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RECURSOS ACUÁTICOS Y ALTERNATIVAS ECONÓMICAS**

# USAID REGIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF AQUATIC RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES



**DELIVERABLE: FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OCTOBER 2012 - SEPTEMBER  
2013**

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**Contract No. EPP-I-00-04-00020-00  
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The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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## ACRONYMS

<b>AMBHLI</b>	Honduran Miskita Association for disabled divers.*
<b>ANAM</b>	National Environmental Authority of Panamá
<b>APAIB</b>	Bruce Lagoon Indigenous Association of Fishermen
<b>APBGADH</b>	Diver´s Protective Association from Gracias a Dios Honduras.
<b>ARAP</b>	Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama.
<b>ASPESCU</b>	Artisanal Fishermen Association from El Cuco Beach
<b>BCIE</b>	Central American Bank for Economic Integration
<b>BIOMARCC</b>	Marine Coastal Biodiversity Project in Costa Rica – Climate Change
<b>BRITPUTTANGI</b>	Women Artisanal Fisheries Enterprise from Britputtangi, Honduras
<b>BUKARIMAT</b>	Women Association in Miskita Hd. Butuka Karma Taura Iwi Miskita
<b>CAMBio</b>	Central American Markets for Biodiversity Projects
<b>CBMAP</b>	Atlantic Panamanian Mesoamerican Biological Corridor (GEF Project)
<b>CCAD</b>	Central American Commission for Environment and Development
<b>CEMPROMYPE</b>	Center for the Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises in Central America
<b>COPACAYOS</b>	Artisanal Fisheries Cooperative from Cayos Miskitos R.L (Nicaragua)
<b>COTR</b>	Contracting Officer Representative USAID
<b>CVC</b>	Control and Surveillance Committee
<b>DAKNI</b>	Dakna Tak – Aslika Miskito Honduran Association
<b>DIGEPESCA</b>	General Directorate of Fisheries of Honduras
<b>ECOPESCA</b>	Fisheries and Biodiversity Project for GOF from Friends of Earth from Spain
<b>ERIMC</b>	Regional Research Strategy for Coastal and Marine Resources
<b>FAO</b>	United Nations Organization for Food and Agriculture
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility Trust Fund - UNDP
<b>GIZ</b>	German Society for International Cooperation
<b>GOF</b>	Gulf of Fonseca
<b>GOH</b>	Gulf of Honduras
<b>ICAPO</b>	Eastern Pacific Hawksbill Initiative*
<b>ICF</b>	Forestry Institute Conservation – Honduras
<b>INATEC</b>	Technical Institute in Nicaragua
<b>INPESCA</b>	Fisheries and Aquaculture Institute in Nicaragua
<b>ITQ</b>	Individual Transferable Quotas
<b>KRA</b>	Key Result Area
<b>USAID/MAREA</b>	USAID Regional Program for the Management of Aquatic Resources and Economic Alternatives
<b>MARENA</b>	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Nicaragua
<b>MARNELS</b>	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of El Salvador
<b>MARN GT</b>	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Guatemala
<b>MN</b>	Nautical miles
<b>MNMACC</b>	Natural Marine Monument of Cayos Cochinos Archipelago in Honduras
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>OSPESCA</b>	Organization for the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector for the Central American Isthmus
<b>ONG</b>	Non governmental organizations
<b>PAR TIBURON</b>	Regional Action Plan for the Management and Conservation of Sharks in Central America
<b>PCA</b>	Planning and Conservation Areas
<b>PMU</b>	Program Management Unit at Chemonics International
<b>POA</b>	Annual Operation Plan

<b>PRONEGOCIOS</b>	Program for Rural Business Development – Honduras*
<b>PNUD</b>	United Nations Program for Development*
<b>RAAN</b>	North Atlantic Autonomous Region – Nicaragua*
<b>SERNA</b>	Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources in Honduras*
<b>SICA</b>	Central America Integration System*
<b>SG-SICA</b>	General Secretariat of the Central American Integration System*
<b>TNC</b>	The Nature Conservancy
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nation Organization for Education, Sciences and Culture
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>WCS</b>	Wildlife Conservation Society
<b>WIDECAST</b>	Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network
<b>WWF</b>	World Wildlife Conservation Fund

\* English translation of Spanish Acronyms

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The USAID Regional Program for the Management of Aquatic Resources and Economic Alternatives (hereafter Regional Program), Task Order 5 under the WATER II IQC Contract Number EPP-I-00-04-00020-00, was awarded to Chemonics International Inc. in March 2010, and will commence its fourth and final year of implementation on October 1, 2013 working with its national and regional counterparts: CCAD, OSPESCA and USAID/El Salvador. The program will end on September 30, 2014.

This annual report is based on POA 2012 – 2013, submitted to and approved by USAID. The objective of the Regional Program is to reduce the threats of unsustainable fishing and coastal development, laying the foundations to foster rights- and market-based mechanisms that strengthen coastal and marine resources management in Central America. It supports biodiversity conservation targeting marine species threatened by fishing with an emphasis on ecosystem management, working closely with the fisheries and environmental authorities. POA FY13 focused on the following three areas:

1. Implement production projects under improved management of certain target species through implementation of rights- and market-based (buyer-centered) mechanisms.
2. Establish economic alternatives by evaluating and acting on production and marketing chains of marine and coastal goods and services supplied by artisan fishermen. These alternatives should generate sales through viable businesses that adopt best practices for fisheries, a market-driven approach, and occupational safety standards, particularly on the Honduran and Nicaraguan Miskito Coast.
3. Promote the sustainable productivity of marine systems by conserving their biodiversity through an ecosystem based approach that includes tools to improve compliance with fisheries laws and regulations, working in conjunction with OSPESCA and CCAD.

USAID conducted an internal technical audit of the Regional Program from April to June, 2013. The results of this audit were incorporated into program implementation and provide the structure for this report.

It is worth noting that this fiscal year the Regional Program met life of project targets for the following seven out of twenty indicators:

- Indicator 4. Number of people from fisheries and environment governmental and non-governmental institutions trained (2,347 professionals).
- Indicator 5. Number of regional mechanisms implemented to foster research and provide information for the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources, by setting up a site on Scribd, with over 221 publications shared.
- Indicator 6. Number of technical and scientific articles on coastal and marine resources published with program support (45 publications to date).
- Indicator 9. Number of artisan and industrial fishermen trained on best fisheries practices, with emphasis on rights- and/or market-based mechanisms; 3,919 fishermen were trained this fiscal year, for a total of 6,401 to date.
- Indicator 11. Percentage increase of total harvest of target species under rights – based mechanisms and best fisheries practices, which is just about 24.4%.

- Indicator 14. Number of plans for coral reef and mangrove management to adapt and build resilience to climate change drafted, adopted, or implemented, with 12 plans already done.
- Indicator 19 Value of non-USG funds leveraged to co-finance conservation efforts, productive projects for sustainable fisheries, sustainable tourism, and handicrafts (just over [REDACTED]).

The Regional Program will continue to work in some of these areas, as they contribute to achieving the targets for other indicators. It is clear, however, that it will exceed the contractual targets for at least several indicators.

The program has effectively consolidated the buyer-centered strategy, forging partnerships with supermarket chains like Super Selectos and Walmart, international buyers like NETUNO and DARDEN in the United States, and restaurants in the region such as Product C and Café Café. These commercial ties involve at least 12 cooperatives and associations in the Central American region and directly benefit over 600 artisan fishermen. In partnership with cooperative groups or first- and second-tier buyers, the program has promoted best practices in fisheries management and the sale of products with value added.

The USAID Regional Program has two Strategic Objectives:

1. Promote effective monitoring and enforcement of coastal and marine resources polices and legislation with an emphasis on compliance; and
2. Encourage rights-based and market-based mechanisms and management incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources, with an emphasis on ecosystem-based approaches to management.

The following are the program’s most relevant results this period:

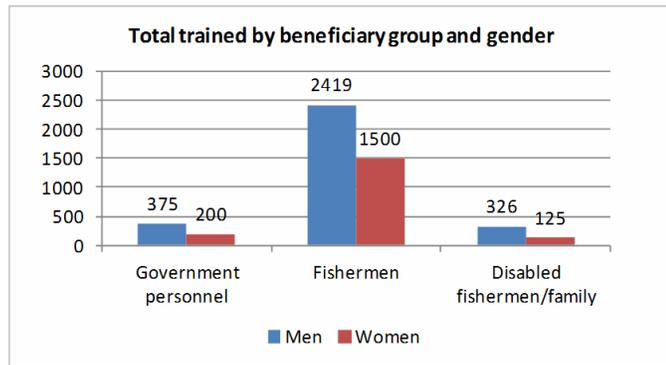
- A total US [REDACTED] in sales of products harvested under best practices and rights-based mechanisms this fiscal year, for a cumulative total of US [REDACTED].
- US [REDACTED] leveraged (for a cumulative total of US [REDACTED]) through the program’s counterparts and private sector groups, exceeding the life of project target.
- The Regional Program is promoting a portfolio of 33 economic alternatives projects, 20 of which are already generating economic benefits in the four target sites. These activities, which emphasize best management practices, rights-based mechanisms, and a market-driven approach, directly benefit over 1,170 fishermen and their families.
- The NatGeo platform is operating in Roatán, Honduras, and Bocas del Toro, Panama. Sales records and reports reflect [REDACTED] in incremental sales for the six month period from January to June 2013, in both sites. As an example of local buy-in, using its own resources and in conjunction with the private sector, the government of Honduras has



Graphic 1. Progress results in leverage and sales achieved in 2012 and 2013.

called for nominations to scale up this program to the entire department of Bay Islands, including Utila and Guanaja.

- More than 570 government technical staff, NGO representatives, and about 3,900 fishermen and disabled divers in the seven countries have been trained on topics including access rights, species and ecosystem management plans, co-management of protected areas, best fisheries practices, enforcement of fisheries laws and regulations, development of a research tool, and the fisheries-environment agenda.



Graphic 2. Total people trained by sector and gender for FY13

- The closed season for Nassau Grouper was harmonized in all of the countries that make up the Gulf of Honduras. This was one of the recommendations on management and best practices set out in the management plan prepared with assistance from the USAID Program.
- The draft Regional Strategy for Coastal Marine Research in Central America was finalized and seven proposed national strategies were delivered. The regional proposal is pending review by CCAD and OSPESCA and will be circulated and consulted with the countries prior to adopting a final version for the region.

- Four countries in the region (Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras and Nicaragua) have approved at least the experimental use of suripera nets for artisan shrimp fishing in coastal waters, which reinforces access rights for artisanal fishermen for a specific use. In Honduras, the SAG adopted a ministerial agreement for use of suripera nets on the Honduran Miskito Coast as an economic alternatives pilot.



Foto Helena Miranda

Randy Halock, President of the Fishermen Association of Puerto Lempira, was trained in Nicaragua on the use and production of "suripera" nets. Adoni Cubas, Program Site Coordinator, shows the three-bag net used to fish white shrimp. Other fishermen from the Miskito Coast of Honduras are also learning this new technique.

- Two operational protocol for crimes against coastal and marine resources were introduced in pilot sites in Central America: La Unión, Gulf of Fonseca and Bay Islands, Honduras. Compendiums of coastal-marine laws were used for training on implementation of the protocols in the two sites.
- Considerable progress was made on the Regional Agenda for Fisheries and the Environment in Central America, with preliminary drafts of five national agendas and one regional agenda draft was finalized.
- With technical support from the USAID program, the MARN drafted a Policy on Management of Coastal and Marine Resources in El Salvador. By law, the minister must now forward it to Congress for review.

- Validation of the mangrove cockle (*curil*) management plan by the three countries of the Gulf of Fonseca. The plan is now being used to promote rights-based mechanisms such as concessions or plans for using these resources approved by the relevant authorities. Nicaragua has awarded one concession and the other four are in process.
- A climate change vulnerability study for the entire Central American Caribbean coast was completed in August 2013.
- Five climate change adaptation plans were drafted for protected marine and coastal areas in the Gulf of Honduras: Port Honduras Marine Reserve in Belize, Punta de Manabique Wildlife Refuge and Sarstoon River Multiple Use Area in Guatemala, and the Cochinol Keys Archipelago Natural Monument and Sandy Bay in Honduras.
- National climate change adaptation plans for the Caribbean coast of Honduras, Guatemala, and Belize were prepared and submitted.
- Honduras (SERNA) has officially adopted as national policy the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan of Action, which is based on the proposed climate change adaptation plan prepared by the Program.
- The 2012 sea turtle nesting season ended in December with a total 527,512 hatchlings reported. Combined with the figures from the 2011 season, the life of project total of sea turtle hatchlings (mainly hawksbill and leatherback) protected and released is 943,697. As of August, the first 19,041 hatchlings of the 2013 season were reported in the Program's two sites: Cahuita-Bocas del Toro-Ngöbe Bugle district in Costa Rica-Panama and Gulf of Fonseca in Nicaragua-Honduras-El Salvador.
- A communications efforts and awareness for sustainable shark fishing in Central America was designed and implemented.
- USAID conducted an internal audit at the end of this fiscal year. It served as the basis for the implementation plan for the program's final year, facilitating priority-setting and a reorganization of activities and reporting based on the contractual results.



ICAPO's local staff monitoring Hawksbill nesting sites in Bahia Jiquilisco, El Salvador. Photo credit: ICAPO

# SECTION I: APPROACH, ADMINISTRATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

## A. APPROACH



Map 1: Location of the USAID/MAREA Regional Program's offices (One of a series of maps prepared by the Program).

In its fourth Annual Report, the Regional Program reports on the results set out in the 2012- 2013 work plan. Despite a changing context for its activities, the adaptability of the program, its stakeholders, and the implementing team enabled it to adhere to the four priorities established in the POA approved by USAID, which are:

1. Support and promotion of economic alternatives at sea (fisheries) that generate more and better incomes for fishermen, their families and communities.
2. Continuous income-generation from commercial fishing under best practices.
3. Conservation and protection of the program's target ecosystems and species, so that they contribute to productivity.
4. Harmonization of policies, laws and regulations for improved management of coastal-marine resources in Central America.

This fourth report reflects very good progress in most program indicators. Specifically, the Program has already exceeded life of project targets for seven indicators. It has doubled sales outcomes and made enormous strides in processes conducive to its expected results in the area of policy and consolidating transparency in decision-making. It has generated reliable data on catch volumes, application of better management practices, and the introduction of mechanisms for the sale of products and services under improved practices.

One of the program's main activities this reporting period was to provide technical and management assistance related to the moratorium on spiny lobster diving in the Caribbean originally scheduled for March 2013. At the request of the countries most affected by this, Honduras and Nicaragua, the moratorium did not take effect on March 2013, although it is supposed to enter into force as soon as possible. This decision acted as a disincentive for closing down diving operations and instituting best practices. Nonetheless, the USAID Program provided technical inputs and continued to work with considerable success with entrepreneurs, fishermen and governments still interested in the moratorium or a voluntary reduction in diving fisheries.



Delivery of 1,800 lobster traps, 20 suripera nets for white shrimp, 8 outboard motors, 37 coolers, one electric generator, and materials for a cold chain in the Miskito Coast of Honduras. (Photo Regional Program)

From April to July 2013, USAID assigned a team of internal auditors to evaluate USAID's performance in the supervision and technical monitoring of the program. This technical audit was useful in strengthening the team's plan for closing down the program. It recommended focusing on the 11 contractual results as amended. In keeping with these recommendations, this report is structured around the progress the program has made in achieving the 11 results and their 20 indicators.

## *B. RESOURCES*

### **B.1 Staff**

With support from the PMU, the Regional Program team developed the POA 2012-2013, which informed the work plan created for the third implementation year. The Regional Program's strategies were refocused to strengthen and step up the pace of activities related to economic alternatives, marketing and sales of fish products obtained under improved practices, and financing to meet the targets for the third year. The team anticipated an increase in activities and their budgets that would require administrative and financial support to ensure efficient implementation this fiscal year.

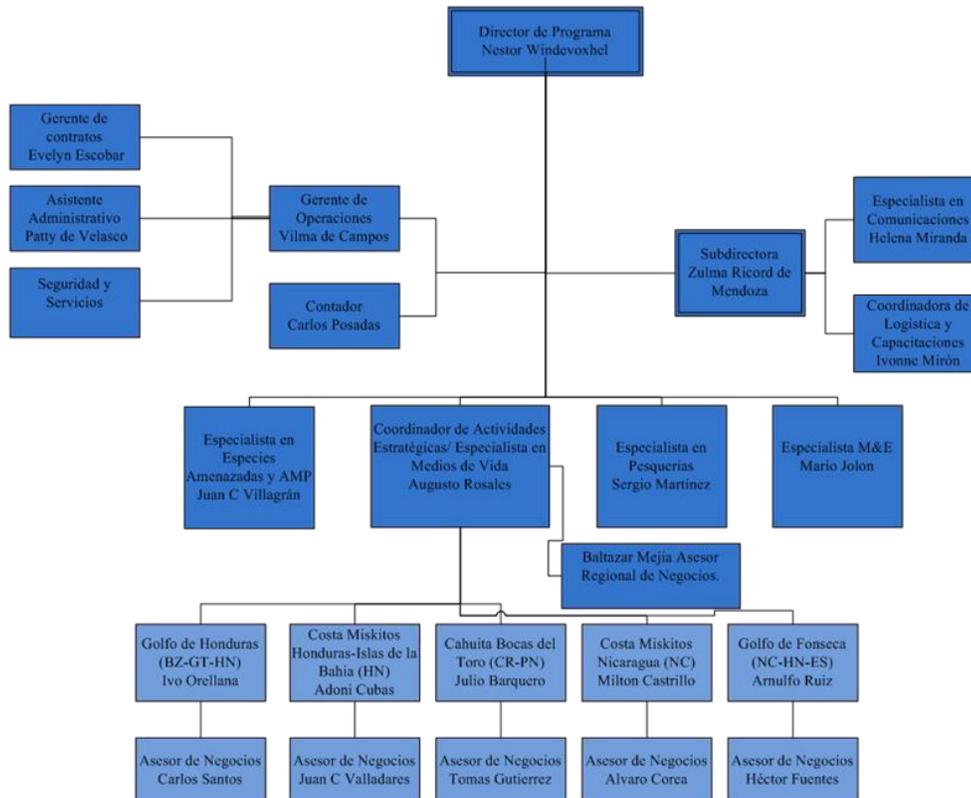
At the end of FY 2011 – 2012, the program planned to restructure and strengthen its technical and administrative staff as shown in the organizational chart and current staff roster. The program planned for 28 permanent staff as of December 2012. It contracted an operations manager in October and placed subcontracting under the responsibility of another staff person with experience in USAID rules and procedures. The contracts area was systematized to improve control and oversight of implementation, progress and budget execution by subcontractors.

