

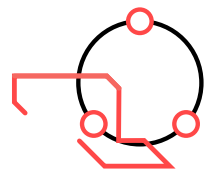
CABEI



Central American
Bank for
Economic
Integration



BUILDING THE FUTURE: CABEI'S IMPACT ON CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN REGIONAL INTEGRATION



Regional
Integration

CABEI, as the Central Americans' bank, has played a crucial role in advancing the economic and social development of its member countries.


Through various initiatives, it continues to work tirelessly toward a promising future for the region.








Regional integration is a fundamental pillar of the mission of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI). Its strategy focuses on supporting regional initiatives covering key areas such as infrastructure for development, trade, investment and financial markets, all aimed at fostering effective economic integration in the Central American region.

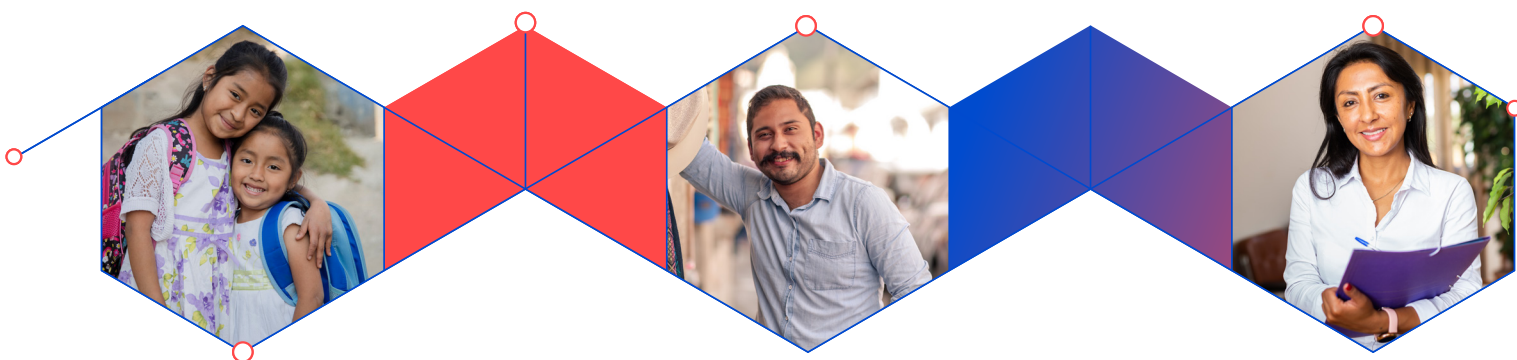
In its 2022-2024 strategic framework, the region's most important multilateral organization establishes this mission as a priority and proposes to "effectively promote regional integration" by supporting initiatives that are aligned with this purpose, and by positioning the region before the world as a market with similar economic characteristics and potential and with a vocation for shared integration.

In this regard, some of the most emblematic projects supported by CABEI and framed within the Regional Integration strategic axis are worth mentioning.

OPERATION	DESCRIPTION	BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES
 <p>Harmonized Railway Regulations for Central America</p>	<p>It is an essential pillar in the integration of the economic and territorial system of the countries of the region, as it seeks to support regional policy actions and encourage countries in their aspirations to reduce their logistics costs, migrate to more efficient modes of transportation, and at the same time reduce gas emissions from the transportation sector.</p> <p>This regional cooperation focused on defining a regulation on harmonized general technical specifications for the design, technical characteristics, operation and maintenance of railroad transportation projects, common to all of Central America, to be applied to the construction and future modernization of railroad networks that will allow for the harmonized development of railroad transportation projects, their interoperability and regional connectivity in a clear manner.</p> <p>The Regulations have been accepted by the Council of Ministers of Transportation and the Central American Economic Integration Secretariat and will be published at this time.</p>	<p>Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama</p>

