuity assured over the following four years.

Budget: US\$ 2,559,297

Proposal 4.8

Human mobility, assisted repatriation and reintegration, in the State of Puebla



Implementing agencies:

Government of the State of Puebla through the Puebla Migrant Assistance Institute.

Geographical coverage:

25 municipalities with the highest rates of migration.

(1) Puebla, (2) Atlixco, (3) Tehuacán, (4) Izúcar de Matamoros, (5) Pahuatlán, (6) Tlacotepec de Benito Juárez, (7) Acajete, (8) San Martín Texmelucan, (9) Vicente Guerrero, (10) Tecamachalco, (11) San Pedro Cholula, (12) Huauchinango, (13) Teziutlán, (14) Tepeaca, (15) Tlatlauquitepec, (16) Xiutetelco, (17) Zacatlán, (18) Acatzingo, (19) Huaquechula, (20) Tochtepec, (21) San José Miahuatlán, (22) San Andrés Cholula, (23) Xicoteppec, (24) Cañada Morelos, and (25) Zacapoaxtla.

Number of beneficiaries:

11,317 migrants returning to Puebla (in 2018).

Main topics:

- Human mobility
- Assisted repatriation and reintegration
- Social inclusion
- Human security
- Sustainable development

Context

At present, the regular and irregular return of Puebla's migrants —compounded by the complicated administrative operations required to register and assist them in their reintegration into the state's economic and productive life— requires economic and human resources and operational linkages between the three levels of government to ensure their inclusion and sustainable development in their places of origin.

Briefly stated, migrants return without documents proving their identity, without money, without jobs, without access to health services, uninformed and disoriented, and that situation prevents them from being channelled into programmes that reduce their vulnerability and guarantee a high-impact comprehensive resilience in the state.

There is therefore a need for state registration schemes that allow, from a human rights approach, the effective reintegration of Puebla's returnees, through georeferencing and placing priority on the migrant perspective (indigenous people, women, girls and young people), strengthening the cycle of bonding, training and entrepreneurship to catalyse the sustainable development of their communities of origin.

Objective

The reintegration of returning migrants and their families into the economic, social and cultural life of the state and, specifically, of their regions.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
1. Improve the economic situation of Puebla's returnee migrants and their families.	Number of Productive Projects of Puebla Migrants (individual ventures).	4,000 returning Puebla migrants and their families.	Medium term (2 to 5 years)
2. Strengthen social well-being and promote their communities of origin through cooperatives.	Number of Productive Projects of Puebla Migrants (collective/group ventures).	400 Puebla families.	Medium term (2 to 5 years)

Main activities

1. Identify 1000 returnee Puebla migrants.
2. Identify 100 families of returnee migrants.
3. Identify the productive needs of returnee Puebla migrants.
4. Preparation of the technical project and business plan.
5. Distribution of resources for productive projects (individual and collective).
6. Support for implementation.
7. Monitoring and results measuring.
8. Internal evaluation of processes.
9. Extension of support for a second phase in outstanding cases.
10. Monitoring of business trends.

Project governance

The Government of the State of Puebla, through IPAM, will work in coordination with other federal and state agencies, academic institutions and non-governmental organizations.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Synergies will be created with the following national initiatives: Repatriation Inside Mexico Procedure and Beta Groups of the National Institute of Migration, the Youth Building the Future programme, Initiatives of the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation, Committee for Comprehensive Development of the Southern and South-eastern Region of the National Conference of Governors

(CONAGO); Regional: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); Agencies and programmes: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR).

Duration

It is intended that the project will be put in place within one year, with continuity assured over the following four years.

Budget: US\$ 12,189,889

B. Regional programmes

No.	Name of proposal
4.9	Human mobility information management
4.10	Protection and empowerment of women and girls throughout the migration cycle in the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico
4.11	Migration and forced displacement of children, adolescents and families
4.12	Human mobility, climate change and disasters
4.13	“Welcoming Cities”: improving urban governance in the context of human mobility
4.14	Promoting regular labour migration and access to labour justice
4.15	Strengthening border management and combating crime
4.16	Preventing and combating migrant smuggling and crimes against migrants in Northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) and the states of southern and south-eastern Mexico
4.17	Improving access to community-based mental health and psychosocial services for displaced persons and host communities in the border regions of Northern Central America and Mexico
4.18	Migrant protection and productive investment of remittances
4.19	Encouraging diaspora investments, El Salvador (*)
4.20	Labour insertion of Honduran migrant workers in the United States, Honduras (*)
4.21	Productive investment of remittances, Honduras (*)
4.22	Portability of social security contributions for undocumented migrant workers in the United States, Honduras (*)

(*) Projects prioritized by the Governments of the Northern Central American countries, the Government of Mexico, or the states of South-Southeast Mexico.



Proposal 4.9

Human mobility information management



Implementing agencies:

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other United Nations agencies, in collaboration with national and local entities in the target countries.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Staff from migration directorates or institutions, national statistical institutes and the Global Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics (GCE), planning ministries and other government ministries and institutions in the project countries. Populations in situations of mobility, civil society organizations, migrant shelters and centres, and national human rights institutions.

Main topics:

Monitoring, forced displacement, migratory flows, up-to-date information, evidence, policies, detention conditions, returnees, human rights violations during the migration cycle, non-discrimination, human rights.

Context

The human mobility phenomenon is constantly changing. New patterns, new migration routes, new challenges and new opportunities are emerging continually. In addition, mobility situations affect a diverse range of individuals: people decide to leave their places of origin for a variety of reasons, and they may also be in need of international protection. Similarly, there are people who face particular situations of vulnerability: for example, LGBTI people, women, children and adolescents, indigenous people, internally displaced people, others. The places of origin of people who migrate can also vary. Increased flows of people on the move have also created a situation in which—in certain regions and among some sectors of the population—negative stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination, xenophobia or racism are on the increase.

The data collected during the implementation of actions in border regions provide information and influence decision-making at times of emergencies and large mixed movements. At times of large movements with very diverse information, data collection and analysis becomes a challenge, with teams that are often disjointed and decentralized publishing reports that do not necessarily provide a regional analysis of the situation and of the human rights violations that in-transit migrants face.

Given the regional impact of Northern Central America's large mixed movements, there is a need to move from an exclusively decentralized country-based approach to joint, cross-border collaboration and cooperation to activate monitoring, supervision and registration teams and to provide humanitarian responses based on protection and other needs, in order to reach those most in need in the shortest possible time and with a human rights approach.

Correct and concrete monitoring and analysis of this situation is essential in order to adapt to new contexts and to provide rights holders with appropriate attention and protection. Therefore, the collection, systematization and analysis of reliable, disaggregated, gender-sensitive data are necessary tools for the effective management of human mobility. There are, however, shortcomings in the availability of this information and limitations in data-exchange coordination between countries. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the global compact on refugees and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration all require the enforcement of existing migration standards, the refining of new concepts related to human mobility, the leveraging of traditional data sources and the exploration of innovative data-collection methods to produce the necessary data. This demand for data poses a number of challenges for the region's information systems. Information on international migration and forced displacement in the countries is somewhat uneven due to differences between the various sources. Population censuses are still the primary source used to measure human mobility; censuses provide data only once every decade, however, and the migration phenomenon is constantly changing. Even so, they remain the leading source of data on migratory and forced displacement numbers because, in general, alternatives such as surveys have not been sufficiently developed, nor have administrative records been substantially improved.

Most of the available data on human mobility in the region have been collected by international organizations and, although all the countries keep administrative records of entries and exits, visas, residence permits and work permits, their data collection and management practices are all different. The best practices for collecting data on human mobility underscore the importance of proceeding in a way that respects the human rights of the people involved and that allows for exchanges of information among governments and the formulation of evidence-based policies. The lack of consistency in data collection techniques among the region's countries impedes both those processes and the accurate identification of regional migration trends. In general, the work done by each national entity is carried out independently, and with a clear lack of interconnections.

In that context, based on current experiences in the region, and to support the coordination and follow-up mechanism, a centre for recording and analysing human mobility data and trends will be established. This centre will seek to leverage the information and knowledge generated by the participating entities, to make it available to governments and other stakeholders so they can respond effectively to the challenges of human mobility in the region. The services offered by the information centre will include: (a) training courses on human mobility issues, (b) human rights training for migration officers deployed on international borders, (c) systematization of innovative good practices for dealing with the human mobility cycle, (d) an online library to collect literature on the subject, (e) tools for effective communications relating to human mobility, (f) data and statistics compiled by the data unit from administrative records, censuses, surveys and other sources, (g) knowledge products and methodologies developed and implemented by stakeholders in the region that can be applied to new initiatives, and (h) a database with information on crimes and human rights violations against migrants based on the monitoring and documentation performed for networks of migrant shelters and civil society organizations.

The information centre will monitor information at official border crossings, transit and movement data, actual numbers of persons on the move, first level information (age, sex, ethnicity, nationality, languages spoken, family composition, etc.), movement tracking (both to the country of destination and upon return), insecurity and violence along migration routes (crimes and human rights violations against migrants), available shelters (including maximum capacity, current number of protected persons, available services and shortcomings), partners present (including government institutions, civil society and 3W), information on those seeking asylum, available mass information services (on asylum procedures in each transit or destination country) and related indicators to monitor the status and rights of the migrant population.

The framework for this proposal is the commitment to support States in ensuring that their migration policies are conducive to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to “leaving no one behind” in meeting their international human rights obligations.

Objective

Capitalize on existing efforts to strengthen decision-making by leveraging knowledge on human mobility produced in the region and contribute to a regional learning community on the human mobility cycle that can adapt and expand mutual learning, identifying best practices and building a common vision on how to respond to the challenges of the movement of people, while informing the public and raising their awareness of the issue.

Monitor the human rights situation of people in the context of mobility and obtain first-hand information that allows a correct analysis of the challenges, in order to inform the public and international mechanisms and to provide the competent authorities with appropriate technical assistance.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Improved knowledge about the opportunities and challenges in producing evidence for the development of migration and forced displacement policies.	Number of information products.	Five reports (one per country and one regional)	10 months
Improved capacity of States to collect, analyse and systematize demographic data and information on human mobility flows and trends.	Number of training workshops organized.	16	48 months
Migration statistics are available to and known by State officials for the development of evidence-based migration and forced displacement policies.	Percentage of institutions reporting their use of information available at the data and trend recording and analysis centre.	50%	48 months
Patterns of human rights violations and emerging situations and their repercussions are comprehensively analysed and disseminated in accordance with the States' international obligations.	Number of complaints about human rights violations reported to human rights institutions, civil society organizations and migrant shelters and centres.	Four reports (one per country)	36 months
Civil society organizations and migrant shelters with strengthened capacities for monitoring and documenting human rights violations against persons in the context of mobility, as well as for recording known cases in databases.	Number of strengthened civil society organizations and shelters.	Four (one per country) One regional	36 months
Differentiated protocols or approaches to people in vulnerable situations by the authorities.	Number of protocols developed.	Four (one per country)	48 months

Main activities

1. A diagnostic study of the States' opportunities and challenges, in particular regarding their needs and shortcomings in data collection and management, covering the production, monitoring, exchange and processing of data at the national and regional levels.
2. Mapping of programmes and stakeholders from other human mobility projects under way in the region.
3. Establish coordination and partnerships with regional organizations in Central America through regional meetings, both in person and online.
4. Forge agreements with institutions that produce information on human mobility to share information with the data unit.
5. Awareness-raising and training for national authorities on using data to monitor the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
6. National and regional training workshops for authorities and institutions that produce information, to improve the quality, systematization and use of data.
7. Strengthen regional cooperation and capacities for the collection, harmonization, analysis and institutional use of data on human mobility with a gender and human rights perspective.
8. Training for authorities and other stakeholders in the systematization and presentation of good practices.
9. Technical support for the development of national and regional strategies to improve the quality and availability of data at the national and regional levels, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, harmonizing methodologies for data collection and strengthening the analysis and dissemination of data and indicators related to human mobility.
10. Support for the design and implementation of participatory and comprehensive communication strategies for deployment at the national level to disseminate information on the rights of persons in situations of mobility, including awareness campaigns against discrimination and xenophobia.
11. Publish information from censuses, household surveys and administrative records shared by States and other stakeholders.
12. Case monitoring to identify patterns of violations or crimes against migrants and forcibly displaced persons.
13. Advise victims to assist them in accessing national and international protection institutions and mechanisms.
14. Train civil society organizations and national human rights institutions to strengthen their ability to monitor human rights violations.
15. Develop a database to help monitor crimes and violations for migrant shelter networks and civil society organizations.
16. Create a regional observatory on the situation of people on the move to systematize existing information, in partnership with international agencies, civil society organizations and relevant national institutions.

Project governance

IOM, UNHCR, OHCHR, UN-Women and the other agencies involved will be responsible for implementing the activities in agreement with the project lead actors identified in each of the target countries. The activities will require the establishment of national working groups that are to include the different agencies involved with the issue of human mobility.

The project will be carried out in collaboration and coordination with civil society organizations, victims' groups, national and local human rights institutions and the pertinent government counterparts.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

These actions will be aligned with other initiatives by governments, institutions and regional processes wishing to take part in the training activities and in the services the data centre is to provide. At the regional level, the agencies involved will work in collaboration with inter-institutional coordination mechanisms such as the Central American Integration System (SICA), the Central American Commission for Migration (OCAM) and the Regional Conference on Migration (CRM). The project will work in line with the recommendations made by the Expert Group on Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons Statistics (EGRIS) and the recommendations issued by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons on the occasion of her 2018 visit to El Salvador. The project will also work in partnership with the Global Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics (CEGS) in Mexico.

Duration

A duration of 48 months has been estimated.

Budget: US\$ 3,500,000

Proposal 4.10

Protection and empowerment of women and girls throughout the migration cycle in the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico



Implementing agencies:

IOM, UN-Women, and UNHCR will implement the regional programme in coordination with the women's authorities and migration authorities of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. The project partners will include civil society organizations, other United Nations agencies and other relevant partners in the region, national and local governments along the major migration routes, and private companies.

Geographical coverage

El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico (six states in the southern borderlands: Chiapas, Campeche, Quintana Roo, Tabasco, Yucatán and Veracruz).

Number of beneficiaries

An estimated 250,000 women and 100,000 girls who are either migrants along the migration routes, applicants for international protection or in voluntary or forced return programmes.

Main topics

Migration, gender, women, human rights, protection, violence, economy of care, education, economic empowerment.

Context

Women account for 53% of the total migrant population in the context of intraregional migration and for 50% of those in the United States.¹ Despite the growing feminization of migration, women are still largely invisible as active subjects in migration processes, on account of prejudices, norms and practices that perpetuate female subordination and discrimination in all areas of society and generate inequality.² Migration policies tend to ignore the impact of the gender inequality gap and fail to address situations of vulnerability that affect many migrant women.³

Migration has a significantly differentiated impact on women and girls: 68.3% of migrants entering Mexico report being victims of violence during their journey to the United States, and almost a third of the women surveyed had been sexually abused during their trip (31.4%). Rape and other forms of direct sexual violence affected 10.7% of women during their transit through Mexico. The consequences of violence on psychological well-being and the ability to seek help are overwhelming: 47.1% said that the violence suffered had affected them emotionally.⁴

Over the past five years, the composition of migration has been constantly changing. Since 2014 there have been significant increases in the proportion of female migrants (with women accounting for 30% in 2017) and in the numbers of unaccompanied minors (up from 50,000 in 2018 to 73,000 in 2019).⁵ Since 2018, an accelerated change has been observed in migratory flows. First, there has been a very significant increase in the number of families embarking on migrations, with rising numbers of children and older people (the number of migrants on the move in family groups rose from 107,000 to 457,000 between 2018 and 2019).⁶ Second, as a result of the United States Government's growing criminalization and repression of migrants, the number of asylum applications processed in Mexico has increased sharply: from 17,000 in 2018 to a projected 90,000 in 2019.⁷ Women account for 43.4% of the adult applicants, while girls represent 48.45% of the total number of minors.

The increased volume of asylum applications increases the average time that migrants spend in Mexico (from 90 to 120 days in the places where applications are filed)⁸ and makes Mexico increasingly a destination country for migration flows from the south.

The increased volumes of people on the move and the significant uptick in asylum applications have placed enormous stress on the State and civil society institutions that provide migrant attention and protection services.

¹ See General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System (SGSICA), *Factores de riesgo y necesidades de atención para las mujeres migrantes en Centroamérica: estudio de actualización sobre la situación de la violencia contra las mujeres migrantes en la ruta migratoria en Centroamérica*, La Libertad, 2016.

² See Regional Conference on Migration/International Organization for Migration (IOM), *Lineamientos para la atención y protección de mujeres en contexto de migración*, San José, 2018.

³ See Regional Conference on Migration/International Organization for Migration (IOM), *Lineamientos para la atención y protección de mujeres en contexto de migración*, San José, 2018.

⁴ See Doctors Without Borders, *Forced to flee Central America's Northern Triangle: A Neglected Humanitarian Crisis*, Geneva, 2017.

⁵ See United States Customs and Border Protection, "U.S. Border Patrol Southwest Border Apprehensions FY2018" [online] <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/sw-border-migration/fy-2018>; "U.S. Border Patrol Southwest Border Apprehensions FY2019" [online] <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/sw-border-migration/fy-2019>.

