



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

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



**DELIVERABLE: FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OCTOBER 2013 – SEPTEMBER
2014**

October 15, 2014

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by Chemonics International.

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

**DELIVERABLE: FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OCTOBER 2013 –
SEPTEMBER 2014**

**Contract No. EPP-I-00-04-00020-00
Task Order No.5**

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.

CONTENTS

ACRONYMS.....	4
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	7
INTRODUCTION.....	10
SECTION I: FOCUS, ADMINISTRATION AND IMPLEMENTATION.....	12
Staff.....	13
Subcontractors.....	14
OUTREACH.....	15
SECTION II: DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS.....	17
SECTION III: PERFORMANCE MONITORING PLAN	48
ANNEX A. SUMMARY OF INDICATORS	49
ANNEX B. FINANCIAL SUMMARY	50
ANNEX C. PROCUREMENT.....	51
ANNEX D. CONTRACTS AND SUBCONTRACTS	52
ANNEX E. TRAINING	55
ANNEX F. COMMUNICATIONS	58
ANNEX G. ACTIVITIES FOR FY14.....	60
ANNEX H. COOPERATION AGREEMENTS AND ALLIANCES.....	64

ACRONYMS

AAMVECONA	Association of Friends & Neighbors of the Coast & Nature
ACOOPACÍFICO	Association of Pacific Fishers Cooperative R.L
AMBHLI	Miskito Association of Disabled Divers of Honduras*
AMP	Protected Marine Area
ANAM	National Environmental Authority of Panama* Association of
APAIB	Indigenous Fishermen of Bruce Laguna Association Divers of
APBGADH	Gracias a Dios Department (Honduras).
ARAP	National Fisheries Authority of Panama.
ASPESCU	“El Cuco” Artesanal Fishermen Association (El Salvador)
BCIE	Central American Bank for Economic Integration
BIOMARCC	Coastal Marine Biodiversity, Capacity and Climate Change Project in Costa Rica.
IDB	Interamerican Development Bank
BUKARIMAT	Association of Miskito Women “Butuka Karma Taura Iwi Miskita” Hn.
CAMBio	Central American Markets for Biodiversity Project
CCAD	Central American Commission for Environment and Development*
CEM	Center for Marine Studies (Honduras)
CEMA	Center for Marine and Acuaculture Studies (Guatemala)
CEMPROMYPE	Center for promotion of Micro and Small Enterprise in Central America
CEPA	Autonomous Executive Port Commission (El Salvador)*
CENDEPESCA	Center for the Development of Fishing and Aquaculture (El Salvador)*
CIMAR	Center for Research on Marine Sciences and Limnology (Costa Rica)*
COCATRÁN	Central American Commission on Maritime Transportation
COP	Chief of Party*
COPACAYOS	Miskito Keys Artisanal Fishers’ Cooperative (Nicaragua).
CONAP	National Protected Areas Council (Guatemala).
COR	USAID Contracting Officer’s Representative
CLGR	Roatan Local Geotourism Council
CORAL	Coral Reef Alliance (Bay Island, Honduras)
COTTOM	National Technical Committee for Marine Turtles of Honduras
CVC	Control and Surveyance Committee
DAKNI	Second Level Organization for the Honduras Moskitia
DIGEPESCA	General Directorate of Fisheries of Honduras
DQA	Data Quality Assessment
ERIMC	Regional Strategy for Research of Coastal and Marine Resources
FAO	United Nations Organization for Food and Agriculture
GEF	Global Environmental Fund *
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
GOAL	Humanitarian International Organization (Ireland)
GOF	Gulf of Fonseca
GOH	Gulf of Honduras
ICAPO	Eastern Pacific Hawksbill Initiative
ICF	National Institute for Forest Development and Conservation, Protected Areas and Wildlife
INVEMA	Recycle Firma for Investment materiales (El Salvador and Honduras).
INATEC	Nicaraguan Institute of Technology

INPESCA	Nicaraguan Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture
ITQ	Individual Transferable Quotas*
KAUMA	Fishers' Association of Kaukira (Honduras)
MARENA	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Nicaragua
MARN- ELS	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of El Salvador
MARN - GT	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Guatemala
MIMAT	Association of Miskito Women of the Atlantic Coast (Honduras)
MNMACC	Cayos Cochinos Archipiélago Natural Marine Monument - Honduras
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation*
NATGeo	National Geographic Geotourism Platform
NGO NM	Non-governmental Organizations
OSPESCA	Nautical miles
PAR TIBURON	Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector of the Central American Isthmus
PCA	Regional Action Plan for the Management and Conservation of Sharks in Central America
PMU	Areas Planning and Conservation
POA PRCC	Program Managerial Unit – Chemonics Int. *
PRONEGOCIOS	Working Annual Plan
PNUD	Regional Climatic Change Program USAID
RAAN	IDB Rural Business Development Program – Honduras
REPICA	United Nation Development Program (UNDP)
ROCRAM	Autonomous North Atlantic Region of Nicaragua*
SERNA	Meeting for Port Managers in Central America
SERENA	Regional Operative Network for Maritime Authorities of Central America and Dominican Republic.
SICA	Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources of Honduras
TIDE	Natural Resources and Environment Secretary (RAAN – Nicaragua).
TNC	Central American Integration System
USAID	Toledo Institute for Development and Environment (Belize)
WCS	The Nature Conservancy*
WIDECAST	United States Agency for International Development*
WWF	World Conesevation Society*
	Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Network*
	World Wildlife Fund*

* Acronyms in English

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. It is implemented in conjunction with national and regional counterparts: the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), the Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector of the Central American Isthmus (OSPESCA), and USAID/El Salvador. Originally scheduled to end on October 1, 2014, the Program was granted an extension until March 31, 2015 which added activities to foster greater sustainability of best fishing practices, rights and market-based access mechanisms, and alternative livelihoods to support the conservation of biodiversity and marine species in select sites.

This annual report is based on the work plan for Fiscal Year 2014 (WP FY14), approved by USAID. It presents life of project activities and achievements based on the updated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, which is designed to cover the program's 11 results and 20 indicators.

The report focuses on activities to strengthen biodiversity conservation and to ensure that the region's coastal and marine resources continue to support the goods and services on which Central American coastal communities rely. The Regional Program aims to reduce threats posed by unsustainable fishing practices and coastal development, laying the foundation to promote rights-based access and market-based mechanisms that strengthen the management of coastal and marine resources in Central America. The Program supports the conservation of biodiversity and marine species endangered as a result of poor fishing practices, with an emphasis on ecosystem-based management and in close and constant coordination with national and regional fisheries and environment authorities. The WP FY14 covers five areas:

1. Working closely with national and regional fisheries and environment authorities, complete the results related to fostering a climate conducive to policy harmonization and implementation.
2. Continue to support the transition of artisanal and industrial fishermen away from the harmful practice of scuba diving for lobster, support and promote the development of sea-based economic alternatives (fisheries), increase sales of products harvested under improved resource management regimes, and expand the number of fishermen implementing improved fisheries practices, with emphasis on the Nicaraguan and Honduran Miskito Coast and the Gulf of Fonseca.
3. Draft and disseminate the labor codes of conduct developed for seaworkers in the transboundary Miskito coast of Nicaragua and Honduras to encourage the fishing industry and local authorities to improve conditions for artisanal fishermen and to reduce the numbers of divers disabled due to unsustainable lobster fishing practices.
4. Strengthen land-based economic alternatives, with emphasis on strengthening local geotourism stewardship councils in the region and promoting additional land-based opportunities for artisanal fishermen, such as algae farming, pig production, and solid waste management.
5. Achieve improved management targets in key areas of the region, such as the Nicaraguan Miskito Coast, the Caribbean coast of Honduras, and select sea turtle nesting and conservation sites along Central American coasts.

It should be noted that the findings and recommendations of the technical audit conducted by USAID from April to June 2013, were incorporated into the Regional Program's FY14 work plan and serve as the basis for this report.

This fiscal year, the Regional Program achieved or surpassed the life of project targets for all results and indicators. The most relevant of these are listed below:

1. The Program implemented two regional mechanisms to foster research and provide information to sustainably manage coastal and marine resources: the Scribd platform and the Regional Coastal and Marine Research Strategy (ERIMC).
2. An additional 1,671,323 hectares are now under improved management in coastal and marine areas of biological importance. Fourteen conservation plans and/or agreements on coral reef and mangrove management have been drafted for the relevant authorities are being implemented as a measure to adapt and boost resilience to climate change.
3. The Program supported the publication of 51 scientific articles on climate change and economic studies on species and ecosystems, among other topics.
4. A total of 10,902 men and women—including fishermen, civil servants, and NGO representatives—have been trained on coastal-marine conservation, improved fisheries practices, improved business practices, marketing, and economic alternatives.
5. In FY14, roughly 39.2% of sales of the Program's target species were harvested under rights-based mechanisms and/or better fisheries practices.
6. With Program assistance, 1,780 people on the Honduran and Nicaraguan Miskito Coast are benefiting from the implementation of pilot productive projects.
7. Seven management plans for target species in the region have been drafted and implemented, including management plans for spiny lobster, queen conch, Nassau grouper, and mangrove cockle (*curil*), "black conch", additionally the Action Plan for Hawksbill Conservation (2015 – 20120), in Gulf of Fonseca.
8. The Program leveraged over [REDACTED] of non-US government funds to support coastal-marine conservation efforts, promote improved fisheries practices and rights-based mechanisms, and pilot economic alternative projects.
9. The Program recorded sales of over [REDACTED] for products obtained and/or services offered using improved resource management practices and/or rights-based mechanisms, benefiting nearly 50 small and medium sized fishing enterprises. This includes 141 small and medium-sized tourism operators participating in National Geographic's geotourism platform (www.gobluecentralamerica.org) in Roatán, Honduras and Bocas del Toro, Panama, which have reported more than [REDACTED] in additional sales.
10. Twelve rights-based mechanisms have been implemented for improved management of fin fish and shellfish species of commercial value.
11. Over 201,000 spiny lobster juveniles were not harvested as a result of the improved fisheries practices implemented.
12. Regulation OSP-05-11 banning shark finning was disseminated in six Central American countries.
13. The Program piloted a lobster traceability system in Honduras, with the active involvement of three industrial vessels outfitted with lobster traps, a packing house in La

- Ceiba, and a U.S.-based buyer. The 12,000 pounds of lobster tails traced through the pilot, generated over ██████████ in sales. Given these results, and the interest expressed by other companies, the pilot potentially could be replicated in other countries of the region.
14. In El Salvador, the Program brokered a business partnership between Wal-mart and the Fishermen's Cooperative Association (ASPESCU, as it is known by its Spanish acronym) for the sale of products harvested under improved fisheries practices and processed in accordance with the requirements of Wal-mart and the Salvadoran government.
 15. Three systems for tracking complaints of fishing violations were designed and implemented in three pilot sites to support operational protocols for coastal and marine crimes. The systems were presented to relevant authorities in Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, which will implement them to strengthen coastal-marine surveillance and law enforcement.

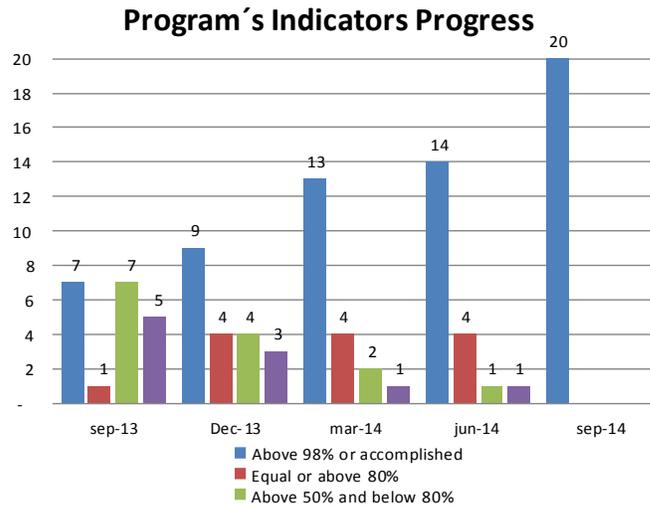


Figure 2. Indicator's level of accomplishment during FY14

INTRODUCTION

This is the annual report for fiscal year 2014 of 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, awarded to Chemonics International Inc. in March 2010. This fifth annual report, which covers implementation of the Work Plan FY14, approved by USAID, presents the results for targets and indicators established in the contract to solidify the activities implemented and ensure their sustainability once the Program closes down in March 2015.

The Regional Program aims to reduce threats posed by unsustainable fishing practices and coastal development, laying the foundation to promote rights-based access and market-based mechanisms that strengthen the management of coastal and marine resources in Central America. The Program supports the conservation of biodiversity and marine species endangered as a result of poor fishing practices, with an emphasis on ecosystem-based management and close and constant coordination with national and regional fisheries and environment authorities.

The USAID Regional Program has two primary strategic objectives:

1. **Strategic Objective I:** Promote effective monitoring and enforcement of coastal and marine resources policies and legislation with an emphasis on compliance.
2. **Strategic Objective II:** Foster rights-based and market-based mechanisms and management incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine fisheries resources and ecosystems, with an emphasis on ecosystem-based approaches to management.

Over four years of implementation, the Regional Program has fostered improved management of coastal and marine resources and biodiversity conservation in four transboundary sites with high levels of biodiversity in Central America. The two tri-national sites are the Gulf of Honduras (Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras) and the Gulf of Fonseca (Nicaragua, Honduras, and El Salvador), and the two binational sites are the Miskito Coast (Honduras and Nicaragua) and Cahuita-Bocas del Toro (Costa Rica and Panama).

The program was granted a six-month extension until March 2015. Nonetheless, this Annual Report for FY14 is based on the 11 results identified to achieve USAID's original life of project targets as of September 2014. The report is organized into four sections:

1. **Section I:** This section presents the Regional Program's focus for the fourth year, resources and strategies to achieve the targets, and deliverables requested of and provided by subcontractors.
2. **Section II:** This section highlights the management and implementation of the Regional Program. In keeping with the recommendations from the internal audit, it describes achievements for the results set out under each strategic objective and indicator, based on the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan submitted to USAID.
3. **Section III:** This section presents the Program's performance and monitoring plan.
4. **Annexes:** The annexes include data on administration, training, contracts, and consultancies to achieve the targets, in accordance with the terms of the contract.

The Program has successfully met all of its life of project targets. The main challenges were associated with activities that relied on the timing of government responses and other organizations' review and approval processes, which were sometimes beyond the control of the Program team and implementing partners.

The main achievements for each indicator are set out in the following list of results and many of them are also found in the table of indicators (Annex A).

SECTION I: FOCUS, ADMINISTRATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

A. FOCUS



Map 1. Location of Regional Program sites and offices. (Source: Regional Program).

The Program continued to focus on improving the biodiversity on which the target species identified in the contract depend, with an emphasis on ecosystem-based management, so that the region's biodiversity continues to support key goods and services for coastal populations and the Central American region as a whole. Based on the strategies set out in the contract, the Program has promoted market-based and rights-based access mechanisms for artisanal fishermen. Following the recommendations from the internal mid-term evaluation conducted in July 2012, the Program focused on maintaining the productivity of marine systems through biodiversity conservation with an ecosystem-based management approach, and collaborated with OSPESCA and CCAD on tools to improve enforcement of fisheries laws and regulations.

During the year, the Regional Program welcomed a new COR. Other changes took place in its missions and work methods. In response, the Program Team revised the Program's monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan and conducted a data quality assessment (DQA) in close coordination with USAID to ensure that all parties were using the same criteria for the Program's results and life of project (LOP) targets. This required a substantial time investment in order to report activities and make sure the new COR was well versed in the Program and its work methods.

This fiscal year, the Program concentrated on ensuring the sustainability of USAID's investments. It has received follow-up notes from several beneficiaries reporting on procedures and activities to ensure continuity and solidify ownership of the Program's most important results. While the Program delivered presentations where possible, such as in Guatemala, presentation in Honduras and El Salvador has been reprogrammed by November 2014. To date, the Program has received

over 45 notes expressing commitments to follow up on its results. As part of its sustainability strategy, the Program submitted a proposal for a six-month extension to USAID in order to cement its main results in three key sites in the region: Gulf of Fonseca, Miskito Coast of Nicaragua, and Miskito Coast of Honduras. USAID recently approved this proposal and implementation of the extension has begun.

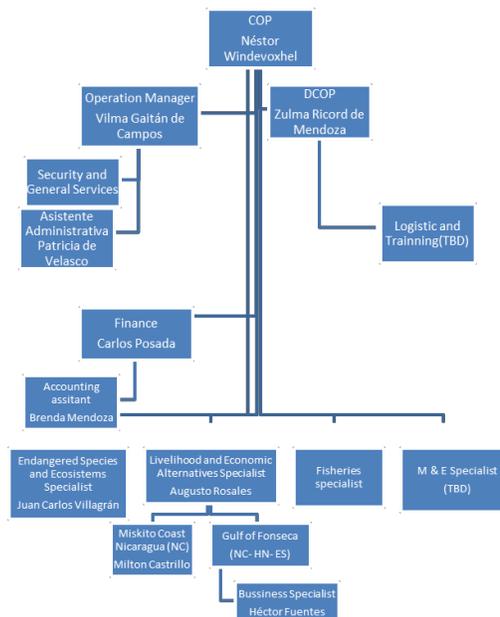
Lastly, in September the Program assisted the external evaluation team hired by USAID, providing technical and financial data and linking the team with information and contacts. At the request of the evaluation team, USAID authorized Program staff to accompany the mission’s members in their work.

B. RESOURCES

Staff

To allocate resources to reach life of program targets and objectives, technical and field office staff was gradually reduced at the central level and in the regional sites in FY14. The process began with the closure of the field offices in Guatemala (Gulf of Honduras) and Panama (Cahuita-Bocas del Toro). The Program’s fisheries specialist and site coordinators for the Gulf of Fonseca and the Miskito Coast of Honduras were also phased out in the second quarter of the fiscal year. Given the Program’s emphasis on productive and business activities, the marketing and business specialist in the Gulf of Fonseca assumed the coordination role. Activities in the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua continued with the same staff composition.