The program contracted business advisors for FY 2013 in its target sites in the Gulf of Fonseca, and the Honduran and Nicaraguan Miskito Coasts, which it had identified as having the most productive development activities. Advisors for Guatemala and Boca del Toro were contracted for six months. The program also contracted a marketing specialist as permanent staff and has

continued to follow up with the sites on sales of products obtained under best practices, identifying potential buyers, and the needs for strategic alliances with potential partners.

As a measure to increase on site supervision and monitoring at Puerto Lempira, Honduras, the Program hired local fisheries marketing specialists to promote market linkages to those fishermen that implement best fisheries practices.

The Regional Program operated under the following organizational chart in its third year of implementation.



The program also decided to contract administrative assistants for the site coordinators to support administration and training logistics. This would free up the site coordinators to spend more time on technical activities, strengthening the program’s relationships with local stakeholders, and participating in local workshops and meetings related to the targets and results. The program also decided to contract an accounting assistant beginning in January 2013, since the accountant had taken on budget monitoring responsibilities with the PMU. By strengthening its administrative area, the program has been able to monitor field activities more closely to ensure proper budget execution.

## B.2 Subcontractors

The program continued to work with the subcontractors in the consortium: WWF, TNC, WCS, SOLIMAR, STC, and IQC members, and with ICAPO and WIDECAS on sea turtles, economic alternatives, and conservation. ICAPO is working at the Gulf of Fonseca site and WIDECAS in Cahuita-Bocas del Toro.

The Regional Program’s main contributions and the progress made through the work of its subcontractors in its third year are presented below:

Sub-Contractor	Results and contributions in FY 3
<p><b>Wildlife Conservation Society – WCS</b></p> <p>Glover’s Reef Marine Reserve in Belize</p> <p>Issue: Special licensing system for fisheries and database for lobster and conch harvests in Glover’s Reef</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring report on lobster, conch, and fin fisheries in Glover’s Reef Marine Reserve</li> <li>• Data registries on volume and value of species harvested by artisan fishermen with special licenses in GRMR</li> <li>• Reports on relevant activities, data, and other information related to landings and fishing effort in the Glover’s Reef Marine Reserve</li> <li>• Specific data and information on lobster, conch, and fin fish, which WCS is sampling monthly, tabulated sales of fisheries products obtained under best practices and the controlled management system for Glover’s Reef Marine Reserve:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 First progress report on managed access of fishing effort and total catch in GRMR</li> <li>2 Second progress report on managed access of fishing effort and total catch in GRMR.</li> <li>3 Third progress report on managed access of fishing effort and total catch in GRMR.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<p><b>The Nature Conservancy, TNC</b></p> <p>Issue: Harmonization of the Nassau Grouper closed season in the Gulf of Honduras; draft climate change adaptation plans and co-management mechanisms for Bay Islands; support for the creation or expansion of no take zones in Port Honduras Marine Reserve.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official agreement on harmonization of the Nassau Grouper closed season presented to the Honduran fisheries authorities</li> <li>• Proposed climate change adaptation plans adopted by the countries of the GOH: Guatemala, Honduras and Belize</li> <li>• Rapid Ecological Assessment of the Cochinis Keys coral reef for the proposed management plan</li> <li>• Official adoption of the climate change adaptation plan by the Government of Honduras</li> <li>• Fisheries studies for the proposed expansion of no take zones in Port Honduras Marine Reserve.</li> <li>• Proposed co-management mechanism identified with ICF for the Bay Islands Protected Area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Solimar International</b></p> <p>Issue: Sustainable tourism; monitoring and sales by participating businesses in the NatGeo geotourism platform</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring and documentation of incremental sales by businesses participating in the geotourism platform in Bocas del Toro, Panama, and Roatán, Honduras.</li> <li>• Drafted and currently implementing a marketing plan to promote the geotourism platform and attract more visitors to the program’s target sites.</li> <li>• The first two quarterly sales reports for calendar year 2013 (January - March and April – June)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sea Turtle Conservancy STC</b></p> <p>Issue: Sea turtle conservation in two sites: BT-Cahuita</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leatherback and hawksbill nest and hatchling protection in Ngobe Bugle district and Bluff Beach, Panama</li> <li>• Sea turtle conservation plan for Ngobe Bugle district</li> <li>• Design and implementation of a community “sea turtle watchers” plan in Bluff Beach, Bocas del Toro, Panama</li> </ul>
<p><b>World Wildlife Fund WWF</b></p> <p>Issue: Traceability system for spiny lobster, Miskito Coast, Honduras</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traceability system designed in consultation with packing houses, fleet owners, buyers, and authorities in Honduras.</li> <li>• Three vessels are participating in the traceability system, which is currently in its pilot phase at sea, to document best lobster fishing practices from harvest to sale to U.S. buyers</li> </ul>

<b>Eastern Pacific Hawksbill Initiative – ICAPO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hawksbill turtle nest and hatchling protection in Jiquilisco Bay, El Salvador, and Estero Padre Ramos, Nicaragua</li> <li>• Design and implementing a Scientific Volunteer Program associated with hawksbill turtle conservation in the Gulf of Fonseca.</li> </ul>
Issue: Hawksbill turtle conservation in GoF	
<b>Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Network WIDECAST</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leatherback and hawksbill nest and hatchling protection in the Moín-Cahuita-Bocas del Toro, Costa Rica-Panama binational area</li> <li>• Feasibility study on organizing a Central America-wide artisans network of products associated with marine conservation</li> <li>• Establishment of a binational partnership for sea turtle conservation on the Caribbean coast of Costa Rica and Panama</li> </ul>
Issue: Sea turtles and economic alternatives	

### C. PROCESSES AND STRATEGIES

#### C.1 Program positioning

##### With local and national authorities and strategic partners:

In its third year of implementation, the Regional Program focused on two communication strategies with (a) contact with local and national authorities to follow up on implementation in the field, such as on the Nicaraguan Miskito Coast, Bocas del Toro and Gulf of Fonseca, where some of the accomplishments have exceeded all expectations;



Local authorities from 7 government institutions in La Union, El Salvador work on validating the protocol to take action against the illicit use of coastal marine resources. La Union will be the pilot site to implement the Monitor, Control, and Surveillance Strategy in Central America. Photo: Helena Miranda

(b) Communication and periodic follow-up with regional partners OSPESCA and CCAD through the Program’s Executive Committee. The program has presented updates to these two entities on processes, intermediate deliverables, and documents generated by its different components, including climate change, research, and intersectoral agendas. It is collaborating with them to obtain feedback, which has taken place slowly but systematically. USAID has played a key and positive role on this follow-up committee and the requests that it endorses and prioritizes have received the most effective responses from CCAD and OSPESCA.

## SECTION II: DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS, INDICATORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

This section presents progress in the Regional Program's activities from October 2012 to September 2013. The narrative is structured around the program's two Strategic Objectives and 11 contractual Results, with a brief description of activities to achieve the targets based on the 20 indicators set out in the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan. Finally, it presents a table of activities planned for first quarter FY13.

### **Strategic Objective I. Promote effective monitoring and enforcement of and compliance with coastal and marine resources, policies and legislation.**

#### *A. RESULTS UNDER STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE I.*

#### ***Result 1: All Central American countries have adopted and are implementing harmonized best management practices for the sustainable use of target species and their marine resources***

The Regional Program promoted key harmonization agreements and processes and a legislative review leading to the adoption of regulatory and strategic instruments. The Honduran government adopted two regulations, one on Nassau Grouper, one of the program's target species, and another on the use of suripera nets for coastal shrimp harvesting in the Honduran Caribbean in the Gulf of Honduras.



Above the Nassau Grouper, a commercial species. The annual closing season for the Grouper, from December 1 to March 31, was approved by the three countries that form the Gulf of Honduras: Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras, TNC

The program also completed the following: (a) proposals for intersectoral fisheries-environment agendas for five Central American countries; (b) proposals for implementing three strategies for control and surveillance of coastal-marine crimes in two pilot sites in the region: La Unión in El Salvador and Bay Islands, Honduras; (c) training on institutional strengthening in policy and law and on the enactment of instruments developed through the program's interventions in the countries; d) proposed regional research strategy for coastal-marine resource management, and support for the production and dissemination of scientific articles. These accomplishments contribute to seven of the indicators for this result set out in the work plan, as described below:

#### ***Achievements to date:***

#### ***Indicator 1: Number of coastal and marine resources conservation and sustainable use policies and legislation drafted and presented***

***Harmonization of the Nassau Grouper closed season in the Gulf of Honduras:*** The Regional Program, through TNC, played an instrumental role in the Honduran Government's official adoption and publication of the Nassau Grouper closed season, in order to harmonize these dates among the three countries of the Gulf of Honduras (Guatemala, Honduras and Belize). This agreement will contribute to the recovery of Nassau Grouper populations, one of the main commercial species in the Honduran Caribbean, and promote responsible and sustainable fishing.

**National climate change action plan:** With the Regional Program’s support and facilitation, through TNC, Honduras adopted the Climate Change Adaptation Plan as its National Action Plan for the Caribbean.

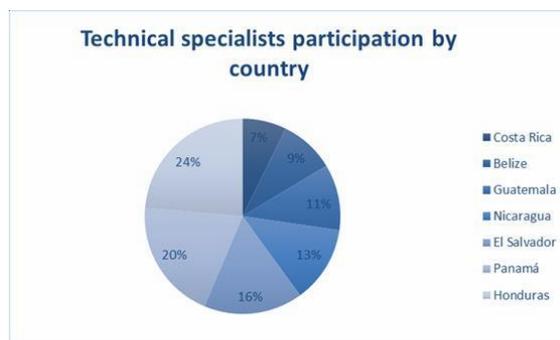


USAID Regional Program’s Director, Site Coordinator, and Climate Change Specialist present documents related to climate change and protected areas, as well as a proposal for fishing and environment agenda and a research strategy for coastal-marine resources in Guatemala to the Vice Minister of the Ministry of the Environment and technical specialist from DIPESCA and CONAP.

**Proposals for the national and regional fisheries - environment agendas finalized and submitted.**

Under this indicator, the Regional Program presented 6 *proposed national agendas* in FY13 as a result of the process begun in January 2012 the ones for Guatemala, Honduras and Panama were already adopted by their respective authorities. These instruments will help fisheries and the environmental authorities coordinate decision-making about coastal and marine resource management more effectively. The program facilitated a proposed agenda for every Central American country except Nicaragua due political reasons; it will deliver its final report based on MARENA’s and INPESCA’s technical liaisons inputs. Through the director of the Regional Program, USAID officially presented the national agendas to Guatemala, Honduras and Panama, and will take advantage of future events to present them to the relevant authorities of the remaining countries.

The program has also created a proposed Regional Fisheries – Environment Agenda based on the national agendas developed for each country. The document was presented to OSPESCA and CCAD for review and technical consultation in order to strengthen it as a tool. The hope is that both entities will adopt it at the end of this process.



Graphic 3. Percentage of Institutional involvement in proposing and creating a Regional Fisheries Environment Agenda

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 1. Number of coastal and marine resources conservation and sustainable use policies and legislation drafted and presented.	Proposed	5	20
	Actual	5	14
	Progress	100%	70%

**Indicator 2: Number of coastal and marine resources law monitoring and enforcement strategies drafted and implemented.**

***Achievements to date:***

The Regional Program completed the process of drafting, signing and implementing the operational protocols for two pilot sites in its target area: La Unión, El Salvador, Gulf of Fonseca and Bay Islands, Gulf of Honduras. It will select a third country in the first quarter of the fourth year of implementation. During the fourth quarter of FY13, the program began to identify the content of a communications and dissemination plan to promote compliance with the protocols.

***Monitoring and enforcement strategy:***

The Regional Program negotiated and drafted a proposal for an operational protocol for coastal – marine crimes in the Gulf of Fonseca in La Unión, El Salvador and Bay Islands, Honduras. In both countries, the program worked with stakeholders to list the most common infractions and the institutions responsible for monitoring and enforcement, and to decide on the methodology for implementing the protocols. In Roatán, Honduras, the participants accepted and approved the protocol in record time (May 2013) and this decision was ratified in September. The program also identified, with a local partner, the possibility of using an electronic registry system developed by CEM to apply the protocol, which will speed up implementation of this important tool.



Foto Helena Miranda

Training on implementing and monitoring the Protocol to take Action against Illicit Use of Coastal-Marine Resources for government representatives and other authorities from the Bay Islands, in Guanaja, Gulf of Honduras..

***Strategy to improve enforcement of penalties:*** The Regional Program trained 78 officials from the relevant law enforcement offices in both sites on implementing the operational protocol. These results include 12 judges trained in April 2013, in La Unión, El Salvador, many of whom indicated that they were not aware that certain actions could be considered crimes and were unfamiliar with the procedures for dealing with them.

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 2. Number of coastal and marine resources law monitoring and enforcement strategies drafted and implemented.	Proposed	4	5
	Actual	2	3
	Progress	50%	60%

**Indicator 3: Number of countries implementing harmonized fisheries violation reporting system.**

In the process of introducing a formal operational protocol in Bay Islands, Honduras, the Program identified a tracking system for coastal - marine crimes and is working with local stakeholders and the authorities on its adoption.

Although the program has actively promoted the protocol in La Unión, it has yet to be officially adopted. Already approved by the institutional liaisons, it must still obtain official signatures from the relevant agencies. Once this is done, the program will proceed to develop a tracking system.

The following are the next steps for the first quarter of FY4;

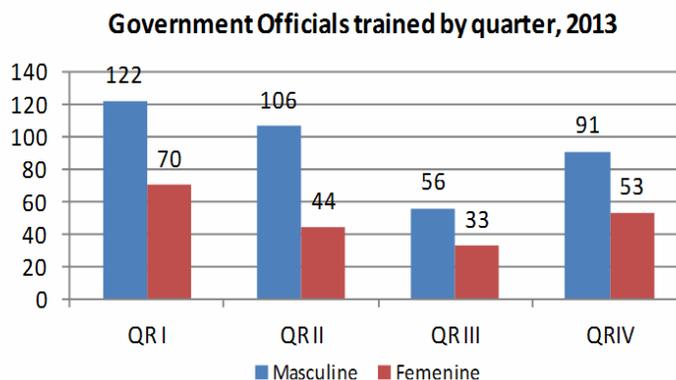
- **Complaints tracking strategy for three pilot sites:** The program identified common aspects of the complaints forms used by the national fisheries, environmental, naval and judicial authorities and the public prosecutor. It will propose a national standardized form and developing set of variables to monitor complaints regionally. The program modified this indicator based on the findings of the USAID internal audit and decided to expand it to three pilot sites given the political dynamics in the region.
- Develop the terms of reference for installing coastal – marine crime tracking systems in the three pilot sites where the Regional Program is working with the fisheries and environmental authorities. The MAREA COP and USAID COR will work with the authorities to make sure the program (software) is suitable and integrate it with existing platforms in the three countries.

Indicator	Targets		
	FY12-13	LOP	
Indicator 3. Number of countries implementing harmonized reporting systems for fisheries violations.	Proposed	3	3
	Actual	0	0
	Progress	0%	0%

**Indicator 4: Number of people from fisheries and environment governmental and non-governmental institutions trained.**

**Achievements to date:**

In its third year of implementation, the Regional Program trained 575 administrative and technical public servants and NGO staff in monitoring and enforcement of coastal-marine crimes using the previously developed compendium of coastal-marine laws.



Graphic 4. Government and NGO personnel trained during FY3

While the program has already reached the life of project target for this indicator (1,500), it will continue to build on this figure, since some topics are still relevant for local and national authorities and additional trainings are required as part of activities tied to other indicators and results. The trainings covered law enforcement for coastal-marine crimes in the program’s two pilot sites (Roatán, Honduras, and La Unión, El Salvador), institutional and legal policy framework, coastal-marine resources management and conservation, and sea turtle protection and conservation. As shown in Figure 4, at the start of the fiscal year the program stepped up the pace of training workshops, since it is easier to deliver training during the closed season and at the end of the fishing season. The training rhythm gradually slowed during

the next quarters for various reasons including the reporting process, regional holiday seasons including Holy Week and the August vacations, the audit, and USAID travel restrictions.

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 4. Number of people from fisheries and environment governmental and nongovernmental institutions trained	Proposed	300	1500
	Actual	575	2347
	Progress	192%	156%

**Indicator 5: Number of regional mechanisms implemented to foster research, providing peer reviewed information to sustainably manage coastal and marine resources.**

**Achievements to date:**

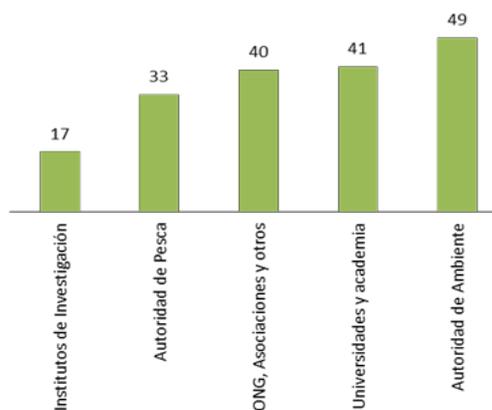
The Regional Program established two primary mechanisms: 1) Scribd, which the program has been using to share information and research findings, many of them unpublished, since 2011; and 2) the regional research strategy developed this fiscal year. Both of these will enable the program to share information with regional stakeholders (academia research institutes, foundations, authorities, users, etc.), such as research on coastal-marine management in its target sites that can be extrapolated to the Central American region in general and information from outside sources that is relevant to the program’s issues.

**Regional Strategy for Coastal – Marine Research**

The program finished drafting proposed national research strategies for the seven countries. It also developed a regional proposal, which it submitted to CCAD and OSPESCA for consultation and feedback.