⁶ See United States Customs and Border Protection, "U.S. Border Patrol Southwest Border Apprehensions FY2018" [online] <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/sw-border-migration/fy-2018>; "U.S. Border Patrol Southwest Border Apprehensions FY2019" [online] <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/sw-border-migration/fy-2019>.

⁷ Interviews with UNHCR and Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees.

⁸ Previously, 93% of migrants spent less than a month in Mexican territory.

Among the protection needs for women and girls, significant shortcomings have been identified in the following areas: gender-sensitive shelters, the possibility of strengthening alternatives to detention, support for psychosocial care both in migrant holding centres and during the asylum process, emotional support measures, access to medicines, access to health and sexual and reproductive health services, and legal support.

The increase in applicants' average stays in Mexico and the increase in the number of people who are considering Mexico as a destination country require offering a range of services that are not limited to protection, but also promote the empowerment of women migrants and applicants, in order to facilitate their economic and social integration processes.

One of the greatest barriers that women migrants and applicants face in accessing work, employment and training opportunities stems from their caregiving role, which is the result of a division of roles based on gender biases. As noted above, there has been a significant increase in migration by family groups, which impacts the burden of care that migrant women and adolescent girls must assume. It prevents them from seeking work or training and, on occasions, makes it difficult for them to complete the administrative formalities required for requesting international protection. This project therefore proposes a pioneering model for care services that, first, offers temporary work opportunities for female applicants in care tasks and, second, frees women and girls from some of their care responsibilities so they can access institutional offerings.

The project will also contribute to the regional efforts of SICA, COMMCA and OCAM in this area, through actions to “promote the incorporation of protection and attention for migrant women into public policies for social inclusion and the prevention of gender-based violence in Mexico and the Northern Triangle of Central America”. It will also support actions for the protection of migrant women in line with the 2019–2023 Five-Year Plan of Action for the Comprehensive Prevention of Violence against Women of the Council of Ministers of Women of Central America and the Dominican Republic (COMMCA), and in line with strategic thrust 5 of the 2014–2025 Regional Policy on Equity and Gender Equality of the Central American Integration System (PRIEG/SICA), the Convention of Belém do Pará, the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security in Central America,⁹ the Central American Security Strategy (2007) and general recommendation No. 26 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, which deals with the gender perspective in migration policies.

Among the opportunities for empowerment, the project has identified the need to improve the inclusion of women and young people in formal educational processes that allow them to validate their studies and continue their formal education (82% of children seeking asylum do not have access to education). At the same time, in order to build professional and technical skills in line with local demands, the months that the asylum application process takes to complete can be used for 12-week technical training programmes or professional internships in private companies. In light of the vulnerability migrants face as regards money, the project has identified the need to provide temporary grants for both studies and professional training.

Objective

Provide an integrated institutional response for the protection and empowerment of women and girls on the move along migratory routes.

⁹ See Central American Integration System (SICA), *Framework Treaty on Democratic Security in Central America*, San Pedro Sula, 1995 [online] https://www.sica.int/busqueda/busqueda_archivo.aspx?Archivo=trat_33842_2_19032009.htm.

Expected outcomes

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goal	Period
1. Improved provision of comprehensive services for migrant women throughout the migration cycle.	Women and girls accessing protection, care and attention services.	100,000 women and 30,000 girls.	36 months
2. Strengthened capacity of governments and civil society to prevent and respond to violence against women throughout the migration cycle.	Number of institutions and civil society organizations with increased capacities to prevent violence against migrant women and girls and to assist victims of violence.	30 public institutions. 40 civil society organizations.	36 months
3. Strengthened institutional and civil society capacities to provide empowerment and care services for migrant families.	Number of families accessing care services. Number of women and girls taking advantage of empowerment opportunities (studies, work, economic empowerment).	20,000 families. 80,000 girls and women.	36 months
4. Returnee women and girls are safe and have enhanced access to comprehensive assistance for reintegration and empowerment.	Returnee women and girls receiving reintegration support and services to mitigate the negative impacts of return.	20,000 women and girls.	36 months

Main activities

Activities for expected outcome No. 1.

1. Diagnostic assessment of the current situation in the participating countries, particularly the provision of comprehensive services for migrant women throughout the migration cycle.
2. Technical assistance for the participating countries to adopt actions and indicators for the protection of migrant women within the framework of the 2019–2023 COMMCA Five-Year Plan of Action for the Comprehensive Prevention of Violence against Women.
3. Technical and financial assistance to improve the gender responsiveness of existing programmes and policies, and of the institutions providing emergency response services.
4. At least 15 providers receive support for implementing protocols and capacities to provide migrant women and girls with gender-sensitive temporary assistance and to implement short-term empowerment measures for women.

Activities for expected outcome No. 2.

5. National and local institutions access evidence-based information related to the needs, risks and challenges faced by migrant women throughout the migration cycle, including during return or repatriation.
6. Support for gender-aware care and attention protocols and for investments in services and training at migrant centres. Improved psychological care, emphasizing victims of violence.
7. Strengthened coordination among service providers, and institutions assisted in developing standardized gender-aware protocols for identification, referral and protection.
8. At least 10 communities or women's organizations and/or networks implement community-based protection mechanisms, adopt local measures to prevent risks and activate the early warning system for migrant women and girls.

Activities for expected outcome No. 3.

9. Design and implementation of a temporary care strategy for children and older persons belonging to migrant families, in partnership with civil society, in which the care services offer job opportunities to asylum applicants.
10. Cash-for-study access to education for girls and adult women, in partnership with the formal education system.
11. Technical training programme with educational institutions through a paid scholarship mechanism.
12. Technical training programme with private companies through paid professional and technical internships.

Activities for expected outcome No. 4.

13. Common survey to assess and design appropriate responses to address the challenges faced by returnees.
14. Technical support for relevant national partners in designing comprehensive reintegration programmes that include a care component, based on best practices and lessons learned.
15. Strengthened institutional capacities to provide returnees with security, and early warning systems implemented to prevent all forms of violence against women and girls. Development of a road map for protection, along with the accompanying standard operating procedures, including a component for temporary accommodation in the event that relocation is needed.
16. Empowerment training, psychosocial support and short-term unconditional cash transfers for returnee women and girls under the aegis of the women's empowerment centres.
17. National agreements entered into with networks of private companies to promote job training and paid internship programmes for returnee women.
18. Formal education and vocational training institutions are linked to the women's empowerment centres to provide women and girls with educational opportunities, including scholarships.

Project governance

Project management and coordination will be carried out by an **executive committee** made up of government representatives and a representative from the United Nations system (lead agency) for each country. Its role will be to provide overall project management, strategic decision-making, approval of work plans and budgets, and approval of any amendments or changes to the initial plans.

In each country there will be a **national operating committee**, made up of national or local government entities (three representatives) and a representative of each United Nations agency involved in implementation. Its role will be to design plans for implementation, coordination, forging local partnerships, monitoring and outreach.

The execution of the implementation plans will be the task of the executing agencies, which will form a **management team** for the national projects in each country, coordinated by the lead agency and a delegate from the national government, and made up of technical delegates from the government and technical delegates from the United Nations teams.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

The IOM is pursuing actions for migrant women in the region at the national and regional levels, and it is also actively involved in regional and global processes related to gender issues. Proactively including gender equality in the work carried out by IOM on migration means: advocating for equal rights before the law; combating discrimination and violence (including human trafficking); understanding how gender influences migration; knowing how gender impacts access to social services, economic growth, capacities, risks and vulnerabilities, and responding to that; and understanding how migration influences gender roles and gender equality. All of these steps are central to the IOM mandate and intrinsic to the development of safe, humane and orderly migration for all.

UN-Women is implementing the Spotlight Initiative in all four countries, which is focused on reducing violence and preventing femicide. UN-Women is implementing the Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning Programme (SCE), which could serve as a reference model for the development of the reintegration and empowerment of youth and women components. UN-Women has several programmes involving partnership schemes with the private sector for training women and for promoting policies for women's employment and economic empowerment. UN-Women is the leading agency in the use of gender-sensitive statistics for evidence-based public decision-making; at the regional level, it supports this component within the Global Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics (CEGS) in Mexico. UN-Women is the pioneering organization for the analysis and design of proposals to improve national care systems.

Duration

36 months

Budget: US\$ 15,520,650

Proposal 4.11

Migration and forced displacement of children, adolescents and families



Implementing agencies:

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), IOM, UNHCR, community organizations, local governments, national governments, national Red Cross societies, civil society organizations.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

846,391 migrant children and young people who have been victims of violence in Northern Central America and Mexico. 5,000 officials from local and national governments.

Main topics:

Protection against all forms of violence, reduced school dropout rates, education, gender equality, reintegration of migrant children, restitution of children's rights, youth, regular migration, communication and information, technology, employability, inter-institutional and regional coordination.

Context

Violence, extortion and forced recruitment are a daily reality in Northern Central America, and that situation affects the lives of children and adolescents both at school and in their homes and communities. For many, this widespread violence is compounded by poverty and natural disasters and by limited access to quality education, social services and options for earning a livelihood. In addition, many families have members who have migrated or have been forcibly displaced to other countries and are seeking family reunification. All of these factors influence the decisions of children, adolescents and their families to embark on dangerous journeys in search of safety and opportunity. Marginalized, unprotected and often alone, they become easy prey for traffickers and smugglers, and they frequently fall victim to abuse,

exploitation and other serious violations of their rights. Similarly, children and adolescents returning to their countries of origin often face stigmatization in their communities, as well as social exclusion, violence, internal displacement and extreme poverty.

The number of families and children involved in migration and displacement flows in Northern Central America and Mexico has increased significantly in recent years. In late 2018 and early 2019, the “caravan” phenomenon began to emerge in Northern Central America: mixed flows of migrants and forcibly displaced populations travelling together to Mexico and the United States. These caravans have posed genuine human rights protection challenges, especially as regards children and adolescents in the countries of origin, transit and destination.

In fiscal year 2019, of the total 811,106 persons apprehended on the south-western border of the United States, 530,444 were unaccompanied children or members of family units. During fiscal year 2018, out of 396,579 apprehensions in the United States, 157,248 were unaccompanied children and members of family units. Estimates also indicate that between 2014 and 2018, a total of 151,507 children and adolescents from Central America and other countries were detained in Mexico.

The findings of a research project commissioned by UNICEF USA, along with reports from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and others, highlight the following:

- There is a lack of coordination between child protection and migration authorities, both within and between countries.
- Children —both those travelling with their families and unaccompanied minors— are detained for long periods of time in shelters and detention centres that are unsuitable for them and their families.
- Their access to essential services such as health care and education is limited in their countries of origin, during transit and at their destinations.
- Many children are processed for return to their countries of origin without regard to the risks involved and with limited plans to support safe community reintegration. Upon returning to their home communities, they do not receive adequate support for reintegration and are often left unprotected and at danger from a series of risks.
- This serious situation has created a revolving door¹ (migration, deportation, migration anew), as many feel that the risk of undertaking the journey north is less of a threat than the risks and difficulties inherent in staying at home.
- Child protection systems do not have the capacity to provide adequate follow-up for individual cases involving the most vulnerable children in their communities of origin and return.

Most of the migrants seeking to reach the United States come from Honduras, with growing numbers from Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador. There is also a growing number of migrants from Cuba and Haiti, along with many from such African countries as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ghana, Guinea, Côte d’Ivoire, Mauritania and Nigeria.

In November 2018, the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP), known as the “Remain in Mexico” programme. This policy requires that all persons seeking asylum in the United States must remain in Mexico while their asylum cases are resolved.

In addition, the lack of information about regular channels for migration and the lack of awareness of the local development options that are gradually being built up in the region mean that irregular migration

¹ See V. Reitag and R. Dominguez-Villegas, *Stopping the Revolving Door: Reception and Reintegration Services for Central American Deportees*, Washington, D.C., Migration Policy Institute (MPI), 2015.

remains a challenge. For all those reasons, strengthening the capacity of governments —and those of civil society and the private sector— to disseminate information that allows for safe, orderly and regular migration and that helps promote development alternatives other than irregular migration are priority issues in promoting the region's security and prosperity.

Objectives

1. Improve the comprehensive protection of migrant children and their families, and expand their access to quality, culturally relevant services in their countries of origin, transit, destination and return.
2. Facilitate behavioural change away from irregular migration towards safe migration, through capacity-building for local stakeholders and local and national governments.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Impact outcome:			
Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Returnee children, especially those who suffered any form of violence along the migration route, have their rights restored upon return to their home countries.	Percentage of returnee children and adolescents who were victims of violence and who report that their rights have been restored.	Increase of at least one third.	3 years (medium term)
Migrant children, adolescents and their families who have been victims of violence enjoy special protection upon return and their immediate needs are met (family reunification, food, shelter, medical assistance and psychosocial support).	Percentage of migrant children and adolescents and their families who have been victims of violence who are provided with comprehensive attention and effective special protection measures.	90% receive comprehensive attention.	3 years (medium term)
Children and adolescents returnees from selected municipalities are successfully reintegrated into their communities.	Percentage of returnee children and adolescents who have been successfully reintegrated into their communities.	At least 80% of returnees.	3 years (medium term)
Technical staff at protection centres with increased capacity to provide humanitarian aid and special and immediate protection to returnee children and adolescents.	Percentage of technical personnel able to provide adequate humanitarian attention and immediate protection.	100% of staff.	1 to 2 years
The provision of services for returnee children and adolescents and their families is structured through effective case management at the departmental and municipal levels.	A case management information system has been designed.	In existence.	2 years
	Number of institutions interconnected with reception centres to manage mechanisms for the protection and restitution of migrants' rights.	10 institutions.	1 to 3 years
Children and adolescents informed about their rights, about the risks associated with irregular migration and about protection services along the migration route, including the obligations of the consular network, States and migrant protection centres.	Number of teachers trained to teach the training modules on irregular migration for children and adolescents.	10,000 teachers.	2 years
	Number of children who have been trained on their rights, the risks associated with irregular migration and the protection services available along the migration route, including the obligations of the consular network, the State and migrant protection centres.	20,000 children and adolescents.	3 years
Officials from consulates and migrant protection centres know about their obligations and about the mechanisms available for the protection of migrant children and adolescents.	Number of officials from the States' consular networks and migrant protection centres who know about their obligations and about the mechanisms available for the protection of migrant children and adolescents.	5,000 staff.	3 years

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (continued)

Impact outcome:			
Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Children and adolescents recovered from the mental trauma of physical and sexual violence, abuse and forced migration.	Number of children recovered from the mental trauma of physical and sexual violence, abuse and forced migration.	20 000 children and adolescents.	3 years
Migrant children and adolescents who were victims of violence and who are receiving psychosocial support.	Number of children served by educational (re)insertion and violence prevention programmes at schools.	10 000	3 years
	Number of children served by recreational programmes aimed at violence prevention.	10 000	
	Number of children in communities with the highest rates of forced and irregular migration served by the child protection case management system, with responses given.	5 000	
	Number of children in transit receiving specialized psychosocial support.	20 000	
	Number of children receiving child-friendly consular protection.	10 000	
	Number of children who have access to alternative care mechanisms, rather than being held in immigrant detention centres.	2 000	
	Number of migrant children receiving information on rights, risks and services.	100 000	
	Number of returnee children accessing support services through individual case management.	5 000	
Migrant children and adolescents attend school and learn from it.	Number of returnee children who receive specialized psychological support.	10 000	6 years
	Number of migrant children and adolescents integrated into the educational system.	To be determined.	
	Percentage of pupils in the sixth year of primary school reading at grade level.	To be determined.	
	Percentage of pupils in the sixth year of primary school with proficient scores in mathematics.	To be determined.	
	Percentage of pupils in the third year of secondary school reading at grade level.	To be determined.	
	Percentage of pupils in the third year of primary school with proficient scores in mathematics.	To be determined.	
Migrant children and adolescents who were victims of violence have access to options for avoiding family separation and for suitable alternative care.	Number of comprehensive programmes to prevent family separation and alternative care programmes.	Five comprehensive programmes.	3 years
	Number of migrant children and adolescents who were victims of violence in alternative care options. Minimum standards and social work competencies for the protection of children and adolescents.	40 000 children and adolescents.	6 years
Social work staff strengthened for the protection of migrant children and adolescents facing situations of violence.	Number of social work professionals trained in minimum standards and competencies for the protection of children and adolescents.	2 000	6 years
	Outreach campaigns for development implemented and socialized.	20	5 years

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Impact outcome:			
Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Migrants and potential migrants change their behaviour patterns by preferring alternatives to irregular migration.	Percentage reduction in the number of young people reported by surveys as determined to embark on irregular migration.	-20%	5 years
	Percentage increase in the number of people using in-person and online information services for safe migration.	+200%	
Local and national government officials increase their knowledge about the humane and orderly management of human mobility.	Number of local and national government officials who have completed on-site or online courses on migration management.	2 000	
	Number of local and national government officials subscribed to the Regional Knowledge Hub on Migration.	3 000	

Main activities

Place of origin:

- Expand educational programmes to keep children safe in schools and reintegrate those not attending classes.
- Expand sports, recreational and cultural programmes to prevent and mitigate the impact of violence.
- Support protection systems in identifying the most vulnerable children and providing support and protection services.
- Support the design and implementation of participatory, comprehensive communications strategies at the national, regional and local levels.
- Strengthen and promote the use of digital platforms for information, training and consultation on migration issues: MigApp, MIGRANTINFO,² E-Campus and Regional Knowledge Hub on Migration.
- Design training modules for schoolchildren on their rights and the risks related to irregular migration and protection services available along the migration route, including the obligations of the consular network, the State and migrant protection centres.

