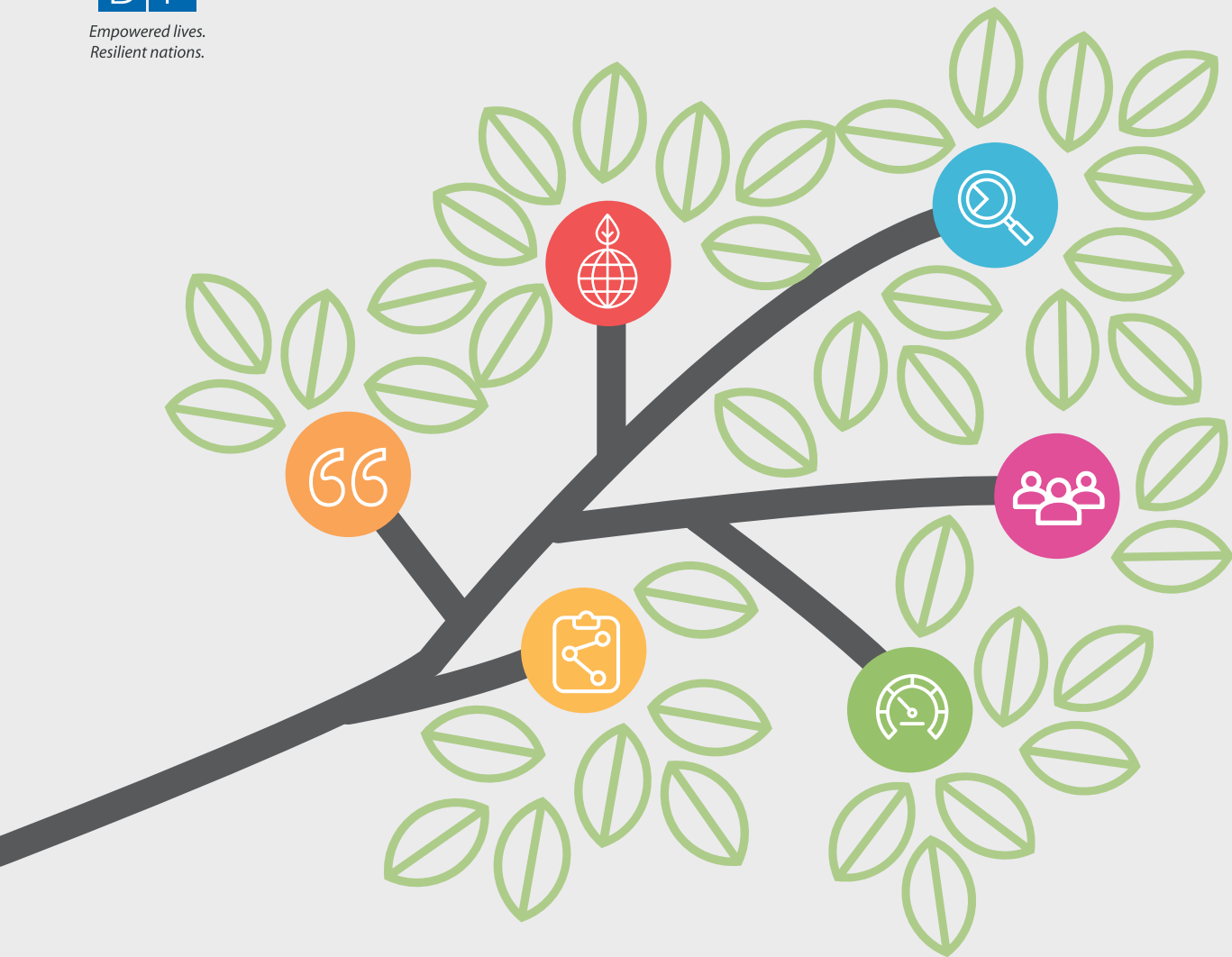




Empowered lives.
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CASE STUDIES ON ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRATION IN POVERTY REDUCTION PROCESSES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Results and tools developed by the
Poverty-Environment Initiative (PEI)

About this document:

The Poverty- Environment Initiative (PEI) of the United Nations Development Programme and United Nations Environment Programme aims to support countries in implementing policies, instruments, plans and budgets that combine the rational management of the environment with the reduction of poverty to contribute to sustainable development. The initiative also contributes to improving capabilities at national and local levels to have national policies, plans and budgets that are favorable and inclusive to the poor, that are gender sensitive, and that are sustainable for natural resources. This document has been prepared by the PEI team for Latin America and the Caribbean to provide strategic elements and discussion among the main development stakeholders of the region.

