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SNAPSHOT

Promoting Cleaner Production through Public-Private Partnerships

Public and private sectors join the “Cleaner Production Committee” aiming to promote cleaner production nation-wide.



*Photo: USAID PRS Project
Companies in the coffee industry apply cleaner production mechanisms.*

“Because of the potential economic, social and environmental impact that agriculture has in Guatemala, we see this as an opportunity to improve the competitiveness and environmental performance of the country; strengthening this sector through cleaner production incentives... is a way to promote implementation of environmental protection in agriculture, yet with a competitive, profitable and sustainable approach.”

Luis Muñoz
Executive Director, Centro
Guatemalteco de Producción más
Limpia

The National Cleaner Production Policy states that in order to promote participation and cooperation amongst diverse actors in the public and private sectors it is necessary to establish an institutional structure. It also stresses the importance of promoting coordination between cross-cutting sectors and institutions in order to achieve the timely implementation of cleaner production strategies in Guatemala. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN, Spanish acronym), as the government agency responsible for implementing this policy, adopted this public-private partnership strategy and formalized the Committee in the year 2012 through a decree.

The USAID Policy Regulatory Support for Economic Growth (PRS) Project supported MARN by facilitating the analysis and discussion of the contents, functions, and organizational structure of the committee. Additionally, the PRS Project also contributed legal advice to the development of the proposed ministerial agreement creating the Cleaner Production Committee.

The Committee creates a formal and open space for dialogue which includes the participation of MARN as the Committee Chair and members such as the Ministries of Agriculture, Economy, and Public Health, the Chamber of Industry, the Coordinating-Committee of Agriculture, Commerce, Industry and Finance Associations (CACIF), the Guatemalan Export Association, the University of San Carlos, the University del Valle, as well as representation from the non-profit sector such as the Cleaner Production Center. By incentivizing cleaner production, the Committee aims to increase the quality and competitiveness of Guatemalan goods in the local and regional markets, while effectively protecting the environment. These public-private partnerships for cleaner production will also allow for the adoption of appropriate technologies that will contribute to mitigating the effects of climate change.

Telling Our Story

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