Transit and destination:

- Strengthen cross-border case management to provide services to migrant children in transit and at their destinations.
- Expand specialized psychosocial and psychological support for children in transit.
- Expand a standardized regional approach to consular protection for migrant children and their families, and strengthen cross-border collaboration between child protection and immigration authorities to support case management processes.
- Expand reception/alternative programmes for migrant children and adolescents, including alternative care for migrant families and unaccompanied children, with a view to eliminating the immigration detention of children.
- Expand, strengthen and monitor procedures and capacities of judicial, migration and child protection authorities for determining the best interest of the child.

² See International Organization for Migration (IOM), “Conozca más sobre MigApp: la aplicación para las personas migrantes” [online] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9qDDfRIUgj4&>; MIGRANTINFO [online] <https://migrantinfo.iom.int/es>.

- Increase communication efforts to inform migrant children of risks, services and rights.
- Prepare operational procedures for interconnecting different special protection subsystems and mechanisms, and develop protection mechanisms during the migratory route.
- Diagnostic assessment of the population of migrant children and adolescents in the prioritized reception places, to determine ages, last school grade, etc.
- Mapping of the local education services available for this population, by type and level of education and attention programmes in place.
- Detection and referral of children and adolescents through child-friendly spaces, where an initial psycho-emotional intervention is provided and where the relevant type of service, care programme and educational level of the children and adolescents can be determined.
- Creation of a digital passport that allows the tracking of the educational histories, schools and care services of children and adolescents, and develop a digital fingerprint of their school certificates.
- Design and implementation of alternative educational models (on-site, distance, mixed, accelerated) for children and adolescents aged up to 18, including life skills, employability, etc.
- Design of mechanisms for validation, regularization and certification, and advocacy with the corresponding authorities for their adoption.
- Design a communication for development (C4D) strategy to work on issues of stigmatization, discrimination, shortfalls in education access, etc.
- Technical assistance for the adaptation of standards, protocols and operational materials, and for training the staff who will implement the care strategies.
- Pilot implementation of the care strategies.
- Creation of curricula and continuous training courses on child protection for social workers.
- Strengthen mechanisms for determining the best interests of migrant and refugee children and adolescents.

Return

- Reintegrate forcibly returned migrant and displaced children.
- Expand case management and service delivery for the reintegration of returnee children, and strengthen referral channels for municipal, child protection and migration authorities to monitor the reintegration of returnee children and to support specialized services for those children (El Salvador and Honduras).
- Expand specialized mental health and social-emotional recovery interventions for forcibly returned migrant and displaced children.
- Support the reception centres with supplies that cover the basic needs of returnee children and adolescents.

Project governance

UNICEF and IOM in coordination with relevant national and local official institutions and other key State partners, national Red Cross movements, universities and civil society at local, national and regional levels. Cooperation will also be maintained with UNHCR, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), with contributions from the Western Hemisphere Regional Migration Program (WHP).

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Synergy with the Comprehensive Regional Migration Policy of the Central American Integration System (SICA), and with other interventions, programmes and policies for the protection of migrants, children and adolescents in the target countries.

Synergies are also envisaged with initiatives such as Mesoamerican Education in collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and UNICEF, and with agencies of the United Nations system.

Duration

Six years for the component addressing the protection of migrant children and their families, and five years for safe migration promotion component.

Budget: US\$ 51,656,000

Proposal 4.12

Human mobility, climate change and disasters



Implementing agencies:

The United Nations agencies involved in these activities are the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The activities will be implemented alongside the following stakeholders:

- *Government entities:* Ministry of Justice and Public Security of El Salvador, through its local victim assistance offices, Ministry of Labour and Social Security of El Salvador, Directorate for Children, Youth and Family (DINAF) of Honduras, General Directorate for Civil Protection of El Salvador, National Coordination for Disaster Reduction of Guatemala, Permanent Contingency Commission of Honduras, ministries of health of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, ministries of environment and climate change of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, urban planning departments, statistical offices, ministries of social services, ministries of foreign affairs, consular services, national migration directorates.
- *Local authorities:* Local authorities, Corporation of Municipalities of the Republic of El Salvador, Municipal Violence Prevention Committees (CMPVs) of El Salvador, sectoral protection groups and municipalities in Guatemala.
- *Civil society and non-governmental organizations:* Civil society, network of parishes, youth networks in Honduras.
- *International entities:* Central American Integration System (SICA); Platform on Disaster Displacement.
- United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, southern and south-eastern Mexico

Number of beneficiaries:

The beneficiaries of the activities are divided into direct beneficiaries —those directly involved in the activities— and indirect beneficiaries, who despite not actively participating, will benefit from the implementation of the initiative.

- *Direct beneficiaries:* 1,120 central and municipal officials and authorities in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico; 190 representatives and staff of non-governmental organizations (NGOs); inhabitants of eight vulnerable communities in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico (to be determined); 12,000 people directly benefited by the activities.
- *Indirect beneficiaries:* Communities vulnerable to climate change and environmental migrants; approximately 3,102,195 emigrants and 146,467 immigrants from the three countries of Northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras),¹ potentially the total population of El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and southern and south-eastern Mexico.

Main topics:

Migration, internal displacement, planned relocations, disaster risk reduction, local governance, updated evidence-based information, environmental degradation, adaptation to climate change, gender, violence, security, humanitarian policy, livelihoods, community stabilization, capacity-building for local structures, health, land use, restoration, renewable energy, green businesses, statistics, cities and resilient investments.

Context:

The vulnerability of Northern Central America and Mexico to climate change has been documented on many occasions, as regards both gradual phenomena (desertification, rising sea levels) and more sudden ones (droughts, floods). In Central America, the reported principal drivers of migration continue to be the search for better working and economic opportunities, threats of violence and harm to human life, and family reunification. The environmental causes of human mobility —both internal and international— go unnoticed, even though a high proportion of migrants come from rural areas and the countries of Northern Central America have suffered from events such as severe droughts that have affected livelihoods, food security, the water supply and job opportunities. According to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), disasters caused 68,700 internal displacements in the subregion in 2018: 27,000 in Guatemala, 20,000 in Mexico, 17,000 in Honduras and 4,700 in El Salvador.

Gradual phenomena such as rising sea levels and desertification also influence livelihoods and migratory flows. The reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on land and oceans detail the environmental factors that influence human mobility, including land degradation, food insecurity, sea level rise and glacier retreat. The relationship between climate change and migration is very complex, however, and as yet no analysis has been conducted of climate change events as a driver of migration in the Central American region.

Global and regional frameworks

The fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) underscored the fact that migratory and environmental phenomena are interrelated, that population movements are partly caused by such environmental factors as drought, disasters, human-made environmental damage, land degradation and conflicts over resources, and that migration also has an impact on environmental degradation in countries of destination and transit. The relationship between climate change, the environment and migration is also referenced in such global frameworks as the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the global compact on refugees and the strategic documents of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

¹ See A. Canales, J. Fuentes and C. De León, *Desarrollo y migración: desafíos y oportunidades en los países del norte de Centroamérica* (LC/MEX/TS.2019/7), Mexico City, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2019. The beneficiary numbers will be updated when a more comprehensive proposal is drawn up.

Public authorities in Northern Central America and Mexico, as well as the Regional Conference on Migration and the mechanisms of SICA (both the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD) and the Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPRENAC)), have undertaken efforts to better understand environmental migration. Those initiatives include the provisions of the Regional Strategy on Climate Change, the guidelines of the Regional Conference on Migration for the cross-border protection of displaced persons, the National Climate Change Strategy of Honduras and Guatemala's National Action Plan on Climate Change. However, effective information-gathering and decision-making mechanisms to examine environmental migration phenomena in the region do not yet exist.

Impact of migration on the environment

The relationship between migration and the environment flows both ways. Migratory movements also have an impact on the environment of the receiving regions. Migrants in informal settlements or temporary camps can enter into competition with the receiving population as they try to meet their needs and ensure their survival. Migrants can therefore bring additional pressure to bear on the infrastructure, livelihoods and natural resources around them, through increased use of water, agricultural land, general services and other resources, especially if they are already scarce for the host population. Migration's impact on the environment can be clearly seen in Central America. For example, in the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch, Honduras was affected by mass displacements of farmers towards the cities, leading to the expansion of informal neighbourhoods with limitations in terms of urban planning, risk management and environmental awareness.

The continued failure of environmental and humanitarian policy and planning frameworks to address the environmental impacts of migration leads to further repercussions for ecosystems and biodiversity, negatively affecting progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and creating a negative feedback loop through a worsening environmental security situation. In addition, the unmonitored impact of human mobility's environmental consequences on public health will continue to worsen, which will in turn require an increase in humanitarian aid.

At the same time, humanitarian aid workers and donors are unaware of the environmental footprint of the response to displacement when the humanitarian response fails to install mass shelters. As a result, humanitarian programmes and policies to address human mobility have persistent negative environmental impacts, undermining the principle of "do no harm".

Migration, environment, disasters and human settlements

The subregion's urbanization processes are characterized by the accumulation of urban dwellers in informal settlements, the high prevalence of the informal economy, violence, limited coverage of basic services and other social and economic problems. The region's migration processes must be considered in all their complexity: internal migrants arriving in cities from rural areas who encounter complex situations may choose to embark on new migration processes, either to other areas of the country or abroad.

The issue of land zoning is an integral and central part of urban management and planning, and it has been identified as a priority for disaster risk reduction. Improving urban planning systems and their implementation through the capacity-building of relevant actors and with up-to-date statistical information can enable significant progress to be made in disaster risk reduction.

Planned relocations of vulnerable populations are emerging as a solution of last resort for managing disaster risks when the options for on-site adaptation and mitigation are inadequate. Thus, the section on adaptation of Mexico's nationally determined contribution provides for the relocation of irregular human settlements in disaster-prone areas through land-use regulations.

These processes, however, are costly and entail numerous challenges. They need to be based on proper scientific information, within the framework of laws that protect the rights of the affected people and with community input. IOM, UNHCR and Georgetown University have jointly published a toolkit identifying good practices in this area. Supporting the countries in the design of planned relocation strategies is essential to ensure the well-being of the affected populations and to offer them orderly alternatives to avoid forced migration.

Central American cities are characterized by rapid growth as a result of peripheral urbanization, which often occupies at-risk areas, and that situation exacerbates socio-economic inequalities and social and migratory challenges in the region. It is vitally important to understand the role of cities in the migration cycle and to advocate for the strengthening of their resilience to disasters and a greater linkage of actions at the local and national levels, mainly through the policies, legislative frameworks and national risk reduction strategies adopted by governments.

At the same time, small and medium-sized companies are an important source of employment in the region, particularly in the countries covered by this proposal. In most cases, however, they are not prepared for the possibility of a disaster and do not have the capacity to recover after the event. This situation has a significant impact on communities' livelihoods and leads to additional disaster-driven displacement. Accordingly, the 2015–2030 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction encourages both the formulation of disaster risk reduction plans at national and local levels and private sector participation in the drafting of public policies for disaster risk reduction. It calls for the strengthening of public-private partnerships and highlights the role of the private sector in risk-informed decision-making for infrastructure construction at both the national and local levels.

National and local governments must therefore be equipped with capacities and evidence-based information for the formulation of public policies and risk reduction plans, to enable them to “build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters”, in line with the Sendai Framework, target 1.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals and other instruments. It is also important to promote access to information and knowledge about risks to help in the development of these plans and strategies, as well as in integrating that knowledge into public and private investments in order to mitigate existing risks and avoid the emergence of new ones that could lead to disaster-driven displacements.

Migration, health and climate change

Health systems in Northern Central America and the health of the subregion's communities can also expect to be significantly affected by climate change. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has published information on the impact of climate change on health and the right to health through rising temperatures, air pollution, extreme events and disasters, destruction of health infrastructure and disease transmission, as well as on its effects on well-being (including mental health) and occupational health. Those are relevant factors in Northern Central America on account of the subregion's vulnerability both to sudden threats and to more gradual processes that affect livelihoods and food security.

Taking that situation into account, the Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic (COMISCA) has undertaken activities focusing on the relationship between health and climate change in the region in order to generate evidence for decision-making. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) also supports the region's countries regarding this issue by encouraging the inclusion of health issues in national climate change adaptation plans. It must still be emphasized, however, that the relationship between climate change, health and migration has not yet received

significant attention. Research has not yet properly examined the relationships between these three factors as regards issues such as the impacts of migration driven by climate change and natural threats on access to health, or the increased impact of vulnerability to climate change and limited access to health in places of origin as drivers of migration.

Protection of migrants in crisis situations

Migrants tend to settle in urban areas and live in at-risk areas; this heightens vulnerability, particularly among irregular migrants. The mechanisms of emergency response institutions generally exclude migrants, and the mandates of consular services and migration institutions do not include immediate assistance actions for migrants caught and affected by crises or emergencies. This leads to shortcomings in coordination, in disaster risk management, and in the assistance and protection extended to migrants in the territory towards whom governments have the responsibility of providing protection.

Objective:

The **general objective** of the proposal is to enhance the approach adopted with respect to environmentally driven migration in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern and south-eastern Mexico, whether caused by either sudden or gradual disasters, with emphasis on capacity-building, preventing forced migration, adapting to climate change, disaster resilience and protecting rights.

The **specific objectives** include the following:

- Improve attention for vulnerable communities and environmental migrants in Northern Central America and Mexico by increasing the availability of information, building capacities for policy development and implementation, and promoting cooperation among countries.
- Strengthen the resilience of national and local governments in Northern Central America and Mexico to help reduce disaster-driven migration flows, through such mechanisms as strengthening urban planning processes, land use and planned relocations.
- Bolster communities' resilience to reduce the impact of displacement by encouraging migrants to return to their places of origin or integrating them into host communities.
- Increase the resilience capacities of key actors (communities, decision-makers, financial sector) by promoting nature-based solutions through innovative mechanisms.
- Contribute to increased awareness among donors and environmental and humanitarian stakeholders—including governments, United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations and NGOs—about environmental factors and environmental security considerations in policies and programmes for human mobility.
- Support the countries of Northern Central America in addressing the interrelation between climate change, health and migration by protecting the rights of the most vulnerable populations.
- Contribute to strengthening the capacities of institutions and civil society organizations in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico to understand the needs and contributions of migrants in disaster situations and to include them not only as beneficiaries but also as active agents in responses and operations.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Greater availability of information on environmental migration and displacement in the target countries.	National and regional reports on environmentally driven migration, both internally and internationally.	One report per country, and one regional report, with policy recommendations.	9 months
Capacities for the development and implementation of public policies developed in the target countries.	Improved capacities for the development and implementation of public policies.	75% of the 150 target staff with improved skills.	13 months
	Development of new policies to address the different phases of environmental migration.	Four new public initiatives launched (programmes, action plans, etc.) (one per country).	18 months
Strengthened cooperation between countries on matters relating to environmentally driven displacement and migration.	Active interdepartmental collaboration networks.	A meeting of the network organized, and information exchange protocols in place.	18 months
Strengthened capacities within municipalities to develop and implement municipal plans.	Number of inclusive municipal plans.	Three strategic plans. Three annual operational plans (one per country presented at the municipal level).	24 months
Strengthened capacity of NGOs to promote actions in line with municipal plans.	Number of NGO networks working with municipalities.	Three networks (one per country).	24 months
Displaced persons participating in socio-economic and cultural projects.	Number of projects.	Nine projects (three per country).	36 months
Availability of rehabilitated community infrastructure.	Number of projects.	Nine projects (three per country).	36 months
Understanding disaster risk displacement in the beneficiary countries.	Regional disaster risk assessment report, including the disaster displacement variable.	One.	12 months
Strengthened national and local governance for managing disaster displacement, and integration with legislative networks for disaster risk reduction.	Number of cities with disaster risk reduction plans that include disaster displacement.	Six.	24 months
Investments in disaster risk reduction encouraged to reduce disaster-driven displacement.	Number of public-private partnerships that promote strengthened resilience in the region's local governments.	Four.	24 months
Disaster readiness promoted, to ensure a better response to disaster-driven displacement.	Integrated cross-border information management system for populations displaced by disasters.	One.	36 months
Improved availability of disaster risk information in pilot locations.	Reports on pilot locations, including vulnerability to disasters, local authorities' capacities, recommendations.	Twelve reports (three locations in each of the four countries), including the scorecard.	12 months
Improved capacities for land planning, land use and disaster risk reduction among relevant local authorities.	Improved capacities of the target actors.	75% of the 160 target staff with improved skills.	12 months
	Interventions carried out in the communities.	Eight interventions (one per community).	36 months
	Risk reduction action plans at the municipal level.	Eight.	36 months
	Improving the community's perception of resilience.	Perceptible improvement in evaluation.	36 months