The process began with assessments carried out in conjunction with members of the academic community, research centers, NGOs, and other relevant stakeholders in each country, which were then presented to a wider audience in order to obtain feedback. The program then consulted with fisheries (OSPESCA) and environmental (CCAD) authorities in each country in order to set priorities

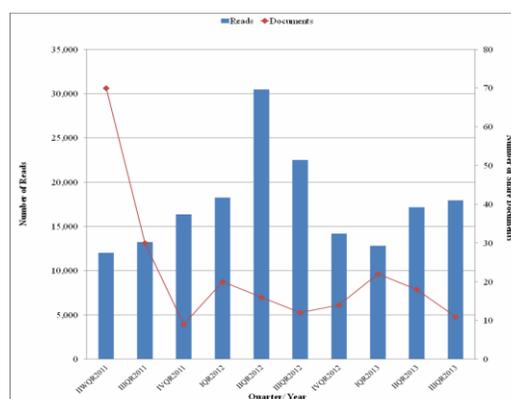
based on their needs for research on management issues in both areas. Over 180 people from 97 different institutions throughout Central America participated in this process, including the sectors in Figure 5, distributed as follows: 46% from fisheries/environmental authorities; 22% from academia, 23% from the nongovernmental organization sector, and 9% from private research institutes. Based on these studies and the national strategies, the USAID Program prepared a **“Draft Central American Research Strategy on Coastal and Marine Issues,”** which it submitted to CCAD and OSPESCA for review, distribution, and consensus-building by means of video conferencing next fiscal year.



Graphic 5. During a 9-month process, a total of 180 professionals representing five organizational and government sectors participated in the construction of the Regional Strategy to Research Coastal-Marine Resources

## Information sharing mechanism

The Regional Program has shared 221 different documents related to its issues on USAID's site on Scribd, an online tool for sharing technical-scientific information. The site has received 249,523 visits and has 339 subscribers from over 67 countries, including all of Central America. Figure 6 shows trends in information searches based on a sample of 174,891 visits. The site may be visited at: <http://es.scribd.com/ProgramaMAREA>.



Graphic 6. Graph displays preliminary data through September 2013, on the number of people who have read and shared documents created by the Program on the Scribd website.

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 5. Number of regional mechanisms implemented to foster research and provide information to sustainably manage coastal and marine resources	Proposed	1	1
	Actual	0	1
	Progress	0%	100%

### **Indicator 6: Number of technical and scientific articles on coastal and marine resources supported by the program**

#### **Achievements to date:**

In FY13, the Regional Program facilitated the preparation and dissemination of a series of documents, working with its staff, specialists, and consultants, and with academics with expertise on the issues or target species. In this way, the program exceeded the target by 50%, with 45 articles produced (See Annex I), relative to the target of 30. Based on the input of the specialists, however, the Program will also include technical documents that are considered to be relevant contributions to the body of knowledge on the region's coastal and marine resources.

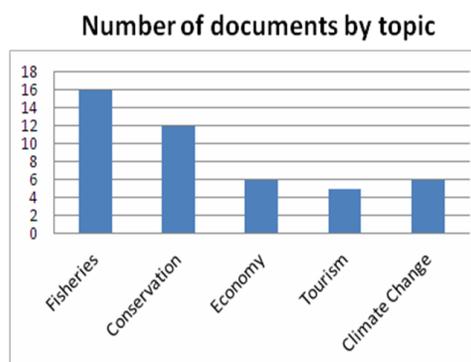


Gráfico 7. Number of articles by topic made available by the Program.

These last documents will be prepared in print and/or electronic versions.

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 6. Number of technical/scientific articles on marine and coastal resource management developed with program support.	Proposed	10	30
	Actual	29	45
	Progress	290%	150%

**Indicator 7: Number of management plans for target species drafted or updated and implemented**

***Achievements to date:***

In order to develop management plans for its target species and for areas designated as protected or special use, the USAID Regional Program must compile information, analysis, and a coherent set of management alternatives to present to the fisheries authorities and other stakeholders. A considerable amount of research and consultation with key stakeholders takes place before the plans are adopted. Each proposal includes a description of the fishery, fisheries science, and basic information on fisheries, conservation measures, habitat, incidental catches and discards, and overfishing.

The program has completed proposals for five plans and two are still in the publication phase. It also began to draft two (2) national sea turtle strategies for Guatemala and Honduras which are pending completion and publication.

Perhaps one of the most important plans developed this year is for management of mangrove cockle (*Anadara tuberculosa*). The program prepared a technical proposal and distributed it during a three-month consultation and validation process involving over 223 users and authorities from the three countries of the GOF.

It is very important to bear in mind that consensus on the technical proposals included in each propose management plan is critical for harmonizing management measures and for potentially standardizing or harmonizing them throughout Central America. The following plans were drafted in FY2013:

Plan title	Year	Status	Published
1. Nassau Grouper Management Plan	2011	Completed	Yes
2. Queen Conch Management Plan	2011	Completed	Yes
3. Lobster Management Plan	2012	Completed	Yes
4. Technical proposal: Plan for sustainable harvesting of <i>Anadara tuberculosa</i> in the Gulf of Fonseca	2013	Completed	No
5. National Plan for Sea Turtle Conservation for El Salvador*	2012	Completed	No
6. National Sea Turtle Strategy for Guatemala*	2013	In progress	
7. National Sea Turtle Strategy for Honduras*	2013	In progress	

\* Once the Regional Program has officially turned over the sea turtle strategies (5, 6 and 7), they become national policy in the countries and are tabulated in Indicator 1.

***Sea turtle management plans and programs:***

Following up on the work begun in 2012, in 2013 the Regional Program began to develop and/or update national sea turtle conservation strategies in Guatemala and Honduras. In both cases, the strategies are based on the assessments conducted in 2012. The program discussed the findings with key stakeholders (authorities, academia, community representatives, nongovernmental organizations), who provided key elements for the strategies and action plans. The program expects to have the Guatemala strategy ready by November and the Honduran strategy by December 2013. At the end of this process, the Honduran and Guatemalan governments will have national strategies in place that were developed in a participatory process and can guide their efforts in this area.

Through STC, the Regional Program completed the Sea Turtle Conservation Plan for Ngobe Buglé District. This five-year plan is based on STC's over ten years of experience in the district and on the local knowledge of indigenous communities actively involved in conservation efforts. The program expects this plan will serve as a platform for national and local authorities and international organizations to carry out sea turtle conservation efforts in indigenous territories. Its strategies and targets should also serve as inputs for the Management Plan of the Damani Guariviara Wetland of International Importance, which is currently being developed with program support.

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 7. Number of plans for target species drafted or updated and implemented	Proposed	1	5
	Actual	0	4
	Progress	0%	80%

***Result 4: All Central American countries have adopted and are implementing harmonized policies on sustainable shark fisheries***

***Achievements to date:***

***Indicator 8: Number of countries adopting or implementing harmonized policies or best practices in sustainable shark fisheries***

In the fourth quarter of the third year, the program launched an effort to support Regulation OSP-05-11, adopted by OSPESCA as part of implementing the Regional Action Plan for Shark Management and Conservation in Central America, PAR-TIBURÓN 2011. In 1999, the FAO created its International Plan of Action for Sharks, which recommends using the entire shark and avoiding finning. With support from FAO, the Central American countries developed and adopted national plans of action for shark conservation (PAN-Tiburones). A Regional Plan of Action was adopted in 2011 to contribute to the management of shark fisheries. Adopted in 2012, Regulation OSP-05-11 prohibits shark finning in SICA member countries.



Executive Director of the Roatan Marine Park, biologist, and shark specialist, Giacomo Palavicini, during a workshop about validating an action protocol titled, "Sharks are worth more alive than dead." (Photo, Helena Miranda).

Despite these advances, the region does not have an effective, efficient way of disseminating the need to harmonize and enforce regulations for the recovery of shark populations through sustainable fishing. For this reason, the USAID Regional Program has prepared materials targeting different users and sectors directly involved in shark fisheries. This is a commitment campaign that aims to raise awareness among users and authorities to encourage compliance with the regional regulation. Launched through the coordinators of the program's four target sites, the campaign works through local radio stations to publicize the regulation and raise public awareness. Other campaign tools include posters on the regulation, a presentation on sustainable shark fishing and its benefits, and a flyer with specific data for regional distribution.

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 8. Number of countries that have adopted or are implementing harmonized policies or best practices for sustainable shark fisheries	Proposed	0	7
	Actual	N/A	0
	Progress	N/A	0%

**Strategic Objective II. Foster rights- and market-based mechanisms and promote incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources and priority marine ecosystems in the region**

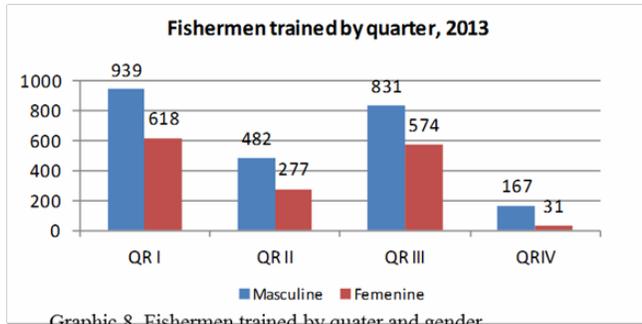
*B. RESULTS UNDER STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE II*

**Result 2: Compared to the 2009 baseline, at least 25% of sales in US dollars correspond to products of the program’s target species harvested under rights-based management systems or under best practices**

**Achievements to date:**

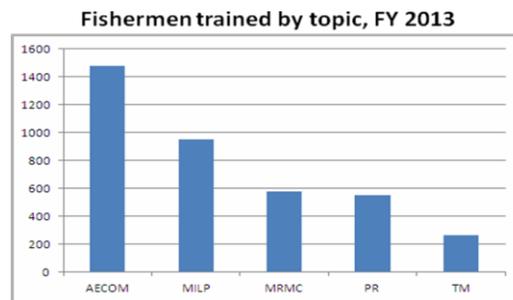
**Indicator 9: Number of artisan and industrial fishermen trained on best fisheries practices, with emphasis on rights- and/or market-based mechanisms.**

Based on the program’s priorities for this fiscal year, training activities focused on fishermen and their organizational structures (cooperatives, associations, committees, etc.), employing various methodologies to develop their capacity. As of September 2013, the program had trained 3,919 people, including 2,419 men (62%) and 1,500 women (38%), which reflects an increase in the number of women participants relative to the previous year (fig 8). There are two explanations for this: more women are involved in marketing, management, and sales than in fishing or handling, and many women work harvesting mangrove conch, an area the program has emphasized. The main topics were improved fishing methods, fisheries laws and policies, and sea turtle conservation. The trainings also focused on strengthening business management of economic alternatives and sales for cooperatives, increasing understanding of rights-based mechanisms, and identifying and penetrating formal markets.



Graphic 8. Fishermen trained by quarter and gender.

According to the training results, the largest number of people received training in sales, markets, and economic alternatives (39%), followed by laws and policies (25%). Distribution by the program’s five main training topics for fishermen is shown in Figure 9 (by their Spanish acronyms): a) Economic alternatives and marketing–AECOM; b) Institutional, legal and policy framework–MILP; c) Coastal-marine resources management–MRMC; d) Best practices for responsible fishing–PR; and e) Sea turtle protection and conservation– TM.



Graphic 9. Artisanal and industrial fishermen trained by topic during FY 2013.

The program’s main training activities in FY2013 are described below:

The Regional Program delivered two workshops in the process of updating the Miskito Keys Management Plan, training 70 artisan fishermen in the communities of Wouhta and Sandy Bay. One of the aims of both events was to carry out a local biological and socioeconomic study to

inform discussions on new zoning, regulations, and strategies for the management plan in that area.

The program trained 139 fishermen in shark conservation on the Honduran Miskito Coast. It delivered five trainings to a total of 183 fishermen in Bay Islands to present the results of the co-management plan for Bay Islands National Marine Park and create a legal cooperative of local fishermen there. In collaboration with CORAL and Roatán Marine Park, and with assistance from Solimar, the program trained 210 people from the 84 businesses that form part of the Geotourism Platform in Roatán. The topics included implementing best practices for tourism and responsible consumption.

In Cahuita-Bocas del Toro, the program used the “learn by doing” methodology to train 163 artisan fishermen on the construction of improved lobster traps and the use of suripera nets to harvest coastal shrimp.

The program delivered the following trainings in the Gulf of Honduras-Belize: 1) institutional strengthening for 51 fishermen from the Placencia Cooperative; 2) poultry farming as an economic alternative to enhance food security for fishermen in Punta Gorda; and 3) pig farming and marketing as an economic alternative for artisan fishermen from the Sarteneja Fishermen’s Association in Glover’s Reef. In the Guatemalan Caribbean, and working jointly with the UNDP Mangroves Project, the program trained 99 fishermen on access rights to fisheries resources and mangrove forests. Through the Trinational Fisheries Forum, it also delivered a workshop in the Gulf of Honduras for 57 fishermen from the region on the topic of fisheries restoration areas.

The program trained the largest number of people in the Gulf of Fonseca (El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua). In conjunction with Friends of the Earth, it trained 2,335 people on: a) processing and marketing fisheries products; (b) organization for production and business and improved fishing methods for fin fish and mangrove cockle (*curil*); (c) coastal-marine resources conservation; (d) sea turtle monitoring and management; and (e) regulatory frameworks for species and ecosystems in each country.

The program has trained 6,401 fishermen to date, compared to the overall target of 5,000.

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 9. Number of artisan and industrial fishermen trained on best fisheries practices, with emphasis on rights and/or market based mechanisms	Proposed	2,487	5,000
	Actual	3,919	6,401
	Progress	158%	128%

**Indicator 10.** Number of Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQ), shared quotas, or similar rights-based mechanisms established and implemented to strengthen best fisheries practices for the program's target species

**Achievements to date:**

There is a great deal of resistance to establish rights-based mechanisms or improved management practices in Central America. Given the longstanding tradition of open access, any limitations on access (quotas, no take zones, or closed seasons) or catches (concession, licenses, etc.), or efforts to apply best practices that reduce catches (fishing times, restrictions on gear, size requirements) always strike users as bad news. Metrics continue to pose a challenge, particularly the proportion of sales associated with improved management in such a vast universe of fisheries. Despite this, the program has made significant progress toward the life of project target, based on a comparison of its interventions against overall data from each site, in the absence of more accurate statistics.



Artisanal fishermen, capturing lobster under special licensing system in Glover's Reef, Belize. Picture by WCS.

The Regional Program is supporting more efficient and viable fisheries management mechanisms that have increased sustainable harvests of target species through best practices. Since the program engages artisan fishermen and their associations directly in these operations, it is important to take into account that they may result in smaller catches or less time fishing. In order to document this increase in sustainable harvests, the program is strengthening legal frameworks, institutional capacity, best fisheries practices, design of management plans, harvesting mechanisms in specific areas, and management of fishing methods and gear as a requirement for access to resources.

**Managed access system in Glover's Reef, Belize**

The Regional Program has kept records since the special licensing program under a managed access system first began in July 2011. The system regulates access of artisan lobster, conch and fin fishermen based on the principle of respect for no take zones, reserves, and general use areas. The 127 licenses issued between February 2012 and June 2013 produced 22,073 lbs of lobster tails valued at [REDACTED], and 47,209 lbs of conch valued at [REDACTED].



Verifyin that captured lobster under a special licensing system meet length requirements in Glover's Reef, Belize. Foto WCS

**Fishing with improved lobster traps**

The Regional Program has promoted the use of improved traps as an alternative to lobster diving on the Miskito Coast. It delivered 1,300 traps to some 48 former divers from the Copacayos Cooperative in Nicaragua, and approximately 300 traps to 30 fishermen –disabled divers– from the LIDAKURA Cooperative in Sandy Bay. With assistance from the UNDP-SGP and the IDB-PRONEGOCIOS project, the program provided 1,800 traps to benefit approximately 100 fishermen associated with APBGADH in Honduras. In Bocas del Toro, Panama, the program delivered 200 improved traps to approximately 100 artisan fishermen as part of a pilot project

underway in Bahía Azul and Tobobe. All of this has been registered with ARAP, the country's fisheries authority.

### **Shrimp harvesting with suripera nets:**

The USAID Regional Program has promoted suripera nets to harvest white shrimp within the three nautical mile (NM) perimeter from the coast as a means to reinforce access rights for artisan fishermen under existing law. To this end, the program has implemented pilot projects, including training, in Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama, where the new fishing method has earned wide acceptance. This strategy has also contributed to the demobilization of lobster divers on the Honduran and Nicaraguan Miskito Coast and the promotion of economic alternatives to keep fishermen from turning to diving.

The program has facilitated the construction of 30 suripera nets that will be used by 60 fishermen from Wawa Bar on the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua and expects to be able to construct some 40 more nets for use in the Krukira and Tawira communities. In Honduras, approximately 65 suripera nets were provided for use by fishermen in Puerto Lempira, Yahurabila, Puswaya, Krata, Tansi, Uhi-Landin, and Prumnitara. Finally, the program has provided seven suripera nets for use in Barra del Colorado, Costa Rica and nine for use in Bocas del Toro, Panama.

### **Best fisheries practices in the GOF**

The USAID Regional Program's has worked to improve fisheries practices in its target sites in the GOF by substituting fishing nets with smaller mesh openings (2.5 inches)—which trap juveniles and pre-adults indiscriminately—with others made of 4 inch mesh. This ensures a catch of adult animals that have spawned at least once. By the end of FY 2013, the program had substituted 362 fishing nets, benefiting some 447 artisan fishermen in El Salvador and Honduras. It also assisted in improving the cold chain, which contributed to a catch of 598,419 lbs of fish valued at [REDACTED] harvested under best practices.



Comercialization agreement among five fisheries cooperatives groups in Jiquilisto Bay, El Salvador

### **Fin fishing on the Miskito Coast**

Harvesting different fin fish species as an economic alternative to lobster diving has also been well received by coastal-marine communities on the Honduran and Nicaraguan Miskito Coasts. For this reason, the USAID Regional Program has facilitated the acquisition of fishing gear and promoted initiatives to improve marketing. In Honduras, the program purchased equipment, gear and supplies (motors, navigation devices, and safety equipment) for five productive initiatives involving snook, red snapper and similar fin fish species. Implemented under the umbrella of the LABOR initiative in the communities of Brus Lagoon, Barra Patuca, Krata, and Kaukira, these projects involve men and women from associations such as APABI, BUKARIMAT, BRITPUTTAGNI, and Grupo Pesca Kruta, for a total of 105 beneficiary families. Also under the auspices of the LABOR Program, in Nicaragua, the program completed its pilot artisan fishing projects and operationalized an ice factory with a one ton daily capacity in the community of Wawa Bar. This will improve the handling, transportation, and sale of fin fish species.