In the third quarter, the activities of the M&E specialist, the subcontracts specialist, and the communications specialist were reassigned to trained technical staff. The work of the M&E specialist was added to the job description of Business Specialist Baltasar Mejía, who had designed the data collection models and methods for all sales indicators. The task of monitoring contracts and sub-contracts was reassigned to the Operations Manager, following the Program’s original design. Communications were assigned to subcontractors in some cases and to short-term consultants in others, depending on programmatic needs. In June, the Program accepted the resignations of Baltasar Mejía, Business, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, and Ivonne Mirón, Logistics and Training Specialist. The following chart presents the team that worked over nine months during FY14:



Staff Organizational Chart as of Sept. 30, 2014

Subcontractors

The program continued to work with the following subcontractors in the consortium: World Wildlife Fund (WWF), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Solimar International, and Sea Turtle Conservancy (STC), Eastern Pacific Hawkbill Initiative (ICAPO) and Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Network (WIDECAST). The table 1, below describes the most relevant results achieved by the Regional Program’s subcontractors in the fourth implementation year:

Table 1. Subcontractor Contributions in FY14

Sub-Contractor	Results and Deliverables
<p>WCS Glover’s Reef Marine Reserve, Belize</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports on relevant activities and data on catches in Glover Reef Marine Reserve. Data obtained by WCS through monthly sampling of lobster, conch and fish, was used to calculate catch per unit of effort (CPUE), a valuable source of information for Belize’s Fisheries Department and for developing a successful sustainable fisheries model.
<p>TNC Bay Islands, Honduras and Port Honduras Marine Reserve, Belize</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidation of multiple use and no-take zones, as well as economic alternatives for artisanal fishermen (15 beneficiaries), NGOs, and fisheries authorities in Port Honduras Marine Reserve, Belize. • Consolidation of the co-management proposal and training for fishermen in Bay Islands, Gulf of Honduras, benefiting 507 fishermen. • Organization, licensing and registration of four artisanal fishermen’s groups in Bay Islands (164 fishermen) • Co-management agreement between NGOs and environmental authorities for Bay Islands, Gulf of Honduras (10 governmental authorities, four NGOs, and four artisanal fishermen’s organizations). • Impact assessment models for tides and storms in Bay Islands, which have been integrated into Guatemala’s national policy and into management plans for two protected areas in Río Sarstún and Punta Manabique. Two NGOs involved in co-management and implementation of the Management Plan and authorities responsible for the national protected areas. • Integration of climate change adaptation guidelines in the Land Management plan for Bay Islands, benefitting at least 20 communities in Bay Islands.
<p>Solimar International Bocas del Toro, Panama and Roatan, Honduras</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued monitoring of the geotourism platform in the Regional Program’s two sites in Central America, aimed at increasing market access of unique tourism operators and destinations and promoting the adoption of internationally recognized best tourism practices in the tourism industry. In this phase, the initiative has 141 participating business and organizations in Bay Islands (Honduras) and Bocas del Toro (Panama). Additional sales this fiscal year attributed to the site totaled ██████████
<p>STC Bocas del Toro-Cahuita</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leatherback and hawksbill nest and hatchling protection in Ngöbe-Buglé District and Bluff Beach, Panama. • Sea Turtle Conservation Plan in Ngöbe-Buglé District. • Design and implementation of a community-operated “sea turtle watchers” program in Bluff Beach, Bocas del Toro (Panama). This program is known for the effective relationship between the guide group and local tourism operators. Association of Friends and Neighbors of the Coast and Nature (AAMVECONA, as it is known by its Spanish acronym) has successfully supported and promoted a variety of tours through communications strategies and marketing methods in which hotels offer discounted rates to those who sign on to a tour. In 79 days of operation, it served over 395 visitors and reported revenues of approximately ██████████ from tourism services.
<p>WWF Miskito Coast, Honduras</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A baseline study of records from the past 10 years to determine spiny lobster (<i>Panulirus argus</i>) export trends from Honduras to the United States. • Evaluation of the spiny lobster value chain in Honduras and identification of private companies willing to invest in conservation of this species on the Miskito Coast. • Training for 54 fishermen and industrial fleet crew members in Honduras on improved fisheries practices for lobster. • Memorandums of understanding brokered between three U.S. buyers and

	Honduran lobster packers interested in implementing improved fisheries practices. The parties participated in a pilot lobster traceability system that traced 12,000 lbs. of lobster with a sales value of [REDACTED]
ICAPO Gulf of Fonseca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of hawksbill turtle nests and hatchlings in Jiquilisco Bay, El Salvador and Estero Padre Ramos, Nicaragua • Design and implementation of a volunteer program for scientists on sea turtle conservation in the Gulf of Fonseca. • Conservation Action Plan for Hawksbill Turtle (2015-2020) with the participation of 104 people from a significant number of national organizations and local groups in the GOF.
WIDECAST Bocas del Toro-Cahuita	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hawksbill and leatherback turtle nest and hatchling protection in the Moín-Cahuita-Bocas del Toro Binational Zone (Costa Rica-Panama) • Establishment of a binational partnership through an alliance with Chiquita Brand for sea turtle conservation on the Caribbean Coast of Costa Rica and Panama.

OUTREACH

Local, national authorities and strategic partners: This fiscal year, the Regional Program has focused on ensuring the sustainability of its investments and results through the following strategies: (1) presentations to beneficiary groups and potential users to explore their interest in following up and taking advantage of the Program’s results; (2) workshops to present the program’s outputs to government authorities; and (3) requesting information on the current use of products and potential future uses based on USAID investments through the Program. The following are some examples of the way in which these strategies have been implemented:

1. Presentation to the Guatemalan authorities and 14 national organizations, in addition to beneficiary groups, interested in implementing the Program’s proposed activities.
2. A virtual presentation for the Cousteau Center housed in the Research Center for Marine Sciences and Limnology (CIMAR), University of Costa Rica, on some of the Program’s results in the areas of climate change as well as the Regional Coastal and Marine Research Strategy (ERIMC). The Cousteau Center has offered to house and update the ERIMC for at least two years.
3. The Program delivered a presentation at the Meeting of Port Administrators of Central America (REPICA) hosted by the Central American Commission on Maritime Transport (COCATRAM) in Nicaragua and obtained a commitment to support OSPESCA’s information and policy on the prevention of shark finning and to promote climate change adaptation initiatives in coastal and marine areas.
4. The Program delivered a presentation to the authorities and other stakeholders in its three pilot sites in Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua on the Operational Protocols and Complaints Tracking System for fishing violations. Local stakeholders in the three sites expressed interest in pursuing these initiatives. Plans are currently being drafted and implemented and the systems are being tested on private servers to provide direct access to stakeholders.
5. The Program submitted National Fisheries-Environment Agendas to relevant authorities in each country as well as submitted the Regional Fisheries-Environment Agenda to the CCAD and OSPESCA Secretariats.
6. The Regional Program also participated in the Agroindustrial Fair in El Salvador. Drawing on the partnership facilitated between Wal-mart and ASPESCU, the Program presented a model in which a buyer can partner with an artisanal fishermen’s cooperative that has adopted improved practices for harvesting and processing of fisheries products.

Lastly, the Program has continued to attend and facilitate the Executive Committee meetings, albeit with mixed results, given the difficulty of coordinating the agendas of participants from USAID, CCAD, and OSPESCA. The Regional Program held three meetings of the **Executive**

Committee this year to discuss progress and results, ownership of its products, and the close down phase. CCAD's new Secretary, Christa Castro of Honduras, was introduced at the March 2014 meeting. And at the last meeting this year, the Program formally submitted the Regional Fisheries-Environment Agenda and the Regional Research Strategy on Coastal and Marine Resources (Indicator 5), as a contribution for use by those regional entities.

Although in the past two years the Regional Program has repeatedly requested that the Executive Committee create an opportunity to present the Program's progress and results to national and regional authorities, it has yet to do so. This is particularly worrisome because in some cases—and in CCAD in particular—there has been talk that the ministers are not familiar with the progress that has been made, even though they have received the electronic bulletins, as well as printed materials delivered at their request or during courtesy visits.



Executive Committee for the Regional Program implementation : USAID, CCAD, OSPESCA. Sept. 2014
(Photo: Silvia López)

SECTION II: DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

This section presents the results made in the Regional Program's fourth year of implementation and corresponds to the period from October 2013 to September 2014. It describes activities according to the Program's two main strategic objectives and the 11 specific results set out in the task order. It offers a brief explanation of the activities carried out to achieve the targets established in the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for FY14, which was finalized with USAID in September of 2013.

Strategic Objective 1: Promote effective monitoring and enforcement of coastal and marine resources policies and legislation with an emphasis on compliance

A. RESULTS FOR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE I

Result 1: All Central American Countries Adopt and Implement Harmonized Best Management Practices for the Sustainable Use of Target Coastal and Marine Resources

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

The USAID Regional Program promoted and facilitated the drafting of nine legislative and policy instruments related to coastal and marine resource management.

Regional fisheries-environment agenda. Intersectoral coordination between fisheries and environment authorities was identified as one of the principle necessities for the achievement of integrated management of Central America's natural resources. One of the institutional, social, and scientific aspirations of regional authorities has been to develop coordinated work plans for the management and protection of marine and coastal resources for each of the seven countries in the region as well as for the region as a whole.

The Regional Program in support of OSPESCA and CCAD decided to develop a joint fisheries and environment agenda for Central America. Consensus among all actors consulted in all seven countries in the region was that joint fisheries-environment agendas should first be developed at the national level, and using common elements from these, the Program should develop the regional agenda for discussion with the Secretariats of CCAD y OSPESCA. During FY14, the Program completed and officially submitted six National Fisheries-Environment Agendas for Panama, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Belize. The Program also submitted a report on the process for development of the Agenda in Nicaragua, through visits and consulting official documents.

The result of the analysis of the six National Agendas was the development of the proposed Regional Fisheries-Environment Agenda which was submitted to the Regional Secretariats of the Central American Integration System (SICA, as it is known by its Spanish acronym), CCAD, y OSPESCA, whose inputs and suggestions were incorporated into the final document. Program consultants identified nine strategic macro activities for the development of a joint agenda covering both the fisheries and environment sectors in Central America:

1. Investigate the status and use of marine and coastal resources in the region.
2. Manage in an integrated and coordinated way, the highly migratory marine resources at a regional level.
3. Strengthen scientific and technical cooperation through the development of institutional capacity and permanent training for inhabitants of coastal zones and citizens that use coastal and marine resources.

4. Improve governance mechanisms for coral reef management under ecosystem approach.
5. Develop an operational protocol for CCAD and OSPESCA to build consensus among Central American countries around the joint agenda through participations in summits and international conferences such as CITES, RAMSAR, CDB, climate change, and others.
6. Promote updates and harmonization of regional and national legislation governing fisheries and the environment.
7. Monitor and control the use of marine and coastal resources in an inter-institutional way with the fisheries and environment authorities, armed forces, and environmental prosecutors and judges.
8. Establish a regional system through the OSPESCA portal for the harmonization and unification of a single registry for marine and coastal resource violations.
9. Promote the implementation of the Regional Climate Change strategy in marine and coastal areas.

The majority of proposed activities in the action plan in the Agenda are projected to be implemented through the establishment of inter-institutional coordinating bodies that do not require additional funds, but rather optimized existing resources.

Two National Strategies for Sea Turtles:

Working with key stakeholders and legislative bodies, the Regional Program produced two National Strategies for Sea Turtles and presented them to the Guatemalan and Honduran authorities. In the third quarter of this year, the Government of Honduras, through its Secretariat on the Environment (SERNA) incorporated the National Strategy as official policy. This strategy also included the formal incorporation of the Sea Turtle National Technical Committee (COTTOM, as it is known by its Spanish acronym).



Energy Vice Minister from SERNA, receives The National Strategy for Marine Turtle facilitated by the Regional Program from the COP, Mr. Nestor Windevoxhel. (Photo USAID Regional Program).

Indicator		FY14	LoP
Indicator 1. Number of coastal and marine resources conservation and sustainable use policies and legislation drafted and presented.	Target	6	20
	Actual	9	23
	Progress	150%	115%

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

Operational Protocols for Coastal-Marine Violations in the Program’s Three Pilot Sites. Given that central and local public sector institutions responsible for environmental compliance often operate under a complex regulatory framework that at times can create jurisdictional conflicts, the Program aimed to develop an “Operational Protocol” – developed with the participation of all relevant actors – to define responsibilities and actions to expedite and coordinate monitoring and compliance, as well as administrative and judicial processes related to compliance with environmental regulations.

The Operational Protocol will serve as a guide to strengthen capacity of public sector entities and improve environmental supervision, monitoring, and compliance via effective coordination of the distinct central and local governmental bodies responsible for application of environmental regulations and enforcement of coastal and marine violations across jurisdictions. The Operational

Protocol promotes constant communication between agencies to create a lasting dialogue to ensure effective implementation of processes and procedures that contribute to good environmental governance. This result is tied to Indicator 3, on the Complaints Tracking System. Both of these tools were created as part of the five strategies for Coastal and Marine Law Enforcement and Compliance developed in the Program’s first year of implementation (May 2011), which are described in the box to the right.

In a participatory process with the coastal and marine law enforcement bodies, from June 2012 to June 2014, the Regional Program completed and implemented **three Operational Protocols for coastal and marine crimes** in the three pilot sites: La Unión, El Salvador; Bay Islands, Honduras; and Chinandega, Nicaragua. At least 53 delegates from governments and NGOs in the three countries were involved in developing the operational protocols.

The protocol for the last of the three pilot sites, Chinandega, Nicaragua (Gulf of Fonseca), was completed in the fourth year of implementation. Through an MOU, the Program entered into a strategic partnership with Paso Pacifico for implementation of the law enforcement strategy in this pilot site. A nongovernmental organization, Paso Pacífico works on the restoration and conservation of natural ecosystems on the Pacific coast with the support of local business owners, communities, and other conservation groups. Paso Pacifico provided funding to ensure the participation of government representatives with steering roles in the area of coastal and marine resources. Working with six government entities and Paso Pacifico, the USAID Regional Program funded a consultancy to facilitate the design of the Operational Protocol in Chinandega, as well as the accompanying complaints tracking system. The Program has transferred the system to Paso Pacifico, which will scale up the tool and integrate other NGOs with related missions.

- | Strategies for Enforcement and Compliance | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| • | Surveillance and Law Enforcement Strategy based on which the Operational Protocols for coastal-marine violations were produced as a law enforcement tool. | | |
| • | Complaints Tracking Strategy for coastal-marine violations, implemented through the Complaints Tracking Systems for crimes set out by the authorities in the operational protocols. | | |
| • | Strategy for the Imposition of Sanctions includes training for law enforcement officials responsible for coastal and marine resources. | | |
| • | Communications and Awareness were the two cross-cutting strategies. | | |

In the second and third quarters of the fourth fiscal year, the Program focused its efforts on the **Communications and Awareness Strategy** for each of the three pilot sites. To this end, it forged partnerships with other leading NGOs, in particular with Roatán Marine Park in Bay Islands and Paso Pacifico in Chinandega. As reported in the Regional Program’s *Third Quarterly Report, April – June 2014*, a random survey of 114 listeners showed that the radio spots had increased awareness.

Indicator		FY14	LoP
Indicator 2. Number of coastal and marine resources law monitoring and enforcement strategies drafted and implemented.	Target	2	5
	Actual	2	5
	Progress	100%	100%

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

Complaints tracking and monitoring strategy in the three pilot sites:

The Program designed and implemented the complaints tracking and monitoring systems for coastal and marine violations in its pilot sites in the three countries, in conjunction with the government officials involved in developing the operational protocols. One of the objectives of the extension granted to the Regional Program is to implement these tracking systems, which are currently operating on private servers in the three countries.

In Bay Islands, the Regional Program signed an MOU with the Center for Marine Studies (CEM), a nongovernmental research institute, for cooperation on implementing the complaints tracking system. This NGO participated in the design of the operational protocol for Bay Islands and therefore this partnership will be key to ensuring the system’s sustainability. The Office of the Attorney General (Public Ministry) will administer the system—which is currently being scaled up—and CEM will provide technical support and monitoring for two years. In Nicaragua, the Regional Program transferred the complaints tracking system to Paso Pacífico, which has agreed to administer and scale it up on the Rivas coasts, creating a multiplier effect on the southern Pacific coast of that country. This period, the Program will provide technical training and support to the organizations that will administer the systems.

In addition, the Program developed six operational manuals for implementing complaints tracking systems in El Salvador and Nicaragua. The manuals will be used for technical training and for monitoring system administration. They manuals describe the tasks users should perform depending on their positions in a particular agency, and cover the following types of users: 1) public interface; 2) administrative; 3) coordinator; 4) data entry; 5) case resolution; and 6) technical. A total of 30 government technical personnel participated in the introduction to the complaints tracking system in El Salvador y Nicaragua. The Regional Program will support training and monitoring of indicators during the extension period.

Indicator		FY14	LoP
	Indicator 3. Number of countries implementing harmonized fisheries violation reporting system.	Target	3
Actual		3	3
Progress		100%	100%

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

In the fourth year of implementation (October 2013 to June 2014), the Regional Program trained 104 government and nongovernmental officials (75 men and 29 women). Training topics included coastal-marine monitoring, surveillance, and law enforcement using the compendium of coastal and marine law produced by the Regional Program. This training was the final step in implementing the operational protocols and tracking system for coastal-marine violations in Chinandega, Nicaragua. Other training activities focused on developing strategies for sea turtles and management plans for Miskito Cays on the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua.



Workshops and meetings on the Operational Protocols and Violation Reporting Systems with institutional authorities and NGO in Nicaragua, GOF. (Photo Zulma de Mendoza).

