



USAID
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AMEXCID

AGENCIA MEXICANA DE COOPERACIÓN
INTERNACIONAL PARA EL DESARROLLO



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SEBRANDO OPORTUNIDADES

OVERVIEW

In December 2021, the Governments of the United States and Mexico announced *Sembrando Oportunidades*, a new bilateral framework for development cooperation to address the root causes of migration from Central America. Under this framework, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Mexican Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AMEXCID) coordinate development resources and expertise to support citizens of Northern Central America in building prosperous futures in their home communities.

USAID and AMEXCID's *Sembrando Oportunidades* framework brings to life both governments' shared vision to address the root causes of migration. It also builds on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the U.S. and Mexican Governments on June 8, 2021, during the visit of Vice President Kamala Harris to Mexico City. Further, it advances pillar two of the bilateral High-Level Economic Dialogue related to the root causes of migration.

FRAMEWORK

Through *Sembrando Oportunidades*, USAID and AMEXCID jointly address the root causes of irregular migration from Northern Central America by coordinating development activities that create economic and social opportunities.

Under the initiative, USAID activities coordinate with two ongoing projects funded and implemented by AMEXCID, *Sembrando Vida* and *Jóvenes Construyendo el Futuro*. The *Sembrando Vida* project offers small-holder farmers the opportunity to foster their own prosperity with agricultural inputs, a stipend, and technical assistance, while *Jóvenes Construyendo el Futuro* provides youth with opportunities for job training, a stipend, and apprenticeships. Through *Sembrando Oportunidades*, USAID and AMEXCID identify additional interventions in Honduras and El Salvador, funded by USAID, that will broaden the impact of our assistance to foster more inclusive and sustainable development in Northern Central America.

ACTIVITIES

Together, USAID and AMEXCID are collaborating on areas for partnership in Honduras and El Salvador under the *Sembrando Oportunidades* framework. Several joint programs are underway in Honduras and El Salvador, and USAID and AMEXCID will expand this partnership in Guatemala in the coming months.

Examples of current work through *Sembrando Oportunidades* include:

- In Honduras, USAID's *Creando Mi Futuro Aquí* project integrates AMEXCID's beneficiaries into USAID-funded training and job placement services. Two of USAID's economic growth programs in Honduras (Transforming Market Systems and Sustainable Agribusinesses) integrate farmers enrolled in Mexico's *Sembrando Vida* project.
- In El Salvador, USAID's *Becas para Oportunidades Educativas* program, with the International Organization for Migration, is providing scholarships for graduates from AMEXCID's youth workforce project *Jóvenes Construyendo el Futuro*. USAID's Economic Competitiveness program in El Salvador also provides training and assistance to *Sembrando Vida* farmers to improve the quality and quantity of their harvest to meet buyers' standards and requirements.
- In August 2022, USAID launched the *Alliance for Root Causes and Opportunities* (ARCO) project to deepen USAID's strategic partnership with AMEXCID and provide sustainable economic opportunities for youth and farmers in Northern Central America, thereby addressing the root causes of irregular migration.

RESULTS

During 2022, USAID and AMEXCID benefited over 1,000 farmers and youth, with plans to ramp up the number of beneficiaries to 3,000 in 2023.