

CABEI



Central American
Bank for
Economic
Integration



Environmental and
social sustainability

NICARAGUAN FAMILIES' ALLY IN THE **FACE** **OF CLIMATE** **CHANGE**





Fields are flooded during the winter, excess water causes soil saturation, rising rivers, landslides, loss of crops, among others that generate many limitations in the lives of Nicaraguan families living in rural communities, who pray every year for a good winter, but are afraid of losing everything with the arrival of tropical storms or hurricanes.

The [German Watch Climate Risk Index](#) placed Nicaragua among the three Central American countries most vulnerable to climate change, due to the fact that 30% of its territory is part of the Dry Corridor, an area where agricultural viability, hence crops, water quality and food security, are at constant risk due to lack of water in the dry season or an excess in the rainy season.

Along these lines and as part of its strategic plan and [2020-2024 Institutional Strategy](#), and in commemoration of World Earth Day, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) is committed to the environment and to improving community capacities to make

“CABEI, in addition to providing non-reimbursable financial cooperation to support families vulnerable to disasters, has dedicated efforts so that Nicaraguans can obtain resources for investments that promote greater resilience to climate change.”

**DR. DANTE MOSSI,
CABEI EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT.**

them more resilient. Specifically in Nicaragua, it supports programs that promote resilience and mitigation of the effects of climate change.

CABEI PROGRAMS IN NICARAGUA

NICAVIDA

One of the most important actions is the Sustainable Development of Rural Families' Livelihoods Project (NICAVIDA), co-financed by the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), in conjunction with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (FIDA), and implemented through the Ministry of Family, Community, Cooperative and Associative Economy (MEFCCA).

With this project, various trainings have been developed for the benefited population, economic resources have been provided and water investment projects have been supported, including the installation of 157 roof water crops, the rehabilitation of 43 wells, the excavation of 16 wells, as well as the construction of 3 reservoirs and 6 well houses.

These actions have benefited 35,838 families living in the 37 municipalities that make up the Dry Corridor in the departments of Chinandega, Managua, Boaco, Madriz, León, Matagalpa, Nueva Segovia and Estelí.

Of these families, 19,417 (54%) are headed by women, and 3,800 are indigenous.

The Project contemplates the productive transformation of rural families, promoting the link between the diversification of their agricultural and non-agricultural sources of income, environmental protection and family nutrition, so that families have not only improved their agricultural production systems, but have also promoted family plans that include business ventures.

To date, more than 986 productive infrastructure projects have been carried out with NICAVIDA, such as wells, reservoirs, home gardens, tertiary roads, bridges, seed banks, among others.

In 2021 NICAVIDA was recognized with the International Award on Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment by FIDA, obtaining the highest score in the gender category in Latin America and the Caribbean.

2022 NICAVIDA PRODUCTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

1,327 REFORESTED HECTARES

1,000 REHABILITATED COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

22,510 DIAGNOSES FOR VULNERABLE FAMILIES

85,000 PEOPLE TRAINED ABOUT NUTRITION

81,000 PEOPLE TRAINED ABOUT NATURAL RESOURCES





Protection during disasters

The autonomous regions, due to their geographic position in the Caribbean, are highly vulnerable to hurricanes. The effects of Felix, Eta, Iota, in recent years, and the storm Julia in 2022, showed the need for shelters to provide protection to the population during disasters, since sometimes they were sheltered in places that did not always meet the required safety conditions, exposing their lives.

To date, CABEL, together with the Government of Nicaragua, has executed 100% of [the Infrastructure and Social Support Program for the Northern Caribbean Coast](#), which has built, rehabilitated, and expanded 11 social projects, including two health centers in the communities of Ninayari and Sasha, as well as five community centers in Dakura, Kahka, Rahuawtla, Awasyari and Waynatingny. Four shelters were also built in Betania, Dakura, Awastara and Pahra to serve as disaster shelters.

In addition, in response to the disasters that have affected Nicaragua, CABEL has provided significant donations of US\$500,000 in non-reimbursable financial cooperation.



Central American Dry Corridor Program

Nicaragua is not the only country affected by climate change, which has direct and aggressive effects such as rising temperatures, droughts, extreme rainfall conditions and the appearance of new pests that threaten the livelihoods of vulnerable communities.

The [“Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Increase Climate Resilience in the Central American Dry Corridor and Arid Zones of the Dominican Republic”](#) program was designed with technical support from the United Nations Environment Program and the Green Climate Fund for CABEL to implement interventions to increase the adaptive capacity and climate resilience of more than 2.4 million people.

The project’s interventions are aimed at three different scales: landscapes, companies, and communities.

In landscapes, the protection and restoration of forests and wetlands will be promoted, and work will be done on the implementation of agroforestry systems.

The business window will promote climate-resilient agricultural practices through the establishment of accessible credit lines and support water-efficient technologies with credit guarantee funds. The proposal seeks to improve the resilience of the livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, communities and regions with greater resilience in health and well-being, food and water security, as well as strengthening resilience and ecosystem services.

“CABEI is committed to the sustainable development of the region, especially with the most vulnerable and we are taking actions in all our member countries so that they continue their production, improving their quality of life and therefore the development of each of the communities.”

**DR. DANTE MOSSI,
CABEI EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT.**

Undoubtedly, positive results are expected from this project, such as those achieved in Nicaragua during the six years of implementation of the [Climate Change and Market Adaptation Program \(NICADAPTA\)](#), which resulted in improved quality of life, the generation of added value in production chains, as well as an increased role in the socioeconomic development of the 40,000 families that benefited from it.



Climate Adaptation

Through the Green Climate Fund, non-reimbursable technical cooperation was approved for the project Support for urban policies, housing, and smart cities based on resilient cities for the sustainable development of developing countries in Central America.

The overall objective of this technical cooperation is to strengthen institutional capacities to identify and/or modify development projects that incorporate climate adaptation considerations, while providing support for resilient recovery from natural disasters in Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua, which are the member countries most affected by natural disasters.

Through this project, the aim is to incorporate climate adaptation strategies in these countries in the redevelopment agendas, strategic planning or general plans for this topic, and to share the successful experiences of other countries, such as South Korea, in the implementation of best practices on climate resilience, especially with regard to flood mitigation.