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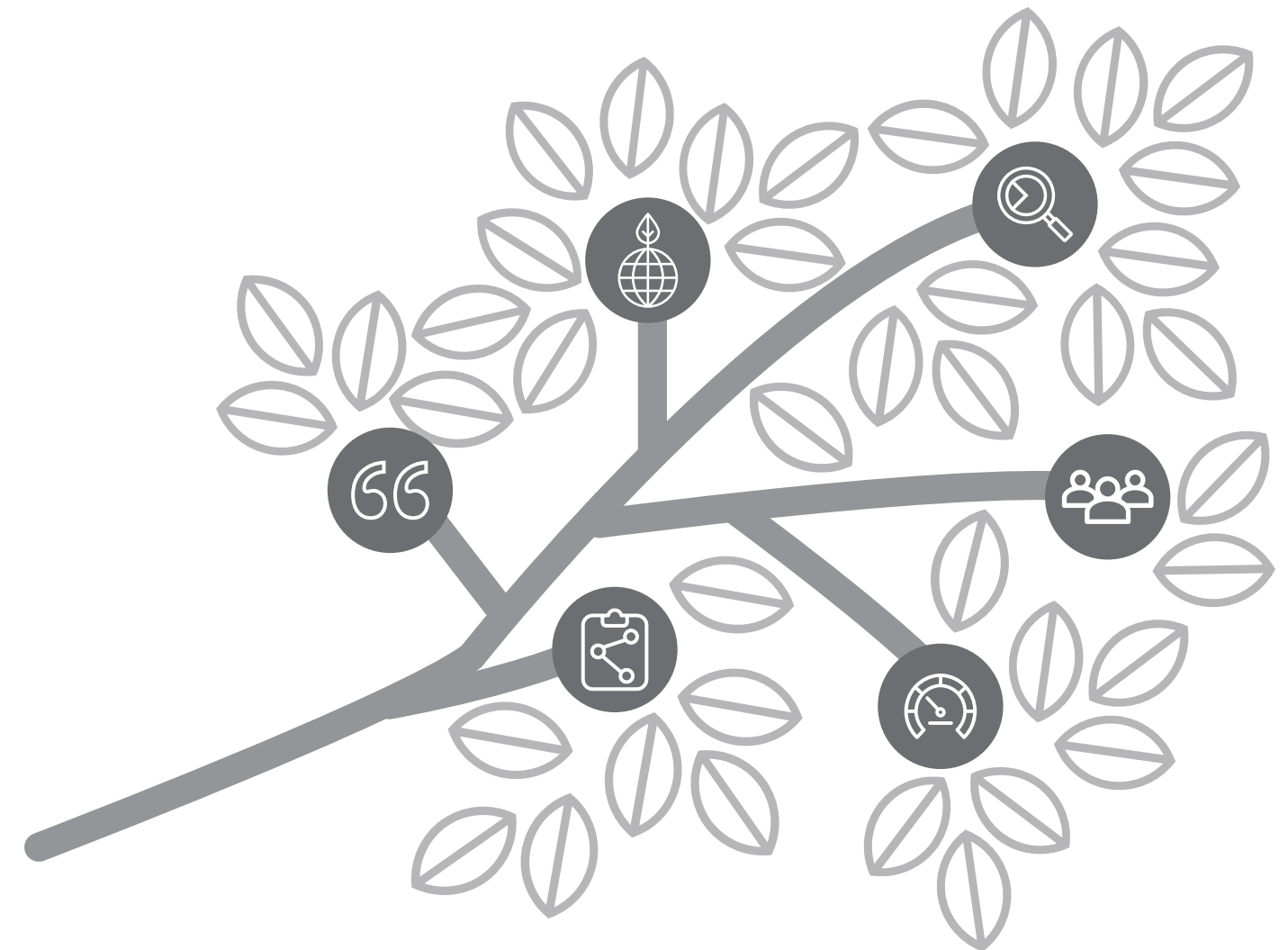
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CASE STUDIES ON ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRATION IN POVERTY REDUCTION PROCESSES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