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (continued)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Improved planning of relocation processes planned in risk areas.	National guidelines for planned relocation of at-risk communities.	Four.	18 months
	Improving the planned relocation capacities of the target actors.	75% of the 80 target staff with improved skills.	18 months
Capacities of migration authorities and national systems strengthened to provide an adequate response to disaster-displaced populations.	Number of people trained in handling populations displaced across borders by disasters.	80 people (20 per country).	12 months
	Number of international drill exercises organized to develop operational procedures.	Three drill exercises organized.	36 months
Increased technical capacities of local governments, farmers and rural communities to implement nature-based solutions and other adaptation measures.	Number of local governments implementing nature-based solutions or other adaptation measures.	Local governments, farmers, and rural communities in all four countries have the technical capacity to implement nature-based solutions and other adaptation measures.	36 months
Increased number of producers and communities carrying out nature-based solution activities and complementary actions for efficient water use, including sustainable businesses.	Number of communities implementing nature-based solutions or other adaptation measures.		
Increased capacity to provide financial products compatible with nature-based solutions.	Number of financial institutions trained.		
	Number of financial institutions providing new financial services compatible with nature-based solutions.		
Knowledge about climate change adaptation and its financing disseminated throughout the region and incorporated into local and national policies.	Creation of a knowledge centre to disseminate information on nature-based solution actions in dry areas.		
Humanitarian and environmental actors have a greater understanding of the gender-related environmental causes and impacts of human mobility and their relationship to environmental security in the target countries.	At least 60 people from environmental or humanitarian organizations (including the government sector) are interviewed about their perceptions of environmental causes, taking into account gender and human mobility impacts.	At least 60.	6 months
	70% of the humanitarian and environmental actors interviewed have a better understanding of the environmental causes and impacts of human mobility as regards gender.	70%	18 months
International actors make more use of environmental security analyses in their responses to human mobility in the target countries.	At least two international actors or organizations adopt the environmental security analysis mechanism.	Two international actors or organizations.	24 months
Information available for decision-making on climate change, health and migration.	Regional research report on the relationship between climate change, health and migration in the three countries (correlation of vulnerabilities, impact of climate migration on health services, readiness of health services to address new situations).	One regional report.	12 months
Capacities for health service provision developed among the authorities responsible for attending to displaced persons.	Number of people in the countries trained in health care at times of natural disasters, with specific attention to the gender perspective and psychosocial care.	90 (30 per country).	12 months

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Improved health care services for populations vulnerable to the gradual impact of climate change.	Documents analysing needs in vulnerable communities.	Four.	12 months
	Beneficiaries of public health interventions, according to identified needs.	600 (200 per country).	24 months
Strengthened health service provision in the destination communities of climate-driven migrants.	Documents analysing needs in target communities.	Four.	12 months
	Beneficiaries of public health interventions, according to identified needs.	600 (200 per country).	24 months
Identification of good practices and national priorities in the area of climate change, migration and health.	Participants at a regional forum with representatives from the three pilot countries and relevant entities.	40	24 months
Increased capacity of countries to apply tools for the inclusion of migrants in emergency readiness and response plans.	Number of people trained, broken down by sex.	400	24 months
	Number of contextualized tools for migrant inclusion.	Four.	24 months
Evidence-based assessments and information on migration flows available.	Number of assessments and information products with a gender perspective.	12 (three per country).	24 months
National and regional partnerships promote collaborative actions for inclusive disaster risk management.	Number of coordination agreements.	Four national. One regional.	24 months
	Number of contingency plans.	Two.	24 months
	Number of mechanisms for communication with migrants.	Four.	24 months

Main activities

I. Information, capacities for policy development and implementation, and promotion of cooperation among countries

- National studies on vulnerability to gradual and sudden climate change phenomena, as well as their connection to both internal and international human mobility.
- A study in the four countries to identify opportunities for cooperation among them in dealing with environmentally driven migration, based on the guidelines of the Regional Conference on Migration and the applicable legal frameworks.
- Development and implementation of a training programme for public officials from the target countries in the development and implementation of policies for environmental migration.
- Assistance for the agencies in charge of developing programmes for the adoption of initiatives based on the applicable legal frameworks.
- Organization of a network on environmental migration, to bring together officials from the relevant agencies in the four countries (climate change, finance, urban planning, migration, disaster risk management, civil defence, statistics offices).
- Organization of an international event to develop joint working protocols for addressing climate-related migration, including cross-border drills to assist populations displaced by disasters.

II. Resilience of national and local governments to reduce disaster-driven human movements, including through strengthened urban planning, land use and planned relocations

- Preparation of a report on projections for disaster displacement and the impact of climate change on the region's cities.
- Strengthening national and local capacities to understand the existing risks and forecast impact of climate change and its repercussions for disaster-driven displacement.
- Strengthening the capacities of national and local governments and other strategic actors to build resilience to disaster risks, the impacts of climate change and disaster-driven displacements.
- Preparation of a report on the state of local governance for disaster risk management and disaster-driven displacements in Northern Central America and Mexico.
- Support and coordination to carry out learning exchanges on disaster-driven displacements in cities of Northern Central America and Mexico.
- Strengthening the capacities of migration authorities and national disaster-risk reduction systems to respond adequately to disaster-displaced populations.
- Support for the design and launch of an integrated information management system for disaster-displaced populations.
- Participatory selection, with national, regional and local authorities, of two communities/localities in each of the four pilot countries, and signing of partnership agreements.
- Analysis of the local situation regarding exposure and vulnerability to disasters, capacities of local authorities and opportunities for preventive intervention, including the resilience scorecard at the local level.
- Training of 20 actors per locality (160 in total) in disaster risk management with a focus on land-use planning, land use and displacement.
- Design of pilot disaster-risk reduction interventions (one per community), with a focus on land management and in partnership with local authorities and affected populations.
- Participatory implementation of the interventions in the eight target communities.
- Assessment of results in terms of resilience, adaptive capacity and disaster-risk reduction.
- Review of literature and case studies, and design of national guidelines for planned relocation processes in at-risk areas.
- National adoption of planned relocation guidelines.

III. Resilience of communities to reduce the impact of displacement by returning to their communities or integrating into host communities

- Establishment of agreements with municipalities and local NGOs.
- Displacement mapping and monitoring.
- Awareness-raising and training on municipal plans for local authorities, community leaders and NGOs.
- Livelihood initiatives through job training and the start-up of small businesses and enterprises.
- Cultural initiatives to promote protection- and security-focused networks for young people and women.
- Identification, development and implementation of projects for the renovation of communities' infrastructure for health, education, water and sanitation, etc.
- Awareness-raising and training of agencies responsible for the maintenance of the renovated infrastructure.

IV. Resilience of key stakeholders (communities, decision-makers, financial sector) through the promotion of nature-based solutions

- Providing technical assistance for the adoption and implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation practices, including:
 - Technical assistance for the conservation and restoration of at least 6,000 ha of existing forests and agroforestry systems.
 - Technical assistance for the establishment of new plantations of native species and agroforestry systems on at least 3,000 ha.
 - Technical assistance to develop sustainable sources of firewood on at least 3,000 ha, which will be combined with technical assistance for the adoption of energy-efficient technologies to reduce the demand for firewood.
 - Technical assistance to forge private agreements with commercial plantations, medium- and large-scale livestock owners and coffee producers for forest restoration and sustainable land management.
- Technical assistance for the adoption of water-efficient technologies, including:
 - Development of protocols for the adoption of water-efficient technologies by households (e.g. rainwater harvesting systems), by communities (e.g. water distribution points) and by small-scale and commercial farmers (e.g. drip irrigation, solar-powered water pumps).
 - Develop protocols for the adoption of energy-efficient technologies that reduce the demand for firewood (e.g. efficient charcoal ovens, wood drying).
 - Provide training for the adoption of water- and energy-efficient technologies.
- Provide technical assistance to develop businesses based on natural resources and climate-resilient alternative livelihoods, including:
 - Provide communities with training for the development of businesses based on natural resources that: (i) support the implementation and maintenance of nature-based solutions and water-efficient technologies, and (ii) capitalize on improved ecosystem goods and services through nature-based solutions, ecotourism (where appropriate) and non-timber forest products.
 - Facilitate access to funding for businesses based on natural resources by sharing information on financial mechanisms.
- Increase the capacity to provide financial products that are compatible with nature-based solutions, by training the personnel of financial institutions that can provide services to the target population.
- Knowledge about climate change adaptation and financing disseminated throughout the region and integrated into local and national policies.

V. Increased awareness of environmental factors and environmental security in policies and programmes related to human mobility

- Initial collection of secondary data. Development of the research and monitoring methodology, studies on the effect of climate change factors —such as rising sea levels and water scarcity— on migration, analysis of environmental degradation, resource scarcity and the “resource curse” phenomenon as environmental drivers of migration, studies of the relationship between drought and migration, studies on the relationship between food security and migration, an analysis of the relationship between deforestation and migration, an analysis of whether migration increases competition for resources between migrants and local populations, and other relevant research questions.
- Baseline surveys. A combination of questionnaires and online interviews will be developed to set the baseline for the project indicators and make the necessary adjustments to the research methodology.
- Field research. Expected to require approximately one month per country, including interviews and focus groups with key officials (government agencies, humanitarian and environmental actors, academics and

people on the move, including both migrants and refugees). It will include field research to determine the environmental impact of migration at major border points, in capital cities and at key gathering points for migrant caravans and on other common migration routes; to identify the environmental impact of recent political instability in the region; and to identify environmental impacts associated with humanitarian response. Interviews: gender-sensitive interviews with migrants in caravans, to determine their origins and to identify the environmental factors behind the lack of employment opportunities in their countries of origin.

- Analysis. After the field research, the initial research draft will be drafted.
- Review. The initial drafts will be shared with key stakeholders for comments and adjustments, through consultations and online workshops.
- Development of regional environmental safety indicators. Making use of the primary and secondary research data, the proposed regional environmental safety indicators will be developed and strengthened through workshops.
- Regional and national promotion. This activity will focus on raising awareness of the findings and making them accessible to target audiences, such as donors, humanitarian stakeholders and policymakers. This will be achieved by holding regional meetings, disseminating the documented materials and conducting a communications campaign about the launch. In addition, presentations will be given at key regional venues (e.g. meetings of CCAD and CEPREDENAC, regional meetings on migration, others). This activity will be carried out in conjunction with representatives of IOM, and of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in New York and Geneva.
- Final surveys. The baseline surveys will be repeated to measure the project's impact. Additional inputs —such as public statements or the launching of new policy positions by key actors during the project— will also be considered.
- Final report.

VI. Address the relationship between climate change, health and migration by protecting the rights of the most vulnerable populations

- Participatory selection of two communities or localities in each of the three pilot countries, involving national, regional and local authorities and the signing of partnership agreements (one community vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, and one climate migrant destination community per country).
- Production, validation and publication of a regional research study on the relationship between climate change, health and migration in the three countries.
- Training for actors in the humanitarian emergency and health sectors to improve readiness for better health care in cases of disaster-driven displacement.
- Specific analyses of the health needs in three communities vulnerable to climate change (one per country), with a focus on impacts related to climate change (communicable diseases, heat stress, malnutrition, mental and psychosocial health).
- Design and implementation of three health and climate change pilot programmes in the selected communities, to benefit at least 200 people per community.
- Specific analyses of the needs of the three climate migrant destination communities (in informal urban settlements, for example) to assess the services required.

- Design and implementation of three pilot health and climate change programmes in the target communities, to benefit at least 200 people per community.
- Monitoring and evaluation of the six health care pilot programmes, in order to identify good practices.
- Organization of a regional forum on climate change, health and migration, with representatives from the three countries.

VII. Capacities of institutions and civil society organization to understand the needs and contributions of migrants in disaster situations

- Assessment of training needs.
- Contextualization of tools.
- Adjustment of training packages based on the guidelines of the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) initiative.
- National and regional workshops.
- Preparation of a gender-aware regional roster of trainees.
- Coordination with participating partners.
- Assessment of migrants' locations and assistance and protection needs (Displacement Tracking Matrix, DTM) (data collection and analysis).
- Preparation of gender-aware information products.
- Dissemination of information products.
- Preparation of terms of reference, and socialization among the participating entities.
- Development of proposals for inclusive emergency response contingency plans.
- Development of communication strategy for migrants.

Governance:

The United Nations agencies involved in the activities are the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The programme will also be supported by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). These agencies will form such committees as are necessary for task allocation and resource management.

The project will be implemented on a consensus basis, using existing frameworks for dialogue and cooperation, such as the emergency coordination group of the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Environmental Funds (RedLAC) and the United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNDG LAC). The project will be carried out in close coordination with the Resident Coordinator's office and the focal points of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in each country and at the regional level.

The design and implementation of certain components will also require the involvement of relevant actors. Some activities will require the establishment of working groups at the national and municipal levels, to include the different agencies engaged with migration and displacement issues. Each country's national and local authorities, as well the identified communities, will be included in the specific design of the activities. At the regional level, certain components will be carried out in collaboration with inter-institutional coordination mechanisms such as SICA and the Regional Conference on Migration,

given those actors' interest in environmentally driven migration as set out in the guidelines of the Regional Strategy on Climate Change and *Protection for Persons Moving Across Borders in the Context of Disasters: A Guide to Effective Practices for RCM Member Countries*. The financial sector and the private sector will also be included in the activities.

Possible synergies with other initiatives:

The initiative is based on other initiatives taken by the region's countries, regional entities and international organizations to address phenomena related to environmental migration. At the national level, both Guatemala and Honduras have made progress in further integrating human mobility into their climate strategies. Guatemala is including a new chapter on human mobility in its National Action Plan on Climate Change, which refers to the need to "begin monitoring through statistics and joint work among State institutions to ensure climate-related displaced persons receive protection and assistance, whether within the country or across borders". Honduras's National Climate Change Strategy similarly requires "establishing and strengthening a legal and institutional framework to address and deal with the special conditions of climate-induced migration". Likewise, the Government of Mexico has included the issue of climate change in its National Development Plan.

At the regional level, the objectives of this intervention can also be identified in processes initiated by entities in which the three countries are involved. In 2017, the countries of the Regional Conference on Migration adopted the document *Protection for Persons Moving Across Borders in the Context of Disasters: A Guide to Effective Practices for RCM Member Countries*, highlighting their willingness to ensure greater international cooperation in this area under the framework of the recommendations of the Nansen Initiative. Within SICA, guideline 2.7 of the new Regional Strategy on Climate Change calls for baseline studies with data, geo-referenced maps and statistics on migration driven by climate change, an undertaking that remains pending.

The intervention's objectives can also be seen in international frameworks such as the Nansen Initiative, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the recommendations of the Task Force on Displacement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

UNEP will synergize this project with global environmental security initiatives, including through its environmental security unit in Nairobi and dedicated environmental policy and security focal points working with the United Nations Climate Security Mechanism (CSM) in New York.

The initiative will be complemented by disaster risk management initiatives undertaken by the region's countries, regional entities and international organizations. The initiative will promote synergy with initiatives by other United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), UNEP, UN-Women and IOM. It also provides for coordination with regional bodies such as SICA and CEPREDENAC, and with the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD). The activities will be primarily coordinated through the countries' national risk management systems that serve as the national focal points for the Sendai Framework. As regards territorial management and planned relocations, Mexico has implemented a relocation programme in at-risk areas, and the three Northern Central American countries also have experiences in this area.

Certain components have been designed in synergy with an existing UNEP and IOM project focusing on the environmental impacts of displacement and the humanitarian response to it in Guatemala, Nigeria and Lebanon. This project is complementary, because it aims to extract lessons learned from the Guatemalan experience and expand on them with research into the environmental drivers of human mobility and the relationship between environmental security and human mobility.

The components to integrate migrants into disaster response are related to the IOM Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) initiative. The project will make particular use of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) developed by IOM, including the work to identify ways to incorporate environmental factors into the DTM.

Depending on the calendar, the project will seek to align with any Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) process that may commence during the implementation period, to facilitate consideration of research results and indicators in any HNO undertaken in one or more of the target countries.

The climate change, health and migration component will be complemented by initiatives taken by the region's countries, regional entities and international organizations to manage the relationship between climate change and health, as well as health and migration issues and the interconnections between climate change and human mobility. This includes, in particular, the work of PAHO and COMISCA on climate change and health, other IOM initiatives related to migration and health and the interventions of climate and disaster sector stakeholders such as CEPREDENAC, CCAD, UNEP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

The focus on nature-based solutions is synergistic with an initiative that is currently being designed: Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Increase Climate Resilience in the Central American Dry Corridor and the Arid Zones of the Dominican Republic. It also offers synergies with the nature-based solutions project of UNEP, and with the Change II Project of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI).

Finally, the proposal has synergies with the joint plan of the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (UNHCR, IOM and UNICEF), which includes these same countries and aims to provide migrants and asylum seekers with humanitarian responses. It also has the potential for synergy with the Western Hemisphere Regional Migration Program implemented by the IOM.

Duration

Total implementation time for this proposal will be 36 months; the components will be implemented in a staggered manner, with some of them concluding during the second year of implementation.

Budget: US\$ 42,499,386

Proposal 4.13

Welcoming Cities: improving urban governance in the context of human mobility



Implementing agencies:

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UNHCR, IOM.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico.

Beneficiaries:

Migrant populations in Northern Central America and Mexico, together with local governments.

Main topics:

- Migration
- Governance
- Capacity-building
- Local governments and urban governance

Context

The world is currently experiencing one of the largest and most complex migration phenomena in history. Every day more and more people are forced to leave their places of origin due to the violence, discrimination and extreme vulnerability they face; as a result, migratory flows have diversified and now present new complexities.