### **Access Rights in Cochinos Keys**

The Regional Program has continued to support the process of updating the Management Plan of the Cochinos Keys Archipelago Natural Marine Monument (MNMACC) Special licenses were planed to be issued to fishermen in the six communities adjacent to the protected area to strengthen implementation of the rights based mechanism included in its declaration. This will benefit 270 artisan fishermen and their families. The program signed an agreement with a local company, Wahood, for the purchase of products obtained under improved fisheries practices in the protected area. During the planning process, the program worked with fishermen and tour operators to

designate areas for fishing, tourism and land-based activities. Regulations are currently being developed for existing areas, new areas identified for productive activities, and the proposed new buffer zone, as well as for enforcement of closed seasons and the designation of no take zones, including fish spawning aggregation sites and will include some of the policies the program has already introduced.

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 10. Number of Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQ), shared quotas, or similar rights-based mechanisms established and implemented to strengthen best fisheries practices for the program's target species	Proposed	5	10
	Actual	2	5
	Progress	40%	50%

**Indicator 11. Percentage of total harvest of target species under rights-based mechanisms or best fisheries practices**

**Achievements to date:**

The Regional Program has been very successful in transferring best fisheries practices. The percentage of sales of target species harvested under best practices jumped from 11% in 2012 to 24.38% at the end of fiscal 2013, almost fulfilling the life of project target. Contributing to this significant progress are sales of products obtained under improved practices and/or rights based mechanisms, mainly spiny lobster, followed by queen conch and mangrove cockle. Pacific red snapper is not recorded here since it is mixed in with other species due to the fishing method used, which is size selective but not very selective between fish species. What follows is a brief description of the best practices and/or access rights implemented in FY2013.



Fresh fish and lobster at Charly's Seafood's warehouse in Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua, as part of the strategy to commercialize value added products and diversifying its source of income. Photo Milton Castrillo.

**Reconverted the industrial fleet**

The Copescharly company based in Bilwi, Nicaragua, deployed industrial vessels equipped with lobster traps with financing the program negotiated with the BCIE's Project CAMBio beginning in 2012. The company sold 99,130.3 lbs of lobster valued at [redacted] harvested with traps at the end of the 2012-2013 season—October 2012 to February 2013 for FY13—and the beginning of the 2013-2014 season (the data are from July and August 2013, the first two months of the season).

**Special licensing system in Glover's Reef**

The special licensing system implemented in Glover's Reef, Belize, is now directly benefiting 115 artisan fishermen from several local fishing communities. They reported conch harvests of 136,141 lbs, valued at US [redacted], and lobster harvests of 64,581 lbs, valued at US [redacted]. The Regional Program is currently collecting data through WCS and from Belize's



Artisanal fishermen from Sarteneja en Glover's, Reef prepare snail captured under a licensing system. Photo by R. Coleman WCS

Fisheries Department and from artisan fishermen with special licenses in order to validate the data and include queen conch volumes harvested under this licensing system. In its next report, the program expects to have completed data collection, analysis, and validation in order to provide updated information on this target species.

**Artisan lobster fishing with improved traps**

In addition to the 500 improved lobster traps for the COPACAYOS fishermen’s cooperative in Nicaragua, the Regional Program invested considerable resources to provide improved traps to 375 people, many of them lobster divers. It delivered an additional 1,300 improved traps to eight associations on the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua, benefiting 64 people. Production and sales figures are currently being reviewed and will be included in the report for the first quarter of FY2014. On the Miskito Coast of Honduras, the program supplied 289 people with 1,800 improved traps in an initiative to introduce artisan lobster harvesting for the first time in that area. It is also piloting the improved traps with 102 fishermen in Panama and Costa Rica. Fishermen in Costa Rica harvested 441 lbs of spiny lobster in February, July and August 2013. Finally, the program has provided ongoing support to the Placencia Fishermen’s Cooperative in Belize. Its members harvest spiny lobster and queen conch using the breathhold diving technique. This fiscal year their harvests totaled 2,397 lbs of spiny lobster, which generated ██████████ in sales, and 7,056 lbs of queen conch valued at ██████████.

**Concessions for the sustainable harvest of mangrove cockle**

The women’s cooperative in El Rosario, Nicaragua, which has been awarded a concession from MARENA for the sustainable harvesting of mangrove cockle in part of the mangrove, achieved sales totaling ██████████ fiscal year. The Regional Program is currently working with MARENA and the MARN in El Salvador to promote new concessions that will scale up the use of this rights-based mechanism which, in turn, will promote protection of the mangroves and cost-effective cockle harvesting.

The table below summarizes volumes by species, country, and the practice or mechanism used:

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 11. Percentage of total harvest of target species under rights-based mechanisms or best fisheries practices	Proposed	9%	25%
	Actual	36.12%	24.38%
	Progress	401%	98%

***Result 3: At least 1.5 million sea turtle hatchlings are protected through public-private alliances and improved management practices in selected sites in Central America.***

***Indicator 12: Number of hatchlings protected and released***

***Achievements to date:***

**Nest and hatchling protection in Ngöbe-Buglé District and Bluff Beach (Panama):**

Activities for the 2012 season ended in December 2012. The final results indicate relatively high nesting levels for hawksbill turtles, compared to recent years. An estimated 301,985 leatherback hatchlings and 104,086 hawksbill hatchlings were protected and released. In January 2013, the Regional Program signed a new task order with the Sea Turtle Conservancy for the protection of hawksbill and leatherback turtle nests and hatchlings on nesting beaches in Ngobe-Buglé district and Bluff Beach, Bocas del Toro, during the 2013 and 2014 seasons. The conservation target for

the previous period was 450,000 hatchlings protected. Implemented in accordance with the 2012 conservation plan, these activities combine best conservation practices with the promotion of alternative economic activities, mainly tourism for sea turtle watching operated by local communities.

Initial forecasts of hatchling production generated in June 2013 indicated that nesting levels will be lower this season relative to 2012. A total of 1,110 leatherback hatchlings were counted. The final results will be reported in December 2013.



Hatchling of leatherback turtle on the beach of San San, Bocas del Toro, Panamá. Photo by AAMVECONA

#### **Nest and hatchling protection in the Cahuita-Bocas**

**del Toro site (Costa Rica-Panama):** With support from WIDECAS, in October 2012, the program completed its second season protecting sea turtle nests and hatchlings in the Cahuita-Bocas del Toro binational zone. Reports on the number of hatchlings protected included 25,959 leatherback turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*), 3,101 green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*), and 5,796 hawksbill turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*).

En January 2013 the program commenced activities in preparation for the 2013 season, working in conjunction with the private company Chiquita Brands and a banana cooperative in Panama as part of its initiative to establish public-private alliances.

Tragically, WIDECAS field technician Jairo Mora was murdered in May, in the course of monitoring sea turtles on Moín beach. As a result, the program had to close down its activities on that beach, which will have repercussions for the original conservation targets established for the binational zone. As of August 2013, 3,247 leatherback hatchlings and 99 green turtle hatchlings had been counted. The final results will be reported in December 2013.

#### **Hawksbill nest and hatchling protection in the Gulf of Fonseca (Nicaragua and El Salvador).**

In January 2013, the program completed its second season protecting hawksbill nests and hatchlings in Jiquilisco Bay, El Salvador and Estero Padre Ramos, Nicaragua, working with local organizations in both sites. USAID funds were used to leverage other public and private financing sources for this effort. During the season, a total of 447 hawksbill turtle nests were documented, 67,420 eggs were protected, and 56,491 hatchlings emerged, for an 84% eclosion rate. In 2012 hawksbill nest protection rates reached 96.42%, their highest levels since the project began in 2010 and 10% more than the protection rate in 2011 season (85.6%). These figures suggest that the hawksbill turtle conservation is become increasingly effective.

#### **Olive ridley nest and hatchling protection in the Gulf of Fonseca (Honduras):**

The program's activities to protect olive ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) nests and hatchlings drew to a close in January 2013. Carried out in partnership with Friends of the Earth, which implements the ECOPECA project with funding from the European Union, these activities focused on four nesting beaches (Punta Ratón, Boca del Río Viejo, El Venado and Cedeño). Their aim was to support the Control and Monitoring Committee (CVC by its Spanish acronym) made up of government agencies and local organizations, which is tasked with protecting sea turtles in the Honduran Pacific. A total of 35,326 hatchlings had been released by the end of the season.

2012 Nesting Season Results							
Species	Cahuita-Bocas				Golfo de Fonseca		
	Panama		Costa Rica		El Salvador	Honduras	Nicaragua
	Ngobe Bugle	San San	Cahuita	Moin	Jiquilisco	Venado-Punta Ratón	Padre Ramos
Leatherback	300,875	11,490	6,397	18,032			
Hawksbill	104,086	503	5,750	46	17,836		24,070
Green			1,206	1895			
Olive Ridlye						35,326	
<b>Beach Totals</b>	<b>404,961</b>	<b>11,993</b>	<b>13,353</b>	<b>19,973</b>	<b>17,836</b>	<b>35,326</b>	<b>24,070</b>
<b>Country totals</b>	<b>416,954</b>		<b>33,326</b>		<b>17,836</b>	<b>35,326</b>	<b>24,070</b>
<b>Site totals</b>	<b>450,280</b>				<b>77,232</b>		
<b>Season Totals</b>	<b>527,512</b>						

### Results at the end of the fy13:

In previous annual reports the Program has reported an estimate of the hatchlings produced in the season up to September. This was due to the fact that the nesting season does not coincide with the USAID Fiscal year and annual report. In the past we reported estimations and final numbers from each season were always reported in the progress report on the period January to March, when all final reports of nesting season are available. Based on one of the recommendations of the internal audit that suggest to check several indicators and ensure verifiable data (including sea turtle hatchlings) the program with COR and USAID Monitoring specialist has revised the progress monitoring table for this indicator. The annual numbers reported have been modified so that they indicate total number of hatchlings when they occur. This modification does not affect the global target, but it shows full objectively verifiable numbers and results towards the final goal see Annex A.

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 12. Number of sea turtle hatchlings protected and released.	Proposed	500000	1500000
	Actual	527512	943697
	Progress	106%	63%

**Result 5: Decrease in juvenile lobster landings due to the implementation of best fisheries practices as a result of program interventions**

**Indicator 13: Reduction in juvenile deaths as a result of the program's intervention in two sites**

#### Achievements to date:

Given the many different factors involved in boosting lobster populations, and the length of the lobster life cycle, it is very difficult to attribute population changes to the program's interventions. For this reason, the program chose to work with an indicator that is measurable and more directly attributable to its activities, namely the reduction in



Lobster inspection on fishing grounds in Barra del Colorado, Costa Rica. Photo: Regional Program files.

juvenile lobster landings, which are the direct result of the diminish of lobster divers in the lobster fishery. The transition the USAID Regional Program has been promoting to stop lobster diving can enhance the survival of juveniles, enabling them to reach first maturity and reproduce at least “once in their lifetime.” This increases the population of gravid females and recruits, contributing to a more sustainable stock.

**Progress to date:**

In 2012, the program documented at least 30 divers who had retired, representing 14,709 fewer juvenile lobsters harvested. In 2013, 89 additional divers retired, bringing the total number of retired divers to 119, which corresponds to 58,346 juveniles lobsters. This yields a total of 73,055 juveniles not harvested in a two year period as a result of the USAID Program’s interventions. By program end, an estimated 160,000 juveniles will have survived and can enter the fisheries naturally. please check section

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 13. Percentage reduction in the volume of juvenile lobsters harvested as a result of the program’s intervention in two sites	Proposed	54,700	164,102
	Actual	58,346	73,055
	Progress	107%	45%

**Result 6: All Central American countries have adopted and are implementing harmonized policies for coral reefs and management of mangrove ecosystems as critical ecosystems for climate change adaptation and resilience**

**Achievements to date:**

**Indicator 14. Number of policies or plans for coral reef and mangrove management to adapt and build resilience to climate change drafted, adopted, or implemented.**

**1. Climate change adaptation plans and strategies:**

In fiscal year 2013, the Regional Program completed several activities to strengthen the resilience of Central American coastal-marine ecosystems to climate change by including key, sensitive ecosystems like coral reefs and mangroves in vulnerability studies and adaptation strategies.

The program produced a site scale analysis in the GOH, including a vulnerability assessment and adaptation plan. The analysis was carried out in a participatory process with support from specialists in Belize, Guatemala and Honduras, and technical assistance from TNC and CATIE. The program also drafted national versions of the regional plan for Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras, with the active involvement of the ministries of environment and fisheries of the three countries. The adaptation plan for Belize will serve as the underpinnings for the government’s national climate change strategy. In Guatemala, the plan received the endorsement of the Caribbean Management Group, a local entity created to promote the application of coastal-marine policy in the Guatemalan Caribbean. In Honduras the Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources endorsed the adaptation plan for the Honduran Caribbean and adopting it as its official plan of



action under the national climate change strategy. Honduras’ plan of action will be used to identify the strategic adaptation activities that will be included in the land management plan for Bay Islands. This will be the first application of the instrument designed by the Regional Program. In order to demonstrate application at an operational scale, in November 2012 the program completed adaptation plans for five protected marine areas in the Gulf of Honduras. Each is based on, and a direct application of, the regional adaptation plan drafted in early 2012 for the Meso-American Coral Reef Region.

In partnership with the BIOMARCC project funded by the German cooperation agency GIZ, the Regional Program completed climate change vulnerability studies for the Caribbean coasts of Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama and integrated the findings into a climate change vulnerability study for the Central American Caribbean Coast as a whole. The program completed the study in August 2013 and has been disseminating it as a critical input for the development of regional adaptation measures

As a result of the indicators review during the DQA, USAID and Program staff agreed to incorporate in the indicator 14 as conservation agreements (MOUs) that the program has signed with other partners which included conservation among its objectives, As a result three existing agreements were added; (1) MOU signed with CABEI CHANGE Project in July 2011 to promote investments that support or promote biodiversity in Central America (2). MOU with German cooperation agency GIZ signed in May 2012 to fund the program in conjunction with a study of vulnerability to climate change for Central American Caribbean coast and (3) the MOU with the National Environmental Authority of Panama (ANAM) for jointly fund a management plan for the protected area Guariviara Damani, which is currently in development.

Indicator	GOALS		
		AF-12-13	LOP
Indicator 14 Number of Policies or Plans for coral reef and mangrove management to adopt and build resilience to climate change drafted, adopted or implemented.	Proposed	1	10
	Actual	1	12
	Progress	100%	120%

***Indicator 15: Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance.***

***Achievements to date:***

***Improved management of coastal and marine areas of biological significance***

This fiscal year, the Regional Program made significant progress in processes and activities to improve management of areas of biological significance. The main results are described below:

***Damani Guariviara Wetland of International Importance, Panama:***

The consultancy to draft the first management plan for this priority area began in March 2013. The Regional Program signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Environmental Authority of Panama (ANAM) to provide technical and financial support for this process, in conjunction with the CBMAP project. In August 2013, it completed a biological, socioeconomic, and cultural assessment based on existing



Community meetings at the community consultation stage to develop the Wetland Management Plan for Damani Guariviara, Panamá, June 2013.. Photo: Julio Barquero.

information and consultations with local indigenous authorities, communities, and regional technical experts. This assessment will be used as the basis for a proposal on zoning, regulation, and strategies, which the program will prepare in a consultation process during the third quarter of 2013. The management plan should be finalized by the end of February 2014.

***Miskito Keys Biological Reserve:***

The Regional Program completed a socioeconomic and biological assessment of the reserve. In addition, it produced a summary in language accessible to local communities that will be used in a series of consultations with authorities and key local stakeholders to develop the content of the plan. These consultations will include a review of internal zoning and regulations on natural resources use, with emphasis on fisheries resources and protection of threatened species, especially sea turtles. The process to update the management plan began in October 2012.

Given the complexity of the zone, the consultations for planning and designating management areas and drafting regulations on their use have been scheduled for the last quarter of 2013. The plan is very ambitious, given a series of failed attempts to establish a plan for the reserve over the past 20 years. Those efforts were unsuccessful because they did not include uses, which made it difficult to reach agreements with the users. With the government’s willingness to review the management category, and through its activities with the fishermen, the program hopes to build consensus or at least agreements for management of the reserve.

***Cochinos Keys Archipelago Natural Marine Monument:***

In January 2013, the Regional Program held the first consultation workshops to begin updating the management plan. Using the Conservation Planning Methodology, the program is reviewing and updating the zoning, regulations and strategies for the protected area for the next 12 years, based on Honduran regulatory provision for protected areas. The management plan should include operational mechanisms for awarding exclusive fishing rights to communities adjacent to the protected area, in keeping with the executive decree creating the Natural Monument. It will also incorporate the climate change adaptation strategies identified in the Adaptation Plan prepared in 2012. The no take zone has already been included in the plan and has obtained community buy-in. The updated management plan will be ready to submit to the ICF in late November 2013.

***Bay Islands National Marine Park:***

Following up on the work in 2011, this year the Regional Program validated a final proposal for a co-management system for the park during a workshop held in Roatán with ICF officials and key stakeholders. The proposal includes a mechanism for local participation in management through community and municipal councils and another for institutional involvement, based on capabilities and interests. The program delivered the final proposal to ICF for review and eventual implementation. It has also begun providing technical assistance to organized artisan fishermen’s groups on the Islands so that they can legally register and develop capabilities for managing community fish refuges (no take zones) in their areas.

***Port Honduras Marine Reserve:***

In April 2013, the Regional Program initiated a consultation and dialogue process on expanding the no take zone in Port Honduras. This is conceived as an improved management strategy for climate change adaptation and to strengthen the ecological sustainability of the Reserve’s fisheries resources and the rights-based mechanisms in place since 2012. Through subcontractor TNC, the program worked with the area administrator, TIDE, to build consensus



Executive Director Celia Mahung, from TIDE Port Honduras Marine Reserve comanager talking to ranger about “no take zones”. Photo Zulma de Mendoza

among fishermen’s groups and fisheries- protected area authorities, using a proposal for potential alternatives that it had prepared. The main fishermen’s groups have agreed to an alternative that includes expanding the Reserve’s no take zone by 3% to 4% and consolidating three existing smaller no take zones into one larger and more manageable one. This proposal will be submitted to the Fisheries Department of Belize for final approval.

To offset the economic impact of the Reserve’s expansion and reorganization on fishermen, the Regional Program piloted a sea algae farming project, similar to the successful experience it had previously supported in Placencia. The expectation is that the project will generate additional income for the fishermen and reduce pressure from fishing on the Reserve’s resources.