**Results and tools developed by the
Poverty- Environment Initiative (PEI)**



1



Quotes

2



Initiative

Poverty and Environment (PEI)

3



Synergies

between poverty reduction and environmental management

- Guatemala
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Dominican Republic

4



Contribution

of the Poverty and Environment Initiative to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

5



Knowledge Products

created by the PEI in Latin America and the Caribbean

6



PEI Team

In Latin America and the Caribbean





“



"The PEI project in Arequipa has positively contributed to two objectives: the inclusion of women, and the socio-economic aspect of the waste classification sector. Above all, it has contributed to the improvement of human resources management, separating recyclers from disposal sites, thus avoiding exposure to pollution and other health hazards".

Jorge Núñez,
Citizen Services Manager, Arequipa Municipality, Peru.



“



"The environment has a direct relationship with poverty. Our work focuses on the agricultural sector, PEI along with the UNDP and UN Environment, has been a catalyst in connecting different initiatives in the field. We have become more efficient and we have coordinated the work with SEAM to reduce inequalities".

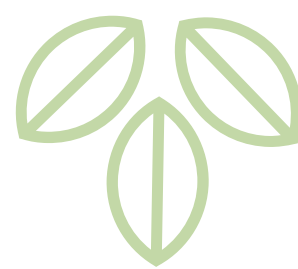
Héctor Cárdenas,
Minister of the Secretariat of Social Action, Paraguay.



"We have reinforced our abilities and it is essential that we put this knowledge into practice: we must go into the field and demonstrate what we have learned. We are part of national institutions that work in municipal technical committees that develop land planning and municipal development plans; that is why this diploma will bear fruit"