Indicator		FY14	LoP
	Indicator 4. Number of people from fisheries and environment governmental and non-governmental institutions trained	Target	100
Actual		104	2,406
Progress		104%	160%

Indicator 5: Number of regional mechanisms implemented to foster research and provide information to sustainably manage coastal and marine resources.

Information sharing mechanism. The Program has continued to use the internet document sharing site Scribd to share documents it produces directly or through subcontractors, as well as other documents on related topics that might be of interest to the public. To date, the Program has shared 246 documents on relevant topics, 241 of which are still available on the site. In FY14, the Program had shared 38 documents and registered 47,281 visits (Figure 3) by 2,681 subscribers (Figure 4) as of September 23, similar to the previous quarter.

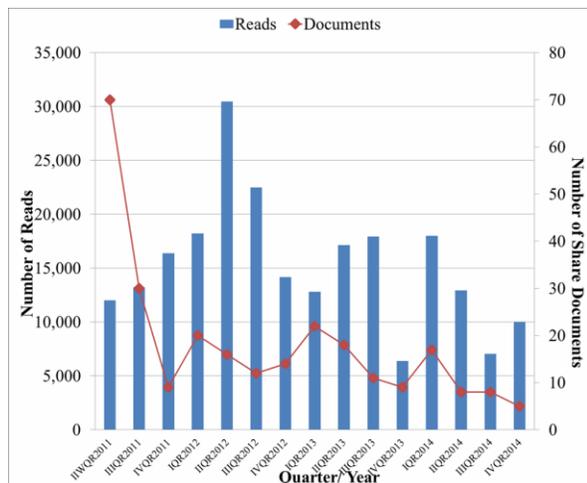


Figure 3. Number of reads and share documents

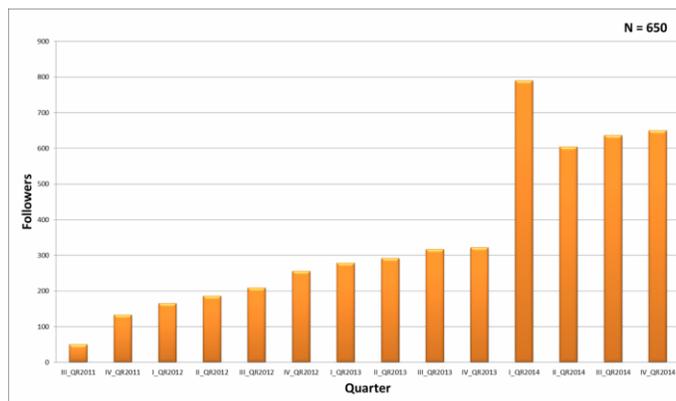


Figure 4. Number of followers by term and year during the life time program

Regional Coastal and Marine Research Strategy (ERIMC) Working closely with government sectors, academics, and NGOs, the Program facilitated the design of regional guidelines for research on coastal and marine resources. The proposed ERIMC is based on a database and studies conducted in the seven countries of the region. After incorporating feedback from CCAD and OSPESCA, the Regional Program officially submitted a final version of the ERIMC to these authorities for integration into regional policy. This tool has been added to Scribd.

With a view to ensuring the sustainability of these efforts, the Program will transfer the ERIMC and its site on Scribd to SICA, through CCAD, and to the USAID Regional Climate Change Program. In this way, the Regional Program hopes that these tools will become part of the environmental observatory that CCAD is establishing with financial and technical support from the German cooperation agency GIZ. In addition, the Program has met with the Cousteau Center for Central America to discuss the transfer of information, documents, and databases. The Cousteau Center has offered, in writing, to house and update the database for at least two years, and make it available to the public. This is an unprecedented opportunity to ensure continuity in the use and updating of information in the Central American region. Similarly, national institutes such as the Center for Marine and Aquaculture Studies (CEMA) of San Carlos University in Guatemala and CIMAR of the University of Costa Rica have formally requested information in order to maintain and update the relevant national data.

The Program hopes that environment and fisheries authorities in the Central American region will use this information base to forge agreements and influence budgetary allocations and priority-setting by national research councils in their respective countries to strengthen research on coastal and marine issues. This will constitute a significant contribution to the body of knowledge on coastal and marine biodiversity and the conditions for managing it in a region where investments in this field are extremely limited.

Indicator		FY14	LoP
Indicator 5. Number of regional mechanisms implemented to foster research and provide information to sustainably manage coastal and marine resources.	Target	0	1
	Actual	1	2
	Progress	N/A	200%

Indicator 6: Number of technical/scientific articles on marine and coastal resource management written with program support.

In its Fourth Annual Report, the USAID Regional Program reported that it had supported and disseminated 45 articles, which exceeded the target for this Indicator. Six additional articles were published in the first quarter of FY14:

1. Scientific Analysis for Belize National Fisheries Act, WCS.
2. Comparison of cost/benefit ratios for the use of traps versus SCUBA diving in Caribbean spiny lobster (*Panilirus argus*) fisheries, Sergio Martínez Casco.
3. Diagnostic of institutional capacity in the fisheries sector in Honduras, WWF.
4. Proposal for Fisheries Management for Target Species of the USAID Regional Program for Management of Aquatic Resources and Economic Alternatives, Sergio Martínez Casco.
5. Report on spiny lobster abundance and fishing mortality and preliminary analysis of existing fisheries data at Glover's Reef Reserve Station, WCS.
6. Socio economic assessment of fishermen affected by implementation of Glover's Reef managed access license program, WCS.

The Program will continue to seek mechanisms for disseminating this information through existing channels in the region as a contribution to the knowledge base on the diversity of coastal and marine resources in the Central American region.

Indicator			
Indicator 6. Number of technical/scientific articles on marine and coastal resource management written with program support.	Target	0	30
	Actual	6	51
	Progress	N/A	170%

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

The Regional Program has drafted eight documents relative to the LoP target of five for this Indicator. In FY14, the Program finished drafting national sea turtle strategies for Honduras and Guatemala and officially submitted them to the respective governments. Honduras has officially adopted the National Strategy for Sea Turtle Conservation. The Strategy for Guatemala has been submitted to the relevant national authorities and is pending official approval. The proposed plan for sustainable harvesting of mangrove cockle has been shared with the Fisheries and Environment authorities and with users of this resource in the Gulf of Fonseca. The table below presents the status of the plans and/or strategies drafted by the Program:

Table 2. Plans/Strategies Drafted by the Program

	Title	Year	Status	Published
1.	Nassau Grouper Management Plan	2011	Completed	Yes
2.	Queen Conch Management Plan	2011	Completed	Yes
3.	Spiny Lobster Management Plan	2012	Completed	Yes
4.	National Sea Turtle Conservation Program for El Salvador	2012	Completed	No
5.	Technical proposal: Plan for Sustainable Harvesting of <i>Anadara tuberculosa</i> in the Gulf of Fonseca	2013	Completed	No
6.	National Sea Turtle Strategy for Guatemala	2014	Completed	No
7.	National Sea Turtle Strategy for Honduras	2014	Completed	Yes
8.	Action Plan for Hawksbill Turtle Conservation for the GOF (2015-2020)	2014	Completed	No

Indicator			
Indicator 7. Number of plans drafted or updated and implemented for management of target species	Target	1	5
	Actual	4	8
	Progress	400%	160%

Result 4: All Central American countries have adopted and implemented harmonized policies and best practices in sustainable shark fisheries.

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

Support and strengthen the regional regulation banning shark finning and promoting sustainable fishing. The Regional Program carried out this activity to support compliance with Regulation OSP-05-11 for implementation of a Regional Plan of Action for Shark Management and Conservation in Central America (PAR-TIBURÓN 2011). As part of the plan, the Program identified a line of action in the area of communications, to strengthen dissemination and compliance with the regulation promoting sustainable shark fishing and banning finning.

In FY14, the Regional Program focused on disseminating messages and communications tools to strengthen compliance with the Regulation, forging partnerships with the following entities: OSPESCA, Directorate General for Development of Fisheries and Aquaculture of El Salvador (CENDEPESCA), the Autonomous Executive Port Commission (CEPA), and COCATRAM. The latter invited the Regional Program to participate in two regional meetings of port authorities (REPICA and ROCRAM), where it had the opportunity to present the coastal and marine complaints tracking systems, climate change adaptation measures developed for select coastal and marine areas, and the materials developed on sharks. Communications tools on sharks included: technical sheet on management measures for good shark fishing practices in Central America; poster to strengthen compliance with the regional regulation banning shark finning; and the PowerPoint presentation approved by OSPESCA and technical specialists on sustainable shark fishing. By participating in this regional meeting, as well as other national events, the Program fulfilled its target for this indicator.



Regional USAID Program's presentation during a REPICA event, held in Nicaragua (Photo: USAID Regional Program).

Indicator		FY14	LoP
Indicator 8. Number of countries adopting and implementing harmonized policies and best practices in sustainable shark fisheries	Target	6	6
	Actual	6	6
	Progress	100%	100%

Strategic Objective 2: Foster rights-based and market-based mechanisms and management incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine fisheries resources and ecosystems, with an emphasis on ecosystem-based approaches to management

B. RESULTS FOR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE II

Result 2. From a 2009 baseline value in US\$, at least 25% of product sold of combined target species is harvested under rights-based management regimes and best fisheries practices.

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

In FY14, the Regional Program continued to provide technical assistance and training to artisanal and industrial fishermen in its target sites. These activities were essential to achieving other key intermediate targets such as promoting rights-based access and no-take zones, and boosting sales of products (i.e. lobster and fin fish) harvested under improved management practices. The Program also delivered comprehensive training to fisher’s cooperatives and associations on the following topics: labor codes of conduct; traceability systems; consensus-building for approval of the Miskito Keys Management Plan in Nicaragua; mapping of no-take zones; improved fisheries practices; rights-based access mechanisms; and cooperative strengthening in Bay Islands, Honduras.



Artisanal fishermen actively participating for their organizational strengthening as part of the co-management in Bay Island, Honduras. Photo: TNC.

During this period, the Program trained 580 fishermen (101 women and 479 men) in Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition to promoting participation and developing the capacity of local fishermen and their associations, these trainings contribute directly to several other results: rights-based mechanisms (Result 6), number of hectares under improved management (Result 7), and approximately 34% of funds used for training cofinanced by other Program partners and counterparts during the life of the project (Result 10). As of September 2014, the Program had trained a cumulative total of 6,984 fishermen (2,488 women and 4,496 men) in its target sites, exceeding the LoP target of 5,000 by a wide margin.

Indicator		FY14	LoP
Indicator 9. Number of artisan and industrial fishermen trained on best fisheries practices, with emphasis on rights and/or market based mechanisms.	Target	0	5,000
	Actual	580	6,984
	Progress	N/A	140%

Indicator 10: Number of Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs), catch-shares, or rights-based mechanisms, established and implemented for strengthened best fisheries practices on target species

This result describes the rights-based mechanisms established through the Regional Program, based on the LoP target of 10 mechanisms. Since Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQ) are rarely used in Central America, the Program decided, in conjunction with the COR and the USAID Monitoring and Evaluation specialist, to focus on other rights-based mechanisms, including: 1) limited entry or access rights (e.g. concessions, licensing, limited entry licensing); 2) catch quotas

or catch shares; 3) closed areas or “no-take zones;” and 4) input rights (e.g. time fished, gear restrictions, size requirements). These are in keeping with the recommendations from the regional workshop on rights-based mechanisms held in 2012, and co-sponsored by OSPESCA and WWF.

Through the Program, the following 12 rights-based mechanisms have been implemented with fishermen, communities and other types of associations for the use of specific resources: special fishing licenses in two sites in the Caribbean (Belize and Honduras); improved fisheries practices by changing fishing methods and gear (in the three countries of the GoF); concessions for mollusk nurseries and harvesting areas tied to mangrove ecosystem management (in four communities in Nicaragua in the Gulf of Fonseca); assignment of access rights and introduction of new fishing gear/methods in two countries; zoning and regulations on rights-based fishing of certain species of commercial value and no-take zones in critical habitats on the Caribbean coast of two countries (Honduras and Nicaragua). The table below describes the rights-based mechanisms promoted by the Regional Program, how they were established, and the target area.

Table 3. Rights-based and Market-based Access Mechanisms Established in the Region with Program Support

	Type	Process for Establishment of the Mechanism	Source	Geographic Area
1	Special licenses system and geographic limits	Consensus building between users and administrators	Program (WCS)	Glover’s Reef, Belize, GoH
2	Standards for fishing gear for fin fish, shrimp, and black cockles	Legal and administrative agreement	Program CCAD	GoF
3	Concession for management and extraction of black cockles	Agreement establishing territorial access rights in the community of El Rosario in Chinameca	MARENA	Nicaragua, GoF
4	Concession for the extraction of black cockles	Concession to cooperative COOPESCONCHA in the community of Kilaka, Padre Ramos	MARENA	Nicaragua, GoF
5	Concession for the extraction of black cockles	Concession to cooperative Gregorio Lopez in the community of Kilakita, Padre Ramos	MARENA	Nicaragua, GoF
6	Concession for the extraction of black cockles	Concession to cooperative Marcelino Mendez R.L. in the community of La Ballona, Padre Ramos	MARENA	Nicaragua, GoF
7	Concession for the extraction of black cockles	Concession to cooperative Brisas del Mar in the community of La Venencia, Padre Ramos	MARENA	Nicaragua, GoF
8	Special licenses system	Consensus building between users and administrators in the Bay Islands, Honduras. DIGIPESCA granted licenses to 289 fishermen and women.	Program (TNC)	Bay Islands, Honduras, GoH
9	Use of suripera nets for shrimp fishing	Territorial rights assigned via an administrative agreement	Program SAG	Miskito Coast, Honduras
10	Use of suripera nets for shrimp fishing	Territorial rights assigned via an administrative agreement	Program SERENA RAAN	Miskito Coast, Nicaragua
11	Exclusive access rights for local communities	Incorporation of exclusive access rights for five surrounding communities into protected area management plans	Program (Fundacion Cayos Cochinos)	
12	Exclusive access rights for local communities	Management plan establishing fishing zones and access rights for Miskito communities	Program SERENA	RAAN, Nicaragua

These mechanisms have proven viable in the region and have made it possible to screen out opportunistic fishermen who arrive when species congregate during spawning season. They have also helped reduce the pressure on fisheries in prohibited or no-take zones and regulate the number of fishermen. All of this contributes to the Program’s overarching goal of conserving marine biodiversity critical to livelihoods in the region.

The Program tabulated the total mechanisms implemented, including four this year: three concessions granted by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA) for

harvest of mangrove cockle in Nicaragua, and one concession to artisanal fishermen in Bay Islands, who are licensed to fish within the 3 nautical mile limit.

Indicator		FY14	LoP
	Indicator 10. Number of Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs), catch-shares, or rights-based mechanisms, established and implemented for strengthened best fisheries practices on target species	Target	5
Actual		7	12
Progress		140%	120%

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

In FY14, the Program gathered data on sales of three target species (spiny lobster, conch, and mangrove cockle) harvested under improved practices and/or rights-based mechanisms by beneficiary groups in Belize, Nicaragua, Honduras, and Costa Rica. Since 2011 and 2012, the Regional Program has been promoting improved management practices such as: a special licensing system in Glover’s Reef, Belize (spiny lobster and conch); improved traps for artisanal harvesting of spiny lobster in Nicaragua and Costa Rica; support for reconversion of industrial lobster diving fleets to improved traps in Nicaragua; implementation of a pilot traceability system to monitor improved fisheries practices for spiny lobster on three industrial vessels outfitted with traps in Honduras; and a mangrove concession for sustainable extraction of mangrove cockle in El Rosario, Nicaragua. Over 315 people are benefiting directly from the implementation of these mechanisms and improved practices. The table below summarizes volumes by species, country, and practice or mechanism used.



Lobster tail measures and improved fishing practices during traceability piloted system in Honduras, 2013. F: WWF

Table 4. Summary of Sales of Target Species Harvested Using Improved

Country	Activity and Beneficiaries
Belize	Fishermen with special licenses in Glover’s Reef Fishermen in the Placencia Cooperative using improved fishing practices
Nicaragua	Conversion of Copescharly lobster fleets from SCUBA diving to traps Fishermen in Copecayos Cooperative using improved lobster traps Fishermen in El Progreso Cooperative using improved lobster traps Fishermen in COPE SARLAN Cooperative using improved lobster traps
	Concession to El Rosario Cooperative for cockle harvest
Honduras	Three industrial lobster boats using pilot traceability system
Costa Rica	Association of Southern Caribbean Fishermen using improved traps for lobster harvest Association of Fishermen of Barra del Colorado using improved traps for lobster harvest
TOTAL BY SPECIES	
GRAND TOTAL FY14	

In addition, Table 5 provides cumulative figures by site/country and species. As shown, LoP target of 39.18% of sales exceeds the target by 25% relative to the 2009 baseline established with data from NOAA.

Table 5. Percentage of Sales by Country and Site

Species	Gulf of Honduras		Miskito Coast	Cahuita-Bocas del Toro
	Belize	Honduras	Nicaragua	Costa Rica
Lobster	7.01%	0.16%	3.82%	23.17%
Conch	4.94%			
Cockle	0.08%			
TOTAL	39.18%			

Indicator			
Indicator 11. Percentage of total harvest of target species under rights-based mechanisms or best fisheries practices.	Target	5%	25%
	Actual	15%	39.2%
	Progress	296%	157%

Result 3: At least 1.5 million sea turtle hatchlings protected using public-private alliances and best management practices in select areas throughout Central America.

Indicator 12: Number of sea turtle hatchlings protected and released

Fiscal Year 2014 marked the end of the sea turtle protection season, and therefore the Regional Program’s investments prioritized the activities and steps necessary to meet its LoP targets. It is gratifying to report that the total of 1,606,565 hatchlings released exceeds the LoP target of 1,500,000 by over 100,000 hatchlings, thanks to the combined efforts of partners like STC, WIDECAS and ICAPO, and local actors in each target site.