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 15. Number of hectares in areas of biological significance under improved management as a result of USG assistance	Proposed	540,000	1,200,000
	Actual	0	682,000
	Progress	0%	57%

**Result 7: At least two labor standard codes drafted and validated with local communities, the private sector and government officials**

**Indicator 16: Number of labor standards, manuals, codes, or guidelines drafted and validated with local communities, the private sector, and governmental officials in the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua.**

**Achievements to date:**

The Regional Program contracted a consultancy for the month of July 2013 to work on these deliverables. Two national (local) assessments of the labor conditions of artisan fishermen in the Honduran and Nicaraguan Miskito Coast are currently being reviewed. The program expects to have drafted two labor standards codes for those sites by the first quarter of year four. It will also promote the validation and adoption of the codes by municipalities, artisan fishermen leadership and leadership of the fisheries industry in those sites and deliver trainings to ensure their application. This initiative is currently in phase II of the diagram below:



Different stages in the drafting of two codes of labor conduct for the nicaraguan and honduras Moskitia coast,

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 16. Number of labor manuals, standards, codes, or guidelines drafted and validated with local communities, the private sector, and government entities on the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua	Proposed	2	2
	Actual	0	0
	Progress	0%	0%

***Result 8: Sustainable pilot productive projects drafted and implemented on the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua that allow active divers to access new types of jobs with appropriate labor practices and income generation as a substitute for lobster diving***

***Indicator 17: Number of families benefiting from pilot productive projects on the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua.***

***Achievements to date:***

In fiscal year 2012, the Regional Program designed and completed a portfolio of pilot economic alternatives projects in conjunction with the GEF Small Grants Program in Honduras and Nicaragua. In January 2013, it began to implement some of the productive activities included in the portfolio, mainly to support lobster divers in transition to other activities that apply best practices and are safer and more sustainable. The pilots were designed around several of the program's indicators, including improved fisheries, rights-based access, training, sales, and leveraging (Indicators 10, 11, 13, 17, 18 and 20) and are divided into three categories: a) artisan lobster fishing and sales using improved traps; b) harvesting shrimp with suripera nets and marketing; and c) harvesting and sales of fin fish and other fisheries products like jellyfish. These activities required close coordination with other local projects as well as the purchase of equipment and materials.

**a) Artisan lobster fishing.**

On the Nicaraguan and Honduran Miskito Coast, the program provided and delivered 550 improved traps to 30 fishermen from the COPACAYOS cooperative and 1,300 to 64 fishermen organized in collectives [Grupos Solidarios] in Miskito Keys. They have already begun the 2013 fishing season. In Honduras the program delivered another 1,800 traps, benefiting 90 artisan fishermen from the Kruta, Kaukira and Krata communities, and fishermen associated with APBGADH.



Delivering traps to fishermen from the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua.  
Photo: Helena Miranda.

**b) Shrimp harvesting and sales using suripera nets**

In Nicaragua, the Regional Program began piloting a new shrimp harvesting method on the Caribbean Coast of both countries (Honduras and Nicaragua). The pilot involved an exchange with visiting Mexican fishermen, who provided in-service instruction to Miskito fishermen on the use of "suripera nets" as an alternative for lobster divers. The program provided inputs and supplies to construct and outfit nets for 220 artisan fishermen (120 in Nicaragua and 100 in Honduras). In August 2013, the fishermen began applying this new technology for the first time in the Central American region.

**c) Harvesting and sales of fin fish and other products**

On the **Nicaraguan Miskito Coast**, the Regional Program rehabilitated an ice factory in Wawa Bar and in July began work to rehabilitate another one in the Krukira community. Both facilities will enable fishermen to produce some three tons of ice daily, which will strengthen their cold chain and hence their capacity to market fin species. As a result of these improvements the communities have already begun selling fin fish products such as snook. Leaders and representatives of Wawa Bar and Krukira negotiated and signed sales agreements with Charly's Sea Food company. Both contracts were signed in Bilwi between Delia Ellis, President of the Women's Artisan Fishing Cooperative of Wawa Bar (MISWARAYAD, R. L.); Samuel Lito, President of the Malvinas Keys Cooperative, R. L., and Vidal Petters, Sales Manager of Charly's

Sea Food, S.A. In this early stage, the improved production chain and market access in both communities has benefited at least 80 fishermen and their families.

On the **Honduran Miskito Coast**, the program procured supplies, equipment, and inputs (outboard motors, boats, an electric generator, stainless steel table, ice chests, and utensils to add value to fisheries products) for five more productive projects from the Regional Program’s portfolio. USAID’s San Salvador representative and the Regional Program’s director attended the event to deliver these supplies, which was held in the community of Kaukira, Puerto Lempira. These supplies, along with technical assistance in the areas of administration, accounting, the fisheries value chain, and the construction and use of new fishing gear, directly benefit 175 fishermen and their families in Brus Laguna, Barra Patuca, Krata, Kruta, Kaukira, and Puerto Lempira, under the umbrella of the LABOR Initiative.



Miskito women play an important role in processing jellyfish. Over 50% of the workforce is women. Foto Helena Miranda

Also in Kaukira, after receiving technical assistance from the program to develop a pilot project, the KAUMA fishermen’s group submitted a proposal to the Honduran Social Investment Fund financed by the IADB and obtained funding to build a processing center furnished with an ice machine and electric generator. The facility is equipped to collect and process fin fish, lobster, and other products such as jellyfish. The group began to harvest, process, and market jellyfish in March 2013, directly benefiting 170 fishermen, including divers, disabled divers, and women. The table below summarizes the Regional Program’s activities in both countries, which have benefited a total of 739 fishermen and their families.

No.	Project or pilot	Community	Beneficiary group	# Benef.
<b>NICARAGUA</b>				
1	<b>Improved artisan lobster traps for divers transitioning to other fishing methods</b>	<b>Miskito Keys</b>	<b>Copacayos Cooperative</b> <b>Liwa Mairin Divers and</b> <b>“Cayuquero” canoes driver</b> <b>Cooperative, R. L</b> <b>Progreso artisan fishing company</b>	<b>30</b> <b>10</b> <b>4</b>
2		<b>Sandy Bay</b> <b>Sandy Bay</b> <b>Wawa Bar</b> <b>Krukira</b> <b>Bilwi</b>	<b>Sandy Bay Cooperative</b> <b>Fishermen’s group</b> <b>Fishermen’s group</b> <b>Fishermen associated with Charly’s</b> <b>Sea Food</b>	<b>64</b> <b>30</b> <b>36</b>
3	<b>Improving the productive capacity, food chain, and market access for fin fish and other products</b>	<b>Wawa Bar</b> <b>Krukira</b> <b>Wawa Bar</b>	<b>Ice factory group</b> <b>Malvinas Keys Cooperative</b> <b>Women’s Artisan Fishing</b> <b>Cooperative MISWARAYAD,R.L</b> <b>Mackerell Fishing Cooperative,</b> <b>R.L.</b>	<b>5</b> <b>30</b> <b>15</b> <b>11</b>
<b>HONDURAS</b>				
4	<b>Fish processing, storage, and sales</b>	<b>Bruce Laguna</b>	<b>Artisan Fishermen’s Association</b> <b>Brus Laguna- APAIB</b>	<b>28</b>
5	<b>Women Cooperative Business plan for processing fish</b>	<b>Barra Patuca</b>	<b>Organization of Miskito Indigenous</b> <b>Women – BUKARIMAT</b>	<b>24</b>
6	<b>Increasing productivity and improving artisan fishing in Karatasca</b>	<b>Prumnitara</b>	<b>Artisan Fishermen’s Association –</b> <b>PAMUPEL-</b>	<b>42</b>
7	<b>Harvesting, handling, and sale of lobster</b>	<b>Kruta</b>	<b>Snook Fishing and Conservation</b>	<b>40</b>

8	and snook with artisan fishermen Best fisheries and sales practices for snook and lobster	Krata	Group Krata Divers and Fishermen's Group	50
9	Handling, recycling, and sale of solid waste on the Miskito Coast	Puerto Lempira	Organization of Miskito Women – MIMAT-	50
10	Fishermen's associations and coops]to sell lobster, fin fish and jellyfish	Kaukira, Yahurabila, Puswaya	Kaukira Fishermen's Union – KAUMA-	170
11	Coastal shrimp harvesting and sales using suripera nets with fishermen and divers on the Miskito Coast	Río Kruta, Kokotigni, Kalpu, Krata and Tansin	Groups of fishermen and divers from each community	100
<b>Total Families Benefited</b>				<b>739</b>

Indicator	Targets		
		FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 17. Number of families benefiting from pilot productive projects on the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua.	Proposed	625	1,250
	Actual	739	739
	Progress	118%	59%

**Result 9: At least 900 disabled divers or their relatives have been trained in new skills to embark on new businesses as alternative productive activities to fishing that improve their income in the Department of Gracias a Dios, Honduras and the North Atlantic Autonomous Region – RAAN in Nicaragua.**

**Indicator 18: Number of disabled fishermen or household members of disabled fishermen in the Miskito Coast trained in business or productive skills.**

**Achievements to date:**

From January to September 2013, the Regional Program delivered 18 trainings (7 in Nicaragua and 11 in Honduras) to 481 people, most of them relatives of disabled divers (wives, sons, daughters, siblings, as well as some injured divers who have retained their motor skills). Since these projects are part of the program's portfolio (see Result 8, Indicator 17), the trainings target the same population in both countries, namely individuals involved in lobster diving.



Pedro Taylor, former diver with his sons, Claudio and Pedro, actually fishing shrimp with Suripera nets by the Miskito Community of Kruta. Photo Helena Miranda

Local partners assisted in implementation, helping to verify that the beneficiaries were legitimate fishermen or their relatives in the area and that the topics covered were relevant to them.

In Honduras, the program worked with DAKNI and AMBLI, both based in Puerto Lempira, to choose topics of local interest that also fell within the scope of the project and to select members of disabled divers' organizations in communities along the Miskito Coast, in Gracias a Dios department, Honduras. In Nicaragua,



Suripera nets to catch white coastal shrimp is a fishing method introduced by the Program in Nicaragua, Honduras, Panamá y Costa Rica. Foto Milton Castrillo.

the project worked with disabled divers or their relatives from communities in Miskito Keys, Wawa Bar, Krukira, Sandy Bay and Bilwi. The main training topics are listed below:

- **Constructing and rigging suripera nets for shrimp harvesting**  
The program trained artisan fishermen in the construction and use of suripera nets for harvesting coastal shrimp. The program funded a visit by four Mexican fishermen from Baja California to provide guidance and assistance in introducing this fishing method on the Miskito Coast during the beginning of field work. These trainers have been using the nets for over 40 years, with very good results. Fishermen trained on the Miskito Coast can now use the nets on 128 boats (two nets per boat) and began shrimp fishing in August and September 2013.
- **Training on the value chain for fin fish products and best marketing and labor practices**  
In March and April, the program trained 50 fishermen and sea food collectors, processors and middle men in Puerto Lempira and Puerto Cabezas on the fisheries value chain in order to strengthen local capacity to handle fisheries products from catch to sale. They learned to apply best practices in product handling, transportation safeguards, food safety and hygiene in the processing phase, and quality control in the marketing process.
- **Improved administrative and managerial capabilities in Brus Laguna**  
On the Honduran Miskito Coast, the Regional Program trained 123 fishermen from two local organizations in Brus Laguna municipality: BUKARIMAT and APAIB. These organized groups have boosted their capacity in business administration and management and strengthened their market connections for fin fish products. While they used to sell locally, they are now beginning to market their products in La Ceiba and in other departments of Honduras. The program implemented these activities with DAKNI and GOAL, through the PRONEGOCIOS program.
- **Job safety and tasks associated with fin fishing operations**  
In the Miskito Keys, Nicaragua, the Regional Program delivered training to 34 fishermen to transfer know-how and skills related to longlining, handlining, and the use of suripera nets, as well as social security, health, job safety and navigation safety during fishing operations. With their new skills, relatives of disabled divers have more capacity to plan alternatives to lobster fishing and to anticipate hazards that nearly always entail an extremely high cost and reduce their profit margins. The INATEC authorities in the RAAN, INPESCA, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Health and Navy officers from Puerto Cabezas participated in this training.

The table below summarizes training activities on the Honduran and Nicaraguan Miskito Coast:

Training activity	Country	# events	Participants		
			Women	Men	Total
Construction and use of suripera nets for shrimp harvesting on the Miskito Coast	Honduras	4	14	91	<b>105</b>
	Nicaragua*	5	21	158	<b>179</b>
Training on the value chain for fin fish products and best marketing and labor practices	Honduras	1	9	20	<b>29</b>
	Nicaragua	1	5	6	<b>11</b>
Building administrative and managerial capacity in Brus Laguna	Honduras	6	76	47	<b>123</b>
Alternatives to lobster diving and occupational safety in fin fishing operations	Nicaragua	1	0	34	<b>34</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>481</b>

\*The program delivered the first training on the use of suripera nets for relatives of disabled divers on the Nicaraguan Miskito Coast last fiscal year. It is recorded here, however, since the training indicator had not been disaggregated; it has been removed from Indicator 9 to avoid duplication.

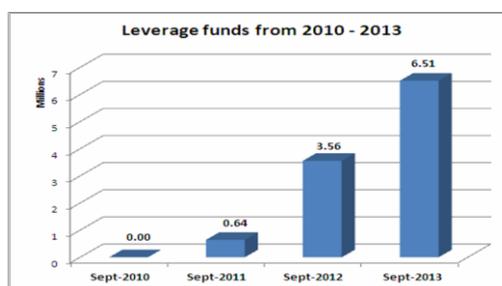
Indicator	Targets		
	Proposed	FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 18. Number of disabled divers or their relatives trained in business or productive skills on the Miskito Coast	Proposed	450	900
	Actual	451	481
	Progress	100%	53%

**Result 10: At least US \$6 million leveraged to co-finance productive projects based on improved fisheries practices, sustainable tourism, and handicrafts, in partnership and coordination with other financial entities and the private sector**

**Indicator 19: Funds leveraged to co-finance conservation efforts or productive projects on sustainable fisheries, sustainable tourism or any other economic alternative project.**

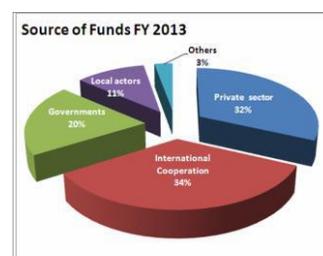
**Achievements to date:**

The Regional Program’s results in fiscal year 2013 translated into clear benefits for fishermen’s communities in its target sites. This fiscal year, the program leveraged ██████████, or 148% of the proposed target for this period. Through its activities, the program has exceeded the annual target for funds leveraged. With a cumulative total of ██████████ as of September 2013, the program has exceeded the anticipated life of project target.



Graphic 10. Leverage funds since the beginning of the Program up to September 2013.

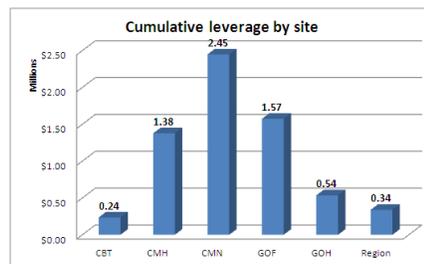
Other international cooperation projects (34%), accounted for the largest percentage of funds leveraged, followed closely by Private sector contributions (32%) that reinforced the program’s public-private alliances and collaborative approach. The program also leveraged funds in a significant percentage from governments (20%), in addition to contributions from local associations and



Graphic 11. Source of leveraged funds by the Program during FY 2013.

beneficiaries (approximately 11%) (see Figure 11). This reflects the interest in the USAID Program’s activities on the part of all the relevant sectors, and users in the artisan and industrial sectors in particular.

As shown in Figure 12, the Honduran and Nicaraguan Miskito Coast (CMN) accounted for 59% of the total funds leveraged, in this case to finance economic alternatives in the transition from lobster diving to other productive activities. Distribution of funds leveraged by source is shown in Figure 12.



Graphic 12. Leverage funds by site since the beginning of the Program up to FY 2013.

The activities described below contributed prominently to the amount of funds leveraged:

- a) Financing from the GEF Small Grants Program and the Regional Government of Tawira to promote low impact fishing with suripera nets in communities in the RAAN in Nicaragua (██████████).
- b) Nicaraguan private sector investments for the transition from industrial diving. The Copescharly company helped finance a mother ship outfitted to collect and transport lobster harvested using improved traps (██████████).
- c) Co-investment from the PRONEGOCIOS and FHS programs, with funds from the IDB and the Honduran government, to support productive activities on the Honduran Miskito Coast. These funds (██████████) were leveraged in coordination with the NGO Goal Internacional.
- d) Financing from COMPAC/GEF in Belize to support efforts to strengthen producers and fishermen from the Placencia Cooperative in the areas of production, organization, and marketing (██████████).
- e) Resources leveraged for conservation of the Pacific hawksbill turtle. These funds (US ██████████) were obtained through a joint undertaking with ICAPO in the Gulf of Fonseca.
- f) Co-financing to forge commercial ties between artisan fishermen from ASPESCU and Walmart in El Salvador (██████████), which was invested in the application of best manufacturing practices.
- g) Honduran government investment to rehabilitate processing for first sale in La Lonja el Coyolito (██████████), approved by means of a presidential agreement for a fisheries trust.
- h) The Incorporation of 10 new projects supported by Small Grants Programa form UNEP, in GOF. These projects were designed in a joint venture with USAID regional program (██████████).



President from ASPESCU speaking during the signing of an agreement with Walmart. Photo Helena Miranda

These activities fall into four categories:

- a) Implementation of pilot economic alternative projects and market-driven business plans;
- b) Reconverted of the fishing fleet on the Nicaraguan Miskito Coast;
- c) Training on implementation of best practices for fisheries, tourism, and sea turtle conservation;

- d) Business partnerships to boost the capacity of fishermen’s cooperatives to penetrate formal markets. Cumulative contributions from program start to September 2013, by target site, are presented in Figure 11.

Indicator	Targets	
	FY12-13	LOP
Indicator 19. Value (USD) of non-USG funds leveraged to co-finance conservation efforts, productive projects on sustainable fisheries, sustainable tourism and handicrafts	Proposed	████████
	Actual	████████
	Progress	148%

**Result 11: At least US \$8 million in additional sales of products and services generated through the implementation of productive projects and business plans for sustainable fisheries, sustainable tourism, and handicrafts**

**Indicator 20: Value (USD) of additional sales of products or services that can be directly attributed to the activity interventions and which support conservation and/or sustainable use efforts.activities**

**Achievements to date:**

In fiscal year 2013, the USAID Regional Program made significant efforts to improve the lives of its direct beneficiaries. It supported over 1,300 fishermen, former divers, disabled divers and/or their relatives to start up or improve productive activities, with an emphasis on improved fisheries practices to reduce unsustainable practices in ecosystems in the target sites.