Julio Interano,

Diploma Course student, National Council of Protected Areas (CONAP), Guatemala

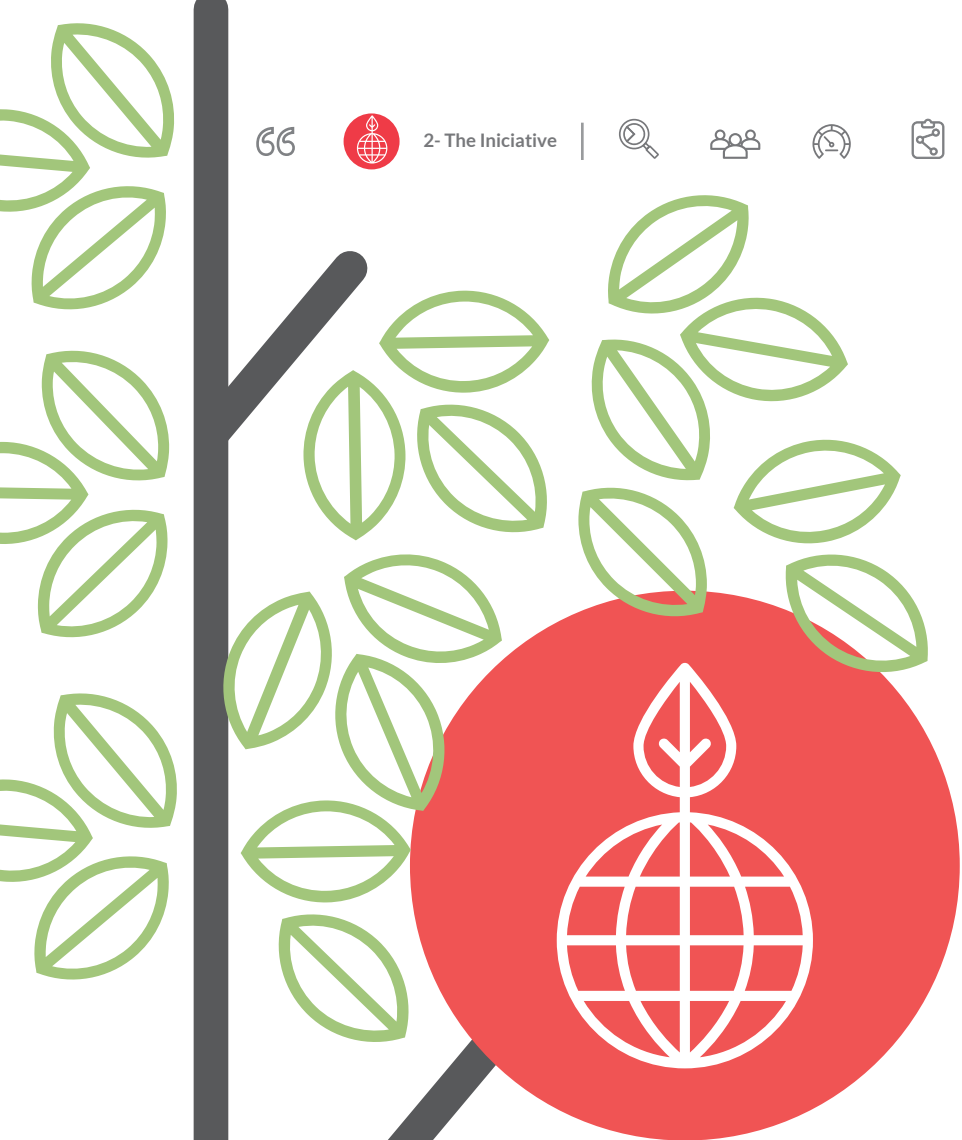


"With the Vulnerability to Climate Hazards Index, the Dominican Republic is a global pioneer in the Household Vulnerability Index"

Matilde Chávez Bonetti,

Director of the Social Cabinet's Beneficiaries Single System, Dominican Republic





2

THE POVERTY AND ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVE (PEI)

is a joint global programme of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment)

which supports the efforts directed by the countries themselves to integrate links between the fight against poverty and sustainable management of the environment. It is done through the process of development planning at national and sub-national levels, and through implementation plans and public budgets. The main objective of PEI is to help key stakeholders to deepen their knowledge of the links between environmental sustainability and poverty reduction, and to increase their abilities to integrate both objectives into national development planning.

In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), even though most of the nations of the region are classified as middle-income countries, it is important to emphasize that economic growth has been associated with exploitation that is not always sustainable for natural resources,

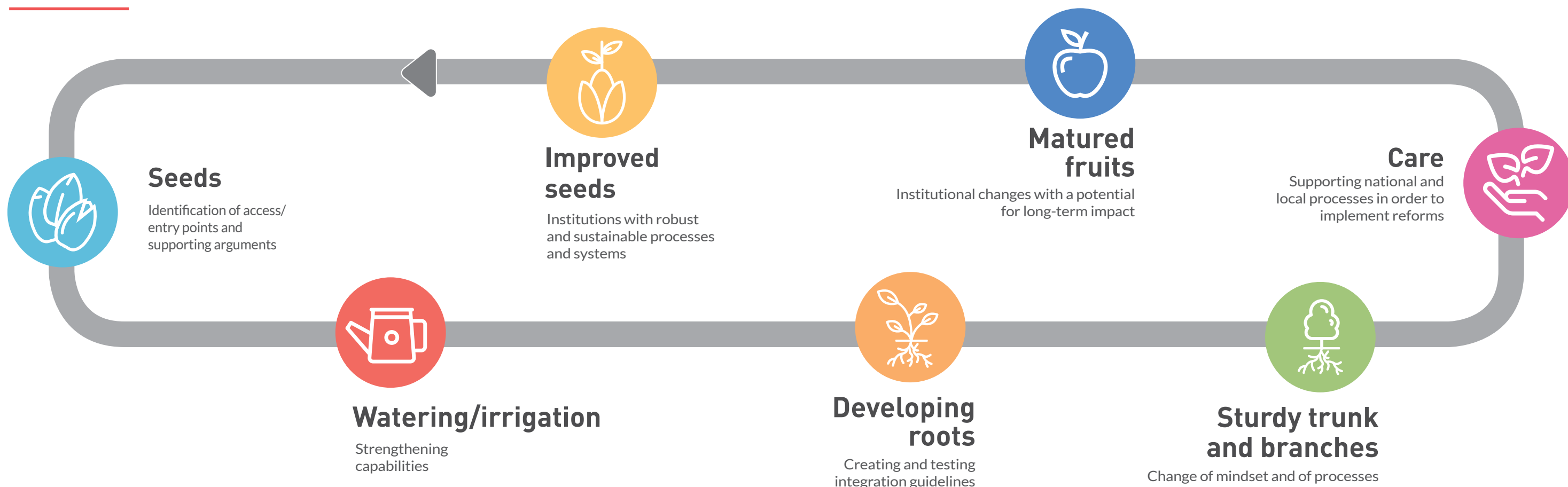
causing negative impacts on the environment. Furthermore, Latin America and the Caribbean continue to have a higher level than the rest of the world in terms of social inequity, with a propensity to be highly vulnerable to disasters and the impacts of climate change.