Migrants, asylum seekers and refugees are increasingly moving to cities, which then face new challenges in terms of their ability to provide public services such as health, education, housing, transport and work, to create social cohesion within communities where migration is perceived as a threat, and to manage inclusive diversity policies that facilitate the community integration of new arrivals.

Given this context, it is vitally important that the region's local governments put forward strategies and actions for intersectoral attention so that all these individuals' rights are respected and the advantages that human mobility brings can be built on.

The International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities (ICCAR) is an initiative launched by UNESCO in March 2004 to create a network of cities interested in sharing experiences to improve their policies against racism, discrimination, xenophobia and exclusion.

International conventions, recommendations or declarations prepared upstream must be ratified and implemented by the States. At the same time, it is vitally important that stakeholders on the ground be involved, including those targeted by discrimination, to ensure that these tools are applied in responding to specific problems. UNESCO chose cities as a privileged venue for linking upstream and downstream actions. The role of city authorities as policymakers at the local level is, in this context, the key to creating dynamic synergies.

The experiences of this Coalition can be used in the context of migration in the countries of Northern Central America and Mexico. For example, a guide for cities entitled “Cities Welcoming Refugees and Migrants” has been developed, proposing approaches and agendas for cities to make urban governance more effective in the context of migration.

The **“Welcoming Cities: Improving Urban Governance in the Context of Human Mobility”** proposal seeks to ensure that human mobility is seen as an opportunity for cities and local governments, and not as a source of pressure on service provision, while at the same time recognizing the rights of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees by providing comprehensive attention with a human rights approach.

Cities play a decisive role in the context of human mobility in the Comprehensive Development Plan countries. The proximity of cities to their inhabitants allows an accurate understanding of the problems in question and their root causes, and it creates the conditions for rapid and effective responses. At the same time, city authorities require specific knowledge and skills to deal with the abuses and violations to which refugees and migrants, especially women and girls, are particularly vulnerable. Empowering local governments within their fields of competence—for example, in the areas of housing, water and sanitation, food, health care and education—is the main objective of the Welcoming Cities initiative. Despite the growing literature and the proliferation of convergent actions, the shortcomings in the knowledge base of local authorities and in their exchanges and networks have only been partially addressed. Although there is an encouraging convergence towards promoting “welcoming cities”, based on the principles of equality, inclusion, social cohesion and solidarity, there is still much that remains to be done.

Objectives:

- Promote migrant- and refugee-friendly cities and inclusion and protection by strengthening the capacity of local governments to improve urban governance as regards the attention, reception and integration of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.
- Promote a regional strategy for collaboration and cooperation that leads to interconnected actions for attending to and monitoring the migration phenomenon within cities.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals:

Expected outcomes	Indicators	Goal	Period
Local governments of cities hosting significant numbers of migrants, displaced persons or refugees have improved their urban governance in pursuit of the effective inclusion of those populations.	Number of cities with plans for the effective integration of people in human mobility situations.	20	2 years
Platform for exchange between local governments established within the framework of the Coalition of Latin American and Caribbean Cities against Racism, Discrimination and Xenophobia.	Local government action plan for the attention of migrants.	One	1 year
Increased awareness of the host population about the positive contribution made by the migrant population and against xenophobia.	Percentage reduction in the number of people expressing xenophobic views towards the migrant population.	50% reduction	2 years

Main activities:

Strengthening local government capacities for effective urban management in the context of human mobility

1. Identification of participating cities.
2. Diagnostic assessment of the needs and conditions of the migrant population and of existing urban governance instruments.
3. Development of a local government training programme on urban governance in the context of human mobility, xenophobia, discrimination and violence, on the socio-cultural dimension of migration and its contribution to cities, on the role of official and unofficial media in providing migrants, asylum seekers and refugees with information, as well as on other issues.
4. Implementation of the training.
5. Development of an action plan and/or protocol for attending to migrant populations with each participating local government.
6. Development and facilitation of a platform for cities in the participating countries to exchange experiences.

Development of anti-xenophobia awareness and communications campaigns for the inhabitants of the selected cities

1. Surveys among migrant populations and host communities.
2. Deployment of campaigns in the media and social networks, mass dissemination.
3. Intercultural skills workshops for host communities and migrant populations.
4. Strengthening municipal spaces and programmes for meetings between migrant populations and host communities, through sports, culture and art.

Project governance

UNESCO will be responsible for coordinating the proposal. For deployment, it will coordinate with other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes that work on the project's issues. In particular, coordination and collaboration with IOM, UN-Habitat and UNHCR will be sought. The main partners will be the cities and local governments.

Possible synergies

UNHCR, IOM, UNODC, local governments, shelters, etc.

Duration

2 years

Budget: To be determined.

Proposal 4.14

Promoting regular labour migration and access to labour justice



Implementing agencies:

IOM, ILO, UNHCR and other agencies of the United Nations system, in collaboration with the World Employers Confederation; the judiciaries and ministries of labour (specifically the inspection departments) of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico; NGOs engaged in eliminating violence and the trafficking and sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, with the participation of workers' and employers' associations at the national and local levels.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

Young people, women, rural populations, indigenous populations belonging to migrant collectives, workers, business and trade union sectors, officials from labour ministries, judges and magistrates, at both the local and national levels.

Main topics:

Labour migration, inequality, exploitation, abuse, protection, international recruitment.

Context

Some of the migration in Central America and Mexico is labour migration: migrant workers seeking new work opportunities, either permanently or on a seasonal basis. These countries experience dynamic migratory flows that are driven by various factors, including economic globalization processes and policies to facilitate mobility. Those processes have been stepped up by the formation of economic markets characterized by labour dynamics in which a part of the workforce comes from other countries

in the region. The absence of a robust protection system and of effective mechanisms for responsible recruitment in the region creates a permissive environment for unscrupulous recruitment practices that lead to abuse, exploitation and trafficking.

This project proposes forging close collaboration between relevant government institutions, recruitment agencies, employers and civil society, including representatives of labour migrants, and paying particular attention to the different gender groups in the sectors concerned, in the countries covered by this project. This will be achieved through the promotion and enforcement of International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS)¹ standards to reduce or eliminate the exploitation and abuse of migrant workers in the recruitment process.

The programme also aims to build on existing research by academics, NGOs and the United Nations (ILO, UNODC and IOM) to better understand current practices in migrant labour recruitment, and the liability applicable to informal and fraudulent recruitment tactics intended to direct and retain workers in situations of human trafficking, abuse and exploitation in the corridors between Guatemala and Mexico, El Salvador and Guatemala, and El Salvador and Mexico.

Migrants have the right to request information, to use consultation and advisory services and to lodge applications with any national administrative or judicial body for the enforcement of the law and the protection of their rights. In turn, States must guarantee appropriate access to justice services, as recognized by international treaties and national legislation, which implies providing adequate information, hearing and reviewing applications without discrimination, and ensuring that law enforcement agencies can pursue and resolve those proceedings.

However, migrants encounter difficulties due to their lack of knowledge of legal provisions, lack of information and advice, lack of economic resources, language problems, lack of documents, lack of an address, among other factors, which restricts their ability to formalize their migratory status and secure access to administrative and judicial services.

In the workplace, regardless of their status, migrants are entitled to the recognition of such labour rights as minimum wages, legal working hours, social security contributions and decent working conditions. However, migrants are exposed to irregular, informal recruitment and have no access to minimum rights, social security registration or occupational health protection, and they can even fall victim to human trafficking.

The information varies on the type of labour offences that affect migrant workers in each of the countries, but they typically involve their job contracts, pay and registration with the social security system, as a result of the informal circumstances in which no State supervision is required or requested.

Labour ministries offer consultation and information services and monitor the working conditions of workers through their national labour inspection services, and migrants can access those services at the various regional or departmental offices. They also offer conciliation services through which employers can be summoned to resolve workplace problems without resorting to judicial proceedings. These labour administration services allow the prompt administrative resolution of claims or demands that labour law be enforced, particularly in the exercise of individual workers' rights, without having to resort to judicial proceedings. At the same time, those services act to safeguard migrants' labour rights and enable them to access information on formalities that migrants pursue or should pursue at other government agencies, such as work permits or obtaining a specific immigration status that requires the existence of an employment relationship.

¹ See [online] <https://iris.iom.int>.

Likewise, the countries' labour courts and judicial authorities must receive and appropriately process applications and claims submitted by migrant workers. The different countries have recognized migrants' right of access to justice, to prompt attention and to the use of judicial proceedings in accordance with due process.

Objective

This project aims to facilitate regular and safe migration by strengthening and disseminating information services and the regular and ethical international recruitment of migrant workers from countries in Central America and Mexico.

Preparation and deployment of national plans to promote access to labour justice by migrants in the different countries through the services of the labour administration and specialized courts.

Contribute to strengthening the information, consultation, advisory, conciliation and labour dispute resolution services for migrants provided by labour ministries and the judiciary.

Develop policies to alleviate the costs of short-term dislocations of native workers and to distribute more widely the economic benefits generated by labour mobility, instead of criminalizing migration.

Ensure that the different stakeholders involved in the human mobility phenomenon increase their capacities to ensure that States have public policies and institutional and legal frameworks to ensure that the human rights of people in situations of mobility are protected and respected.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Improved understanding of identified recruitment strategies and their connection to abusive practices, as well as more effective practices and recommendations for responsible recruitment.	Number of reports.	One.	6 months
	Number of studies.	One.	12 months
	Number of governments.	One government per country (four in total).	
Improved capacity of labour inspectors and recruitment agencies to enforce International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) standards.	Number of recruitment agencies.	Two agencies per country (eight in total).	
	Number of employers.	Two employers per country in North America (four in total).	36 months
National partners have improved capacities to undertake public information campaigns to encourage legal residency.	Number of visitors to the IOM online resources made available for the adoption of positive behaviours.	20 000	Short term
	By the end of the project execution, the governments will have incorporated the programme materials or the communication for development methodology as a part of their training programmes or information campaigns.	Institutions in the four countries include materials and/or the methodology in their study plans and information campaigns.	Short term
	The government is using the application to better inform migrants.	Four governments.	Short term
National plans for the promotion of access to justice by migrants and refugees are formulated and deployed in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-eastern Mexico.	At least four national plans formulated and being carried out in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-eastern Mexico.	Four national plans.	

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Ministries of labour and judiciaries are building their capacities to provide information, consultation, advisory, conciliation and labour dispute resolution services.	Number of offices at labour ministries and courts offering services to migrants.	At least 30 regional offices in the four countries.	
Migrants are provided with information, consultation, conciliation, inspection, and labour dispute resolution services.	Number of migrants using labour ministries or the judiciary for advice and dispute resolution in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and regions of Mexico.	5 000 people (young people, women, rural population, indigenous people) benefiting from the access to justice plan.	
Population aware of the benefits of human mobility for the destination country's economic development.	Number of social media messages about the campaigns.	40 000	First year
Capacities of the national employment office in the country of destination strengthened.	Percentage increase in office capacities.	40% increase	First and second years
Labour migration fills skill gaps or labour shortages in specific sectors (services) in the destination country.	Number of migrants registered and employed in formal jobs. Number of refugees registered and employed in formal jobs.	1 200 500	First and second years

Main activities

1. A research study into international recruitment practices in the region and recommendations to improve responsible recruitment practices, increase the protection of migrant workers and reduce the risk of abuse, exploitation and trafficking.
2. Training on IRIS, protection, abuse and exploitation of migrant workers for labour inspectors, national employment agencies, employers and recruitment agencies.
3. Certification process for recruitment agencies, and support during the entire certification process.
4. Strengthen the capacities of local partners to install and support centres providing information on regular migration.
5. Preparation of technical reports in each country on the main claims made and problems identified by the migrant population as regards both access to justice services and the processing of their claims, with mapping of the geographical areas with the greatest influx of migrants.
6. Preparation of a national plan for access to justice and the resolution of labour disputes for migrants by the ministries of labour and the judiciary in each country, with the participation of various public institutions and employers' and workers' organizations.
7. Appointment of institutional committees for monitoring and implementing the plan.
8. Technical assistance for the evaluation of the technical units and regional offices set up by the ministries of labour and judiciaries to provide services.
9. Promotion of and campaign about the information, advice, consultation, supervision, conciliation and workplace dispute resolution services offered by the labour administration and the judiciary.
10. Preparation of the services to be offered by the labour administrations and judiciaries in each country, in each region and in the capital.

11. Information and training programmes on migrants' access to labour justice for ministry of labour officials and judges.
12. Information and dissemination programmes on the rights of migrants and on workers' and employers' associations.
13. Access to services offered by the labour administration and the judiciary for dealing with cases and labour disputes.
14. An anti-xenophobia media campaign to bolster understanding of the correlation between human mobility and economic development in the destination country.
15. Facilitating the incorporation of migrant workers into the formal economy through migrant registration programmes, mutual recognition of qualifications, issuing work permits and organizing vocational training programmes.
16. Study of labour migration in destination countries, focusing on the benefits that migration offers for the destination country's economic development and identifying the gaps in sectors of the labour market.
17. Strengthening the capacity of local actors to identify gaps and sectors in national labour markets: periodic monitoring of national labour market conditions to understand their needs, as well as the needs of the domestic and migrant workforce.
18. Technical assistance for the competent authorities in the different countries aimed at improving institutions and procedures that ensure access to justice for persons on the move and enhancing compliance with international human rights standards.
19. Human rights training for security forces, immigration officials and other public officials involved in providing services for migrants, together with civil society organizations.
20. Preparation of a guide on access to justice for the families of missing migrants, in line with the protocols for searching for missing migrants in place in the region and providing venues for dialogue and advocacy for civil society organizations, including committees of families of missing migrants.

Project governance

IOM, ILO, UNHCR and other United Nations agencies will be responsible for the implementation of the activities, subject to agreements with the project lead actors identified in each of the target countries.

This project proposes forging a close collaboration between the main actors responsible for international recruitment to ensure that the process is fair for all, by helping job applicants identify ethical job recruiters, by supporting ethical recruiters in raising their visibility, optimizing costs and securing market advantages, and by helping employers identify ethical job recruiters and improve the transparency of the recruitment process.

In addition, representatives of the ministries of labour and judiciaries of the countries will be invited to form a project steering committee alongside the participating United Nations system agencies. The committee will monitor the project's progress and receive information from the designated technical officials in each ministry and court responsible for pursuing the plan and the project.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This project could benefit projects that promote ethical and responsible recruitment practices, along with the application of the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) that the IOM is already implementing in several countries of Mesoamerica and North America. The project will also build on the efforts of the Regional Conference on Migration (Puebla Process).

Duration

The total execution time for this proposal will be 48 months.

Budget: US\$ 31,300,000

Proposal 4.15

Strengthening border management and combating crime



Implementing agencies:

United Nations agencies in coordination with the Central American Commission for Migration (OCAM); national officials responsible for immigration law enforcement and border controls. The project will also lead to the creation of a network of officials from immigration and border management agencies, as well as officials from the region's authorities charged with issuing travel documents. There will be close coordination with the Regional Coalition against Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling (CORETT) and with the national committees against human trafficking in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. Project partners will include civil society organizations, particularly those belonging to the Counter Trafficking Network in the countries of Northern Central America.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

The four countries identified, with a target of 100 cases reviewed in the first phase; false document detection units in all four beneficiary countries; 1,000 migration officials and police and military officers (immigration and border control agencies), government representatives and partners trained and participating in workshops; target population of vulnerable migrants. 1,000 trafficking victims; 500 government agency officials and partners trained and participating in workshops; campaign target population.

Main topics:

Human trafficking, migrant smuggling, orderly migration, organized crime, international protection, violence, exploitation.

Context

The borders of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and southern Mexico remain fragmented, with structural weaknesses, porous gaps and ineffective controls. The assigned human and logistical resources are insufficient to meet the needs that exist. The lack of control over irregular migration flows, contraband and migrant smuggling affects diplomatic relations between countries of transit and destination. At

the same time, deficiencies in border control and the weak presence of law enforcement agents in the borderlands allow for the proliferation of illegal activities, such as migrant smuggling and contraband. This is contributing to mounting national and regional security concerns.

This project's main objective is to support the Central American Commission for Migration (OCAM) in its efforts to combat transnational crime in general and, more specifically, the smuggling of migrants, while at the same time allowing access to persons in need of international protection. This will be done through advisory services and support for the validation of documents.

Recognizing the needs of frontline officers, who will require additional support following their training in document verification, this project will provide additional training to help them correctly identify suspicious travel documents and guide them through the decision-making process. This support will be provided by a single point of contact at the regional level, to be called the Document Validation Support Centre (CAVAD).

The capacity of officers who directly handle travel documents on a daily basis is constrained by their lack of access to equipment and technology. While officers in the fake document identification units at major international airports have relatively high levels of experience in verifying documents, full use is not made of that experience due to the lack of key equipment that can assist officers in reading standard items such as the biometric data stored in electronic passports. With the continued increase in the number of electronic passports in circulation, agencies that cannot make use of the functions those documents offer are at a clear disadvantage. Another major challenge in the region is the lack of practical mechanisms for document examination officers assigned to verification units to exchange information among themselves. As a result, critical information on the use of fraudulent travel documents and on the modus operandi of smuggling networks detected at airports is rarely shared. An information-sharing mechanism could contribute greatly to increased collective awareness about detected cases and trends in the region's countries in order to better protect their borders from irregular migration.

