



# USAID | HONDURAS

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## Improved Management and Conservation of Critical Watersheds

This USAID program links the need for conservation of natural resources with communities' needs for a secure source of water and economic productivity. USAID activities also link upper and lower watersheds (the ridge-to-reef approach) to ensure holistic management at the macro basin level.



Because management and conservation of the coastal zone is directly impacted by upstream activities throughout the watershed, the program integrates activities in the higher elevation areas with conservation and socio-economic needs downstream. USAID's interventions are achieving the following results:

- improved management of protected areas;
- enhancement of disaster preparedness and mitigation activities;
- improved resource conservation and market access;
- improved compliance with environmental and emergency contingency laws and regulations;
- achievement of cleaner use and production; and
- enhancement of environmental education and awareness.

USAID activities recognize Honduras' continuing vulnerability to natural disasters, especially hurricanes. Disaster mitigation includes demand-driven community-based interventions that emphasize strengthened local governance and building environmental awareness into all levels of society. Activities are based on USAID's past experience and implemented nationwide.

In addition to conservation and disaster preparedness, activities are supporting the implementation of the Central American Free Trade Agreement - Environment Cooperation Side Agreement.