In this sense, PEI has worked for a decade together with LAC countries on integrating environmental issues into a favorable perspective on poor communities in planning efforts, both at national and subnational levels. Integration is part of taking into account the two-way link between poverty and environment, by appreciating the wide range of cross-cutting issues related to the environment that are therefore part of the integration agenda, such as mitigation and adaptation to climate change, green economy and sustainable consumption and production.

THE INTEGRATION OF POVERTY AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN DEVELOPMENT PLANNING



Integrating the concepts of poverty and environment in development planning is similar to the sowing and cultivation process; a seed needs to be taken care of to be able to collect fruits later in the form of sustainable public policies.



The key purpose of this integration plan is to reduce poverty and achieve other development aspirations by incorporating the sustainable use of the environment and natural resources for the benefit of those in poverty into the central policies and activities of governments, particularly in national development, budget planning, and

public and private sub-national and sectoral investments. The above chart shows the steps undertaken by PEI to ensure the mainstreaming of the poverty and environment approach at policy, planning and budget levels. The approach developed by PEI is very flexible and gives professionals a guide to select from a wide range of

activities, tactics, methodologies and tools that are more appropriate to the specific situation of a country. To apply the programmatic approach, it is necessary to be aware of a country's institutions, authorities, political economy problems, level of poverty and its environment, as well as its planning and budgeting processes.

PEI has also included a focus on gender and the implementation of SDGs as cross-cutting areas. In this sense, the main objective has been to increase the impact of national social and environmental policies and produce lessons learned that can be replicated in other countries and regions.

3

POVERTY - ENVIRONMENT INTEGRATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Since September 2015, following the global agreement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Latin American countries understand that this development is possible by integrating human well-being (the social dimension), ensuring economic progress (the economic dimension)...

and guaranteeing the maintenance of goods and services and of environmental services that sustain the development of people (the environmental dimension). To achieve this, it is important to create comprehensive policies that can generate simultaneous positive impact in terms of poverty reduction and environmental sustainability. This is where the Poverty and Environment Initiative (PEI) provides knowledge and examples of practical cases of application to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Specifically, PEI shows how the environmental elements and their interconnections with social protection, the eradication of poverty, and other important aspects of development offer an opportunity to promote sustainable responses in Latin America and the Caribbean in response to food, financial, climate,

and energy crises, which are fundamental challenges for the region's development.

The region is experiencing a decline in growth, along with a high rate of intra-regional and urban migration, and a high rate of inequality, which means that millions of people are at risk of falling back into the poverty spiral. At the same time, ecosystem services, biodiversity and soils continue to deteriorate due to the persistence of extractive economies that use natural resources above their renewal rate. Moreover, unplanned urban growth, the uncontrolled expansion of the agricultural frontier and vulnerability to climate-related threat further add to the situation.

PEI case studies that are shown in this document reflect the need for coordination at all levels as well as for long-term policies to truly transform the development and application of new multidimensional approaches.