Migrant smuggling is a transnational crime that violates the sovereignty of States and endangers the safety and well-being of migrants. The region's countries have affirmed their commitment to implement a working plan on migrant smuggling through the Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons. The provision of separate mechanisms for responding to human trafficking and migrant smuggling reflects the need for separate action plans to address each crime.

At present, all the region's countries have ratified the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and have accordingly incorporated that offence into their national laws. Although all the region's countries have undeniably made remarkable progress—for example, in intelligence processes, while cooperation has been promoted through the successful completion of several regional operations—it is nevertheless still necessary to adopt a multilateral strategy to strengthen and frame the common and regional objectives and actions to be pursued in the medium term.

Despite the significant progress the region has made on this issue, there are still major shortcomings in their responses, and strengthening efforts in the areas of intelligence, investigation, prosecution, interdiction, arrests, alternative measures to incarceration and migration solutions—at all times, with a perspective of protection and human rights—is a key priority.

Human trafficking is a global problem, with over 40 million victims according to estimates by Alliance 8.7.¹ In response to the lack of reliable and high quality anti-trafficking information, IOM has established the world's largest human trafficking data hub, which collates global data on a comparable, secure, publicly available platform. The IOM-led Counter Trafficking Data Collaborative (CTDC) can be found online.²

¹ See [online] <https://www.alliance87.org/>.

² See [online] <https://www.ctdatacollaborative.org/>.

All the world's countries are impacted by human trafficking, and Latin America is no exception. Efforts to combat human trafficking are a high priority for the countries of Central America and Mexico, and they have been included in national and regional commitments for many years. The region's countries have adopted policies and programmes in line with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols. National responses are typically led by national intersectoral committees that bring together the sectors involved in anti-trafficking efforts, sometimes including civil society. Police units, protocols for action and regional coalitions are other examples of the actions and structures that exist to prevent and respond to human trafficking in the region. IOM has been working on this issue in the region for many years and, despite important advances, there are significant gaps in the response, and key priorities have been identified to strengthen efforts to prevent these crimes, to identify and protect the victims and to punish the perpetrators.

Objective

Contribute to the efforts of the Governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico towards more efficient border management that will facilitate and promote better handling of cross-border movement from a human rights perspective, reduce irregular migration and enable the detection of trafficked migrants.

Contribute to the efforts of the Governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico in their comprehensive response to human trafficking, to support the prevention of that crime, identify and protect its victims and punish the criminal networks involved.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Rehabilitate, equip and provide equipment for border operations.	Installation of modern equipment at key points to support border controls.	Two border control stations in each country (eight in total).	36 months
Increased capacity of border officials to process irregular arrivals, differentiate international protection needs and combat trafficking and smuggling.	Number of irregular and/or trafficked migrants received and processed to receive protection and a solution.	10 000	36 months
	Number of specialized workshops organized in the four countries.	12	24 months
	Number of guidelines, protocols, and other tools strengthened.	Eight (two per country).	24 months
Timely advice and support in the verification of documents, to help identify the illegal use of travel documents.	Document verification systems installed and operating efficiently.	Two entry points per country equipped with verification systems; one CAVAD coordinator in the region shared by the four countries.	18 months
Improved document verification capabilities at major border points, using Verifier Travel Document and Bearer (TD&B) software and equipment.	Number of officers trained in document verification.	One unit per entry point with verification system (see above).	18 months
Public officials have new skills and knowledge to prevent and respond to migrant smuggling.	Investigations, prosecutions and convictions for the crime of migrant smuggling.	20 convictions.	18 months

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Humane treatment for migrants who have been smuggled and the prosecution of the crime of migrant smuggling are guaranteed, in keeping with international standards.	Number of smuggled persons who are received and processed for a solution.	10 000	24 months
	Number of specialized workshops organized.	16	24 months
	Number of guidelines, protocols, and other tools strengthened.	Eight (two per country).	24 months
Key actors and informed victims are more willing to report cases and possible cases of human trafficking after the campaign.	Increased awareness of reporting channels and information.	Community, trafficking victims and civil society organizations have information on the channels for reporting possible cases of human trafficking to the authorities.	18 months
Identification and protection systems for trafficking victims and crime investigation systems strengthened.	Number of trafficking victims identified and assisted by the project fund.	1 000	36 months
	Number of specialized workshops organized.	16	36 months
	Number of guidelines, protocols, and other tools strengthened.	To be determined, according to the diagnostic assessment.	36 months

Main activities

1. Equip two border checkpoints at key points or blind spots per country with minimum security standards for that institution. Installation of secure energy supply and communication systems and live closed-circuit television (CCTV). Bedroom furniture (beds, mattresses, wardrobes, etc.). Kitchen equipment (refrigerators, stoves, dining tables, etc.), vehicles for transportation and patrolling (vehicles, motorcycles, radios, bulletproof vests, etc.).
2. Awareness-raising workshops for border officials on the rights of migrants and refugees, differentiated procedures for receiving persons in need of protection, smuggled persons who have been victims of criminal acts or human rights abuses and/or victims of trafficking.
3. Analysis of migration dynamics to implement systems that facilitate regular cross-border migration by temporary workers, people with specific needs (including international protection), students, traders, others. In addition, initiatives such as the border card for employment purposes between Mexico and Guatemala will be evaluated with a view to improving and strengthening it and extending it to the other countries of Northern Central America.
4. CAVAD installation:
 - (a) Provide guidance and advice on the verification of travel documents to frontline and border management agencies and to travel document issuing authorities.
 - (b) Collect data and identify trends in the use of fraudulent travel documents in the region.
 - (c) Conduct research into the ways in which immigration authorities deal with document fraud.
 - (d) Use the results of the research to develop new training modules and/or to develop tools and/or verification systems.
5. Produce refresher training materials (guides or handbooks) to prevent and respond to migrant smuggling.

6. Workshops for the education and technical training of civil servants, judges, prosecutors, police and State officials responsible for intelligence, crime investigation, field operations, administrative arrests, protection and solutions for smuggled migrants.
7. Exchanges of good practices on assistance to victims of human trafficking and migrant smuggling, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.
8. Technical support to strengthen procedural protocols for managing and processing complaints.
9. Design and deployment of an information campaign.
10. Crime victim assistance fund.
11. Diagnostic assessment of the human trafficking situation, with emphasis on sexual and labour exploitation in each project country.
12. Education and technical training workshops for State officials and employees who provide services to victims of human trafficking and participate in investigations and in extending protective measures to victims.
13. Technical support to strengthen procedural protocols for handling and processing calls and complaints made over the hotlines.

Project governance

The United Nations agencies involved will be responsible for project implementation, in close coordination with the national authorities responsible for immigration and border control and entities involved in the fight against human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

This project replicates the International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net) in South-East Asia, with slight adjustments to fit the target region and locations. The activities and expected results of the proposed project will assist the governments participating in the Central American Commission for Migration (OCAM) in implementing articles 12 and 13 of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

Duration

48 months

Budget: US\$ 24,290,715

Proposal 4.16

Preventing and combating migrant smuggling and crimes against migrants in Northern Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) and southern and south-eastern Mexico



Implementing agencies:

- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Geographical coverage

Eight states in southern and south-eastern Mexico: Campeche, Chiapas, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Quintana Roo, Tabasco, Veracruz and Yucatán.

Three countries in Northern Central America and the ten municipalities with the highest rates of irregular migration in each: the Departments of San Miguel, Usulután, San Salvador and Ahuachapán in El Salvador; the Departments of Huehuetenango, Quiché and San Marcos in Guatemala; and the Departments of Cortés, Olancho and Yoro in Honduras.

Number of beneficiaries

The potential migrant population of the four participating countries.

Main topics

- Combating the smuggling of migrants, by land, sea and air
- Managing the migration cycle
- Specialized training for criminal prosecution authorities
- Security and access to justice
- Prevention and combat of organized crime
- Illicit financial flows and the migration cycle
- Protection of migrants, with a gender and life-cycle approach

Context

The increase in the volume of migratory flows through Mexico in recent years has led to an increase in migrant smuggling, generating substantial resources derived from the illicit financial flows of transnational organized crime. Similarly, the smuggling of migrants affects the countries' well-being and leads to

violations of the human rights of the migrants who use these criminal networks to enter the United States irregularly. The Governments of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Mexico, through their attorney general's offices, national police forces, judiciaries and immigration authorities, are facing an unprecedented humanitarian migration crisis in the region.

Crime rates and the precarious economic conditions affecting El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras drive thousands of people to undertake irregular migrations. While in transit, migrants face violence from traffickers, but also from other migrants and sometimes from the authorities. The risk of acts such as sexual violence and other forms of exploitation is particularly high for women. This situation in each country must be assessed in detail, in order to support national authorities and the private sector in creating the conditions so that each country's inhabitants can remain in their places of origin and pursue their development there.

This crisis highlights an area of opportunity for the authorities responsible for law enforcement, crime investigation and prevention and migrant smuggling, who need to strengthen their capacities so they can attack smuggling networks head-on: not only in terms of their operations, but also with respect to their illicit earnings.

Objective

Improve prevention of the crime of migrant smuggling, the response of the criminal justice system and the pursuit of illicit financial flows, with a gender-aware and evidence-based approach.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Strengthened capacities to investigate and prosecute the crime of migrant smuggling through the specialized experiential learning methodologies implemented by UNODC.	At least 70% of national authorities responsible for combating and preventing migrant smuggling receive training.	Increase the sentences given to traffickers and increase the number of migrants rescued by the authorities.	3 years
Identify and pursue illicit funds earned through migrant smuggling.	At least one conviction in each country regarding illicit property earned through migrant smuggling.	Reduce the profits of organizations engaged in migrant smuggling.	3 years
Officials in communities of origin, transit and destination informed about the risks of migrant smuggling and the organized crime groups behind the trafficking networks.	Migrant population and national authorities made aware of the risks of using traffickers during the migration cycle through the distribution of at least 50,000 outreach materials in digital and printed form.	Reduce abuses against migrants and promote their comprehensive attention by national authorities.	3 years
Increased international criminal cooperation to detect and dismantle networks engaged in migrant smuggling.	At least one measure of international criminal cooperation against migrant smuggling supported by each country.	Reduce the number of migrants who are smuggled.	3 years

Main activities

According to the implementation plan, the following activities will be carried out simultaneously and in coordination in the four beneficiary countries:

- (a) Organize specialized training workshops for police officers, immigration agents, public prosecutors and judicial authorities for the effective investigation and prosecution of the crime of migrant smuggling. In addition, organize legislative technical assistance workshops to standardize and harmonize rules governing transnational organized crime applicable to the networks operating across the four countries involved in this project.

- (b) Organize specialized training workshops for police officers, public prosecutors, immigration agents and judicial authorities in order to transfer knowledge, exchange experiences, design tools and standardize the procedures necessary for the identification, investigation and effective prosecution of illicit financial flows earned through migrant smuggling in the project countries.
- (c) Adapt, present and disseminate the campaign #NegocioMortal (“Deadly Business”) and the complementary #PuedesVerlo (“You Can See It”) campaign in Northern Central America and the eight states of southern and south-eastern Mexico. The campaign aims to publicize information about the risks of migrant smuggling and its links to organized crime. The target audience comprises the communities of origin, transit and destination of migratory flows (with differentiated messages), and the authorities that come into direct contact with migrant populations. In addition, a channel for the general public to file complaints will be established.
- (d) Organize mentoring, exchange and outreach programmes for international criminal cooperation, promoting joint investigations and direct advice to prosecutors’ offices to improve migrant smuggling investigations.

Project governance

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), through its offices in Mexico and Panama, will be responsible for the implementation of the project in coordination with the Regional Office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in San José, Costa Rica. In order to attain the objectives and ensure the sustainability of the proposed actions, the project will require the active involvement of institutions such as police forces, public prosecutors’ offices and migration management agencies in the four countries.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

UNODC and IOM, through their offices in each country and their regional offices in Costa Rica, Mexico and Panama, have experience in implementing technical cooperation projects to strengthen institutional capacities for the prevention, detection, investigation and criminal prosecution of migrant smuggling offences. Similarly, the work of UNODC and IOM in the project countries has led to the adoption of laws and property seizures, which has strengthened the authorities’ capacity to pursue illicit resources earned through migrant trafficking and to prosecute those crimes with a comprehensive approach. Likewise, UNODC and IOM have identified the need for legislative harmonization as regards the specialized legal provisions for prosecuting migrant smuggling. They have also determined the need for greater coordination between authorities and civil society organizations in attending to trafficked migrants. Accordingly, the foundation for this project will be the capacities already in place in the four countries.

Significantly, the actions of all the programmes implemented in this area are framed by the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and, in particular, its Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air.

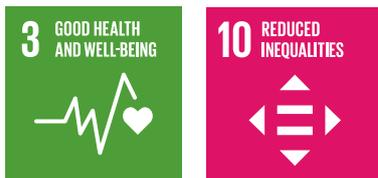
Duration

3 years.

Budget: US\$ 6,169,235

Proposal 4.17

Improving access to community-based mental health and psychosocial services for migrants, displaced persons and host communities in the border regions of Northern Central America and Mexico



Implementing agencies:

IOM and other United Nations agencies, in coordination with the ministries of health, ministries of education, civil society organizations and municipal authorities in priority locations in Northern Central America and Mexico.

Geographical coverage:

Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

Number of beneficiaries:

7,200 vulnerable migrants in at least three communities per country, and 200 local actors providing direct services to the migrant population (50 per country); 5,000 residents of host communities in border areas.

Main topics:

Health, mental health, psychosocial well-being, social integration, community approach and direct medical assistance for migrants, with priority on children under five, adolescents, young women, pregnant women, older persons and persons with disabilities.

Context

Central America and Mexico make up one of the world's most important migration corridors. Migrants, especially those in irregular situations, are often victims of exploitation, marginalization and violations of their fundamental rights, including the right to health. The relationship between migration and health is complex, and its impact varies considerably among migrant groups and between different individuals.

The process of migration can exacerbate health vulnerabilities and behaviours that generate risks. Migration can affect the physical and mental well-being of those who undertake it, and it has a particular impact on those who migrate involuntarily, fleeing natural or human-made disasters. On occasions, due to their lack of legal status, stigmatization, discrimination, xenophobia, cultural barriers and low incomes, migrants are restricted in their access to basic health services, vaccination programmes and other public health actions. All this produces a vicious circle, which leads to a further worsening of their health.

Migration processes, whether regular or irregular, entail a series of personal changes and adjustments that generate enormous stress. Migrating means leaving one's country of origin and adapting to a new context, language, culture and living situation. Although stressful situations can occur at any stage in the migration process—including prior to departure, during transit and upon arrival in the country of destination—the fragmentation of family ties and complex bureaucratic requirements for obtaining permission to stay in the host country have a particular impact on the emotional well-being of migrants. In addition, in their destination countries, migrants often encounter significant barriers to full integration into the host society, which increases their vulnerability in light of the ample evidence linking social exclusion with the deterioration of mental health.

Although the prevalence of mental disorders recorded among the migrant population varies from one study to the next, migrants can suffer from mental disorders and would benefit from culturally sensitive and timely mental health services. Nevertheless, they often face major obstacles in accessing mental health and psychosocial support services in the Central American countries and Mexico. Restrictions to access are caused by structural aspects of health systems (geographical or coverage barriers) and also by other factors, such as schooling levels, language barriers and beliefs about mental health that prevent mental health problems from being clearly expressed. Access to mental health services is particularly limited for irregular migrants, as they do not have access to health insurance and do not have the financial means to pay for services directly. In addition, they generally fear reprisals such as being reported to the authorities, or even deportation, and so they avoid using those services.

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings, the IASC guidance note on community-based approaches to mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) programmes, the IOM Manual on Community-Based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergencies and Displacement and other international evidence-based instruments all recommend responding to the mental health and psychosocial needs of the migrant population through community-based approaches. This project endorses those international recommendations to support the beneficiary countries in improving access to community-based mental health and psychosocial assistance services for the various migrant populations present in their territories.