Through its buyer-centered strategy, the program had generated cumulative sales of ██████████ as of September 2013, which represents 65% progress towards the LOP target. The buyer-centered strategy entails identifying a specific demand for products and services; detecting bottlenecks in the relevant value chain; and, supporting organizations willing to meet the demand, by helping to resolve those bottlenecks so that they can establish sustainable businesses. To this end, the program assists beneficiaries in applying better production practices and responding to the demand of a specific buyer. Sales volumes reported under this strategy grew from ██████████ in FY2012 to ██████████ in FY 2013, a 175% increase in just one year. The Program’s main initiatives in this regard are summarized below.

**Reconverted the industrial fleet**

With financing brokered by the program on behalf of the Copescharly company based in Bilwi, Nicaragua, its industrial fleet was able to finish out the 2012-2013 lobster fishing season. The company obtained additional financing to purchase lobster traps and cover the fleet’s operations for the 2013-2014 season, which began in July 2013. The program also



Industrial boat from Frank Charly reconverted from lobsters diving to traps in July 2012, in Puerto Cabezas , Nicaragua.

negotiated technical assistance from the CAMBio project, which is implementing a consultancy to strengthen the company's administration and accounting systems. Copescharly has also begun to harvest, process, and market fisheries products other than lobster. At the same time, it is partnering with other organized fishermen's groups assisted by the program in order to channel their supply produced under best practices to its sister company, Charly Seafood. Finally, the program facilitated business contacts with Copescharly in El Salvador and the United States.

***Geotourism Platform –www.gobluecentralamerica.org***

The Regional Program's investment in setting up two geotourism sites in Central America and a web platform to publicize them have begun to pay off. The participating businesses began to record incremental sales beginning in January 2013. The program obtained sales records from just over 40 of the more than 160 participating business in the platforms in Roatán, Honduras and Bocas del Toro, Panama, which showed incremental sales in the amount of \$662,507 from January to June 2013. The Regional Program is also implementing an online marketing plan to promote visits to the website and foster the sale of tourism products and services offered by participating business in both destinations.

***Special licensing system in Glover's Reef***

Through this activity, which is linked to Indicator 10 on implementing rights-based mechanisms, the program supported best practices for the management of areas of biological significance in Glover's Reef, Belize. Fisheries activities in Glover's Reef were structured around a special fishing licensing system. The program has continued to monitor this system and report lobster and conch sales by fishermen holding special licenses.

***Artisan lobster fishing with improved traps on the Miskito Coast***

The Regional Program also provided substantial support for artisan lobster fishing in the Central American Caribbean. In Nicaragua, it provided over 500 improved lobster traps for fishermen from the COPACAYOS Cooperative and delivered an additional 1,300 improved traps to eight collectives (grupos solidarios), benefiting 64 former divers. In this way, the program encouraged fishing methods that are less harmful than diving for both ecosystems and divers. The program also delivered 1,800 improved traps to organized fishermen's groups on the Miskito Coast of Honduras in order to introduce artisan lobster fishing for the first time in that country. Finally, the program has been piloting improved nets with 102 fishermen in Panama and Costa Rica since the season opened in July 2013.

***Artisan fin fishing under improved practices***

The Regional Program has promoted best fishing practices in the Gulf of Fonseca by providing nets with legal mesh sizes as a substitute for illegal nets. In all, 206 nets with illegal mesh sizes have been taken out of use. The program has also promoted best fishing practices in other links in the value chain such as collection/processing, marketing, and improving the cold chain, which has a direct impact on the quality of the product that reaches the consumer and on reducing losses.

The Regional Program is also encouraging best practices for fin fishing on the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua as an alternative to lobster diving. With its partners, the program is promoting productive projects by providing training and technical assistance, donating fishing gear, improving the cold chain, and facilitating business contacts. While most of these projects are not yet generating significant sales volumes, they have the potential to have a significant impact on the Miskito Coast and improve the lives of many families.

The Regional Program has also promoted business partnerships for the sale of fisheries products obtained under improved practices. In El Salvador it helped connect the Bocana Lempa Jaltepec Cooperative Society with the Super Selectos supermarket chain, and the Artisan Fishermen's Association of El Cuco Beach (ASPESCU) with



Representatives from USAID, ASPESCU, and Walmart in El Salvador, during the signing of the agreement. Photo Helena Miranda.

Walmart. In Honduras, one MOU was signed with the Sea Pearl and Wahoo Foods companies in La Ceiba for the collection and marketing of products supplied by the program's beneficiary groups on the Miskito Coast, and another with the KAUMA Cooperative, which markets jellyfish and fin fish. In Nicaragua, purchase-sales agreements were signed between Charly Seafood and two organizations: the Women's Artisan Fishing Cooperative of Wawa Bar MISWARAYAD R.L. and the Malvinas Keys Cooperative R.L. Another such agreement was signed in Costa Rica between the Fishermen's Association of the Southern Caribbean and the Product C company for the sale of live lobster and lionfish.

***Low impact coastal shrimp harvesting with suripera nets***

The Program has also been promoting coastal shrimp harvesting with suripera nets as an economic alternative for the Central American Caribbean. This initiative is being implemented in Barra del Colorado, Costa Rica; Bocas del Toro, Panama, the Honduran Miskito Coast, and the Nicaraguan Miskito Coast. The latter site has shown the most progress, with nearly 60 beneficiaries as of September 2013. The first sales results will be reported in the next fiscal year.

Indicator	Targets		
	FY12-13	LOP	
Indicator 20. Value of additional sales of products and services that can be attributed directly to the program and that support conservation and sustainable use activities	Proposed	3,090,000	8,000,000
	Actual	████████	████████
	Progress	108%	65%

## SECTION III: MONITORING AND EVALUATING PLAN

The Regional Program's Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (M&E) is a joint effort of the project team and the PMU. This key management tool has been used to guide a results-based evaluation process. In FY13 important changes in form and substance were made to optimize the program's monitoring and responsiveness to the contractual results, as well as to recommendations from the internal audit conducted by USAID from April to June 2013. In general, monthly monitoring of certain indicators helped improve quarterly reporting as well as the mid-term and annual evaluations. In some cases, where indicators take on their own particular dynamics, the annual reporting system makes more sense.

Chemonics International also conducted an internal evaluation (AIMS), which assesses the operational and technical evolution of its projects and programs was also carried out. These evaluations were directed by the PMU and discussed with the program's technical team. Satisfactory progress has been made to date. According to the findings, the 11 evaluation criteria show that the program has maintained a high performance level, as reflected in the progress it has made to date.

As part of the monitoring process, this year USAID conducted a technical audit that included recommendations to improve monitoring and make corrections in procedures to document and present results. Based on the audit's recommendations, the program has clarified several indicators and added others. In the process, it restructured the M&E Plan, strengthening areas from documentation to more precise definitions for each indicator. The new M&E Plan was presented to USAID and officially approved in September 2013.

Based on the sustainability and close down plan submitted to USAID and the changes described to achieve the results, the program expects to have achieved or exceeded the targets for approximately 85% of the indicators in the first two quarters of the next fiscal year.

ANNEX A. SUMMARY OF INDICATORS FROM MONITORING PLAN

Indicator	Summary				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Indicator 1: Number of coastal and marine resources conservation and sustainable use policies and legislation drafted and presented	Proposed: 5 Actual: 5 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 5 Actual: 5 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 5 Actual: 5 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 5 Actual: 14 Progress: 280%	Proposed: 20 Actual: -000 Progress: -0%
Indicator 2: Number of coastal and marine resources law monitoring and enforcement strategies drafted and implemented.	Proposed: 1 Actual: 1 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 0 Actual: - Progress: 0%	Proposed: 2 Actual: 2 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 3 Progress: 60%	Proposed: 5 Actual: 3 Progress: 60%
Indicator 3: Number of countries implementing harmonized fisheries violation reporting system.	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 3 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 3 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%
Indicator 4: Number of people from fisheries and environment governmental and non-governmental institutions trained.	Proposed: 600 Actual: 89 Progress: 15%	Proposed: 500 Actual: 55 Progress: 11%	Proposed: 300 Actual: 19 Progress: 6%	Proposed: 100 Actual: 237 Progress: 237%	Proposed: 1500 Actual: 237 Progress: 15%
Indicator 5: Number of regional mechanisms implemented to foster research, resource.	Proposed: 0 Actual: 1 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 1 Actual: 1 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 1 Actual: 1 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 1 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%
Indicator 6: Number of peer-reviewed information to sustainably manage coastal and marine resource management developed with program support.	Proposed: 0 Actual: 1 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 1 Actual: 1 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 10 Actual: 19 Progress: 190%	Proposed: 30 Actual: 15 Progress: 50%
Indicator 7: Number of plans drafted or updated and implemented for management of target species.	Proposed: 2 Actual: 2 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 2 Actual: 2 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 1 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 5 Actual: 4 Progress: 80%	Proposed: 5 Actual: 4 Progress: 80%
Indicator 8: Number of countries adopting or implementing harmonized policies or best practices in sustainable shark fisheries.	Proposed: 0 Actual: - Progress: 0%	Proposed: 0 Actual: - Progress: 0%	Proposed: 0 Actual: - Progress: 0%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%
Indicator 9: Number of artisan and industrial fishermen trained on best fisheries practices with emphasis on rights- and/or market-based mechanisms.	Proposed: 825 Actual: 825 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 1,688 Actual: 165 Progress: 9%	Proposed: 2,418 Actual: 3919 Progress: 158%	Proposed: 200 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 5,000 Actual: 01 Progress: 12%
Indicator 10: Number of Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs), earth-shares, or rights-based mechanisms, established and implemented for strengthened best fisheries practices on target species.	Proposed: 2 Actual: 1 Progress: 50%	Proposed: 2 Actual: 2 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 5 Actual: 2 Progress: 40%	Proposed: 1 Actual: 5 Progress: 500%	Proposed: 10 Actual: 5 Progress: 50%
Indicator 11: Percentage of total harvest of target species under rights-based mechanisms and best fisheries practices.	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 16.22% Actual: 16.22% Progress: 100%	Proposed: 9% Actual: 36.11% Progress: 401%	Proposed: 5% Actual: 23.38% Progress: 468%	Proposed: 25% Actual: 23.38% Progress: 93%
Indicator 12: Number of sustainable hatchlings protected and released.	Proposed: 0 Actual: -16,185 Progress: -16185%	Proposed: 0 Actual: -16,185 Progress: -16185%	Proposed: 58,316 Actual: 52,512 Progress: 90%	Proposed: 109,401 Actual: 93,691 Progress: 85%	Proposed: 161,101 Actual: 3,055 Progress: 1.9%
Indicator 13: Percent Decrease in the Volume of Juvenile Lobsters Harvested as the Result of Program Intentions at Two Program Sites.	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 58,316 Actual: 58,316 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 109,401 Actual: 3,055 Progress: 2.8%	Proposed: 161,101 Actual: 3,055 Progress: 1.9%
Indicator 14: Number of plans for coral reef and mangrove management to adapt and build resilience to climate change drafted, adopted, or implemented.	Proposed: 1 Actual: 2 Progress: 200%	Proposed: 5 Actual: 9 Progress: 180%	Proposed: 1 Actual: 1 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 12 Progress: 120%	Proposed: 10 Actual: 12 Progress: 120%
Indicator 15: Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of ISG assistance.	Proposed: 150,000 Actual: 35,000 Progress: 23%	Proposed: 300,000 Actual: 61,000 Progress: 20%	Proposed: 500,000 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 500,000 Actual: 682,000 Progress: 136%	Proposed: 1,500,000 Actual: 682,000 Progress: 45%
Indicator 16: Number of labor standards, manuals, codes, or guidelines drafted and validated with local communities, the private sector, and governmental officials in the Mosquito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua.	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 2 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 2 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%
Indicator 17: Number of households benefiting from produce pilot projects in the Mosquito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua.	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 625 Actual: 39 Progress: 6%	Proposed: 625 Actual: 39 Progress: 6%	Proposed: 1,150 Actual: 39 Progress: 3%
Indicator 18: Number of disabled fishermen or household members of disabled fishermen in the Mosquito Coast trained in business or productive skills.	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 0 Actual: 30 Progress: 100%	Proposed: 50 Actual: 51 Progress: 102%	Proposed: 50 Actual: 81 Progress: 162%	Proposed: 900 Actual: 81 Progress: 9%
Indicator 19: Value (USD) of non-ISG funds leveraged to cofinance construction efforts or production projects in sustainable fisheries, sustainable tourism, and arts and crafts.	Proposed: 500,000 Actual: 643,977 Progress: 129%	Proposed: 1,500,000 Actual: 204,056 Progress: 14%	Proposed: 2,000,000 Actual: 290,555 Progress: 15%	Proposed: 2,000,000 Actual: 650,588 Progress: 33%	Proposed: 6,000,000 Actual: 650,588 Progress: 11%
Indicator 20: Value (USD) of additional sales of products or services that can be directly attributed to the activities, intentions and which support conservation	Proposed: 0 Actual: 0 Progress: 0%	Proposed: 1,000,000 Actual: 1910,14 Progress: 191%	Proposed: 3,090,000 Actual: 3323,806 Progress: 107%	Proposed: 3,910,000 Actual: 5233,953 Progress: 134%	Proposed: 8,000,000 Actual: 5233,953 Progress: 65%

and/or sustainable use efforts.

Progress

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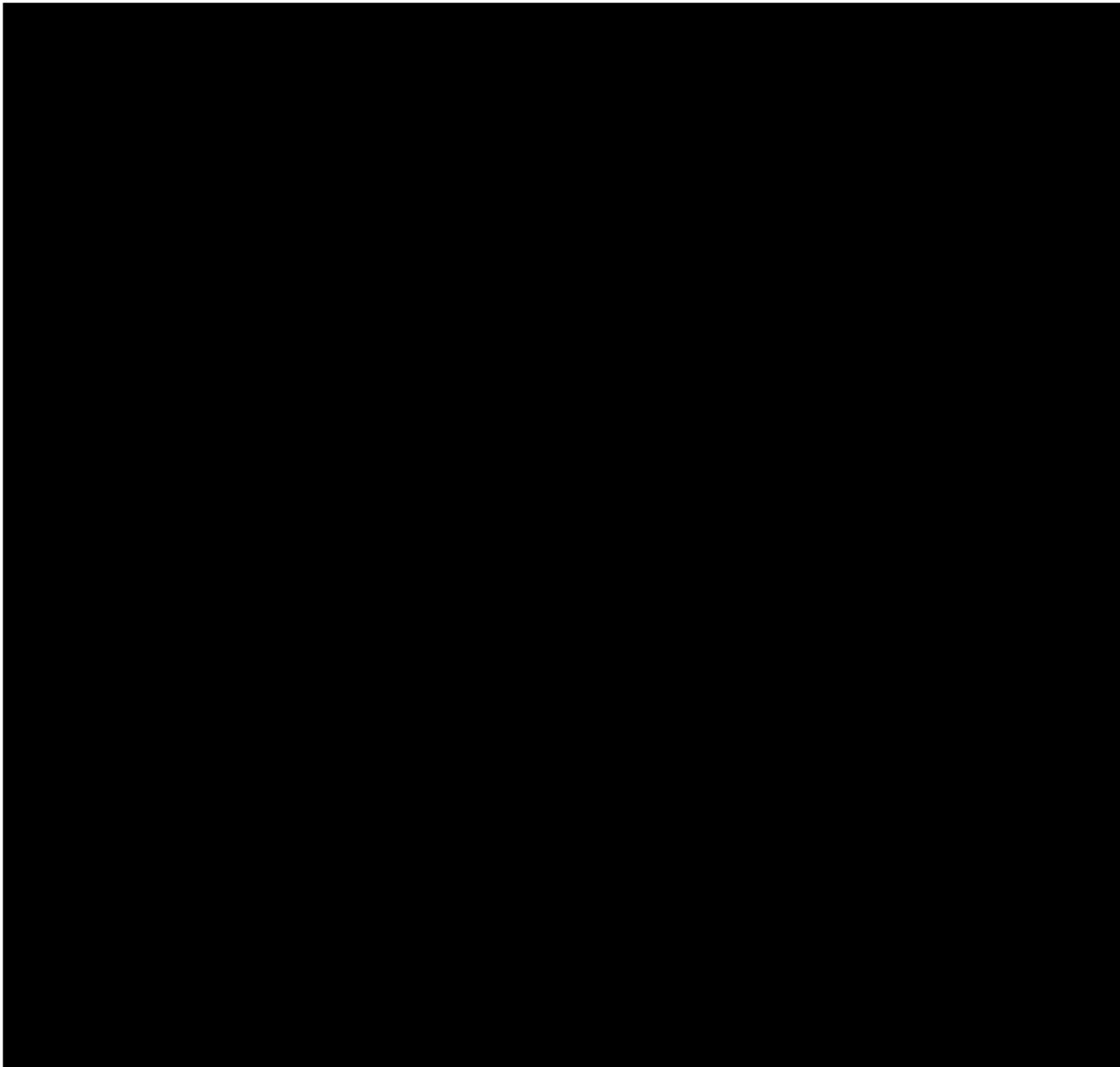
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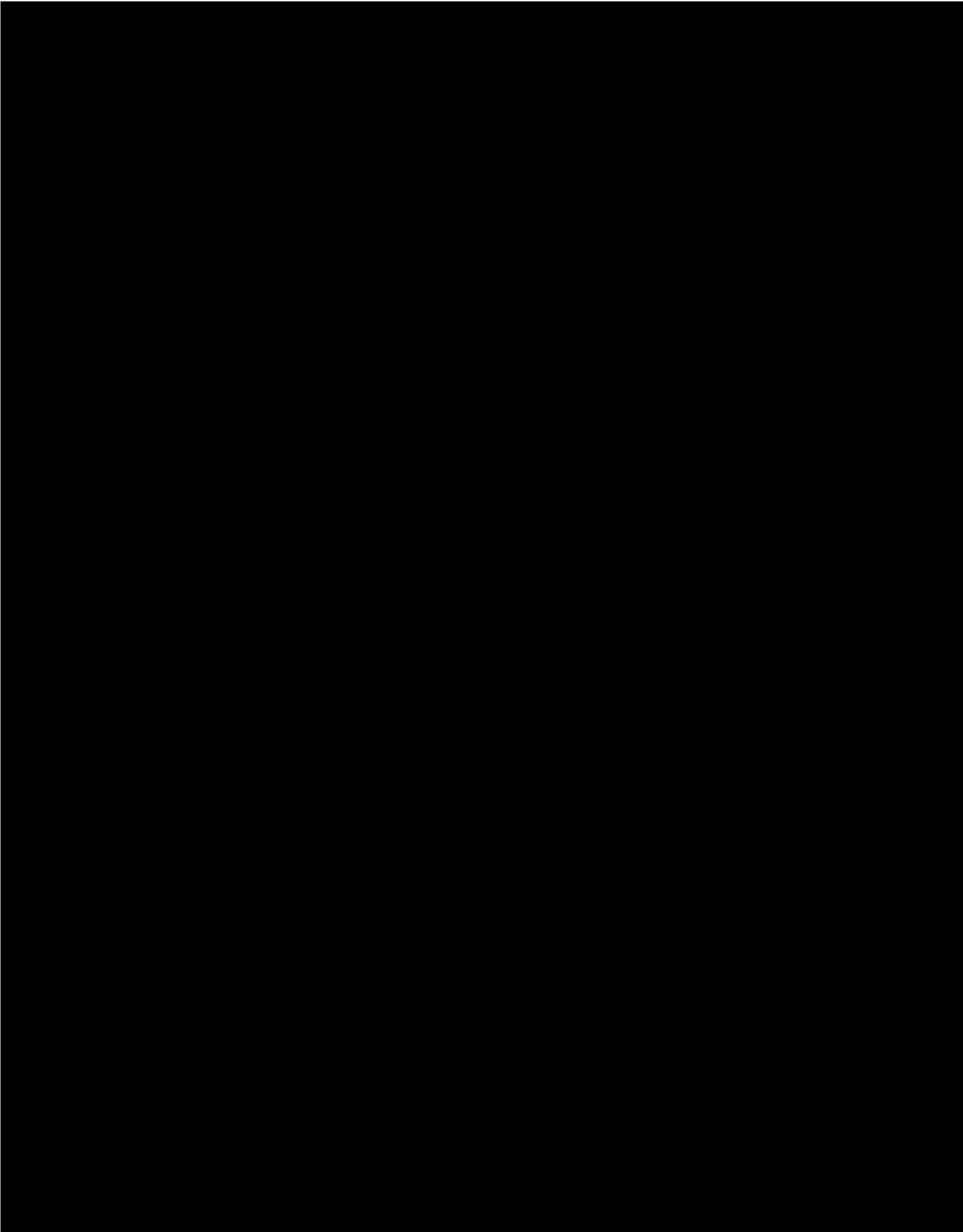
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## ANNEX B. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