OPERATION	DESCRIPTION	BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES
 <p>Dry Corridor Program in Central America</p>	<p>The program seeks to benefit more than 11 million people directly and more than 1.3 million people indirectly, covering a vast area of more than 20,530 square kilometers. Its main focus is to strengthen the adaptive capacity to climate change of vulnerable people, small farmers, commercial farmers, and entrepreneurs in rural communities in the Dry Corridor region of Central America and the Arid Zones of the Dominican Republic.</p> <p>In addition, the Program aims to significantly reduce deforestation in the Program's priority area and improve the livelihoods of producers by providing access to financial and non-financial services to support the adaptation and resilience of production systems in the region.</p>	<p>Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and the Arid Zones of the Dominican Republic</p>
 <p>Gulf of Fonseca Master Plan</p>	<p>It is a key regional initiative in which seven strategic programs have been identified, such as Fisheries and Aquaculture, Agriculture and Agroindustry (agriculture, livestock, technology), Sustainable Tourism, Energy Sustainability, Strengthening of Logistics and Transportation Infrastructure, Institutional Strengthening, and Environmental and Social Sustainability.</p> <p>These programs include strategic projects such as: The Logistics-Industrial Corridor on the Pan-American Highway, Special Economic Zones for Agribusiness, Modernization of the Amatillo Pass and Logistics Center, a Ferry for the transport of goods and tourists between ports, a Technological Innovation Center for the Gulf of Fonseca and a Trinational Plan for tourism development, among others. This Master Plan promotes regional collaboration and economic development for the benefit of 867,000 Central Americans.</p>	<p>El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua</p>
 <p>Resilience to Extreme Weather Events in the Atlantic Region of Central America</p>	<p>Use of nature-based solutions to increase the resilience to climate change of 35,500 inhabitants of selected watersheds in the coastal regions. The project is designed to be implemented within five years.</p>	<p>Belize, Guatemala and Honduras</p>
 <p>Support for the internationalization platform of SICA companies within the framework of the Free Trade Agreement between the Republic of Korea (ROK) and Central America</p>	<p>The initiative seeks to increase trade and investment flows between the Republic of Korea and Central America through the development of a comprehensive internationalization program under the Free Trade Agreement.</p>	<p>El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama</p>
 <p>Zamorano Scholarship Program</p>	<p>The objective of the Program is to offer low-income students from the SICA region, Cuba and Colombia the opportunity to specialize in sustainable agriculture, agroindustry and natural resources at the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana Zamorano, with academic excellence as a selection criterion. Nine students were selected as beneficiaries in the first year, and a total of 40 scholarships are expected to be awarded during the implementation period.</p>	<p>Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Dominican Republic and Cuba</p>
 <p>Bicentennial Scholarship Program</p>	<p>The Program proposes to benefit annually between 25 and 50 young people per beneficiary country, with a total of at least 1,125 students, in order to support them in completing their secondary or high school studies. In collaboration with the Ministries of Education or Secretariats designated by the governments, the Program ensures access to essential resources to guarantee quality education, including teaching materials, electronic devices, connectivity, uniforms and food.</p>	<p>Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Dominican Republic and Cuba</p>

OPERACIÓN	DESCRIPCIÓN	PAÍSES BENEFICIADOS
 <p>Regional Electricity Market Barriers</p>	<p>A diagnosis of barriers was carried out and a plan was proposed to increase the participation of large consumers in the Regional Electricity Market (MER). This plan supports the Federation of Chambers of Industry of Central America and the Dominican Republic in key activities, such as training and events in which comparative legislative, regulatory and technical analyses of the MER and each country are presented, involving multiple actors in the regional electricity sector.</p>	<p>Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama</p>
 <p>Regional Strategic Investment Grade Initiative</p>	<p>Its purpose is to establish a space for discussion and reflection on the experiences and lessons learned by countries in the region that are actively working to obtain or have already achieved investment grade status, and are striving to maintain it. This approach provided a clear view of regional progress in this field.</p>	<p>El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and the Dominican Republic</p>
 <p>I CABEL-Korea Business Forum</p>	<p>This Technical Cooperation seeks to connect Central American companies and importers with Korean exporters, promoting trade through meetings and information exchange. The ultimate goal is to improve understanding of both markets and strengthen trade and investment relations, promoting the benefits of the Korea-Central America Free Trade Agreement (KCAFTA).</p>	<p>Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama</p>
 <p>Participatory Master Plan for the Trifinio Region</p>	<p>The Plan seeks to promote a This approach aims to foster socioeconomic integration and improve the quality of life of at least 932,000 residents in the Trifinio region.</p>	<p>Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras</p>
 <p>Regional Social Protection Policy for Central America</p>	<p>The initiative includes the preparation, consensus and implementation of the Regional Social Protection Policy for Central America, in order to strengthen the subjective and material coverage of social protection in the countries of the region and with it, equity, decent work, labor and business productivity, stimulating the process of integration and sustainable economic development under the perspective of the Sustainable Development Goals.</p>	<p>Belize, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and Honduras.</p>



CABEI is resolutely accompanying these efforts with the conviction that the future is extremely positive for Central America, thus paving the way for a more effective contribution to the fundamental objectives that define the institution's mission, in which regional integration occupies a central place.