Objective

Assist the efforts of the Governments of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras in responding to the health, mental health and psychosocial needs of the various migrant populations and host communities in their border areas, and promote community participation in responding to migration.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Health, mental health and psychosocial needs assessments of migrant populations carried out.	Number of health, mental health and psychosocial needs assessments conducted per country.	One health, mental health and psychosocial needs assessment per country.	6 months
National health monitoring systems are strengthened and reflect the health conditions and needs of migrant populations.	Number of national health monitoring systems.	Four.	36 months
Capacities of key and critical stakeholders for national and decentralized monitoring are strengthened.	Number of key and critical stakeholders with strengthened capabilities.	120 (30 per country).	36 months

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals (concluded)

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Improved access to health, mental health and psychosocial services in priority communities in each country, with an emphasis on women, indigenous populations, LGBTI people and adolescents.	Number of community health, mental health and psychosocial teams set up in the communities.	At least three interdisciplinary community teams per country.	12 months
	Number of communities benefiting from health, mental health and psychosocial services per country.	At least 12 communities benefiting from health, mental health and psychosocial services per country.	12 months
	Number of migrants served by community health, mental health and psychosocial teams by country, broken down by gender and population group.	300 migrants served by each community health, mental health and psychosocial team, broken down by gender and population group.	36 months
Strengthened capacities of the public health system to provide specialized, sensitive community-based health and mental health services to migrants.			
Improved capacities of local actors to deliver community-based health, mental health and psychosocial services.	Number of local actors trained in community-based approaches to health, mental health and psychosocial care. Number of technical monitoring mechanisms for teams created per country.	50 local actors trained in community-based approaches to health, mental health and psychosocial assistance per country. One technical monitoring mechanism for teams created per country.	36 months
Assessments of migrants' health profiles, their health needs and risks, mental health and psychosocial well-being, and shortcomings in the health systems.	Number of profiles of migrants' health, their health needs and risks, mental and psychosocial health, well-being and health system shortcomings.	One per country.	6 months
Basic health services offered to migrants through health outreach days.	Number of health outreach days held.	48 days as of the second year; 12 days per country (80 people per day on average). 3,840 beneficiaries in total.	36 months
Network of community health workers established.	Number of community health workers.	Four community networks set up (one per country).	6 months
Workshops organized to train community health workers.	Number of training workshops for community health workers.	16 (four initial workshops and 12 follow-up workshops).	36 months
Mobile health teams provide regular medical examinations, diagnoses and treatment for migrants in shelters.	Number of beneficiaries receiving services from mobile teams.	7,200 direct beneficiaries (migrants) and 5,000 indirect beneficiaries (members of the communities). 12,200 beneficiaries in total.	36 months
Workshops organized to raise the awareness of key and critical stakeholders about migration and health.	Number of key and critical stakeholders with raised awareness about migration and health.	75	36 months

Main activities

1. Design and implementation of rapid needs assessments and mapping of health, mental health and psychosocial care actors in selected communities.
2. Establishment and training of community health, mental health and psychosocial assistance teams in each country, to provide services to each of the priority communities.

3. Strengthening the capacities of public health systems to provide specialized health, mental health and psychosocial services in the communities.
4. Community actors will be trained in community-based psychosocial methods and assistance and will be overseen by a technical supervisor to strengthen their capacity to provide effective support.
5. Assessment of health profiles of migrants, their health, mental health and psychosocial needs and risks, and the shortcomings in the health systems related to access and coverage in borderland host communities.
6. Develop plans and programmes based on the assessments, in conjunction with the health ministries of each country and other relevant health institutions, to ensure access to a basic package of health, mental health and psychosocial services in shelters and borderland communities.
7. Organize health outreach days, offering (a) basic medical examinations, diagnoses and treatment, and (b) promotion and education in health and mental health and psychosocial assistance for migrants and host communities in border areas, with mobile medical teams and a network of community health workers.
8. Organize awareness-raising workshops for key and critical stakeholders at the local and national level.
9. Develop standard operating procedures (SOPs) to provide migrants with medical assistance, including referring patients with serious conditions to local clinics and hospitals for more advanced treatment.

Project governance

IOM, together with the other United Nations agencies involved, will be responsible for project implementation in close coordination with national authorities and other relevant partners at the regional and local levels. The successful implementation of community-based health, mental health and psychosocial assistance programmes requires the use of participatory approaches that includes local actors from various sectors, including migrants and host populations.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Links will be sought with the Executive Secretariat of the Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic (SE-COMISCA), and with Mexico's Secretariat of Health through the United States–Mexico Border Health Commission, which already carries out psychosocial response activities with migrant populations. The project will also be closely linked with the Joint Initiative on the Health of Migrants and their Families in Central America and Mexico, which is a regional and multisectoral coordination mechanism that brings together governments, civil society organizations, regional associations, academics, United Nations agencies and development partners to advance the health and migration agenda in the region.

Duration

The project will have a total duration of 36 months.

Budget: US\$ 12,930,000

Proposal 4.18

Migrant protection and productive investment of remittances



Implementing agencies:

ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico, International Organization for Migration (IOM), ministries of foreign affairs, migration authorities and migrant associations, ministries responsible for productive development policies (Ministry of Economic Affairs of El Salvador, Ministry of Economic Affairs of Guatemala, Secretariat of Economic Development of Honduras), central banks (Central Reserve Bank of El Salvador, Bank of Guatemala, Central Bank of Honduras), financial system regulators (Superintendency of the Financial System of El Salvador, Superintendency of Banks of Guatemala, National Commission of Banks and Insurance Companies of Honduras), and development banks, including but not limited to the Development Bank of El Salvador (BANDESAL), the Rural Development Bank (BANRURAL) of Guatemala and the National Bank for Agricultural Development (BANADESA) of Honduras.

Geographical coverage:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico.

Number of beneficiaries:

400 consular officials and 80 representatives of migrant associations, approximately 1.5 million people (320,000 in El Salvador, 550,000 in Guatemala and 630,000 in Honduras), and 15 million migrants from Northern Central America and Mexico residing in the United States and their families in their countries of origin.¹

Main topics:

Diaspora, remittances, financial inclusion, social security.

¹ It is estimated that in 2015 there were 12.1 million Mexicans, 1.2 million Salvadorans, 880,000 Guatemalans and 550,000 Hondurans living in the United States. See Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Atlas of migration in Northern Central America* (LC/PUB.2018/23), Santiago, 2018.

Context

The Northern Central American and Mexican migrant population in the United States has an enormous potential for both the sending and receiving countries. First, they often provide economic sustenance to their communities of origin and help reduce poverty there; and, second, they increase the economically active population in the destination country (for example, about 87% of Northern Central American migrants are of working age) and also help promote trade between their countries of origin and destination.

Between 2005 and 2017, the population originating in Northern Central America residing in the United States nearly doubled: from 2.4 million to 4.7 million people. In 2017, people from El Salvador accounted for 49% of the resident population originating in Northern Central America, followed by Guatemala (31%) and Honduras (20%). The resident population of Mexicans in the United States totals 12.1 million people. Given the size of the population of Northern Central American and Mexican origin living outside the country and the obligations incumbent on States in this regard, governments must safeguard the rights of their citizens abroad through measures including consular assistance and protection to promote the development and recognition of their skills, qualifications and competencies.

Remittances sent from abroad to migrants' families in their countries of origin represent a considerable percentage of GDP. In Northern Central America, remittances are equal to 4.5 times foreign direct investment (FDI), 40% of exports, 77% of gross fixed capital formation and 95% of national savings. They account for 17.1% of GDP in El Salvador, 10.4% in Guatemala and 20.2% in Honduras. At the household level, on average 83% of households in poverty in Northern Central America receive remittances.

Most of these remittances are directed towards satisfying the basic needs of the recipient households (up to one third of the total is saved or invested, mainly in education and health) but their use for productive investment and entrepreneurship is limited, and that situation is even more pronounced in rural areas. Numerous factors limit productive investment, so better financial inclusion, accompanied by strengthened technical and managerial capacities for small producers and service providers, would contribute to the emergence of a favourable environment in which some remittances are allocated to productive projects.

Social protection for migrants and refugees and its portability are fundamental rights. However, despite the existence of international covenants, conventions, programmes and treaties, migrant workers —and undocumented ones in particular— are generally excluded from the basic coverage granted by social protection systems in their countries of origin and destination.

The occupational coverage of pension systems in Northern Central America and Mexico is below the Latin American average. Moreover, when migrants manage to find employment in their countries of destination, those jobs tend to be informal with unfavourable conditions; as a result, they face problems in accessing social security, which is usually dependent on contributions made through formal employment and on legal residence. In that context, an examination is needed of migrants' social protection coverage —particularly the possibility of their contributing to social security in both the country of destination and the country of origin— and of the alternatives for ensuring the portability of pension savings so that migrants, if they return to their home countries, do not lose their old-age pension contributions.

Objectives

- Strengthen the capacities of participating governments to provide consular protection and attention to persons in transit, at their destinations, and upon their return, with particular emphasis on migrants in vulnerable situations; support will also be given to outreach efforts among members of the diaspora to expand their contributions to the development of their communities of origin.

- Strengthen the productive fabric in rural areas by encouraging the emergence of microenterprises, financial inclusion and the investment of remittances in productive activities.
- Facilitate access to the social protection system for migrants and their dependants, through mechanisms to ensure the portability of health and social security rights and benefits in accordance with international human rights law.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Consular protection and attention			
Awareness-raising and training for consular officials.	Number of officials.	100 per country.	24 months
Migrant associations trained to support their fellow nationals.	Number of migrant associations trained.	20 per country.	24 months
Relations between the diaspora and their communities of origin strengthened.	Number of events held involving the diaspora and communities of origin.	Five per country.	36 months
Greater financial inclusion for small producers and rural service providers.	(i) Proportion of adult population with a bank account. (ii) Proportion of adult population with savings in a regulated financial institution. (iii) Proportion of adult population that has obtained a loan from a regulated financial institution.	(i) 53.5% nationally (51.3% among women and 52.6% among rural populations). (ii) 12.2% nationally. (iii) 20.8% nationally.	24 months
Financial inclusion and investment of remittances			
Increased proportion of received remittances assigned to productive activities.	Average proportion of received family remittances allocated to productive activities.	15% among programme beneficiaries.	36 months
Productive activities economically scaled up.	Increases for the following indicators: (i) Added value (ii) Investment (iii) Productivity	To be defined according to the baseline.	36 months
Productive activities socially scaled up.	(i) Volume and quality of jobs created. (ii) Access to education and health.	To be defined according to the baseline.	36 months
Social protection of migrants			
Improving the availability of information about the social protection of migrants and their dependants.	Number of analyses of social security contribution mechanisms. Number of feasibility studies for the implementation of bilateral inter-institutional agreements (social security).	Five. Seven.	Short term (less than 1 year)
Improved availability of information on specific social protection instruments for migrants in their countries of origin.	Number of feasibility studies for the implementation of strategies for contributing to the health component of social security systems in countries of origin.	Five.	Short term (less than 1 year)

Main activities

Consular protection and attention

1. Forging of agreements with migrant associations.
2. Mapping and monitoring of associations.
3. Awareness-raising and training for consular authorities.
4. Exchange initiatives between the diaspora and communities of origin.

Financial inclusion and investment of remittances

1. Operational planning: identification of the regulatory framework for the programme; definition of criteria for selecting the target population and of requirements for organizations to participate; identification of the participating entities and the financial resources to be committed; establishment of access mechanisms (one-stop shop) for presenting proposals; development of strategy for the dissemination and technical and financial evaluation of proposals; determination of the content of technical assistance and identification of partners (e.g. central banks or financial system regulators).
2. Pilot implementation and evaluation.
3. Programme launch, implementation and evaluation.

Social protection of migrants

1. Investigate and analyse social security contribution mechanisms in countries of origin and of destination, regardless of migratory status.
2. Investigate and analyse international law, national laws and the experiences of other countries with social security and migration.
3. Determine the feasibility of implementing pension component portability agreements between social security institutions in the countries of origin and destination, for returning migrants.

Project governance

ECLAC will be responsible for the social protection component for migrants. IOM will be responsible for the following components: (i) consular protection and attention, and (ii) financial inclusion and investment of remittances. Links will be forged with national and municipal agencies responsible for migrants and displaced persons. Coordination will take place with organizations such as SICA and the Regional Conference on Migration, as well as with the Inter-American Conference on Social Security (ICSS).

Possible synergies with other initiatives

These actions will be in line with governments' national plans, and experiences will be shared through regional bodies. They will also be complemented by national financial inclusion initiatives, which have received technical and financial support from institutions including the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) through the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF), the Consultative Group to Assist the Poorest (CGAP), the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and others. They also complement the initiatives focused on migrants and their families supported by the Centre for Latin American Monetary Studies (CEMLA) and by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) through the Financing Facility for Remittances (FFR). Within the framework of the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP), the initiative can also interconnect with local productive development initiatives.

Duration

The consular protection and attention, financial inclusion and remittance investment components are estimated to take 36 months, while the social protection component for migrants will last 12 months.

Component	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12
Consular protection and attention												
Financial inclusion and investment of remittances												
Social protection of migrants												

Budget: US\$ 3,960,000

Proposal 4.19

Promoting investment by the diaspora, El Salvador



Implementing agencies

Secretariat of Trade and Investments, Presidential Commissioner for Strategic Projects, Ministry of Economic Affairs of El Salvador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Export and Investment Promotion Agency of El Salvador (PROESA), Development Bank of El Salvador (BANDESAL) and Central Reserve Bank of El Salvador.

Geographical coverage

El Salvador

Number of beneficiaries

The beneficiaries will number 1.5 million people (related to the number of Salvadorans who benefit from family remittance flows).

Main topics:

- Diaspora and migration
- Financial inclusion
- Productive investment
- Simplification of procedures
- Institutional strengthening

Context

The Salvadoran diaspora in the United States exceeds three million people. Most of them live in the States of California (34.9%), Texas (14.7%), New York (8.9%), Virginia (7.4%) and Maryland (7.2%), where they engage in such economic activities as commerce, construction and services (general, recreation, lodging, food and beverage preparation, education, health and social assistance). In 2019, El Salvador's

cash remittances were equal to 21% of its gross domestic product (GDP). In addition to remittances, the Salvadoran diaspora remains linked to its country of origin through such activities as private investments (real estate, productive activities), savings (pensions, health), knowledge and skills, charity, the nostalgia trade, and medical and leisure tourism.

The Salvadoran diaspora has a great potential for contributing to the country's economic and social development. However, there is currently no enabling environment or robust institutional structure to facilitate the mobilization of resources from Salvadorans abroad. Accordingly, one of the main planks in the Government of El Salvador's current foreign policy is to include the diaspora in investment and commercial development plans in their country of origin.

A 2019 study conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), with financial support from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), showed that more than 50% of Salvadoran migrants living in the United States intended to invest in their home country. Of those interviewed, 7% said they had invested in El Salvador in the last 12 months, in an average amount of US\$ 75,500. The main sectors for those investments were real estate, restaurants and manufacturing. In addition, half of the interviewees reported they intended to return, with retirement and setting up a business their primary motivations. The study's results revealed that 20% of the respondents had made donations in the last 12 months, to support schools, clinics, community centres, medicines for their communities, ambulances, electricity and drinking water projects and other similar endeavours.

However, diaspora investments in El Salvador face significant constraints, including mistrust in officialdom, the absence of counterparts or partners to operate productive activities in El Salvador, a lack of information on how to invest and a lack of public support. There are also restrictions on the use of and access to financial services and products in El Salvador, including deposit or savings accounts, loans and retirement savings. The main barriers to sending donations are low confidence in the institutions (38.2%), lack of information on how to do so (34%) and excessive transaction costs and complicated bureaucracy (14%).

Accordingly, the Government of El Salvador and ECLAC have designed a series of strategies aimed at facilitating and promoting the Salvadoran diaspora's financial inclusion, trade, investment and donations. This proposal is focused on managing resources to allow actions to be taken in the short and medium terms.

Objective

Promote and facilitate investments, financial inclusion and donations from the Salvadoran diaspora to El Salvador.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
1. Increased access to and use of financial products in El Salvador designed to expand the financial inclusion of the Salvadoran diaspora.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of procedures simplified and barriers removed (e.g. powers of attorney, verification of the single identity card (DUI), proof of income) for accessing financial products (e.g. electronic transfers, opening bank accounts, retirement funds, investment funds, personal insurance, bank loans, online purchases) targeted at the diaspora. 	To be defined according to the baseline.	36 months
2. Increased flow of diaspora trade and investment to El Salvador.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of financing mechanisms and instruments available to the Salvadoran diaspora (e.g. trusts, lines of credit, guarantee funds). Number of sector guides and project profiles aimed at the Salvadoran diaspora, including information related to investment opportunities (of social and productive interest), with their respective requirements, obligations, benefits and formalities involved. Design and launch of an online platform or module aimed at the diaspora, containing information related to sectoral investment opportunities, with their respective requirements, obligations, benefits and formalities involved. Establishment of an information and technical assistance desk for investment projects by the Salvadoran diaspora. Number of users of the online platform and information desk. Number of individuals trained in El Salvador and at Salvadoran embassies and consulates to assist the diaspora with investment issues. Number of Salvadorans living abroad attending business and investment meetings, seminars and forums (e.g. a forum similar to the one organized by the Ministry of Economic Affairs in Guatemala). Number of formalities and requirements simplified and reforms introduced affecting exports, imports and diaspora investments. Number of formalities simplified for establishing and operating diaspora investments. Design and publication of a promotion and outreach strategy about the support instruments available for diaspora commerce and investment. 	To be defined according to the baseline.	36 months
3. Facilitate the entry of diaspora donations into El Salvador.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of individuals trained at Salvadoran embassies and consulates to assist the diaspora with donation issues. Number of formalities and requirements simplified and reforms introduced affecting the entry of diaspora donations into El Salvador. Development and launch of an online platform or module for the diaspora, containing information on opportunities, steps and processes to secure donations from the Salvadoran diaspora. Development and launch of a promotion and outreach strategy. 	To be defined according to the baseline.	36 months
4. Improve the institutional governance of supports for the Salvadoran diaspora.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of initiatives undertaken by the Salvadoran diaspora advisory council. Number of partnerships and cooperation agreements entered into with organizations and chambers of Salvadorans abroad. Number of consultations of the directory of organizations and chambers of Salvadorans abroad. 	To be defined according to the baseline.	36 months

Main activities

Operational planning

- Define criteria and identify priorities for target populations (scope).
- Involve the relevant agencies and define their responsibilities.
- Identify key partners or allies who can contribute to achieving the expected results.
- Define the amounts of funding that each of the programme's participating agencies can commit.