In FY13 the Program achieved its highest spending levels to date having spent approximately [REDACTED], or almost 18% over the previous year's expenditures. This level of spending was consistent with the project all of the technical activities that were included in the annual workplan. The bulk of spending took place during the first 5 months of the fiscal year (as shown in Figure 13), reflecting the decision to provide advances for the purchase of fishing equipment for project beneficiaries in order to accelerate technical implementation. December costs trend higher each year due to annual payments of accrued employee benefits for project staff.

Figure 13 also shows how spending levels decreased after this initial push during the first half of the year. Programmatic activities and thus spending levels slowed during the months of March through June due to several factors, including the Program's mid-year self assessment, USAID's internal audit, and the Easter holiday. The visible increase in July spending corresponds to additional expenditures that were made to support artisanal fisheries during the lobster fishing season. Similarly, levels in September increased due to a large number of training activities that were conducted during that month.





## **ANNEX D. SUBCONTRACTS AND CONSULTANCIES.**

During fiscal year 2012-2013, the USAID Regional Program signed new sub-task orders with members of the IQC such as: The Nature Conservancy, Sea Turtle Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, Solimar, and the Wildlife Conservation Society. The sub-task orders allow the Program to further its impact in target areas.

Additionally, the Program signed subcontracts with the following organizations:

- **WIDECAS**: Due to a security incident in Moin, the implementation area for the subcontract had to be limited to Cahuita - Bocas del Toro where activities having to do with protecting turtle nests and hatchlings continue. WIDECAS has also helped create economic alternatives for local populations.
- **ICAPO**: The subcontractor has successfully completed monitoring hawksbill turtle nests, eggs, and hatchlings and promoting the development of economic alternatives that support conservation efforts.
- **CADPI**: Successfully completed its responsibilities under a subcontract with the Regional Program. This subcontractor was responsible for initiating the participatory process to update the Management Plan for the Biological Reserve in the Miskito Cays and the Immediate Coastline in Nicaragua.
- *Amigos de la Tierra (AdT)*: Recently completed all activities under its first subcontract with the Regional Program. Due to its previous work and extensive experience in the Gulf of Fonseca, the Program signed a second subcontract with AdT, which will begin in October 2013. AdT is expected to promote public-private partnerships that will continue to do critical work on turtle conservation in the region, and will work on protecting nests and hatchlings of olive ridley turtles in the Gulf of Fonseca for the countries of Honduras and Nicaragua.

### **Consultancies**

This fiscal year, the Program hired a specialist to develop an Actions Protocol for Roatan, with the support and participation of fisheries, environment, marine, security, and port authorities, as well as national police, local government, and officials from public prosecutor's office, which will facilitate interagency coordination.

Furthermore, as part of the MOU signed with ANAM, the USAID Regional Program hired a consultant to conduct a comprehensive diagnosis of the Damani-Guariviara Wetland of International Importance highlighting the state of natural resources, as well as the physical, biological, ecological, socio-economic, historical, and cultural characteristics of the wetlands. The diagnosis enabled the development of a comprehensive and strategic planning tool that utilizes participatory processes to operate the area and ensure the conservation of the Wetland's ecosystem and biodiversity and as well as the proper use of resources. The tool incorporates knowledge and customs of the Ngäbe and Buglé indigenous communities of the area to ensure the populations continued wellbeing and sustainable use of resources.

As part of economic alternative activities and support to the Sarteneja Fishermen's Association and the Placencia Producers Cooperative in Belize, the USAID Regional Program has hired two accountants (one for each organization) to support the development of an accounting system that will improve administrative and financial management of the organizations.

The Program has also hired business advisors for Honduras and Nicaragua, who will continue activities initiated by previous advisors. The Program also hired a consultant to work on the adaptation of the management plan for the current protected area in the Miskito Cays of Nicaragua for the first six months of new fiscal year.

## ANNEX E. TRAININGS

Figure 13 shows the number of people trained by the Program during FY13. A total of 4,911 people were trained of which 575 correspond to the indicator four, which focuses on government officials and NGOs; 3,919 corresponds to indicator nine, which focuses on trainings for artisanal and industrial fishermen; and 451 correspond to the indicator 18, which includes training for disabled divers and their families. A total of 30 people trained in FY 12, which had not been previously reported have been added to indicator 18.

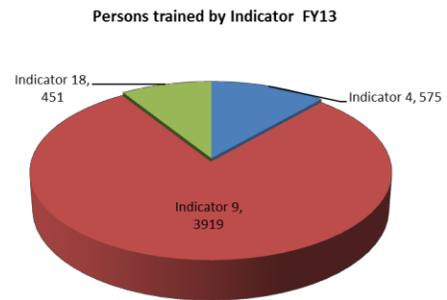
The following graphs show efforts to integrate gender groups for each of the indicators on trainings. Despite the Program's efforts and because of nature of the workforce in fishery industry of Central America, more men than women attend the trainings. For indicator four, 575 people were trained, of which 37% were trained during the first quarter of FY 13. There is a clear downward trend of both men and women trained during the fourth quarter, which coincides with the end of the Program.

For Indicator 9, the Program trained a total of 3919 fishermen. Of all beneficiary groups, fishermen were a priority for the fiscal year. During the first quarter of FY13, 2,419 men and 1500 women were trained as shown on graphic 15, on topics such as economic alternatives, markets, and marketing because the quarter coincides with the closed season for lobster and other species, which makes it easier for fishermen to attend the trainings and stay engaged.

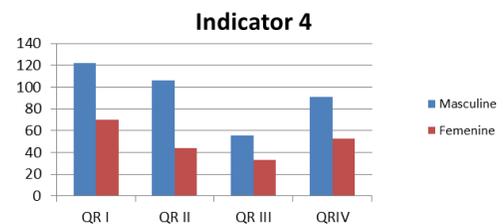
Under indicator 18, a total of 27 men and 37 women were trained during the first quarter. Beginning with the second quarter, a greater number of disabled fishermen or members of their families were trained on economic alternatives or sustainable and responsible fishing.

Graph 16 shows the total number of people trained by gender in each quarter. For FY 2013, a total of 3119 men and 1826 women were trained, considering all sectors.

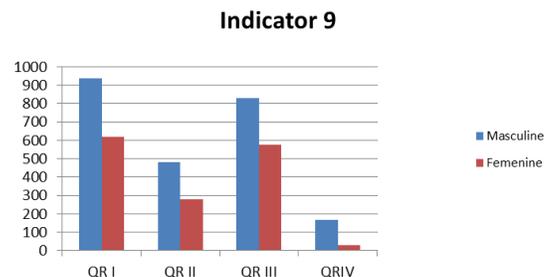
Graph 17 shows the total number of trainees during FY13 disaggregated by topic and site. The Program has focused its trainings on topics like economic alternatives, markets, and product commercialization in all of its transboundary sites. However, the Program site in the Gulf of Fonseca has focused slightly more than other sites on topics having to do with institutional framework and legal and political issues.



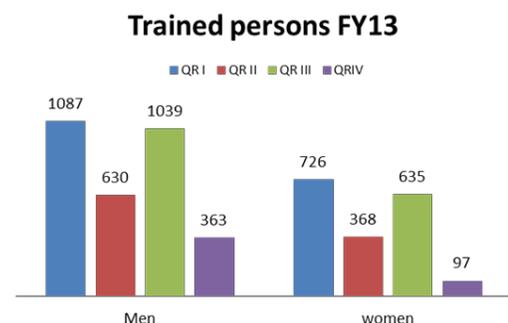
Graphic 13. Number of people trained FY13 by sector and indicator 4, 9 and 18.



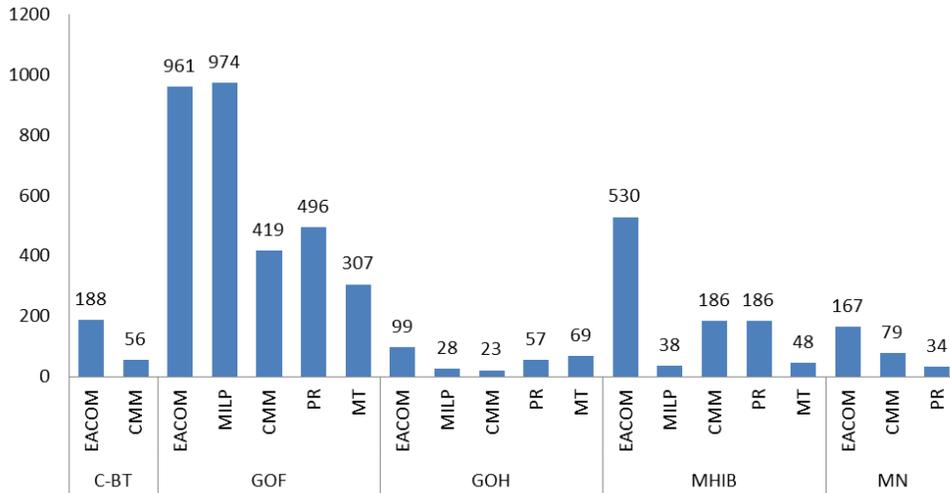
Graphic 14. 37% out of the total people trained, occurred during the first quarter FY13.



Graphic 15. A total of 2,419 men and 1500 women were trained during FY3.

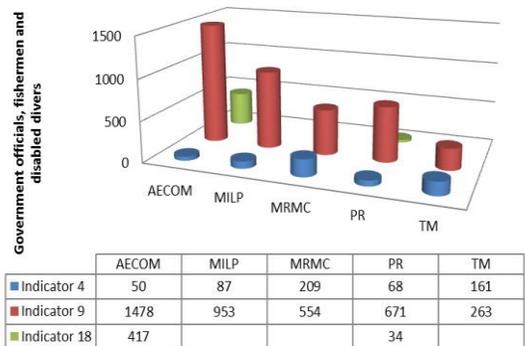


Graphic 16. A total of 3,119 men and 1826 women were trained in different topics FY13.



Graphic 17. Persons trained by site and topics FY3  
EACOM= Economic Alternatives; CMM= Coastal and Marine Management; MILP= Legal framework; PR= Responsible fishing; MT= Marine turtle

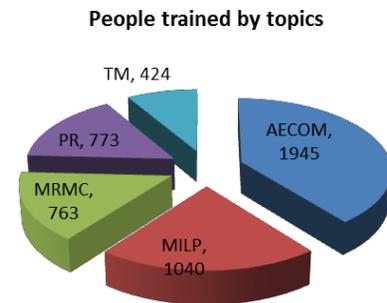
Graph 18 shows the total number of people trained during FY13 disaggregated by indicator and topic. Of the total of 3,817 artisanal and industrial fishermen trained, 39% were trained on economic alternatives, markets, and product commercialization. Of the 513 government officials trained, 37% were trained on coastal and marine resource management.



Graphic 18. Divers and fishermen were trained mainly in Economic alternatives.

Of the 4,945 people trained during FY13, 39% were trained on economic alternatives, markets, and product commercialization. Of all trainees, 21% were trained on institutional frameworks, and legal and political topics, which will enable the development of a protocol to action against intentional and unlawful damage of coastal-marine resources corresponding to indicator 2.

Of the 4,945 people trained in FY13, as shown in graphic 19, nearly half were trained in the Golf of Fonseca with support from *Amigos de la Tierra* (AdT). AdT trained a total of 2,335 artisanal and industrial fishermen on topics such as marketing products, bivalve management, regulatory framework, sea turtle conservation, internal organization and human resource management, among other topics. With these trainings the Program was able to leverage a [REDACTED], while the USAID Regional program funded [REDACTED].



Graphic 19. Total of people trained by topic

During the current fiscal year, for every dollar the USAID Regional Program invested in trainings, 40 cents came from Program funds and 60 cents from an additional source. During FY13, a total of [REDACTED] was invested in trainings and the Program was able to secure U.S. [REDACTED] in leveraged funds.

## ANEXO F. COMMUNICATIONS

During FY13 there have been various communication efforts to strengthen the dissemination of the program's actions, including the following:

### **Best Practices for Species Management:**

In order to improve management practices for each of the targeted commercial species, a series of five fact sheets for each of the five species with commercial value was produced by the Program in both Spanish and English. Fact sheets were made for queen conch, snapper, spiny lobster, cockles, and Nassau grouper.

### **Sustainable Shark Fishing:**

The Project launched a communication plan on sustainable shark fishing. Part of this communication effort included the production of a poster in conjunction with OSPESCA, which was included as part of the Regional Action Plan for the management and conservation of sharks in Central America (PAR-TIBURON). Along with the support from CENDEPESCA and the Roatan Marine Park, the Project also put together a presentation and produced an informative handout that explained the role and importance of sharks within the marine ecosystem and also provided recommendations for how to improve shark fishing practices. The materials will next be given to institutions and organizations at the Program's sites to further disseminate the information and hopefully achieve a multiplier effect as people become more informed. As an initial step the



the Program began distributing the handouts and giving the presentation during Reporting and Control System action protocol workshops in La Unión, GOF, El Salvador and Roatán, Bay Islands, Honduras during the months of August and September 2013. It's important to highlight that through an alliance the Executive Port Commission of El Salvador (CEPA) this effort will continue to be expanded with CONCACAF.

### **Economic Alternatives, using lobster traps and fishing nets along the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua and Honduras.**

The month of August brought an end to the radio program "Buenas Tardes Bilwi," which had been airing since the beginning of May to promote economic alternatives for fishermen in Nicaragua. The program informed listeners how to transition from diving for lobsters to safely using traps and also how to make and use fishing nets specifically designed to catch white shrimp within the 3 nautical mile area designated for artisanal fishing of this species. During the month of September the Project conducted a survey to measure the impact of the radio series, and the findings are expected in October 2013. Along the Miskito Coast of Honduras they began the process of identifying available resources to replicate this effort and transmit the same radio program from Puerto Lempira. In September during a workshop on monitoring protocol actions, the Program explored ways to identify resources effectively so that these important practices can continue being disseminated.



Former lobster divers, listening to the Radial Program at the Nicaraguan Moskitia while netting some suripera nets, a new fishing wear introduced by the Regional Program.

**Finalized the communication effort regarding responsible consumption of seafood in Bocas del Toro**

The Project’s poster outlining guidelines for responsible seafood consumption was accepted by local fishing and environment authorities and handed over to USAID, ARAP, and ANAM in Bocas del Toro, Panama. It is now ready for production and wider distribution to various actors in the tourism sector, including restaurants and Geotourism committees.



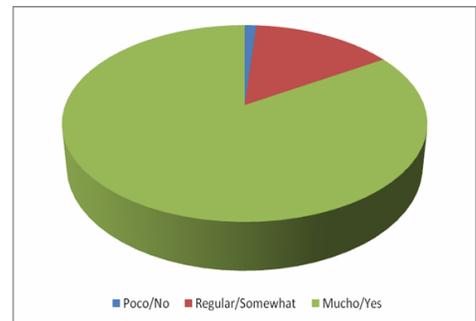
Poster for Responsible consumption for fisheries products for Bocas del Toro, Panama, proposed by the Program and approved for ANAM and ARAP.

**Biannual International Tradeshow of El Salvador**

In November 2012 this renowned tradeshow provided the perfect setting to widely publicize the purpose and work of the Program. The project’s stand included banners promoting sustainable fishing, information on the harmfulness of shark finning, and even displayed some actual lobster traps. Surveys were taken to gauge public perceptions of the information that the project presented and overall the messages demonstrated a very positive impact. The United States Ambassador attended the event and inaugurated the Program’s display booth.

**Monitoring the impact of the communication effort to inform visitors on the code of conduct when observing sea turtle nesting at Playa Bluff**

135 visitors were interviewed regarding their perceptions of the code of conduct and overall the results were very positive. In fact, 84% of those surveyed responded that they had learned a lot about sea turtle protection, the quality of the information was good, they agreed with the Code of Conduct, the Money they paid for the tour was worth it, and that they would recommend the experience to others. 24% of respondents felt the experience was adequate, while only 2% indicated that they disagreed with the initiative.