Special recognition is due the committed groups and institutions that work and live under extremely difficult conditions. They work during the night in conditions of insecurity caused by illegal activities like drug trafficking that threaten the work and the personal safety of their staff. In this difficult environment, which is often beyond the Program’s control, important and sometimes painful lessons have been learned about security. Despite this, these groups forged ahead and successfully accomplished the planned results.



Allies from the conservation program for marine turtle in Playa San San, Panama, working with hatchlings. Photo, Evelyn Rivas.

The numbers, however, fail to reflect the real relevance of this effort, which has helped foster a results-oriented culture for the protection of two of the most threatened sea turtle species in the Central American region: the hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and the leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*). The organization of local stakeholders and the public-private alliances formed with large organizations like Chiquita Brand in Costa Rica and Panama or local tourism operators have played a key role in the success of the work and the results achieved. These alliances will help ensure the sustainability of our activities. Lastly, related economic activities in communities that work with sea turtles will help create economic alternatives based on the conservation, rather than overuse, of these species.

This season the Program helped release 369,224 leatherback hatchlings; 243,385 hawksbills; 6,019 green turtles; 44,177 Olive Ridley turtles; and 63 loggerheads, for a total of 662,868 hatchlings this fiscal year. The main results in specific target sites are described below:

Nest and hatchling protection in Ngöbe-Buglé District and Bluff Beach (Panama): Last season the reported number of hatchlings released was low due to a decline in nesting. This year also showed a slight decrease in hawksbill nesting levels, although nesting levels for leatherback turtles increased. By the end of last season, 278,610 hatchlings had been released, as reported in the first quarter of FY14. The updated results as of September 2014 include a reported 196,622 leatherback turtles and 76,884 hawksbill turtles, bringing the total hatchlings released this quarter to 273,506. If we add the figures reported in the first quarter of this fiscal year, the total comes to 552,116 hatchlings (357,114 leatherbacks, 194,677 hawksbill, and 325 green turtles) at this site, which is,

without question, one of the most important conservation sites in the Central American Caribbean, particularly for the severely threatened hawksbill and leatherback turtles.

It is important to underscore that the Program's reporting periods do not coincide with the sea turtle nesting season in the region. It is possible that the figures will have increased by the end of the season in December 2014. Even so, the Program has fulfilled the contractual commitments between Chemonics and USAID, and between the Regional Program and its subcontractors.

Nest and hatchling protection in Cahuita-Bocas del Toro (Costa Rica and Panama): On the beaches of Moin, Pacuare and Cahuita on the Costa Rican coast, WIDECAST documented the release of 31,152 leatherback, hawksbill, green turtle and loggerhead hatchlings. Due to security incidents, the following season the work was confined to Pacuare and Cahuita beaches, since it was impossible to obtain police protection to ensure the safety of WIDECAST's staff and volunteers. This last quarter of the season, WIDECAST documented the release of 9,364 hatchlings, mainly leatherback and hawksbill, bringing the total number of hatchlings released to 31,152.

Hawksbill nest and hatchling protection in the Gulf of Fonseca: Working with partner ICAPO and local counterparts in the Gulf of Fonseca site, the Program has focused on conservation of the hawksbill turtle, as well as the loggerhead turtle, which nests in the same habitat. The Program reported 35,423 hawksbill hatchlings released in the first quarter of the fiscal year. With the 44,177 Olive Ridley hatchlings reported in the second quarter, a total of 79,600 hatchlings were released in this critical nesting site.

While hawksbill turtle nesting sites are among the most dispersed and uncommon—and the figures for hatchlings may seem low—it was recently discovered that the Gulf of Fonseca is an extremely significant nesting site, where hatchlings take refuge in mangrove areas. In response to this discovery, a strategic action plan for the management and conservation of the hawksbill turtle in the GoF was drafted as the basis for a plan for the Tropical Eastern Pacific, led by ICAPO and cofinanced by the USAID Program. The plan was drafted in conjunction with various stakeholders and will be submitted to a working group and regional authorities in the GoF.

There is a growing movement of organizations interested in working with sea turtles in Central America. One of the Program's biggest contributions, then, has been to foster coordination among organizations and different work focuses such as science and research, social aspects, development of economic alternatives, and managing threats such as tourism and trash on the beaches.

In addition, the USAID Program has worked successfully with public-private alliances and potential market-based initiatives to promote businesses associated with sea turtle protection. It has raised awareness among local businesses and communities about the value of this resource and the importance of adapting their tourism practices to enhance conservation. Finally, the Program promoted exchanges between fishermen and groups of men and women from communities where sea turtles are present that helped them diversify their economies and learn from the experiences of several entrepreneurs. This is an additional result of the Program which, though small in scale geographically speaking, offers a valuable model for the region.



With ICAPO's support, governmental institutions, local and national, NGOs and communities from the three countries in Gulf of Fonseca, the Regional Program facilitated the Hawksbill Turtle Action Plan for this region. (Photo ICAPO).

Cumulative Seasons 2013 and 2014 (total achieved during FY14, October 2013-September 2014)

	Cahuita-Bocas					Gulf of Fonseca								Total by species	
	Panama		Costa Rica			El Salvador	Honduras					Nicaragua			
	Ngöbe Buglé	San San	Cahuita	Moin	Pacuare		Jiquilisco	Venado	Boca del Rio Viejo	Cedeño	Punta Ratón	El Carre tal	Punta San José		Padre Ramos
Leat herback	342,796	14,318	4,965	350	6,795										369,224
Hawksbill	190,851	3,826	11,594		1,691	18,415								17,008	243,385
Green		325	349		5,345										6,019
Olive Ridley							8,601	5,848	4,895	16,966	1,870	5,997			44,177
Loggerhead					63										63
total by beach	533,647	18,469	16,908	350	13,894	18,415	8,601	5,848	4,895	16,966	1,870	5,997	17,008		
total by country	552,116		31,152			18,415	38,180					23,005			
total by site	583,268					79,600									
total by season	662,868														

Table 6. Registration of hatchling sea turtles in sites of the Regional Program

Indicator	FY14	LoP
Indicator 12. Number of sea turtle hatchlings protected and released.	Target	575,000
	Actual	662,868
	Progress	115%

Result 5: Decreased landings of juvenile lobsters due to the implementation of improved fishing practices as a result of Program interventions.

Indicator 13: Decrease in the Number of Juvenile Lobsters Harvested as the Result of Program Interventions at Two Program Sites.

Given that lobsters take 3 to 4 years to reach adulthood, the Program and USAID agreed to revise the indicator for Result 5 from a change in lobster biomass to a change in the number of juvenile lobsters harvested. The new indicator reflects the importance of juvenile lobsters to maintaining robust lobster stocks. Studies show that juveniles—lobsters not within legal size limits—account for just over 10% of SCUBA divers’ catches. The program expects that with the elimination of scuba diving from the fisheries, many juveniles will not be harvested and will grow to maturity to repopulate dwindling lobster stocks.



Death juvenile lobster catch by the scuba divers in Miskito Coast in Nicaragua, which negatively impacts on lobster populations as well as risk for the fishermen health. (Photo: N. Windevoxhel)

The table below presents field data on former lobster divers (either not operational or no longer scuba diving) collected by the Regional Program team on the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua from January 2012 to the present. As a result of program activities, 391 divers in the Miskito Coast had either retired or switched to one of the economic alternatives promoted by the Program, resulting in a total of 201,650 juvenile lobsters not harvested during the lobster season. This figure surpasses the LoP target of 164,102.

Year	Catches recorded	Catches of juvenile	# of divers operating (industrial)	Vol / diver / year	Number of months	Vol / diver / period	# of juvenile lobsters	# divers not operating	Vol not caught	Juvenile not caught
2011	392,637	43,626	375	116.34			465.35	0	0	0
2012	358,536	39,837	325	122.58	6.00	91.93	490.31	30	2,758	11,032
2013	375,587	41,732	325	128.41	8.00	128.41	513.62	80	10,272	41,090
2013	375,587	41,732	325	128.41	7.00	112.35	513.62	70	7,865	31,459
2013	375,587	41,732	325	128.41	6.00	96.30	513.62	40	3,852	15,409
2014	375,587	41,732	325	128.41	2.00	32.10	513.62	213	6,838	27,350
2014	375,587	41,732	325	128.41	3.00	48.15	513.62	391	18,827	75,310
										201,650

Indicator			
	FY14	LoP	
Indicator 13. Decrease in the number of juvenile lobsters harvested as the result of program interventions.	Target	109,402	164,102
	Actual	118,069	201,650
	Progress	108%	123%

Result 6: All Central American countries adopt and implement harmonized policies for coral reef and mangrove management as critical ecosystems to adapt and build resilience to climate change

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

Although the USAID Regional Program met the target for plans to increase communities' resilience to climate change in FY13, it continued to promote their implementation in FY14. In the first quarter of this year, the Program increased the number of adaptation plans adopted and implemented through the inclusion of the following recommendations for protected areas in the Rio Sarstun Multiple Use Area and the Punta Manabique Wildlife Refuge in Guatemala:

1. Coordinate increased surveillance and enforcement by fishing communities in recovery and restoration areas of established mangrove and coral reef habitats and in no-take zones.
2. Draft and incorporate fisheries management plans into funding proposals and/or in protected area management plans.
3. Prioritize restoration activities in the Sarstun Mangrove and the no-take area in coral reefs in Punta Manabique.
4. Install community advisory councils in both protected areas as a co-management mechanism and to promote adaptation measures in the communities.
5. Facilitate coordination with watershed authorities to promote adaptation measures based on improved management of the Motagua and Polochic watersheds.

The National Council for Protected Areas (CONAP) of Guatemala has already launched some of these activities in Punta Manabique, while the Foundation for EcoDevelopment and Conservation (FUNDAECO), legal co-administrator of Rio Sarstun, has worked with CONAP to monitor progress in implementation in that protected areas.

Similarly, the departmental government of Bay Islands, Honduras, has integrated the Program's recommendations for climate change adaptation in its land use plans. Some of these activities modify municipal government mandates, while others are to be implemented by governmental and civil society entities. The following measures are currently being implemented:

1. Manage water and liquid and solid waste to mitigate harm to coral reefs and mangroves.

2. Promote habitat management for coral reef restoration – through monitoring by the Healthy Reefs program and staghorn coral restoration programs – in target reef areas to improve reef resilience.
3. Launch a mangrove protection initiative, with a focus on regulating construction in coastal and marine areas.
4. Promote regulation of construction in inland areas—roads and highways and other infrastructure—to prevent sedimentation in aquatic ecosystems that eventually drain into the reef.

The Honduran and Guatemalan governments have implemented national climate change strategies that include tools produced with technical and financial support from the Regional Program. Both countries have adopted climate change adaptation measures in their national sea turtle strategies for the protection of these endangered species.

Finally, the Program-sponsored Vulnerability Study for the Caribbean Coast of Central America has been well received and widely distributed in the region. There is a great deal of interest in developing an adaptation plan. At the beginning of this fiscal year, the COP broached the possibility of obtaining funding from non-US government sources to launch this process. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) expressed interest in providing funding for the initiative once it receives requests from interested countries. Although the governments of Panama, Honduras, and Guatemala expressed interest and submitted letters, the COR requested that this be done through CCAD rather than separately by each country. The Regional Program presented the idea to CCAD’s Executive Secretariat but received no answer, neither verbal nor written, despite repeated notes and telephone calls. Unfortunately, the Program will be unable to pursue this initiative since its close down date is imminent.

The Cousteau Center has offered to house and promote the use of climate change data and information generated by the Program. In addition, in late September, the Program held a meeting in CCAD discusses mechanisms for uploading information generated by MAREA onto a “climate change clearinghouse” that the USAID Regional Climate Change Program (PRCC) is developing. The Climate Change program and the interest expressed by the Cousteau Center are excellent vehicles for ensuring the long-term sustainability and use of USAID’s important investments in this field in the region.

Indicator		FY14	LoP
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	Target	0	10
	Actual	2	14
	Progress	N/A	140%

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

The indicator for improved management of areas of biological significance represents beneficiaries’ efforts to conserve ecosystems important for biodiversity and to improve their use through strategies that ensure that they continue to sustain the goods and services essential to the livelihoods of coastal communities.

Overall, the Regional Program surpassed the target of 1,200,000 hectares by a wide margin, targeting several protected and non-protected areas with activities that contribute to improved management of areas of biological significance. Table 7 reports general data from areas totaling 1,671,323 hectares for this fiscal year. This brings the LoP total area under improved management to 2,353,543 hectares, surpassing the target by 96%. The Program helped create new areas

previously not under management, such as in Damani Guariviara, Panama, and promoted mangrove cockle management through concessions in the Gulf of Fonseca in Nicaragua. It also expanded existing areas including those in Cochinos Keys, Honduras and Miskito Keys, Nicaragua. The following are some of the Program’s main achievements this fiscal year:

Miskito Keys Biological Reserve, Nicaragua: Developed through a participatory process, the Program’s proposal for adapting the management plan recommends the following actions:

1. Promote regulations for the most frequently harvested fish species: lobster, fin fish species, and shrimp, with emphasis on eliminating diving and adopting improved fisheries practices.
2. Incorporate the development plans of the three indigenous territories holding titles in the Marine Protected Area (MPA).
3. Include new areas of coastal territories, keys, and their marine zones, expanding total area from 850,000 to approximately 1,300,000 hectares, in order to recognize areas used by the local population, and expand the marine zone to include keys that originally fell outside the area.
4. Reinforce fishing rights in the first three nautical miles, which are currently underused by artisanal fishermen and have the potential to be developed.
5. Establish the local co-management system with the three indigenous territories and the autonomous regional government, which has been negotiated and approved by leaders of the three indigenous territories holding property titles on the coast and the autonomous regional government (RAAN).
6. Reclassify the MPA from Marine Reserve, which only allows for scientific research, to Biosphere Reserve, which recognizes the rights of indigenous peoples and reconciles consumptive and non-consumptive uses with conservation needs.



Updated proposal for Cayos Miskitos Management Plan, the zonification has added new marine zones expanding its extension from 850,000 up to 1,300,000 hectares. (Photos: Nestor Windevoxhel)

Beneficiaries and inhabitants under the three indigenous governments in the the reserve — Prinzu Ahuya Un, Karata, and Tawira — discussed and drafted the proposal. In May, their findings and proposals were submitted to the governor, who asked that it be presented the assembly of the Autonomous Regional Council. The management plan was presented at the August meeting and received excellent feedback. A committee of council members was created to review the co-management plan in conjunction with SERENA. On August 24, the COP met with the office of the vice president of the regional council and was informed that official approval of the management plan should take place at the next Council meeting scheduled for the end of October. This was reiterated in a letter received from the governor of the RAAN, thanking the Program for its support.



Working group during consultations with indigenous territorial governments for the Miskito Cays Management Plan in Nicaragua F. N. Windevoxhel

This proposal will enhance integration of conservation efforts in the watershed surrounding the marine area and also incorporates coral reefs and mangroves as ecosystems that increase representation and replication of marine and land-based biodiversity, which will boost their resilience to the effects of climate change.

Cochinos Keys Archipelago Natural Marine Monument, Honduras: The new 12-year management plan for Cochinos Keys was recently approved. In keeping with legal requirements, the plan includes the following aspects:

1. A participatory planning method that involves legally incorporated fishing communities in workshops to review and discuss zoning and management regulations, including permitted, restricted, and prohibited activities.
2. Recommendations for climate change adaptation measures, particularly those affecting species associated with beaches and coral reefs, and those having to do with infrastructure.
3. No take areas covering snapper and grouper spawning areas and sheltered lobster spawning areas.
4. Regulations for rights-based access for six communities surrounding the MPA were reinforced or proposed, in keeping with their founding charters. Enshrined in the protected area declaration, a rights-based mechanism was never made official in the area, although in general, the fishermen themselves have supervised this aspect. The idea is to make it official, disseminate it widely and issue licenses to fishermen, similar to what was done in Bay Islands.
5. A fishing license system is in place, but has yet to be implemented, in six communities adjacent to the protected area. This process requires coordination with DIGEPESCA, which has not been possible up to now.

Bay Islands National Marine Park, Honduras: This is the largest marine protected area in Honduras. It has very well developed infrastructure and focuses mainly on tourism, with little involvement by the local community, especially fishermen. Recently created and with a broad spectrum of local organizations interested, it was an ideal venue for implementing several of the Program's proposed results. The following mechanisms were established through the process of designing and drafting management plans:

1. Climate change adaptation study and recommendations, particularly related to the need for land use regulation.
2. Establishment of a co-management mechanism for the area that includes organized artisanal fishermen.
3. Registration and licensing of artisanal fishermen, including authorized fishing areas and improved fisheries practices. This has been a unique experience in Honduras, where artisanal fishing is rarely registered. It also became part of the training process on improved management practices and designated fishing and no-take areas in the MPA.
4. Training to strengthen fishermen's methods of association and organization in order to prepare them to participate in shared management structures.
5. An operational protocol for coastal and marine crimes was drafted and a complaints tracking system is being implemented. This is a key contribution to enhance transparency in resource management and processing of complaints of coastal and marine crimes. The process brought all stakeholders together around a topic of mutual interest, strengthening the synergy among them.
6. Ongoing support has been provided to small and medium-sized enterprises through the NATGeo geotourism platform. The Honduran Tourism Institute provided critical support to expand the platform throughout Bay Islands, and CORAL played a leadership role in consolidating improved fisheries practices, management of tourism activities like diving, and consumption habits, among other aspects. This has been an exemplary experience, in that many of the Program's key issues are being addressed in this site.
7. The management plan was updated and recently approved by the authorities.

This instrument, along with broad stakeholder participation, represents an important opportunity to ensure the sustainability of the tools the Program has developed for improved, holistic

management, that will also be valuable to any organization and/or project that might work in those areas.

The addition of new no-take areas, especially in the Guanaja area, buttresses the biodiversity conservation targets, particularly in the areas of Michael Rock and Long Reef, both associated with marine ecosystems critical for biodiversity protection and with the spawning areas of commercially valuable species.

