IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet

Basic Information

Title of case study	COMDEKS Project: Conservation Area Jiquilisco Bay - Bajo Lempa - Jaltepeque Estuary
Submitting IPSI member organization(s)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Other contributing organization(s)	Ministry of the Environment Japan (MOEJ), SCBD, UNU
Author(s) and affiliation(s)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Format of case study	Manuscript	Language	English
Keywords	Fisheries management, Mangroves, Traditional knowledge, Livelihood improvement
Date of submission	6 March 2017
Web link	http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:6012/comdeks_ii_case_study_publication.pdf#page=94

Geographical Information

Country	El Salvador	Location(s)	La Paz, San Vicente and Usulutan Departments
Longitude/latitude or Google Maps link		https://www.google.com/maps/@13.3433763,-88.8161127,11z	

Ecosystem(s)

Forest	x	Grassland		Agricultural	x	In-land water	x	Coastal	x
Dryland		Mountain		Urban/peri-urban		Other			

Socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the area

Jiquilisco Bay and the Jaltepeque Estuary are the country's most important ecological corridors. The landscape is composed of a diverse mosaic of ecosystems, including agro-, coastal, marine, and natural forest ecosystems that extend some 10 km inland. Land use ranges from mangroves in the coastal area to the production of shrimp, coconuts, sugarcane, livestock, fruit, basic grains, and vegetables in some of the wetlands.

Description of human-nature interactions in the area

The Lempa River flows through Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, and land use requires international agreements and compliance. Due to their vulnerability and significance for biodiversity, the Jiquilisco Bay and the Jaltepeque Estuary were declared as protected sites by the Ramsar Convention. The target landscape comprises a considerable number of scenic spots and historical sites with high tourist potential. Most communities' livelihoods depend on subsistence activities.

Contents

Status	Ongoing	Period	06/2011 – 12/2017

Rationale

Land use changes, traditional practices of shifting agriculture, pressure on mangrove ecosystems, and pollution are some of the factors limiting the quality of life in the area, where ecosystem goods and services could provide for rural ecotourism, carbon sequestration, reduction of vulnerability to natural disasters, water production, fisheries and aquaculture, sustainably produced wood and non-timber forest products, certified sustainable agriculture and biodiversity conservation.

Objectives

Provision of ecosystem services improved through actions for conservation and sustainable use; Agricultural productivity improved through sustainable agricultural practices; Options for alternative livelihoods promoted, increasing access to markets and financial institutions; Institutional capacities of organizations strengthened, promoting exchange of knowledge on efficient use of resources and facilitating participatory decision making.

Activities and/or practices employed

Conserving and restoring mangroves and gallery forests; Practicing sustainable agriculture, resurrecting traditional crops, and converting to organic agriculture; Improving local fisheries management; Promoting sustainable energy options; Strengthening local tourism; Developing local handicrafts; Conducting project monitoring and evaluation

Results

The area of mangrove coverage has increased by 760 hectares, helping to mitigate flooding; Nearly 160 families now use sustainable agricultural practices; Fisheries management in the area has improved; 250 families took part in training workshops for energy-efficient cooking; Tourist infrastructure has been improved through lodgings, docks, and boating facilities; 40 families have been trained in production of local handicrafts; Each project has created a local youth team for monitoring and evaluation
Lessons learned
Working with a community with experience in project implementation increased effectiveness and success; Working with leaders and directors of community development associations promoted trust, eased implementation, and helped ensure equal participation in activities, and also helped recovery of ancestral knowledge; Continuous capacity building nurtures the social fabric in communities and improves local governance, while project results build confidence in local leaders.
Key messages
The projects have strengthened the capacities of the local community development associations in four key areas: ability to restore mangrove forests as a primary ecosystem; ability to reform local agriculture so that it is more valuable and less polluting; ability to restructure local fisheries and create new sources of livelihood; and ability to preserve ancestral knowledge.

Relationship to other IPSI activities	This case study is part of the COMDEKS Project
Funding	Funding of USD 280,000.00 was provided by the Japan Biodiversity Fund through the GEF Small Grants Programme for COMDEKS El Salvador.

Contributions to Global Agendas

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the "direct" or "indirect" contributions to the following global agendas respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/)

Strategic Goal A				Strategic Goal B					
●			●	●	●	●			●
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Strategic Goal C			Strategic Goal D			Strategic Goal E			
●	●	■	■	●			■	■	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs)

●	●					●	■	
1 NO POVERTY	2 ZERO HUNGER	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	5 GENDER EQUALITY	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
	●	■		●	●			
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	13 CLIMATE ACTION	14 LIFE BELOW WATER	15 LIFE ON LAND	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	