PEI CASE STUDIES SHOW THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO GENERATE SIMULTANEOUS POSITIVE IMPACTS IN TERMS OF POVERTY REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY BY:



Introducing SDGs at a local level with land use planning and ordering that ensures social inclusion and the conservation of ecosystems, as in the case of **Guatemala**.



Putting into practice the policy of "No one left behind" with an efficient environmental management plan, such as the integral management of solid waste in **Peru**, which improves the welfare of people who recycle.



Reconciling economic, social and environmental objectives at a local level through institutional coordination, such as **Paraguay's** production and livelihood model, which generates income, ensures the welfare of poor rural communities and protects key environmental areas.



Ensuring a holistic view of the causes of poverty based on evidence that considers the environmental vulnerability of households in social protection and welfare programs and by generating synergies with risk management and adaptation strategies for climate change, as in the case of **the Dominican Republic**.





GUATEMALA



PROJECT TITLE

Valorization of ecosystem services in development planning processes in Guatemala



MAIN SDGS TO WHICH IT CONTRIBUTES



DURATION

September 2013 - December 2017



IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

SEGEPLAN - General Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Presidency of the Republic



REGION

Level of Implementation:
 -National
 -Sub-national: Municipalities of the Zacapa, Chiquimula, Santa Rosa, and Jutiapa



EXECUTING BODY

Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Presidency



OTHER EXECUTING INSTITUTIONS

Institutions at national, regional and local levels and community organizations present in the "sub-region of the Chiquimulilla Canal"



BUDGET (IN USD)

PEI Donors: USD 950,728
 In-kind contribution of the country: USD 1,000,000
 Total: 1,950,000



PROJECT HOMEPAGE

<http://segeplan.gob.gt/nportal/index.php/biblioteca-documental/tematica/publicaciones-planificacion-ordenamiento-territorial/category/129-pei-ecoplan>

BACKGROUND

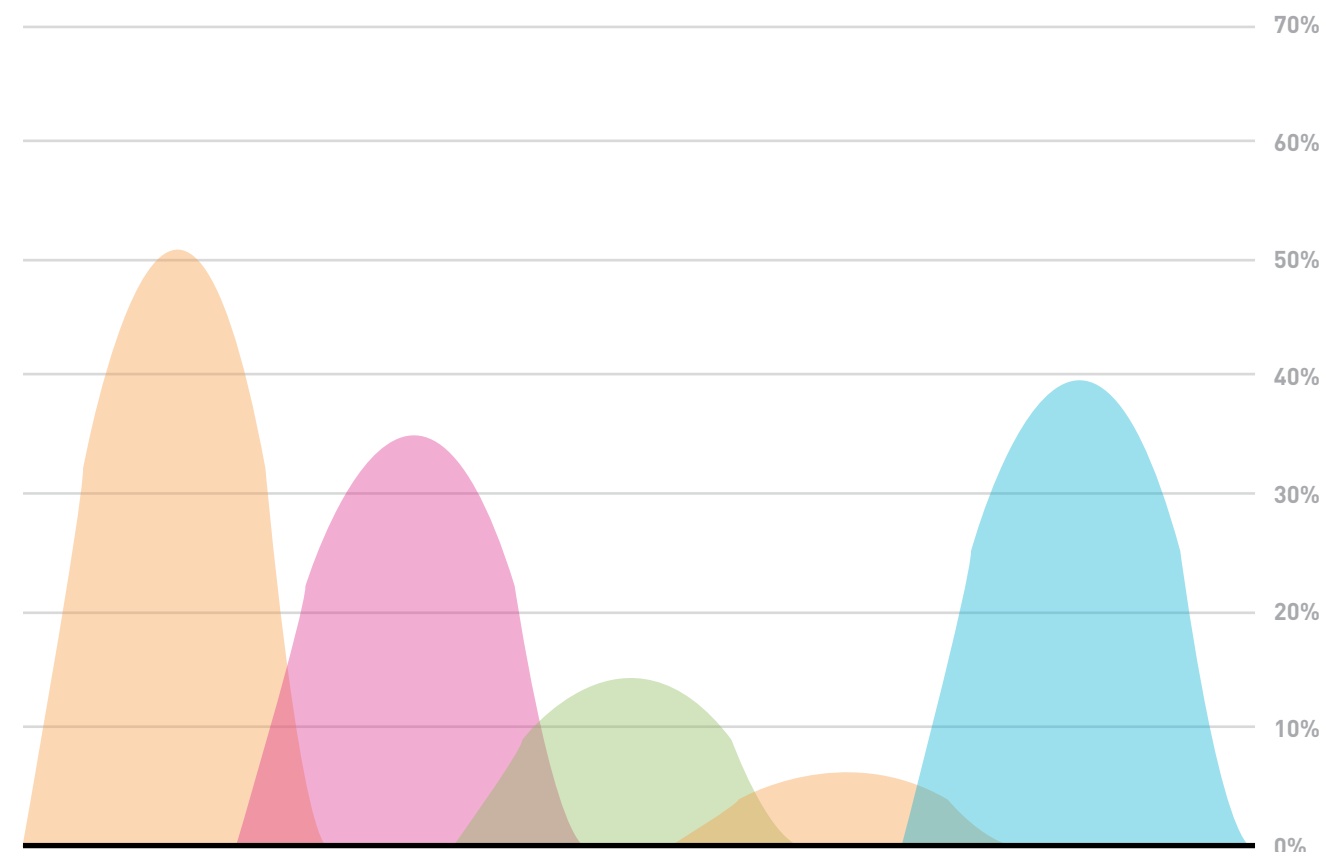
Guatemala, as part of Mesoamerica, is in a region known for its high biodiversity and for facing a series of environmental challenges. Given its geographical location in the path of tropical storms and three tectonic plates, it is one of the countries with the highest Global Climate Risk Index (CRI). In addition, increasing drought and desertification processes affect Guatemalan society in an unequal manner, threatening the most vulnerable populations. According to the National Survey on Living Conditions (2011), 51% of the country's population lives in poverty, this occurring to a greater extent in rural areas and indigenous populations. Of the country's land, 37% was underused and 15% was over-exploited, causing erosion, water source contamination, reduction in forest coverage and the silting of rivers and floods.