Port Honduras Marine Reserve, Belize. The USAID Regional Program implemented the following activities in the area of improved management:

1. Working with TIDE and TNC, the Program designed, expanded, and reorganized the no-take zone as part of improved biodiversity protection strategies in the protected area. Following a protracted discussion process, the proposal was recently approved based on recent scientific studies, management experiences, a national review of MPA strategies, and intensive consultations with industrial and artisanal fishermen in southern Belize.
2. The Program has worked on the following productive projects with artisan fishermen:
 - a. Continuation of the poultry-raising project in communities in the south, especially in Punta Gorda, with significant success. Not only have beneficiaries increased the number of laying hens in each henhouse, they have also drawn on some of the revenues and support from other sources to replicate these systems. Several of the fishermen told us they are fishing less in order to attend to their hen and egg sales, with positive outcomes.
 - b. Support for the algae cultivation in Port Honduras, based on the successful experience in Gladen Spit in the Placencia area. Fifteen fishermen are benefiting from this important project. Based on the successful outcomes in Placencia, the Program expects that each fisherman will earn over ██████████. The algae are processed as food products marketed to tourists, and as cosmetics and soaps produced by local microenterprises.
3. The Program continued to support the co-management system spearheaded by TIDE with leaders from communities adjacent to the reserve.
4. The Program developed a fishing monitoring system on the reserve, which is expected to generate data on the status of fishing in general, the value of no-take areas, and comparative data on the status of resources in no-take and fishing areas on the reserve and outside the protected areas, in order to measure the effectiveness of management mechanisms.
5. Working through an existing partnership between TIDE and the Healthy Reefs Initiative, the Program supported the climate change adaptation action plan, particularly in areas related to infrastructure and conditions in coral reefs and marine ecosystems.
6. The Program promoted a study to improve the rights-based mechanisms that have been used on the reserve since it was created.



TIDE's executive director on monitoring duties in the Port Honduras Marine Reserve, Belize.. (Photo N. Windevoxhel.

Management agreements for production and harvesting of mangrove cockle in Nicaragua:

This system, in which MARENA grants 20-year concessions for cockle harvesting, is consistent with the management practices proposed by the Regional Program for the conservation of mangrove areas. To date, the beneficiary communities include the following cooperatives: Gregorio López, R. L.; Marcelino Méndez, R. L.; Brisas del Mar de Venecia, R. L.; and the shellfish harvesters and fishermen's cooperative of Kilaka, R. L., for a total of 50 direct beneficiaries and their families.

Sarstun River Multiple Use Area, Guatemala: In conjunction with the legally designated co-administrator, FUNDAECO, the USAID Program facilitated the design of a climate change adaptation plan that has been implemented as follows:

1. FUNDAECO has begun to implement some of the recommendations on land use and infrastructure.
2. Certain precautions have been added to conservation activities for nesting populations on beaches.
3. Adaptation measures have been included in the draft management plan that is currently being updated, and it has been presented to CONAP for its approval.
4. A funding proposal was prepared to make sure the necessary resources are in place to implement the recommended adaptation measures.

Punta Manabique Wildlife Refuge, Guatemala.

1. As the administrative authority, CONAP has included the proposed climate change adaptation measures in the proposed management plan, which is being updated in accordance with the law.
2. The first community fish refuge was established in Bahía de la Graciosa.

Damani Guariviara, Wetland of International Importance, Panama. The management plan designed in a participatory process was completed and is pending approval by the Panamanian government. Follow-up has been hampered by the change in government, however, and the Program does not expect to report these results.



International Ramsar Site Damani Guariviara in Panama, at the Ngöbe-Buglé region. The Regional Program has supported ANAM with the Management plan proposal (Photos N. Windevoxhel)

The following is a summary of activities for improved management in the Regional Program’s target areas throughout the implementation period:

Table 7. Activities to Promote Improved Management of Areas of Biological Significance

Area of Biological Significance	Improved management activities established	Hectares registered
Damani Guariviara Wetland of International Importance, Panama	The management plan designed in a participatory process was completed and is pending approval by the Panamanian government. Follow-up has been hampered by the change in government, however, and the Program does not expect to report these results.	N/A
Miskito Keys Biological Reserve, Nicaragua	Designed in a participatory process, the Program’s proposal for adapting the management plan recommends the following actions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote regulations for the main fish species. 2. Incorporate the development plans of the three indigenous territories holding titles in the Marine Protected Area (MPA). 3. Include new areas of coastal territories, keys, and their marine zones, expanding from 850,000 to approximately 1,301,657 hectares. 4. Reinforce fishing rights in the first three nautical miles. 5. Establish the local co-management system with the three indigenous territories and the autonomous regional government. 6. Propose reclassifying the MPA as a Biosphere Reserve. 	1,301,657
Cochinos Keys Natural Marine Monument, Honduras	The new 12-year management plan for Cochinos Keys was recently approved. In keeping with legal requirements, the plan includes the following aspects: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A participatory planning method that involves legally incorporated fishing communities. 2. Climate change adaptation measures. 	122,012

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. No take areas in snapper and grouper spawning areas and sheltered lobster spawning areas. 4. Regulations for rights-based access for six communities surrounding the MPA were reinforced and proposed in keeping with their founding charters. 5. A fishing license system is in place but has yet to be implemented in 6 communities adjacent to the protected area. 	
Bay Islands National Marine Park, Honduras	<p>The main mechanisms established include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Climate change adaptation analysis and recommendations. 2. Establishment of a co-management mechanism for the area that includes organized artisanal fishermen. 3. Registration and licensing of artisanal fishermen including authorized fishing areas and improved fisheries practices. 4. An operational protocol and a complaints tracking system for handling coastal and marine crimes. 5. Support for small and medium sized enterprises through the NATGeo geotourism platform. 6. The management plan was updated and recently approved by the authorities. 	Reported in FY2012
Port Honduras Marine Reserve	<p>Activities to improve management including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activities with TIDE and TNC on the design and expansion of the no-take zone to 10%, which was recently approved. 2. Activities with artisanal fishermen on productive projects such as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continuation of the poultry project in communities in the south, especially Punta Gorda b. Support for the establishment of an algae farm in Port Honduras based on the successful experience in Gladen Spit in the area of Placencia. 3. Continued support for the co-management effort spearheaded by TIDE with leaders of communities adjacent to the reserve. 4. Design of a fisheries monitoring system on the reserve 5. Climate change adaptation plan of action. 6. Study to improve the rights-based mechanism in use since the reserve was created. 	40, 470
Management agreements for production and harvesting of cockle in Nicaragua	Five 20-year concessions granted by MARENA in Nicaragua for cockle harvesting applying the management practices proposed by the USAID Program under a commitment to mangrove conservation.	25.4
Sarstun River Multiple Use Area, Guatemala	<p>FUNDAECO has taken the following measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It has started to implement some of the recommendations on land use and infrastructure. 2. It has added certain precautions to conservation activities for nesting populations on beaches. 3. It has included adaptation measures in the draft management plan that is being updated and submitted it to CONAP for approval. 4. It has prepared a funding proposal to make sure the necessary resources are in place to implement the recommended adaptation measures. 	47,582
Refugio de Vida Silvestre de Punta Manabique	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As the administrative authority, CONAP has included the proposed climate change adaptation measures in the proposed management plan designed through the legally mandated updating process. 2. The first community fish refuge was established in Bahía de la Graciosa. 	159,577
TOTAL FY14		1,671,323

Indicator		FY14	LoP
	Indicator 15. Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance	Target	518,000
Actual		1,671,323	2,353,543
Progress		323%	196%

Result 7: At least two (2) labor standard manuals, codes, or guidelines drafted and validated with local communities, the private sector, and governmental officials.

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

This process of developing labor codes of conduct for sea workers began in July 2013, with a study on the labor situation of men and women sea workers along the Honduran and Nicaraguan Miskito Coast. The studies were finalized and approved in FY14, and labor standards codes were drafted and validated by local communities, the private sector and government entities in both sites. The main topics identified are shown on the following chart:

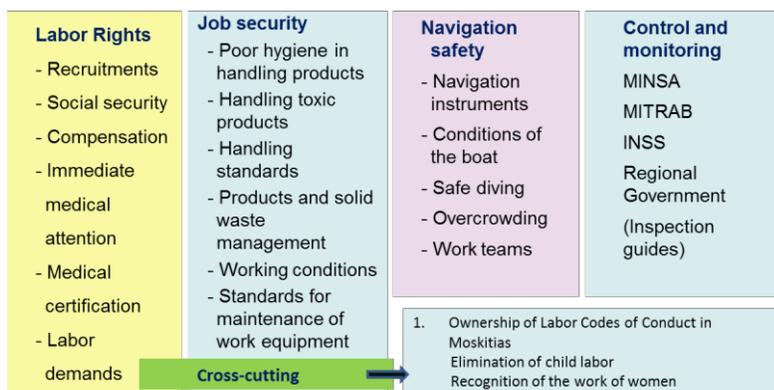


Diagram of the main topics on the employment status of seafarers in the Nicaraguan and Honduran Miskito Coast

The Program will follow up on these activities during the extension period in order to strengthen compliance in the different sectors involved. The Program has created a brochure on the code to be used for dissemination and training purposes, and has designed radio spots to reinforce and supplement these materials.



Indicator		FY14	LoP
	Indicator 16. Number of labor standard, manuals, codes, or guidelines drafted and validated with local communities, the private sector, and governmental officials in the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua.	Target	2
Actual		2	2
Progress		100%	100%

Result 8: Sustainable and productive pilot projects formulated and implemented in Honduran and Nicaraguan Miskito Coast, which allow active lobster scuba divers, to move on to appropriate new jobs, with improved labor conditions and earnings, in substitution to the SCUBA lobster fishery.

Indicator 17. Number of families benefitting from productive pilot projects in the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua

In FY14, the USAID Regional Program finished piloting the productive projects initiated on the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua the previous fiscal year. These activities were buyer-driven, focusing on production and marketing of products or services with a secure market (domestic and/or international), and were designed specifically for active divers. The buyer-centered approach uses market mechanisms to strengthen biodiversity through better practices for key species and includes an ecosystemic approach to promote conservation of the habitats and processes on which these species depend.

These activities are supporting fishermen in a gradual transition from diving to other safer activities that do not endanger their lives or health, while providing them with additional financial benefits. The pilots follow three clearly defined lines of activities: a) lobster harvesting with improved traps; b) harvesting of fin fish species, jellyfish, and shrimp; and c) land-based activities like solid waste recycling and manufacture and repair of boats and motors. These activities and results are directly related to other Program Results (2, 5, 9, 10, and 11).

Pilot activities with lobster harvesting using improved traps: This fiscal year, the Regional Program focused on delivering technical assistance to groups that had received improved lobster traps in 2013 (1,850 traps in Nicaragua and 1,800 in Honduras). In addition to ensuring proper use of the traps, fishermen were trained on the cold chain and product handling, and proper documentation of catch and sales volumes for the Program's reports. A total of 128 fishermen in Nicaragua and 61 in Honduras benefited directly from this effort.

Pilot activities related to fin fish, shrimp, and jellyfish: In Nicaragua, the Program equipped 73 divers and their families with supplies and equipment for shrimp harvesting using suripera nets.

An additional 344 fishermen received mesh and trammel nets to harvest fin fish species such as sea bass with high commercial value and market demand. With introduction of alternative fishing methods and materials, these fishermen have gradually been able to stop lobster diving.

The Program also provided assistance in product handling, cold chain management, resource administration and money management, since many of these fishermen have little schooling and face major challenges when managing additional resources.

The Regional Program continued to provide assistance to the KAUMA Group in Kaukira community on the Miskito Coast of Honduras, enabling it to consolidate its business management services which directly benefit over 10 Miskito communities, including 597 fishermen heads of household. To this end, the Program signed an MOU with KAUMA to improve its productive, commercial, and management operations based on good management practices, training, equipment for new fishing methods, and market access. This is a pioneering initiative in which a community business is seeking to gradually position itself as a development pole on the Miskito



Fishing gillnets delivered to active and disabled divers in the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua as alternative livelihoods and improved fishing practices to the lobster scuba. (Photo: M. Castrillo)

Coast. With support and assistance from the USAID Regional Program, KAUMA is currently producing significant and tangible benefits for its associates and neighboring communities, in areas like job creation, access to financing, processing of fisheries products, and alternative income-generating activities in response to the impending moratorium on lobster diving.

Land-based pilots with fishermen and their families: The Program also supported the disabled divers association (AMBLHI) through the provision of supplies and equipment for boat and motor repair as an alternative income generating activity for 27 disabled divers and their families. Through a partnership with GOAL on the Honduran Miskito Coast, the USAID Program helped five groups obtain legal corporate status, which enabled them to apply for and leverage funds from PRONEGOCIOS, a government program that has cofinanced productive projects developed by the Program.

Table 8 summarizes the result (divers and families benefited), by country, economic alternative implemented, and number of groups.

Table 8. Number of Beneficiaries in the Miskito Coast

Country	No. of Cooperatives/ Associations	Type of Activity	Beneficiaries Reported		Target	Actual
			FY13	FY14		
Nicaragua	20	Suriperas	89	73	500	652
		Fin fishing	18	344		
		Improved traps	128	0		
		Total	235	417		
Honduras	11	Suriperas	40	0	750	1,128
		Fin fishing	89	0		
		Improved traps	61	0		
		Jellyfish	170	597		
		Total	504	624		
TOTAL			739	1,041	1,250	1,780

Indicator		
	FY14	LoP
Indicator 17. Number of families benefiting from productive pilot projects in the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua.	Target	1,250
	Actual	1,780
	Progress	142%

Result 9: At least nine hundred (900) disabled SCUBA fishermen or members of their families trained on new skills and abilities to start their own businesses or gain employment through alternative economic activities, earning higher revenues in Gracias a Dios Department, Honduras and in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAN) in Nicaragua

Indicator 18. Number of disabled fishermen or family members of disabled fishermen trained in business or productive skills

The Regional Program’s training activities in the first half of FY14, focused on disabled divers and/or their family members. Beneficiaries were trained in five main topics: 1) training in the use of artisanal lobster traps; 2) constructing suriperas nets; 3) jellyfish harvesting and processing; 4) manufacture and repair of boats and motors on the Honduran Miskito Coast; and 5) fisheries products value chain (fish, transport, handling, food safety, and sales) on the Nicaraguan Miskito Coast. Between December 2013 and

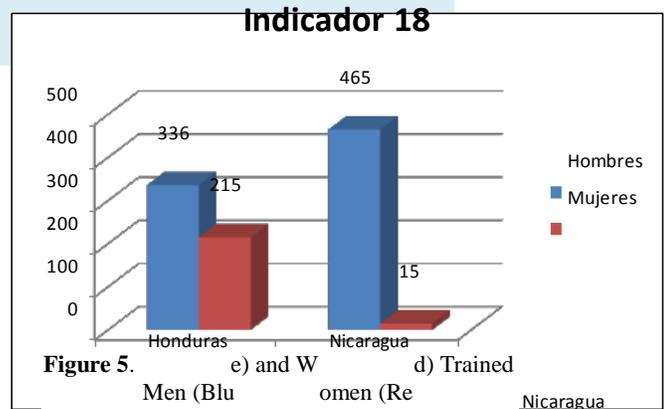


Figure 5. Men (Blue) and Women (Red) Trained in the Miskito Coast (FY14)

February 2014, the Program trained 551 people (215 women and 336 men) from 10 communities in Honduras. During that same period, it trained 480 people (15 women and 465 men) from 13 fishing communities in Nicaragua. As shown in Figure 5, the gender balance was significantly better on the Miskito Coast of Honduras, compared to Nicaraguan coast, since women are more actively involved in Program initiatives and are more likely to be involved in jellyfish harvesting, processing, and fishing related to the work of the KAUMA fishers' association.

The Program's training method is hands-on and experiential. Participants actively participate in manufacturing and readying fishing gear such as improved lobster traps, suripera nets for shrimp, and nets for fishing fin fish like sea bass. On-site training in jellyfish harvesting and marketing, and the manufacture, servicing and repair of boats and motors were also very hands on. Practical examples were drawn from everyday life to discuss topics like the cold chain and good fisheries practices. In both countries, the Program distributed the manual it had produced the previous fiscal year: *Practical guide to the fisheries products value chain*. In general, these trainings and the manual have had a positive impact on the disabled divers: for the first time, they have been taken into account and equipped with the know-how and expertise to engage in alternative income-generating activities.

Table 9 summarizes the results, breaking down the trainings delivered this fiscal year by country, topic, and gender. The 1,031 people trained this fiscal year (230 women and 801 men), added to the 481 people trained in FY 2013 (125 women and 356 men) yields a total of 1,512 people trained (355 women and 1157 men), surpassing by a wide margin the LoP target of 900 disabled divers and/or their families trained.

Table 9. Number of Men and Women Trained in the Miskito Coast (FY14)

Training Activity	Country	Number of Events	Female Participants	Male Participants	TOTAL
Construction and utilization of suripera nets for fishing coastal shrimp	Honduras	1	17	33	50
	Nicaragua	3	2	50	52
Training disabled divers in the manufacture and repair of boats and motors in the Kaurira community	Honduras	1	22	45	67
Best fishing practices for artisanal lobster fishing using improved nets in 7 Miskito communities	Honduras	7	152	206	358
Best practices for fishing, processing, and sale of jellyfish	Honduras	1	24	52	76
Value chain for fish and seafood (market, finance, costs, cold chain, safety, and quality)	Nicaragua	10	13	415	428
Total by Country	Honduras	10	215	336	551
	Nicaragua	13	15	465	480
FY14 TOTAL		23	230	801	1,031

Indicator			
Indicator 18. Number of disabled fishermen or family members of disabled fishermen trained in business or productive skills	Target	450	900
	Actual	1,031	1,512
	Progress	229%	168%

Result 10: No less than US\$6 million leveraged to co finance productive projects proposals from sustainable fisheries, sustainable tourism, and arts and crafts; in alliance and coordination with other financial institutions and the private sector

Indicator 19. Value (USD) of non-USG financed conservation efforts leveraged, payment for environmental services, or additional revenues provided for conservation by governments and the private sector.