- Identify the relevant regulatory framework, and review the Salvadoran financial system's criteria and rules applicable to the Salvadoran diaspora.
- Define mechanisms to promote the financial inclusion, commerce, investments and donations of the Salvadoran diaspora.

Pilot intervention plans.

- Identification of priority diaspora support instruments for pilot testing.
- Particular emphasis will be placed on the design and implementation of the proposal's following components:
 - Development of an online platform or module for the diaspora, containing information on sectoral investment opportunities, with their corresponding requirements, obligations, benefits and necessary formalities.
 - Establishment of an information and technical assistance desk for investment projects by the Salvadoran diaspora.
 - Development and launch of a strategy to promote and disseminate the support instruments to encourage commerce and investment among the diaspora.
 - Development of an online platform or module for the diaspora, containing information on opportunities, steps and processes to secure donations from the Salvadoran diaspora.
 - Development of a promotion and outreach strategy.
 - Access to a directory of organizations and chambers of Salvadorans abroad.
 - Design and implementation of a strategy to strengthen associations of Salvadorans abroad.

Design and launch of a promotion and outreach strategy.

- Define mechanisms and promotion and outreach strategy for the services, tools and instruments available to the Salvadoran diaspora.

Programme monitoring and evaluation.

Project governance

The activities will be implemented by the Government of El Salvador, through a technical council composed of the implementing agencies (Secretariat of Trade and Investments, Presidential Commissioner for Strategic Projects, Ministry of Economic Affairs of El Salvador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Export and Investment Promotion Agency of El Salvador (PROESA), Development Bank of El Salvador (BANDESAL) and Central Reserve Bank of El Salvador).

Possible synergies with other initiatives

- This is an innovative, unprecedented initiative in the Central American region.
- It offers synergies with other Government of El Salvador initiatives, such as the Investment Facilitation Plan, the 2019–2024 Business Development Plan, the Economic Activation Plan, the 2020–2050 El Salvador Trade and Investment Policy and the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP).

Duration

It is estimated that this initiative can be implemented in a period of 36 months.

Activities	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12
Operational planning												
Pilot intervention plans (design and prioritization of instruments)												
Pilot implementation and evaluation												
Launch of initiatives												
Promotion strategy												
Financing and technical support for proposal to promote diaspora investments												
Programme evaluation												

Budget. US\$ 3,000,000

Proposal 4.20

Labour insertion of Honduran migrant workers in the United States, Honduras



Implementing agencies:

Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, National Institute of Migration.

Geographical coverage:

Republic of Honduras (areas at greatest risk of irregular migration) and the United States of America (states with unmet labour demands).

Number of beneficiaries:

3,000 temporary migrant workers.

Main topics:

- Labour insertion
- Documented labour migration
- Decent work

Context

The Governments of the United States of America and the Republic of Honduras signed an agreement in September 2019 on an agricultural and non-agricultural temporary worker programme, which is intended to strengthen bilateral cooperation under the migration framework of the H-2A visa for agricultural workers and the H-2B visa for workers in the fields of reforestation, gardening, construction and cleaning.

H-2A and H-2B visas allow employers in the United States to hire temporary foreign workers in places where the local workforce is inadequate. In 2018, the United States admitted 298,228 temporary agricultural workers (H-2A visas) and 120,360 temporary non-agricultural workers (H-2B visas), of whom 350 and 787, respectively, were Honduran migrants. The countries with the largest numbers of temporary workers (H-2A and H-2B visas) are Mexico (372,548), Jamaica (13,728), Guatemala (7,482) and Canada (7,008); Honduras ranks eighth with 1,137.¹ For H-2A visas there is no time limit, whereas H-2B visas are valid for one year.

¹ See United States Department of Homeland Security, "Table 32. Nonimmigrant temporary worker admissions (I-94 only) by region and country of citizenship: fiscal year 2018", *2018 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics*, Washington, D.C., 2018 [online] <https://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics/yearbook/2018/table32>.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security of Honduras, through the Temporary Labour Migration Programme (PTTE) and in coordination with the United States Embassy, carries out the pre-selection of work visa applicants and interviews them. At the same time, companies seeking to hire migrant workers must comply with the legal regulations of the United States, according to the following procedure:

- The United States Department of Labor issues a certificate indicating that in the region where the company is located, there are no workers with the skills required or an interest in doing the job.
- United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) within the Department of Homeland Security issues authorization for the hiring of aliens through form I-129, and USCIS issues its approval by means of form I-797B, which is required to start the process.

An intent to hire can be communicated in two ways:

- The company can contact the Temporary Labour Migration Programme (PTTE) directly; the information will be validated through the Honduran Embassy based in the company's jurisdiction and also with the United States Embassy, in order to verify the following:
 - That the company hiring directly
 - That its operations are in order
 - That it has legal, criminal, civil and labour solvency in accordance with the laws of the United States.
- If a visit by the Honduran consulate to the company results in a contracting process, the Consulate submits the following to the PTTE:
 - Form I-797B
 - Form WR-USA01, with the full information needed to proceed with the operation.

To date, the Government of Honduras has a register of 1,112 pre-selected candidates, identified by means of a process carried out in six departments: Intibucá, Choluteca, Copán, Santa Bárbara, Cortés and Lempira.

Objectives

Improve the institutional capacities of Honduras to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration of persons to the United States of America in accordance with the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Increased number of Hondurans accessing the agricultural and non-agricultural seasonal worker programme in the United States.	Number of Honduran workers who make a safe, orderly and regular migration to the United States through the temporary agricultural and non-agricultural worker programme.	3 000	Annual
Fair wages and working conditions for all Honduran workers benefiting from the programme.	Proportion of Honduran migrants enrolled in the agricultural and non-agricultural temporary work programme who have fair wages and working conditions.	100%	Annual
Increased availability of temporary labour in compliance with the laws, rules and regulations of the United States and Honduras.	Number of Honduran nationals who meet the labour requirements for accessing the agricultural and non-agricultural seasonal worker programme.	3 000	Annual

Main activities

- Design and implement mechanisms, including brochures and information booths, to publicize the agricultural and non-agricultural temporary worker programme in areas at high risk of irregular migration.

- Design and implement mechanisms to identify, link and raise awareness among employers in potential destinations, to raise the interest of companies in the United States in receiving the services of Honduran temporary workers.
- Design and implement training mechanisms, both in the skills demanded by the programme and on how to apply.
- Establish a follow-up protocol for the recruitment process, at the points of origin and destination, including:
 - Verifying the transparency of the process.
 - Facilitating payment for the necessary formalities (passports, visas, etc.).
 - Ensuring that labour rights are upheld at the destination.

Project governance

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security will be in charge of publicizing the requirements and obligations for access to the agricultural and non-agricultural temporary worker programme, training the population both to meet the requirements and to apply for the programme, as well as implementing the protocol to guarantee the transparency of the process. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, through its consular network, will be responsible for identifying, linking and raising the awareness of potential companies in the United States, as well as for following up and monitoring the implementation of the programme, guaranteeing labour rights and generally attending to Honduran migrants. In turn, the National Institute of Migration, through its passport office, will be in charge of providing all the facilities required for the successful enrolment of applicants into the programme. These tasks are expected to be carried out in close coordination with the United States Embassy in Tegucigalpa and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Possible synergies with other initiatives:

Not applicable.

Duration:

2 years

Budget: US\$ 500,000

Annex

Other initiatives related to this thematic area under way in the subregion:

CDP proposal	National plans	Regional programmes	United Nations agencies and programmes	International cooperation	Financial institutions	Private sector, NGOs
Promoting regular labour migration and access to labour justice.	2018-2022 Strategic Government Plan (PEG) ("reducing irregular migration rates").		IOM, ILO			Private companies in the United States.

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Proposal 4.21

Productive investment of remittances, Honduras



Implementing agencies:

Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, migration authorities and migrant associations, Secretariat of Economic Development, Central Bank of Honduras, National Commission of Banks and Insurance Companies of Honduras, and Honduran development banks.

Geographical coverage:

Honduras

Number of beneficiaries:

Directly, 1,800,000 people, which corresponds to those Hondurans receiving remittances. Indirectly, covering the communities where those recipients live.

Main topics:

- Diaspora
- Remittances
- Financial inclusion
- Productive development

Context:

Migrants from Northern Central America and Mexico in the United States can make enormous economic contributions in both their countries of origin and their host countries. In the former, they are often the economic mainstay of their families and communities of origin, contributing to poverty reduction and the expansion of local economic activity. In their host countries, they increase the labour force (87% of migrants are of working age) and economic activity, and they bolster trade and financial flows between their countries of origin and destination.

Between 2005 and 2017, the population originating in Northern Central America residing in the United States doubled, from 2.4 million to 4.7 million people. In 2017, 20% of the population originating in Northern Central America came from Honduras. In addition, Honduras is one of the ten countries worldwide that enjoy Temporary Protected Status (TPS), which allows authorized work in the United States. Around 57,000 people are estimated to have that status.

Remittances sent from abroad to migrants' families in their countries of origin represent a considerable percentage of GDP. In Northern Central America, remittances are equal to 4.5 times foreign direct investment (FDI), 40% of exports, 77% of gross fixed capital formation and 95% of national savings. In addition, remittances represent a more stable source of funds than other flows, such as foreign portfolio investment. In Honduras, remittances account for 20.2% of GDP. Remittances are received by 83% of poor households in Northern Central America.

Most of these remittances are directed towards satisfying the basic needs of the recipient households (up to one third of the total is saved or invested, mainly in education and health) but their use for productive investment and entrepreneurship is limited, and that situation is even more pronounced in rural areas. Some of the factors that constrain the productive investment of remittances are the excessive fragmentation of the resources available to finance productive projects, low entrepreneurial capacities, low profitability of local investments, lack of confidence in macroeconomic stability, as well as the limited financial inclusion of remittance-receiving households, particularly in rural areas.

The steady flow of remittances opens up opportunities for access to a broader range of financial products and services that could help reduce the vulnerability of rural producers to extreme weather events. Remittances also enable financial institutions to develop and design specific financial products for this segment of the population. Remittances also contribute to local economic development through the creation and maintenance of local public goods. However, despite their economic importance in Northern Central America, there are as yet no comprehensive strategies to better leverage their impact on economic and social development.

Objectives

Strengthen the productive fabric in rural areas by encouraging the emergence of microenterprises, financial inclusion and the investment of remittances in productive activities.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Increased percentage of incoming remittances allocated to productive activities.	Average percentage of incoming family remittances allocated to productive activities.	15% among programme beneficiaries.	36 months
Growth in financial products and services for remittance recipients.	Percentage of financial products and services targeted at remittance recipients.	To be defined according to the baseline.	36 months
Increased use of financial products and services by remittance recipients.	Percentage use of financial products and services by remittance recipients.	To be defined according to the baseline.	36 months
Increase in economically scaled-up productive activities.	Increases for the following indicators: (i) Total added value (ii) Total investment (iii) Labour productivity	To be defined according to the baseline.	36 months
Increase in socially scaled-up productive activities.	(i) Quantity and quality of jobs generated by the beneficiary productive activities. (ii) Access to education and health.	To be defined according to the baseline.	36 months

Main activities:

Operational planning:

- Identify, adapt and, where appropriate, develop the regulatory framework that will support the programme.
- Define the criteria for selecting the target population (sectors, regions, etc.) and the requirements for organizations to participate.
- Establish a baseline of producers (initial diagnostic assessment).
- Identify the participating entities (public and private) and the financial resources to be committed.
- Design access mechanisms (one-stop shop) for the reception of proposals.
- Develop a strategy for the dissemination and technical and financial evaluation of proposals.
- Determine the content of technical assistance and identify national partners such as the Central Bank of Honduras and the Superintendency of Banks.
- Identify and commit the participation of potential financial agents for the resource disbursement.
- Train and strengthen the human resources of participating financial institutions to position financial products and services targeting remittance recipients.
- Publicize remittance-oriented financial products and services.
- Implement and evaluate pilot projects.
- Monitor and evaluate the programme.

Project governance

The project will be executed by a technical committee consisting of representatives of the Secretariat of Economic Development, the Secretariat of Finance, the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs and the financial sector.

Possible synergies with other initiatives

Within the Comprehensive Development Plan, this project is linked to the microinsurance and territorial development initiatives for the municipalities of the Dry Corridor of Honduras. It is also complemented by national financial inclusion initiatives, which have received technical and financial support from such institutions as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) through the Multilateral Investment Fund, the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP), the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and others.

It also complements the initiatives focused on migrants and their families supported by the Centre for Latin American Monetary Studies (CEMLA) and by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) through the Financing Facility for Remittances (FFR). Within the framework of the Comprehensive Development Plan, the project will be able to interconnect with local productive development initiatives.

Duration

It is estimated that 36 months will be needed for implementation.

Estimated budget: US\$ 2,000,000

Proposal 4.22

Portability of social security contributions for undocumented immigrant workers in the United States, Honduras



Implementing agencies:

Governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, with technical assistance from ECLAC.

Geographical coverage:

National, for migrants from Northern Central America (El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala) and Mexico working in the United States.

Number of beneficiaries:

15 million migrants from Northern Central America and Mexico residing in the United States, and their families in their countries of origin.¹

Main topics:

- Economy
- Work
- Social pensions
- Social protection

Context:

According to the bipartisan Institute for New Economic Thinking (INET), in 2016 undocumented migrants in the United States paid US\$ 13.3 billion into social security and US\$ 3.3 billion into Medicare. INET has estimated that in the first decade of this century, the total contribution to social security made by undocumented migrants amounted to US\$ 100 billion, with another US\$ 35.1 billion to the Medicare fund.

Undocumented migrants, however, receive no benefit from those payments from their wages, which constitutes a failure by the State to comply with the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention of 1975 (ILO Convention No. 143), which covers regular and irregular migration and states that all migrants, regardless of their status, should have access to fundamental rights and to equal

¹ It is estimated that in 2015 there were 12.1 million Mexicans, 1.2 million Salvadorans, 880,000 Guatemalans and 550,000 Hondurans living in the United States. See Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Atlas of migration in Northern Central America* (LC/PUB.2018/23), Santiago, 2018.

opportunities in access to employment. At the same time, in El Salvador and Mexico, only a third of the employed population contribute to the national pension system, while the corresponding figure for Honduras is below 20%.

In view of that situation, social protection coverage for migrants must be explored: specifically, the possibility of them contributing to social security both in the destination country, to secure coverage for health risks, and in their countries of origin, to cover the members of their families who stayed behind. Alternatives for ensuring the portability of pension contributions must also be explored, so that migrants returning to their countries of origin do not lose the funds they have saved towards their old-age pensions. This requires analysing the viability of implementing a strategy so that migrants can use a part of the income they earn in the United States or Mexico to contribute to their home countries' social security systems; the immediate benefit of this would be to give contributors and their families access to the health system, and the long-term benefit would be the possibility of receiving a pension upon their return. The feasibility of strategies to ensure the portability of contributions made by migrants to social security and Medicare must also be analysed.

Objective

Obtain information on the current situation as regards social protection for migrants (and their dependants) and on the viability of adopting portability schemes (for the pension component) and remote contribution mechanisms to cover health risks for migrants' dependants who remain in the country of origin.

Expected outcomes, progress indicators and goals

Expected outcome	Indicator	Goal	Period
Detailed understanding of social security contribution mechanisms.	Number of analyses of social security contribution mechanisms.	Five (Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and United States).	1 year
Determine the viability of implementing portability agreements for the pension component, and if appropriate, draft a proposal.	Number of feasibility studies for the implementation of bilateral inter-institutional agreements (social security).	One study into the current portability situation between countries across the world.	1 year
Determine the feasibility of implementing a strategy for contributions to the social security health component in countries of origin and, if applicable, develop the strategy.	Number of feasibility studies for the implementation of strategies for contributing to the health component of social security systems in countries of origin.	One study into the feasibility of implementing such a strategy.	1 year

Main activities

- Investigate and analyse social security contribution mechanisms in countries of origin and destination, regardless of migratory status.
- Investigate and analyse international law, national laws and the experiences of other countries with social security and migration, to determine the viability of implementing pension portability agreements between social security systems in countries of origin and destination in the event of migrants returning home, so that previous contributions are not lost, and, if viable, develop a proposal.
- Investigate and analyse international law, national laws and the experiences of other countries with social security and migration, to determine the feasibility of a strategy for migrants, regardless of status, to contribute to their home countries' social security systems to provide their dependants with health coverage, and, if feasible, develop the strategy.

Project governance

The proposal will be implemented by expert consultants coordinated by ECLAC.

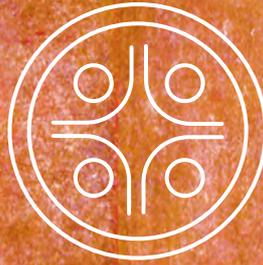
Possible synergies with other initiatives

Not applicable.

Duration

1 year

Estimated budget: to be defined



The Comprehensive Development Plan aims to create a sustainable development space and generate opportunities to improve the quality of life of the people of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and south-southeast Mexico, thus making migration a choice rather than an obligation. This is an joined up response by the United Nations system, which seeks to generate synergies and coordinate actions with the countries at the centre and the support of subregional integration institutions.



UNITED NATIONS

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Special Coordination Mechanism