Graphic 20. Code of conduct survey results for marine turtle in Playa Bluff, Panama.

**Awareness and communication strategy for the implementation of a System of Reporting and Controlling illicit marine and coastal activity.**

Information was collected and two pilot sites were surveyed regarding an Action Protocol to design and produce awareness and communication strategies for reporting illicit marine and coastal activity. This information was then used as a framework for generating the strategies during two separate workshops in La Union, El Salvador and Roatán, Honduras.

## **Document on the Vulnerability and Bioclimatic Scenarios of Coastal and Marine Systems in the Central American Caribbean, edited and published.**

In a technical and financial alliance between the Program and the Coastal Marine Biodiversity and Climate Change Adaptation Project (BIOMARCC) from the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) a vulnerability analysis on climate change in the Central American Caribbean was completed. The report is in the final editing process and will soon be produced and handed over to regional authorities as an important guidance document on Climate Change and its implications at the regional level.

### **Documents for DEC (Knowledge Service Center Development Experience Clearing House USAID):**

A total of 26 documents were reviewed, translated from Spanish into English where necessary, and then submitted to the USAID website so that the information can be accessed by the general public.

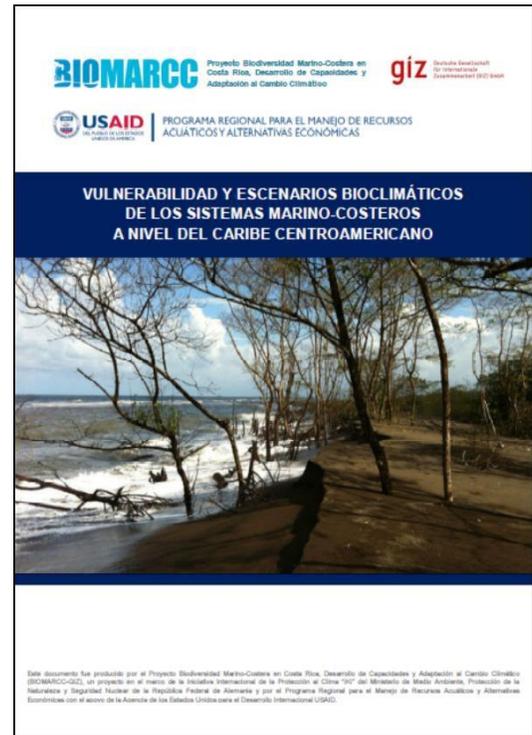
### **Signing of a MOU between USAID, Walmart, and ASPESCU**

A communication strategy was rolled out to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between USAID, Walmart, and ASPESCU in El Salvador. This included press, radio, and television coverage aimed at promoting improved fishing methods and the responsible consumption of seafood.

### **Production of Project Newsletters and Bulletins**

Four Newsletters were produced and distributed to more than 600 people involved in the Program at the regional level during FY13. Additionally, a total of 33 bulletins were created and shared with USAID on a weekly basis to provide the latest news on the impacts and results being achieved by the Program. A total of 10 Success Stories were registered and written during FY13.

1. Honduran Women Turning Trash into Treasure along the Miskito Coast – Gulf of Honduras
2. Garifuna Trilogy: Action Protocol, NatGeo Website, and Sharks – Roatán, Gulf of Honduras
3. Fishermen but and also pig breeders – Sarteneja, Belice, Gulf of Honduras
4. A Surf and Turf Approach to Fishermen – Punta Gorda, Belice Gulf of Honduras
5. Tourists pay for turtles in El Venado – Honduras, Gulf of Fonseca
6. Cooperative's ingenuity creates sustainable livelihoods – Nicaragua, Gulf of Fonseca
7. Access rights: mangrove cockles ´ cocktails – (Women El Rosario, Nicaragua) Gulf of Fonseca
8. Inciting Sustainable Industrial Fishing Practices – Miskito Coast, Nicaragua
9. Ice, the missing link in a Cold Chain – Maculis, Gulf of Fonseca, El Salvador
10. Sustainable Fisheries in Gulf of Fonseca (Three countries coastal marine fishermen).



## ANNEX G. SUCCESS STORIES:



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**USAID REGIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE MANAGEMENT  
OF AQUATIC RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES**

### Success Story

#### Garifuna Trilogy: Action Protocol, NatGeo Website, and Sharks

**Improving the lives of Bay Islands residents in Honduras through 3 initiatives. One: an Action Protocol, supported by the Garifuna Community of Punta Gorda, along with 10 other organizations.**



Two: Authorities from Roatan Marine Park and the Garifuna community work with USAID to disseminate a Regional Program-led communication effort to eradicate shark finning, a human activity that severely hurts shark populations in the region, and to raise awareness on the importance of sharks to maintain a healthy marine ecosystems.

Three: USAID incorporates a Garifuna seafood restaurant, "Sacrifise," to the NatGeo website in effort to support local businesses, and highlight Garifuna culture and their sustainable use of natural resources.

U.S. Agency for International Development  
[www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov)

"We could have easily ran out of resources and died of hunger if we had kept using them irresponsibly ..." said Alex Avila, a young leader of the Garifuna Community of Punta Gorda. The 3,000-person community is located in Roatan, Bay Islands, Honduras, and Alex refers to his community as the "first Garifuna community in Honduras and Central America."

Artisanal Garifuna fishermen needed to improve their fishing practices and to immediately work on actions and practices that would help them care for their coral reefs and mangroves, and work toward rebuilding healthy ecosystem.

For this reason, the USAID Regional Program supported the Garifuna as they formed the Fishermen Association of Punta Gorda, a 48-member association, and provided technical assistance to help them implement best fishing practices.

In agreement with the Garifuna community and 10 local organizations, USAID also proposed an Action Protocol, which encouraged Garifunas, NGOs, and authorities to become active guardians and protectors of their natural resources and empowering them to demand immediate action from authorities to punish and/or to prevent illicit use of coastal-marine resources.

In addition, the Garifuna community met sustainable tourism requirements to share their culture and promote their cuisine through the restaurant named Sacrifise, which is showcased on the Geo Tourism Virtual Platform made possible by the USAID Regional Program in partnership with National Geographic Society, and Solimar, a sustainable tourism consulting firm. The Platform or website promotes local business and local customs to the world. By joining the platform the Garifuna commit to following best fishing practices, responsible seafood consumption, and sustainable use of natural resources. The platform also allow the Garifuna to share unique cultural traditions with tourist, such as the fun and captavating dance known as "La Punta."

In partnership with Roatan Marine Park, an entity that also signed the Action Protocol, the Garifuna Community joined USAID's communication efforts on the importance of healthy shark populations to the marine ecosystem. Now three young Garifuna leaders, including Alex, continue to raise awareness about the need to eliminate shark finning practices and to avoid fishing juvenile sharks.

"Through the three initiatives supported by USAID, we have developed a pilot program for sustainable development that can be replicated. Nature is gift from God and it is our responsibility to take care of it," says Alex with a grateful smile.



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**USAID REGIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE MANAGEMENT  
OF AQUATIC RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES**

## Success Story

### Honduran Women Turning Trash into Treasure along the Miskito Coast

**Through solid waste collection and recycling, Miskito women combat environmental pollution and diseases such as malaria and diarrhea.**



Women from the Miskito Coast of Honduras collect, sort, compact, package, and ship trash to INVEMA, a private company in San Pedro Sula that purchases scraps and other materials from smaller recycling businesses.

**USAID contributed U.S. \$7,000.00 to establish trash deposit centers at strategic locations through which the Association can collect trash and then transport it to its storage facility. The deposit centers increase the organization's ability to collect trash, thereby, increasing its sales and making the operation profitable.**

"We saw the need to keep the village clean and prevent trash from accumulating near the Karataska Lagoon. We were ruining our environment, and main source of livelihood and food," said Cendela Lopez Kilton, 58, President of the Association of Indigenous Women or Miskito Indian Mairin Asia Takanka (MIMAT), in the local Miskito language. Karataska is frequently used for commercial navigation and other activities, yet there wasn't a system to collect the trash produced by these activities so it was often just dumped directly into the lagoon..

For this reason, 55 Miskito women, mostly single mothers, from Puerto Lempira, Honduras founded MIMAT in 2006 and began collecting and recycling solid waste in the region.

This group was supported by the Small Grants Program for the Global Environment funded by United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and through these funds they were able to organize and process their first full-cycle of waste treatment. A Taiwanese corporation donated a garbage collection vehicle and the Mayor granted the permit to start a waste management service. Shortly after, MIMAT signed an agreement with a recycling company in San Pedro Sula, INVEMA, which donated a trash compactor and now purchases materials from MIMAT.

In 2007, MIMAT received the National Environmental Prize, awarded every two years by the Foundation for the Environment, co-funded by the Secretary of Natural Resources and the Environment (SERNA) and a Honduran brewery.

Despite the association's achievements and the enthusiasm of the women, MIMAT was not operating as a sustainable and profitable business because it lacked the equipment and resources to set up collection centers, which would allow them to increase their environmental impact and sales.

At this critical point, USAID helped MIMAT develop a business plan and then contributed U.S. \$ 7,000.00 to purchase large bins to set up small collection centers. The women picked strategic places around the town where most of the trash is generated and areas where their vehicle could actually collect the trash and then transport it to their recycling center. These centers have helped the women increase their capacity to collect and process waste and in doing so have also boosted their sales. USAID's support will be supplemented by the GOAL Foundation through funds from PRONEGOCIOS, a host-government counterpart.

"Today, the operation is profitable and the fact that it is a women-led enterprise makes me very happy. I am pleased and proud because we've also been able to share our experience with other indigenous groups of Mexico, and Central and South America," says Cendela.

## ANNEX H. PARTNER ALLIANCES

Nombre organización	Legal Representative	Contact	Topic of Collaboration	Type of Document	Date Completed or Scheduled
1. GIZ	Michael Schloenvoigt		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and implement financial concepts and mechanisms for climate change adaptation of coastal marine protected areas</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	May 23, 2012
2. Honduran Institute of Tourism	Nelly Karina Jerez Caballero	Lic. Syntia Bennett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geoturismo Platform in Honduras</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	May 17, 2012
3. CENPROMYPE	Lic. Ingrid Figueroa		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish synergistic cooperation in complementary and sustainable productive alternatives</li> </ul>	Letter of Intent	May 1, 2012
4. NAT GEO	Jim Dion	Matt Humke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geoturismo Platform</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	December 12, 2011
5. Project CAMBIO BCIE - SICA	Vice-president of the Bank	Yuri Zenteno	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical assistance and business financing plans</li> </ul>	Framework Agreement	July 20, 2011
6. Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System Fund	Lorenzo Rosenzweig Pasquel	María José González Fuster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fundraising collaboration</li> <li>GOH Coastal Marine Zone</li> </ul>	Institutional Cooperative Framework Agreement	January 2011
7. AKVAPLAN-NIVA	Anton A. Giaever	Héctor Andrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the development of coastal and marine research.</li> <li>Use of information for decision-making</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	January 2011
8. Coral Reef Alliance CORAL, Roatán, Honduras	Rick MacPherson	Jenny Myton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordination of efforts in the Bay Islands</li> <li>Implementation of the Nat Geo</li> </ul>	Letter of Intent	May 10, 2011

			platform		
9. OSPECA/CCAD / USAID	Mario González Néstor Windevoxhel	Carlos Roberto Hasbún	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of the regional program</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	June 24, 2011
10. PNUD  Fondos GEF, Tegucigalpa, Honduras		Luigi Loddo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic alternatives</li> <li>Design of a productive program for the Miskito Coast.</li> <li>Share office space in Pto. Lempira</li> </ul>	Letter of Intent	February 10, 2011
11. National Authority of the Environment (ANAM)	Silvano Vergara Vásquez	Leticia de Polo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate and co-finance the Management Plan for the Damani Guariviara wetland</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	September 25, 2012
12. Placencia Producers Cooperative Society Limited	Sidney Lopez Jr.	Justino Méndez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institutional strengthening and capacity building in marketing, finance, and administration to increase the cooperative's revenues</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	November 30, 2012
13. Calleja S. A de C. V y Cordes	Juan Carlos Calleja Hakker	Ximena Robin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating commercial links between artisanal fishermen in the Gulf of Fonseca</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	November 28, 2012
14. SEA PEARL S. de R. L.	Roosevelt Francisco Terry Laing	Francisco Terry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating commercial links between artisanal fishermen in the Miskito coast of Honduras</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	January 23, 2013
15. Wahoo Foods	Enrico Cruz	Enrico Cruz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating commercial links between artisanal fishermen in the Miskito coast of Honduras</li> </ul>	Cooperative Agreement	February 14, 2013
16. Marinos Pescadería	José Arístides Flores	María Amalia Porta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the commercialization of lobster caught using fishing best-</li> </ul>	Letter of Understanding	March 18, 2013

			practices		
17. NETUNO	Luciano Bonaldo	María Amalia Porta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the commercialization of lobster caught using fishing best-practices</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	March 18, 2013
18. DARDEN	Roger Bing	Mike Powers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the commercialization of lobster caught using fishing best-practices</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	June 4, 2013
19. WALMART	Carlos Soto	Claudia de Ibáñez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of sustainable comercial relationship with artisanal fishermen.</li> <li>Promote compliance with manufacturing best-practices</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	July 30, 2013
20. FUPEC-PYME	Reina Arias de Paniagua	Roberto Hueso	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support artisanal fishermen to improve the quality of their products for comercial sale</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	July 30, 2013
21. KAUMA – DAKNI	Henry Lee Haylock Boman	Johnny Varela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide organizational strengthening to KAUMA in areas of marketing, accounting, finance, and administration</li> <li>Provide sustainable economic alternatives to Miskito fishermen by promoting best practices</li> </ul>	Memorandum of Understanding	August 30, 2013

## ANNEX I: ARTICLES PUBLISHED BY THE PROJECT.

Documents	Year
1. Profile on the State of Target Species of the USAID/MAREA Program	2010
2. Priorities for the Conservation of Sea Turtles on the Miskito Coast, Nicaragua.	2011
3. Evaluation on the State of Queen Conch	2011
4. Evaluation on the State of Nassau Grouper	2011
5. Manual on the Organization and Functions of the Honduran Director General of Fisheries and Aquaculture	2011
6. Fisheries Inspectors Handbook, DIGEPESCA, Honduras	2011
7. Manual of Best Fishing Practices for Caribbean Spiny Lobster ( <i>Panulirus argus</i> ).	2011
8. Tourism Models for the Conservation of Sea Turtles	2011
9. Guide to develop business plans for small and medium tourism enterprises	2011
10. Operations and Administration Manual for small and medium tourism enterprises	2011
11. Personnel Training Manual for small and medium tourism enterprises	2011
12. Sales and Marketing Guide for Small and Medium Tourism Enterprises	2011
13. Better Environment Magazine/ FIAES: Mangrove Restoration: A.) Management Challenge for Social Welfare, Nestor Windexhel. B.) Preserve the Carey!, Carlos Roberto Hasbun and Juan Carlos Villagran C.) The Magnificent Shark...Balance of the Seas!, Helena Miranda D.) Fisheries Management in the Gulf of Fonseca: A Comprehensive Effort, Zulma Mendoza and Arnulfo Ruiz. E.) Responsible Fisheries and Aquaculture Case Study, Sergio Martinez and Augusto Rosales	2011
14. Diagnosis on the State of Cockles ( <i>Anadara tuberculosa</i> and <i>Anadara similis</i> ) in the Pacific coast of Nicaragua	2012
15. Strategic Plan on development of the Conch Sector in Nicaragua	2012
16. Management of the bivalve Black Conch in Aserradores, Nicaragua 2011	2012
17. Climate Change in the Caribbean Vulnerability Analysis in Belize, Guatemala and Honduras	2013
18. Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in the Caribbean for Coastal Marine Areas in Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras	2013
19. Baseline report on the status of sea turtle populations in Bocas del Toro province and the Comarca Ngöbe-Buglé, Panama.	2013
20. International Legal Basis for the Conservation, Management and Shared Use of Sea Turtles in Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama	
21. Indigenous involvement, tourism private partnerships and environmental education in the Comarca Ngöbe-Buglé, Panama.	2013
22. Comarca Ngöbe-Buglé sea turtle assessment.	2013
23. The Honduran Caribbean Artisanal Fisheries	2013

Paper title	Year
24. Implementation of special licenses and limited access at Glovers Reef Marine Reserve, Belize.	2013
25. Evaluation of implementation of special licenses and limited access system at Glover's Reef marine reserve, Belize.	2013
26. Socio-economic assessment of fishermen affected by implementation of Glover's Reef managed access license program.	2013
27. Baseline Study of Caribbean Spiny Lobster from Honduras	2013
28. Value-chain Assessment of Spiny Lobster in Honduras	2013
29. Baseline diagnosis on the State of Sea Turtles between Moín and Bocas del Toro, Panama	2013
30. Analysis of Sea Turtles Vulnerability to Climate Change in Costa Rica	2013
31. Land Tenure Study on the Venice Peninsula in the Estero Padre Ramos Nature Reserve in the Municipality of El Viejo, Chinandega, Nicaragua	2013
32. Monitoring Report on Hawksbill Turtles in the Bay of Jiquilisco and Estero Padre Ramos (GOF).	2013
33. Analysis on the State of Sea Turtle Conservation in Guatemala	2013
34. Vulnerability and Bioclimatic Scenarios of Central Caribbean Coastal Marine Systems	2013
35. Industrial Fisheries Assessment of Honduras	2013
36. Vulnerability of sharks to fishing in Gulf of Fonseca	2013
37. Mangrove Cockles fishing in the Gulf of Fonseca in Honduras	2013
38. Sea turtle conservation plan for the Comarca Ngöbe-Bügle.	2013
39. Practical guide to the management, handling, transportation and marketing of seafood products for artisanal fishermen.	2013
40. Analysis of Climate Change Vulnerability in the Caribbean (Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras)	2013
41. An analysis of the data collected between the years 2009 – 2012 of the fisheries assessment study	2013
42. Olive Ridley Sea Turtle ( <i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i> ) Baseline in Conservation Centers (El Vanado, Cedeño , and Boca del Río Viejo) Gulf of Fonseca, Honduras	2013
43. Rapid Assessment Report on the Reefs of the Natural Marine Monument Buffer Zone in the Cayos Cochinos Archipelago	2013
44. Integrated Vulnerability Study of Bioclimatic Scenarios Resources and Marine and Coastal Ecosystems of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua and Panama	2013
45. Diagnosis of the State of Conservation of Sea Turtle Populations in Honduras	2013