This reporting period, the Regional Program leveraged ██████████ in non-US government funds to support conservation and alternative livelihoods, for a cumulative LoP total (as of September 2014) of ██████████ leveraged. This is a reflection of the Regional Program’s transition and efforts to follow-up on activities with other multilateral counterparts and donors, national governments, and the private sector, often through partnerships and synergies established throughout the implementation period that are now resulting in important concrete contributions.

This fiscal year, significant progress was made with the Program’s portfolio of pilot projects which the Program has been promoting since 2012 as economic alternatives for lobster divers on the **Miskito Coast of Honduras**. This period, the PRONEGOCIOS program (a Honduran government initiative funded by the IDB) approved nine business plans for implementation by NGO GOAL. The USAID Program cofinanced these activities for disabled divers—including fin fishing, solid waste recycling, jellyfish harvesting, and boat and motor repair, for a total of ██████████. In addition, the Program spent over a year helping three groups obtain legal corporate status in order to access financing through PRONEGOCIOS.

On the **Cahuita-Bocas del Toro Coast**, the Regional Program also leveraged resources in two areas: 1) it leveraged ██████████ from the UNDP Small Grants Program in Costa Rica to work with the Association of Southern Caribbean Fishermen on alternatives for lobster divers such as the harvest and sale of lionfish; and 2) Through WIDECAS, the Program leveraged ██████████ from several sources, including Chiquita Brand/Rewe, for sea turtle conservation in the Costa Rica-Panama Binational Zone.

The Program leveraged ██████████ through partner organization Friends of the Earth and ICAPO (local subcontractors) for sea turtle conservation in the three countries of the **Gulf of Fonseca**. The table 10 summarizes the funds leveraged in FY14, by activity, amount, and site.

Figure 6 presents a cumulative summary of resources leveraged by the Regional Program, by site, from its inception through September 2014. As shown, the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua accounts for over 65% of LoP resources leveraged, followed by the GoF with 21%, a clear reflection of the Program’s efforts to finance its activities and alternative pilot projects in those target sites.

Figure 7 breaks down the resources leveraged by funding source. As shown, local and national government resources account for 37% of the total of USD ██████████, followed by private sector funds (27%), NGOs (10%), and local matching contributions (3%).

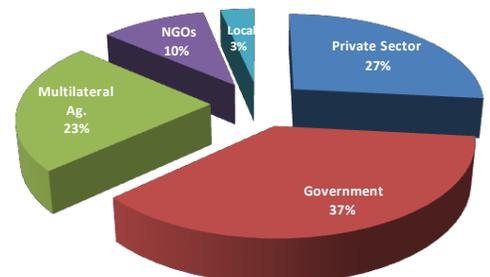


Figure 7: Funds Leveraged by Source

Table 10. Funds Leveraged from Non-USG Sources in FY14 (USD)

No	Activity	Partner Institution(s)	Country/Region
1	Implementation of business plans with 6 groups in the Miskito Coast: MIMAT, Kruta, Prumnitara, Nueva Jerusalen, Kauma, and Kaukira	ProNegocios GOAL	Honduras
2	Guidance on registration and implementation of business plans: Batana-Kruta, Jellyfish in Uhi, and Yahurabila	ProNegocios GOAL	Honduras
3	Implementation of best fishing practices with the Association of Southern Caribbean Fishermen	UNDP	Costa Rica
4	Protection and conservation of sea turtles in the bi-national zone of Cahuita-Bocas del Toro	WIDECAST Chiquita/Rewe	Cahuita-Bocas del Toro
5	Equipment (motors and nets) for Pacific Production Cooperative (ACOO PACIFICO)	Ministry of Agriculture PRODEMORO	El Salvador
6	Alternative Livelihoods project pilots in the Hondurean Moskitia	Small Grant Program UNDP	Honduras
7	Violations tracking system for Roatan	CEM	Honduras
8	Conservation and protection of sea turtles	Friends of the Earth	GoF
9	Conservation of hawksbill turtles and community ecotourism	ICAPO	GoF
TOTAL FUNDS LEVERAGED FY14			

Indicator			
		FY14	LoP
Indicator 19. Value (USD) of non-USG financed conservation efforts leveraged, payment for environmental services, or additional revenues provided for conservation by governments and the private sector.			
	Progress	N/A	139%

Result 11: No less than US\$8 million in additional sales of products and services generated as a result of the implementation of the productive projects and business plans on sustainable fisheries, sustainable tourism and arts and crafts; implemented with associations and cooperatives in the Program's sites.

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.

Fiscal Year 2014 was the most productive yet in terms of reported additional sales of products and services generated as a result of improved practices through productive projects and business plans attributable to the USAID Regional Program. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The higher figures for this fiscal year are the result of the investments made in previous years, in Honduras, for example, which reported sales for the first time.

Throughout the year, the Program continued to support activities and record sales in all of its target sites in the following three categories:

- A. **Improved lobster harvesting** using traps in both the industrial and artisanal fishing sectors;

- B. **Sea-based economic alternatives** such as shrimp harvesting with suripera nets; harvesting of fin fish species like sea bass, snapper, and mackerel; and jellyfish harvesting, as alternatives to the Program’s target species and
- C. **Land-based economic alternatives** such as the Geotourism Platforms established in Roatán and Bocas del Toro, and improved solid waste management by women’s groups in Honduras.

Improved harvesting of spiny lobster. The Regional Program supported the implementation of five initiatives in this category: two in the industrial and three in the artisanal sector.

Conversion of an industrial fleet. The Regional Program recorded sales figures from the Copescharly company for lobster harvested with traps. The Program provided technical assistance to this company to retrofit three vessels from its fleet and to finance its lobster trapping operations and upgrade its cold chain facilities in Puerto Cabezas. This period, the company harvested 165,398 pounds of lobster with a sales value of [REDACTED].

Implementation of the pilot traceability system. With assistance from WWF, the Program successfully piloted the traceability system on three industrial vessels in Honduras, and with Marinos Pescadería packhouse, and Miami-based buyer Netuno Inc. Using an onboard observer system, the pilot initiative traced 12,000 pounds of lobster with a sales value of [REDACTED].



Spiny lobster tail caught by artisanal fishermen using improved traps in the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua. (Photo: N. Windevoxhel)

Special licensing system in Glover’s Reef. The special fishing licensing system in Glover’s Reef continued to contribute to this result with over [REDACTED] in sales equivalent to 11,344 lbs. of spiny lobster and 16,051 pounds of conch. The Program is benefiting 127 artisanal fishermen in Belize with this initiative.

Artisanal lobster fishing with improved traps on the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua and in Costa Rica.

The Regional Program continued to support artisanal fishing using improved traps, benefiting 128 people from four organized groups on the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua. Thanks to these activities, these fishermen are gradually moving away from lobster diving in Nicaragua. In addition, the Program supported fishermen from the **Asociación Caribe Sur**, equipping them with improved traps and bins to transport whole lobster to a buyer located in San Jose, Costa Rica. Combined sales by beneficiary fishermen in both countries totaled [REDACTED], equivalent to 11,655 lbs. of lobster.

Sea-based economic alternatives: fin fishing for species like sea bass, shrimp harvesting with suripera nets, and jellyfish harvesting.

The Regional Program continued to support six fishermen’s cooperatives in the Gulf of Fonseca, El Salvador, including ACOPACIFICO and ASPESCU, as well as the Caballero firm in Nicaragua. The Program also recorded sales of fin fish species on the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua, working with at least 114 divers and disabled divers who were equipped with nets to harvest sea bass as an alternative to lobster diving. Lastly, the Program also recorded sales of fin fish species by five fishermen’s associations on the Miskito



Miskito women working on jellyfish processing with KAUMA group in the Miskito Coast of Honduras, as part of Program’s assistance on alternative livelihoods. (Photo: A. Rosales)

Coast of Honduras that had received fishing gear in 2013. A total of [REDACTED] in cumulative sales of fin fish species was recorded this period.

This year, the Program recorded the first sales of shrimp harvested with suripera nets, despite a decline in abundance of this species throughout the region. Three groups reported shrimp harvests: Damián Ño Kribo Multiple Services Cooperative in Bahía Ballena, Bocas del Toro, Panama; Rio Kruta Fishers' Association, Miskito Coast of Honduras; and Wawa Bar women's cooperative on the Nicaraguan Miskito Coast. These three organizations harvested a total of 6,409 lbs. of shrimp, with sales totaling [REDACTED].

Jellyfish harvesting on the Miskito Coast of Honduras has contributed significantly to the livelihoods of 500 fishermen and their families. Ten communities are harvesting this species along the Miskito Coast and market their catch through KAUMA (enterprise based in Kaukira community). The Regional Program had assisted this company in organizing their jellyfish production, processing, and exports to an Asian buyer. This period, the communities harvested 1,827 million pounds of jellyfish, with a sales value of [REDACTED].

Land based economic alternatives

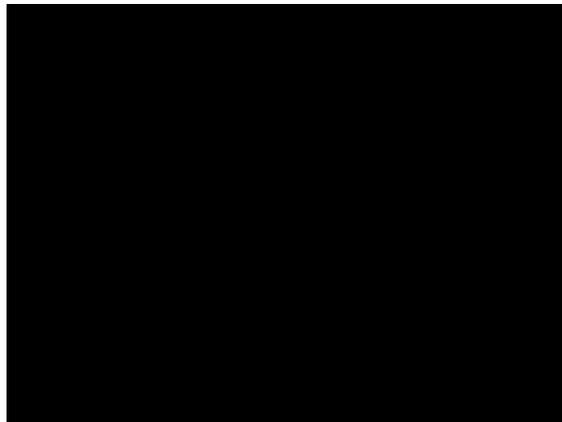
Geotourism Platform. This fiscal year, the Program continued to monitor the geotourism website (www.gobluecentralamerica.org) with 141 participating companies in Roatán and Bocas del Toro that promote improved tourism practices. The participating companies reported [REDACTED] in additional sales this period.



Miskito women's group of MIMAT association that work for collection and marketing of recycle solid waste in the Hondurean Miskito Coast. (Photo: A. Cubas)

Since the Program's inception, the Women's Association of Moskitia (MIMAT) has been working on an initiative to improve solid waste management in Puerto Lempira. At first, they worked on a volunteer basis through verbal agreements with residents of Puerto Lempira. Today, however, they are more organized and were awarded a contract for waste management with Puerto Lempira municipality. They channel their product through IMVEMA, a firm based in San Pedro Sula. This firm, through its owner, George Catlin, provided a trash compactor and coordinates waste transport from Puerto Lempira to his plant in San Pedro Sula. This project benefits 48 women, who generated revenues of approximately USD [REDACTED] between January and June 2014. It should be noted that in addition to improving solid waste management, these initiatives help mitigate the environmental impacts of disposing of trash in a haphazard manner, which clearly is detrimental to the diversity of aquatic ecosystems and to the health of communities in Puerto Lempira. That said, we are aware that there is no reliable, verifiable way of measuring those impacts.

Figure 8 presents LoP sales totals (up to September 2014) by site. As shown, the Miskito Coast of



Nicaragua accounts for 42% of all sales, followed by Gulf of Honduras (27%), Gulf of Fonseca (13%), Miskito Coast of Honduras (12%), and Cahuita-Bocas del Toro (7%).

The table 11 below breaks down LoP sales totals by site and country.



Indicator			
		FY14	LoP
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.	██████████	██████████	██████████
	██████████	██████████	██████████
	Progress	164%	125%

SECTION III: PERFORMANCE MONITORING PLAN

In the last quarter of FY14, The Regional Program continued to monitor progress in results and indicators leading up to close down. While the number of planned activities declined, they were completed in a satisfactory manner and all targets were met at a level of 100%.

The Monitoring and Evaluation Plan was reviewed in October 2013, and a Data Quality Assessment (DQA) was performed to evaluate Program indicators that contribute to the Standard Foreign Assistance Indicators that USAID reports periodically to the United States Government. Present at this meeting were Jason Seuc, Regional Program Environmental Officer in El Salvador on behalf of USAID; Orlando Hidalgo, M&E Specialist, and former COR, Dr. Carlos Hasbún. The Program received several recommendations on data collection and reporting which were immediately taken into account and implemented.

With the arrival of the new COR, Dr. Luis Ramos, another meeting was held in June 2014 to review the Program’s Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and progress in the indicators. At that time, minor changes were made to the M&E Plan to clarify the interpretation and measurement of the indicators, as a means of verifying achievement of the Program’s results. As a result of this process, the Program has an updated plan (as of June 6, 2014) that includes these changes.

In September, a USAID subcontractor began the external evaluation of the Program. The purpose of this evaluation is to identify lessons learned, achievements, and necessary improvements so that Program results that merit further investment can be included in a future USAID initiative. One of the recommendations for the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan was to breakdown indicators in the reference sheets as necessary.

At the end of the fourth quarter, which coincided with the end of FY14 and the end of the Program, 100% of the results had been achieved for all targets and indicators, as shown in figure 9. The Program surpassed the targets for 16 results. Five results will be monitored during the Program extension period from October 1, 2014, to March 31, 2015, in the context of six general activities set out in the Program extension document.

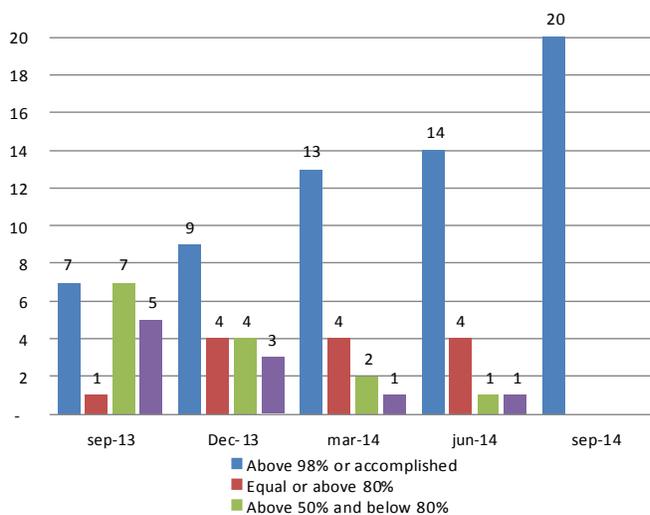


Figure 9. Indicator progress and accomplishment during FY14

ANNEX A. SUMMARY OF INDICATORS

S O	Indicator	GOALS					
		FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	LOP	
1	Indicator 1. Number of coastal and marine resources conservation and sustainable use policies and legislation drafted and presented.	Proposed	5	5	4	6	20
		Actual	5	4	5	9	23
		Progress	100%	80%	125%	150%	115%
	Indicator 2. Number of coastal and marine resources law monitoring and enforcement strategies drafted and implemented.	Proposed	1	-	2	2	5
		Actual	1	-	2	2	5
		Progress	100%	N/A	100%	100%	100%
	Indicator 3. Number of countries implementing harmonized fisheries violation reporting system.	Proposed	-	-	-	3	3
		Actual	-	-	-	3	3
Progress		N/A	N/A	0%	100%	100%	
Indicator 4. Number of people from fisheries and environment governmental and non-governmental institutions trained.	Proposed	600	500	300	100	1,500	
	Actual	848	875	579	104	2,406	
	Progress	141%	175%	193%	104%	160%	
Indicator 5. Number of regional mechanisms implemented to foster research, providing peer reviewed information to sustainably manage coastal and marine resources.	Proposed	-	1	-	-	1	
	Actual	-	1	-	1	2	
	Progress	N/A	100%	0%	N/A	200%	
Indicator 6. Number of technical/scientific articles on marine and coastal resource management developed with program support.	Proposed	8	8	14	-	30	
	Actual	8	8	29	6	51	
	Progress	100%	100%	207%	N/A	170%	
Indicator 7. Number of plans drafted or updated, and implemented for management of target species.	Proposed	2	2	-	1	5	
	Actual	2	2	-	4	8	
	Progress	100%	100%	N/A	400%	160%	
Indicator 8. Number of countries adopting and implementing harmonized policies or best practices in sustainable shark fisheries.	Propuesto	-	-	-	6	6	
	Actual	-	-	-	6	6	
	Avance	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	
Indicator 9. Number of artisan and industrial fishermen trained on best fisheries practices, with emphasis on rights- and/or market-based mechanisms.	Proposed	825	1,688	2,487	-	5,000	
	Actual	794	1,657	3,953	580	6,984	
	Progress	96%	98%	159%	N/A	140%	
Indicator 10. Number of Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs), catch-shares, or similar rights-based mechanisms, established and implemented for strengthened best fisheries practices on target species.	Proposed	1	2	2	5	10	
	Actual	1	2	2	7	12	
	Progress	100%	100%	100%	140%	120%	
Indicator 11. Percentage of sales of target species harvested under rights-based mechanisms and/or best fisheries practices.	Proposed	0%	11%	9%	5%	25%	
	Actual	0%	16.7%	36.1%	15%	39.2%	
	Progress	N/A	152%	401%	296%	157%	
Indicator 12. Number of sea turtle hatchlings protected and released.	Proposed	-	425,000	500,000	575,000	1,500,000	
	Actual	-	416,185	527,512	662,868	1,606,565	
	Progress	N/A	98%	106%	115%	107%	
Indicator 13. Decrease in the number of Juvenile Lobsters Harvested as the Result of Program Interventions.	Proposed	-	-	54,700	109,402	164,102	
	Actual	-	11,032	72,549	118,069	201,650	
	Progress	N/A	N/A	133%	108%	123%	
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	8	1	-	10	
	Actual	2	9	1	2	14	
	Progress	200%	113%	100%	N/A	140%	
Indicator 15. Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance.	Proposed	35,000	647,000	-	518,000	1,200,000	
	Actual	35,067	647,153	-	1,671,323	2,353,543	
	Progress	100%	100%	N/A	323%	196%	
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.	Proposed	-	-	-	2	2	
	Actual	-	-	-	2	2	
	Progress	N/A	N/A	0%	100%	100%	
Indicator 17. Number of families benefitting from productive pilot projects in the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua.	Proposed	-	-	625	625	1,250	
	Actual	-	-	739	1,041	1,780	
	Progress	N/A	N/A	118%	167%	142%	
Indicator 18. Number of disabled fishermen or household members of disabled fishermen in the Miskito Coast trained in business or productive skills.	Proposed	-	-	450	450	900	
	Actual	-	30	451	1,031	1,512	
	Progress	N/A	N/A	100%	229%	168%	
Indicator 19. Value (USD) of non-USG funds leveraged to co-finance conservation efforts or productive projects in sustainable fisheries, sustainable tourism, and any other economic alternative.	Proposed	500,000	2,500,000	3,000,000	-	6,000,000	
	Actual	674,984	2,008,853	2,866,015	2,819,568	8,369,420	
	Progress	135%	80%	96%	N/A	139%	
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.	Proposed	-	2,000,000	3,090,000	2,910,000	8,000,000	
	Actual	-	1,910,147	3,323,806	4,765,809	9,999,762	
	Progress	N/A	96%	108%	164%	125%	

Key			
● 100% completed	● 50%-99% completed	● 1%-49% completed	● 0% completed

ANNEX B. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

In the last fiscal period of October 2013 to October 2014, he focused the close of business including to the end of the program. We spent a total of \$ 2,390.760, with a notable decrease in the second half of the year (Figure 10). December as is customary with the highest level of budget execution because in this month all the labor benefits commitments payments are made in order to prevent their accumulation to the life of the project.

From May to September a decrease in expenses was produced due the closures of some of the field offices and staff reductions and limited number of contracts and Task orders required according to the Annual Plan to the closing phase of the program.

Note that the 6-month extension of the program was signed in early August, the first weeks show no great expense because it was required to formalize contracts with consultants and subcontractor. In September a slightly increase on expenditure for an approximate amount of \$ 44,000.00 from the previous month product precisely the start of the implementation of the extension. Increased performance is expected for next quarter October to December 2014 and then a decrease due the approach to program end.

ANNEX C. PROCUREMENT

In FY14, the Regional Program finalized expenditures in its target sites to support implementation of improved fisheries practices by beneficiary fishermen. Most of the funds were spent on supplies for fin fish and suripera nets, along with training on their proper use, particularly in the sites on the Miskito Coast. The Program also made purchases for the Gulf of Fonseca to support the Cooperativa de Concheros in Chinandega. Total spending for FY14 was USD **75,763** (Table 12).

Table 12-Procure

Site	Item(s)	Quantity
Miskito Coast Nicaragua	Sea bass fishing nets (materials and labor)	114
	Sails for shrimping boats	15
	Sub-total Nicaragua	
Gulf of Fonseca	Stainless steel tables	4
	Professional shell opener	4
	Stainless steel cutting boards 3/3"	4
	Stainless steel cutting boards 1/3"	4
	Sub-total Gulf of Fonseca	
Miskito Coast Honduras	Electric generator	1
	Chain hoist	1
	Crane	1
	Transportation for electric generator, chain hoist, and crane	1
	Barrels	140
	Containers for transport of seafood	7
	Materials for suripera nets (weights, sails, rope)	
Sub-total Honduras		
	GRAND TOTAL	

ANNEX D. CONTRACTS AND SUBCONTRACTS

TASK ORDERS AND SUBCONTRACTS: In FY14, the USAID Regional Program finalized sub-task orders with The Nature Conservancy, Sea Turtle Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, Solimar, and Wildlife Conservation Society. The Program also finalized subcontracts with Widecast, ICAPO, CADPI, and Amigos de la Tierra.

In August of the current fiscal year, USAID approved a 6-month extension of the Regional Program through March 31, 2015. The extension of the proposed activities prompted the Program to initiate several contracts and consultancies at the end of FY14. The Program signed a Task Order with World Wildlife Fund to implement activities in sites on the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua. The subcontractor is responsible for improving the traceability system for lobster harvesting in Honduras and replicating this system in Nicaragua.

In early September, the Regional Program subcontracted **GOAL INTERNACIONAL** for the extension period. Based in Honduras, this organization works on the Honduran Miskito Coast. The purpose of the subcontract is to solidify the value chain of fisheries products promoted by the Program on the Miskito Coast of Honduras in order to strengthen productive activities and fisheries products harvested under improved management practices and ensure their access to formal markets through a buyer-centered approach.

CONTRACTS: Due to reductions in the technical team coupled with the extension granted, the Regional Program signed the following contracts in FY14 and in September to complete certain indicators and implement activities set out in the extension:

GULF OF FONSECA

The Program contract specialists in the following areas: a specialist (María Antonieta Rivas) to design the Operational Protocol for Chinandega in the Gulf of Fonseca and oversee interinstitutional coordination of the participants in this process: fisheries and environment, security and port authorities, the Navy, the national police, local governments and the Office of the Attorney General.

The Program also contracted Mario Chacón to design the complaints tracking system for the Operational Protocol for coastal and marine crimes in La Unión and Chinandega in the Gulf of Fonseca. His contract has been extended to conduct monitoring and training on the use of the system and develop monitoring indicators for its use.

Consultant Héctor Fuentes has followed up on activities in the Gulf of Fonseca, providing advisory services to beneficiary cooperatives and collecting sales data.

HONDURAN MISKITO COAST AND GULF OF HONDURAS

The Regional Program contracted **Jony Varela** as a consultant to promote its business initiatives and economic alternatives, especially those implemented jointly with DAKNI and KAUMA. This consultancy terminated in March 2014.

The Program also contracted Manlio Martínez to provide technical assistance to help consolidate the local Geotourism Council in Roatán (CLGR) as the backbone of the Geotourism platform in this site, implement activities, and record additional sales by participating business. This requires ensuring fluid communication between government agencies in Roatán, the private sector, fishermen's groups and other relevant stakeholders.

The Program contracted **Nelda Sánchez** to perform specific task related to the labor standards codes for sea workers on the Miskito Coast of Honduras and Nicaragua. She is responsible for delivering training and disseminating the codes, and promoting their application in the four key sectors involved in fisheries activities on the Miskito Coast.

The Program also signed an MOU with CEM for collaboration on a complaints tracking system linked to the Operational Protocol for coastal and marine violations for use by the relevant authorities in Bay Islands, Honduras.

Finally, Manlio Martínez was contracted to continue data collection on the Honduran Miskito Coast.

NICARAGUAN MISKITO COAST

Víctor Cedeño, the consultant hired to adapt the current management plan for the Miskito Keys protected area in Nicaragua, is currently completing the final draft.

Silvio Saballos was reengaged for the extension period as a business advisor for the Nicaraguan Miskito Coast. His main role will be to provide advisory services and support to fishermen's and producers' organizations, companies, cooperatives and associations ("enterprises") at that site. He will also be responsible for directing the delivery of 114 improved 4 inch gillnets that meet legal codes for the harvest of fin fish species, which will benefit at least 300 people, and to train disabled divers or their family members on improved, responsible marketing and handling of fisheries products.

Sergio Martínez, fisheries specialist and former Program staff member, was hired as a Fisheries technical expert on the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua to continue to support the Programs main activities with fishermen's organizations, cooperatives, and associations ("enterprises") in the RAAN. This will mainly involve technical assistance and training in fishing methods promoted by the Program, geared towards the production and sale of species harvested under improved practices and/or rights-based mechanisms. He will also provide technical assistance to at least five associations or small enterprises to ensure that the products produced have a secure market (lobster, shrimp, fin fish, and jellyfish, among others); boost the capacity of groups to harvest and market coastal shrimp with suripera nets; solidify business relations with at least on buyer in the area; and facilitate in-service training for target groups receiving this assistance. He will also record and gather data on the results and indicators included in this contract, based on the USAID Regional Program Monitoring Plan.

CAHUITAS-BOCAS DEL TORO

The Program contracted **Julio Barquero** in the second quarter of this fiscal year through a consultancy to provide technical assistance to the local Geotourism Council in Bocas del Toro. This consultancy was designed to monitor and solidify the Geotourism Platform in this site and to record additional sales by the Platform's participating businesses using the data collection system designed by Solimar. The consultant also designed an opinion survey for active business on the impact of the NatGeo brand on their business in order to validate the results of this marketing platform. He also supported beneficiary fishermen's groups in the site in the promotion and use of improved lobster and shrimp harvesting practices in the Southern Caribbean of Costa Rica and the Bocas del Toro archipelago in Panama. This included proper documentation and records of sales generated by these groups.

COMMUNICATIONS

In the first quarter of the fiscal year, the Program contracted consultant **Helena Miranda**, a communications specialist, to support and strengthen its communications effort to promote

compliance, surveillance and enforcement of coastal and marine crimes in the three pilot sites of the Operational Protocols for coastal and marine crimes. This included a particular emphasis on implementing strategies for monitoring and enforcement of coastal and marine laws in the three sites and fostering participation, observance, and compliance to ensure the sustainability of marine resources for sea workers on the Nicaraguan and Honduran Miskito Coast. This consultant was rehired for the extension period to support communications efforts in the three Operational Protocols three pilot sites and promote the labor standards codes on the Nicaraguan and Honduran Miskito Coast.

TRAINING

Logistics and training specialist Ivonne Mirón, who resigned as a long-term employee in June, offered her services as a consultant. The Program is now processing her contract to provide logistical support for the exchanges scheduled for the extension period as set out in the work plan submitted to USAID.

ANNEX E. TRAINING

During Fiscal Year FY14 the Regional Program trained a total of 1715 people, 104 corresponding to Indicator 4, 580 to Indicator 9, and 1031 to Indicator 18.

After verifying all activities and supporting documents, the following adjustments were made:

(1) For the first quarter, 19 fishermen were added to Indicator 9, which were not reported in the activity "2nd workshop in building and use of suriperas for low impact fisheries of sea shrimp" in Sandy Bay, Nicaragua, November 19-23, 2013;

(2) For the second quarter, the activity " Spiny lobster traceability system workshop for Honduran Caribbean" was excluded, as it pertains to fiscal year 2013; and finally,

(3) For the third quarter two activities were adjusted:

The verified number of trainees for "Consultation workshops and mapping of no-take zones" carried out by TNC in Bay Islands, Honduras, is 93 as per signed attendance lists.

According to topics and trained people:

1. EACOM: Economic Alternatives, Marketing and Markets
2. MILP: Institutional Framework, Legal and Policy
3. MMC: Coastal Marine Resources Management
4. PR: Responsible Fishing
5. MT: Marine Turtles

Government Officials (Indicator 4) were mostly trained in topics related to Coastal Marine Resources Management during FY14, with a total of 38 trained people, specifically in subjects about management plans; and closely, the topic of Institutional Framework, Legal and Policy with 32 people trained specifically on illegal coastal marine issues.

Training to artisanal and industrial fishermen was focused in Coastal Marine Resources Management, with 235 people trained. For the topic of Institutional Framework, Legal and Policy, 161 persons were trained specifically in the subject of Labor Codes in Honduras and Nicaragua.

Regarding Indicator 18 disabled divers and/or their relatives, were trained mainly in the areas of

Economic Alternatives, Marketing and Markets with 597 people trained; and Responsible Fisheries

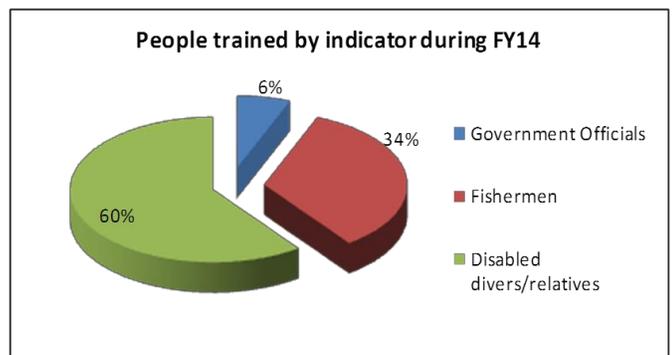


Figure 11. Percentage ratio of total trainees during FY14 for each indicator.

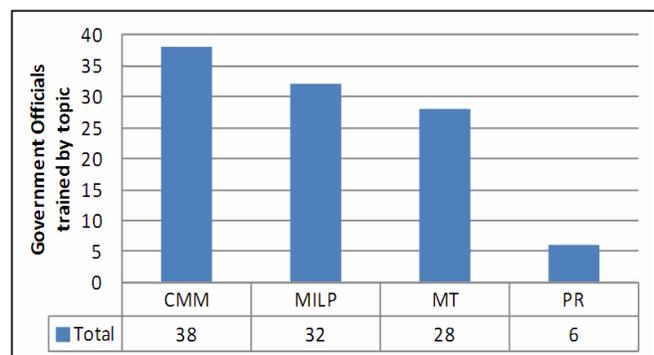


Figure 12. Government and NGO Officials trained by topic during FY14.

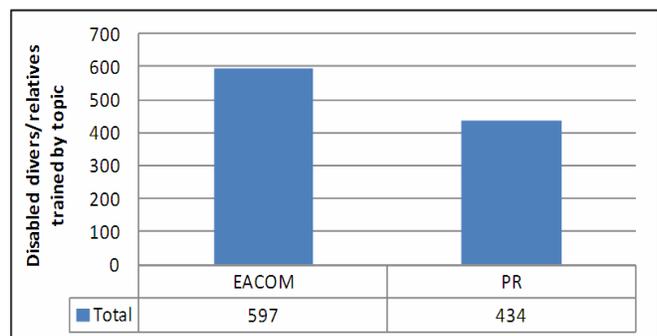


Figure 13. Disabled divers and/or their relatives trained by topic during FY14.

434 people trained, in matters as good fishing practices for lobster, boat building, suriperas networks, good artisanal fishing practices for jellyfish, traps for lobster fishing, good practices and marketing of fisheries products, among others.

A total of 1355 men and 360 women were trained during FY14.

For Indicator 4, a total of 75 men and 29 women were trained; for Indicator 9, 479 men and 101 women; and for Indicator 18, 801 men and 230 women were trained during FY14.

Of the total of 711 people trained during the first quarter, 5% corresponds to Indicator 4, 15% to Indicator 9 and 80% to Indicator 18.

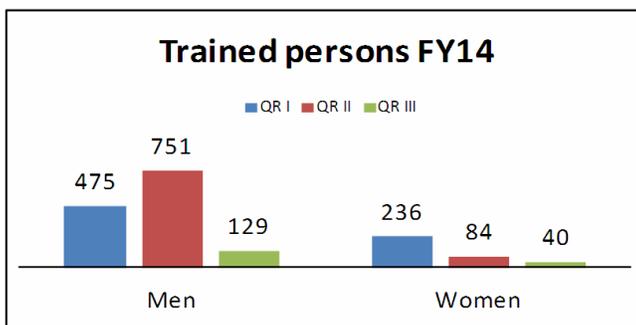


Figure 14. Detail of trained men and women during FY14 grouped by quarter.

Of the total of 835 people trained during the second quarter, 4% corresponds to Indicator 4, 41% to Indicator 9, and 55% to Indicator 18%.

For the third quarter 169 people were trained, 22% corresponds to Indicator 4 and 78% to Indicator 9.

Figure 14 shows that during the last quarter of FY14, no training activities were conducted due to the closure of the project; it can be seen that the greatest number of disabled divers and/or their relatives were trained during the first quarter of FY14.

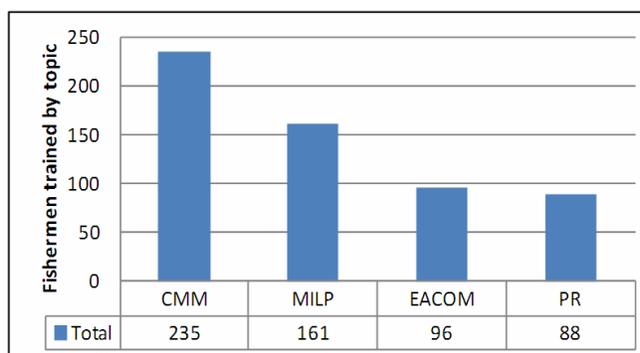


Figure 15. Artisanal and industrial fishermen trained by topic during FY14.

Figure 16 gives the total number of people trained during FY14, disaggregated by topic and site.

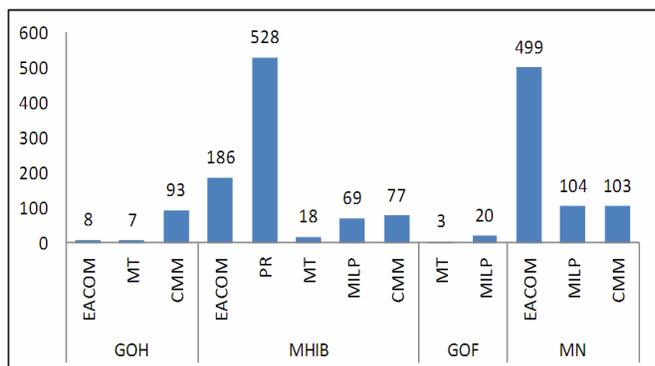


Figure 16. People trained during FY14 disaggregated by site and topic.

In Gulf of Honduras, the most important topic was Coastal Marine Resources Management. In Honduran Moskitia and Bay Islands, it was Responsible Fishing. In Gulf of Fonseca, greater emphasis was on the topic of Institutional Framework, Legal and Policy. While in Nicaraguan Moskitia the most important topic was the Economic Alternatives, Marketing and Markets.

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Large redacted area]

ANNEX F. COMMUNICATIONS

In FY14, the Regional Program produced six communications tools including success stories, one case study, and a “first person:”

1. Jellyfish, economic alternatives “Las Medusas Miskitas no son Mitología” (Honduran Miskito Coast)
2. Suriperas, high yield, low impact (Nicaraguan Miskito Coast).
3. Two success stories on hawksbill turtle conservation:
 - a. Sea turtles: Hawksbill turtle conservation in the Eastern Pacific: Strategic trilogy: conservation, tourism, and communities.
 - b. The Hawksbill Turtles: an economic opportunity for coastal communities.
4. Case study: Kauma, the socioeconomic hope of the Miskito Coast (Honduran)
5. First person: Teacher and tutor of artisanal fishermen. (Martha Machazec, President of the Fishermen’s Association of Bocas del Toro).



FIRST PERSON TEACHER, TUTOR OF ARTISANAL FISHERMEN

Martha Machazec, President of the Bocatoreño Fishers’ Union boosted the Union’s revenues through a plan to farm snapper in floating cages, generating economic benefits for 25 member fishermen and their families.



PHOTO: USAID Regional Program

Professor Machazec with the USAID Regional Program’s Alternative Livelihoods Specialist.

USAID, in alliance with UNDP and the Bi-national Sixaola River Basin Management Program, provided technical assistance to UPESABO to support an economic activity to supplement revenues from fishing for its members in Bocas del Toro, Panama.

U.S. Agency for International Development
www.usaid.gov

The Bocatoreño Fishers’ Union (UPESABO, as it is known by its Spanish acronym) was founded in 1999 by 163 member fishermen, who primarily fish in Almirante Bay in the archipelago of Bocas del Toro, Panama. UPESABO was formed under the leadership of Martha Machazec, a teacher and native of Bocas del Toro, to foster conservation and responsible management of coastal and marine resources in the archipelago to protect the livelihoods of local fishermen. UPESABO has worked diligently since its founding to manage the fisheries on which its members depend, but has seen steady declines in revenues over the past decade as overfishing resulting from free access to fishing and increased contamination, erosion, and sedimentation in local waters cause local fish populations to shrink.

As President of UPESABO, Martha found a strategic ally in USAID’s Regional Management of Aquatic Resources and Economic Alternatives Program, which helped her formulate and implement a pilot program to farm snapper in floating cages as an additional source of income for UPESABO members. In 2011, the USAID Regional Program for the Management of Aquatic Resources and Economic Alternatives, teamed with the United Nations Development Program’s (UNDP) Small Grant Program and the Bi-national Sixaola River Basin Management Program, supported by the Inter-American Bank, the Global Environmental Fund, and the Panamanian Authority for Aquatic Resources, to support the pilot program. Together, the alliance contributed US\$90,000 to finance the construction of four floating cages and a small cabin to house processing operations.

Just two and half years after its design, Martha asserts the project “Has definitely paid off. Within the next few days we will resume catches and begin a second stage of fattening snapper which will pay for training for our members in using fish by-products to generate feed. This practice will help us fatten even more snapper, and will hopefully result in even greater benefits for our members.” As of April 2014, UPESABO has farmed more than 3,870 pounds of snapper, generating revenues of more than US\$8,700 for the 25 fishermen involved in the pilot program. UPESABO expects to triple production when it installs another eight cages in 2014 and 2015.

At the start of FY14, the Program contracted communications specialist Helena Miranda to design and produce radio spots for the Awareness and Communications Strategy to reinforce compliance with the Operational Protocols for coastal and marine violations in Regional Program's three pilot sites: Bay Islands, Honduras; La Unión, El Salvador, and Chinandega, Nicaragua. The messages were first aired in the two sites that had finalized their operational protocols: Bay Islands and La Unión.

Bay Islands, the following three messages were aired:

1. Lobster harvesting, closed season, size requirements, during the spiny lobster closed season from March 1 to June 30
2. Sustainable shark fishing
3. Marine ecosystems: coral reefs, sea grasses, and mangroves

La Unión:

1. No shark finning, as this is a port of entry
2. Harvesting black conch and mangrove cockle in mangrove ecosystems
3. Responsible fishing of commercial species

Chinandega (last site):

1. Mangroves and cockles
2. Sustainable shark fishing
3. Hawksbill turtle conservation

The survey findings for Chinandega were reported in the Third Quarter Report FY14. (Indicator 2)

The Regional Program was invited to attend the Agroindustrial Fair 2014, held in San Salvador on August 28. The Wal-mart stand spotlighted its partnership with the ASPESCU Cooperative, a Regional Program beneficiary in the Gulf of Fonseca, and the improved management practices for harvesting, collecting and processing fisheries products that will soon be available in Wal-mart stores. The Regional Program had the opportunity to present documents and materials produced during the four years of implementation. ASPESCU offered a "fileting" demonstration at the event, a technique it had learned through the Regional Program.



Participation of the Regional Program in the agro-industrial Fair 2014 invited by Walmart, to publicize the alliance of the Cooperative ASPESCU, a Program's stakeholder, promoting good fishing practices. (Photo Regional Program).

ANNEX G. ACTIVITIES FOR FY14

ACTIVITIES														
Date	Country	Description of activity/event	Number of participants											
			Name	Total	M	W	Indicator 4			Indicator 9			Indicator 18	
		Total					M	W	Total	M	W	Total	M	W
2013														
October-December														
October 2013														
15-17 October	HN	Training on best practices for lobster artisanal fisheries in Communities Kruta, Krata and Prumnitara from the Miskito Coast of Honduras	80	60	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	80	60	20
15-17 October	HN	Training on building suriperas nets to disables divers or their families in Tansing, Yahurabila and Puswaya	50	33	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	33	17
17 October	HN	Fisheries biology workshop to the Fishermen Association in Guanaja	8	8	0	0	0	0	8	8	0	0	0	0
22-26 October	BEL	Training on basic accountability, Placencia	8	7	1	0	0	0	8	7	1	0	0	0
Total/month			146	108	38	0	0	0	16	15	1	130	93	37
November 2013														
4-6 November	HN	Training in building and repair of boats to disabled divers at Kaukira community	67	45	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	67	45	22
6-15 November	NIC	Workshop on Instalation of fishing boats with suriperas for sea shrimp low impact fishing to divers from Copescharly, Bilwi	22	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	22	0
7-16 November	HN	Training on best practices for lobster artisanal fisheries in Communities Brus Laguna, Yahurabila and Uhi from the Miskito Coast of Honduras	195	92	103	0	0	0	0	0	0	195	92	103
12 November	HN	Training in good practices for jellyfish artisanal fisheries in Honduran Moskitia	82	56	26	6	4	2	0	0	0	76	52	24
12 November	HN	Workshop to validate a national strategy for sea turtles conservation in the North Zone of Honduras	18	11	7	18	11	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 November	HN	Workshop to validate a national strategy for sea turtles conservation in the South Zone of Honduras	3	1	2	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
19-23 November	NIC	2nd workshop in building and use of suriperas for low impact fisheries of sea	19	19	0	0	0	0	19	19	0	0	0	0

ACTIVITIES

Date	Country	Description of activity/event Name	Number of participants											
			Total	M	W	Indicator 4			Indicator 9			Indicator 18		
						Total	M	W	Total	M	W	Total	M	W
		shrimp, Sandy Bay												
29 November	GT	Workshop to validate a national strategy for sea turtles conservation in Guatemala	7	5	2	7	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total/month			413	251	162	34	21	13	19	19	0	360	211	149
December 2013														
5 December	HN	Workshop Promoting association skills development and environmental awareness to fishermen communities from Utila	13	12	1	0	0	0	13	12	1	0	0	0
6 December	HN	Workshop Promoting association skills development and environmental awareness to fishermen communities from Guanaja	6	6	0	0	0	0	6	6	0	0	0	0
21 December	HN	Practical workshop on lobster traps dipping for artisanal fishing at Kaukira	83	54	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	83	54	29
21 December	HN	Workshop Promoting association skills development and environmental awareness to fishermen communities from Santa Elena	23	20	3	0	0	0	23	20	3	0	0	0
22 December	HN	Workshop Promoting association skills development and environmental awareness to fishermen communities from Roatan	27	24	3	0	0	0	27	24	3	0	0	0
Total/month			152	116	36	0	0	0	69	62	7	83	54	29
Total/I Quarter FY14			711	475	236	34	21	13	104	96	8	573	358	215
2014														
January - March														
January 2014														
24 January-4 February	NIC	Marketing and good practices in handling sea products workshop, Sandy Bay Communities	250	250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250	250	0
Total/month			250	250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250	250	0
February 2014														
11-14 February	NIC	Training and validation on labor codes, Nicaragua	104	72	32	7	5	2	97	67	30	0	0	0

ACTIVITIES

Date	Country	Description of activity/event Name	Number of participants											
			Total	M	W	Indicator 4			Indicator 9			Indicator 18		
						Total	M	W	Total	M	W	Total	M	W
11-20 February	NIC	Marketing and good practices workshop in handling sea products, Bilwi	178	165	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	178	165	13
24-28 February	HN	Training and validation on labor codes, Honduras	69	59	10	5	5	0	64	54	10	0	0	0
Total/month			351	296	55	12	10	2	161	121	40	178	165	13
March 2014														
1-11 March	HN	Sustainable fisheries and right acces workshop	80	72	8	0	0	0	80	72	8	0	0	0
4 March	NIC	First workshop to official representatives on an operational protocol to track illicit coastal and marine activities, GOF	6	4	2	6	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
19 March	NIC	Second workshop to official representatives on an operational protocol to track illicit coastal and marine activities, GOF	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
24-29 March	NIC	Assembling and use of suripera nets workshop for fishing of coastal shrimp in Bilwi	30	28	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	28	2
25 March - 3 April	HN	Consultation workshop on co-management to the fishermen associations	77	70	7	0	0	0	77	70	7	0	0	0
29 March	NIC	Consultation workshop on the management plan for Miskito Cays, Prinzu Auhya Un, Hallover	23	15	8	4	3	1	19	12	7	0	0	0
31 March	NIC	Consultation workshop on the management plan for Miskito Cays, Karata	16	15	1	8	7	1	8	8	0	0	0	0
Total/month			234	205	29	20	15	5	184	162	22	30	28	2
Total/II Quarter FY14			835	751	84	32	25	7	345	283	62	458	443	15
April - June														
April 2014														
4 April	NIC	Consultation workshop on the management plan for Miskito Cays with CCFA representatives	28	22	6	25	19	6	3	3	0	0	0	0
9 April	NIC	Third workshop to official representatives on an operational protocol to track illicit coastal and marine activities, GOF	5	3	2	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
29 April	NIC	Consultation workshop on the management plan for Miskito Cays,	36	20	16	1	1	0	35	19	16	0	0	0

ACTIVITIES

Date	Country	Description of activity/event Name	Number of participants												
			Total	M	W	Indicator 4			Indicator 9			Indicator 18			
						Total	M	W	Total	M	W	Total	M	W	
		Pahra, Tawira													
Total/month			69	45	24	31	23	8	38	22	16	0	0	0	
May 2014															
13 May	ES	Training on the unlawful coastal and marine register system La Union	4	4	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
28 May - 16 June	HN	Consultation workshops and mapping of no-take zones in Bay Islands, Honduras	93	78	15	0	0	0	93	78	15	0	0	0	
Total/month			97	82	15	4	4	0	93	78	15	0	0	0	
June 2014															
19 June	NIC	Fourth workshop to official representatives on an operational protocol to track unlawful coastal and marine activities, GOF	3	2	1	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total/month			3	2	1	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total/III Quarter FY14			169	129	40	38	29	9	131	100	31	0	0	0	
July - September															
July 2014															
Total/month			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
August 2014															
Total/month			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
September 2014															
Total/month			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total/IV Quarter FY14			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total FY14			1715	1355	360	104	75	29	580	479	101	1031	801	230	
CUMULATIVE TOTAL			10902	7254	3648	2406	1601	805	6984	4496	2488	1512	1157	355	

ANNEX H. COOPERATION AGREEMENTS AND ALLIANCES

Cooperation Agreements: Good practices and Conservation – Business and Economic Alternatives

Organization	Legal Representative	Institutional Liaison	Topic	Type of Agreement	Date Signed
BIODIVERSITY, CONSERVATION AND GOOD PRACTICES					
1. Tri-national Project “Mangrove Corridor – Gulf of Fonseca” CCAD	Roberto Rodríguez	Edgar Herrera	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated activities for the implementation of best fisheries practices and management in the Gulf of Fonseca. Share physical office space in La Unión, El Salvador. 	Memorandum of Cooperation	November, 2010
2. MARFUND	Lorenzo Rosenzweig Pasquel	María José González Fuster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration to raise funds for conservation activities Cooperation in coastal marine zones in the Gulf of Honduras 	Memorandum of Institutional Cooperation	January, 2011
3. AKVAPLAN-NIVA	Anton A. Giaever	Héctor Andrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marine coastal research activities Sharing of information for decision-making 	Memorandum of Understanding	January 2011
4. Coral Reef Alliance, Roatán, Honduras	Rick MacPherson	Jenny Myton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination of efforts in the Bay Islands Implementation of the NatGeo Geotourism web platform 	Collaboration Agreement	May 2011
5. Fisheries Development Project in the Gulf of Fonseca (PDPGF) - Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development	Carlos Andara	Carlos Andara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation and marine and coastal management in the Gulf of Fonseca, Honduras 	Letter of Intent	June 2011
6. Fund for the Americas Initiative (FIAES)	Jorge Oviedo M.	Verónica Klein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications and dissemination of information around mangrove ecosystems and species in the Gulf of Fonseca 	Memorandum of Cooperation	December 21, 2011

7. Friends of the Earth of Spain (AdTE)	Guillermo Rodríguez	Hilario Mendoza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint training activities in the tri-national area of the Gulf of Fonseca 	Technical Cooperation Agreement	February 15, 2012
8. German Society for International Cooperation (GiZ)	Michael Schloenvoigt		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint development of concepts and financial mechanisms to support adaptation to climate change in marine and coastal protected areas 	Memorandum of Understanding	May 23, 2012
9. Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente (ANAM)	Silvano Vergara Vásquez	Leticia de Polo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination and co-financing the Damani Guariviara Wetlands Management Plan 	Memorandum of Understanding	September 25, 2012
10. Instituto Nacional de Conservación y Desarrollo Forestal (ICF)	José Trinidad Suazo		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint work to develop management plans for protected areas in accordance with the new Protected Areas Law 	Memorandum of Cooperation	October 26, 2012
11. Center for Marine Studies (CEM), Honduras	Steve Box	Diana Vásquez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint design and implementation of a System for the Registry of Complaints of Coastal and Marine Resource Violations in the Bay Islands, Honduras 	Memorandum of Technical Cooperation	February 27, 2014
12. Paso Pacífico, Nicaragua	Sarah Otterstrom	Liza González	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint actions to establish a operational protocol for marine and coastal resource violations in Chinandega, Nicaragua 	Memorandum of Technical Cooperation	February 24, 2014

ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES AND BUSINESS

13. CABEI CAMBIO Project - SICA	CABEI Vice President	Yuri Zenteno	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical assistance and finance for select business plans 	Technical Agreement	July 20, 2011
14. NATGEO	Jim Dion	Matt Humke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementación de la plataforma de Geoturismo en dos sitios del Programa Regional 	Memorandum of Understanding	December 12, 2011
15. UNDP	Luigi Loddo	Elina Kartinen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic alternatives Development of a portfolio of economic alternative pilot programs for lobster divers in the Miskito Coast Sharing of office space in Puerto Lempira 	Letter of Intent	February 10, 2011
16. Honduran Institute of Tourism	Nelly Karina Jerez Caballero	Syntia Bennet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of the NatGeo Geotourism web platform in Roatán to promote environmentally friendly 	Memorandum of Understanding	May 17, 2012

				practices and increase sales		
17. Placencia Producers Cooperative Society Limited	Sidney Lopez Jr.	Justino Méndez	•	Institutional strengthening in the áreas of marketing, financial management, and administration of increased sales of the cooperative	Memorandum of Understanding	November 30, 2012
18. Calleja S.A. de C.V. and Cordes	Juan Carlos Calleja Hakker	Ximena Robin	•	Sustainable market linkages with artisanal fishermen in the Gulf of Fonseca	Memorandum of Understanding	November 28, 2012
19. SEA PEARL S.A. de R. L.	Roosevelt Francisco Terry Laing	Francisco Terry	•	Sustainable market linkages with artisanal fishermen in the Miskito Coast of Honduras	Memorandum of Understanding	January 22, 2013
20. Wahoo Foods	Enrico Cruz	Enrico Cruz	•	Sustainable market linkages with artisanal fishermen in the Miskito Coast of Honduras	Cooperation Agreement	February 14, 2013
21. Marinos Pescadería	José Arístides Flores	María Amalia Porta	•	Promotion of sales of lobster harvested using best fishing practices through use of the pilot traceability system	Letter of Intent	March 18, 2013
22. Netuno	Luciano Bonaldo	María Amalia Porta	•	Promotion of sales of lobster harvested using best fishing practices through use of the pilot traceability system	Memorandum of Understanding	March 18, 2013
23. Darden Restaurant Group	Roger Bing	Mike Powers	•	Promotion of sales of lobster harvested using best fishing practices	Memorandum of Understanding	June 4, 2013
24. Wal-Mart	Carlos Soto	Claudia de Ibáñez	•	Establishment of business relationships with artisanal fishermen for purchase of more sustainable seafood • Promote compliance with best processing practices	Memorandum of Understanding	July 30, 2013
25. FUPEC - PYME	Reina Arias de Paniagua	Roberto Hueso	•	Support for artisanal fishermen to improve quality and sales of seafood products	Memorandum of Understanding	July 30, 2013
26. KAUMA - DAKNI	Henry Lee Haylock Boman	Johnny Varela	•	Institutional strengthening for KAUMA in marketing, accounting, finance, and administration • Promote best fishing and labor practices as well as economic alternatives to lobster diving for fishermen in the Miskito Coast of Honduras	Memorandum of Understanding	August 30, 2013