In this case, there was a desire to integrate the environmental dimension in the plan-

ning processes for development at national and sub-regional levels, and specifically in land use planning, together with governmental entities (national and sub-national), led by the Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Presidency (SEGEPLAN).

The main courses of action included: a) a systemic approach at a national level to influence national policies by raising awareness of the link between poverty and the environment at the highest level; b) the integrated management of territories with their own characteristics and ensuring coordination between various departments and municipalities at a secondary level; c) the development of pilot experiences in municipalities incorporating a planning tool (land use with ecosystem focus) as a concrete example to articulate the poverty-environment concept.

Guatemala



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



Integration of environmental variables, rapprochement of environmental sector and development planning stakeholders within the National Development Plan, **K'atun Plan Guatemala 2032**. This plan has a specific chapter on natural resources, in addition to precise goals and indicators based on water and Priority Ecosystem Studies developed with the support of the project.



Development of a national vision for the Eastern Region as a result of the intervention of the project. On the basis of this vision, a **Comprehensive Development Plan for the Eastern Region** with an ecosystem-based focus was approved and implemented. The plan aims to adopt a territorial management system focused on the preservation of ecosystems and the promotion of public and private investments for the reduction of food insecurity.



Valorization of the Chiquimulilla Canal ecosystem, analyzing the interactions between the most important economic activities (fishing, shrimp farming and tourism) and the services they receive from nature, including water and food production. This assessment was made using the InVEST method and Targeted Scenario Analysis (TSA) with the purpose of informing the decision-making of public policy and private investment.



Creating and strengthening capacities in planning processes and land management through **diploma courses of the municipal planning departments in marine-coastal areas**. Knowledge among local stakeholders has been promoted in topics such as ethnic focus, gender, threats and vulnerabilities in risk mana-

gement and climate change, economic land development, and service valorization, thus contributing to the development of Municipal Development and Land Use Planning.



Participatory development of nine Municipal Development and Land Use Plans in four departments of the country, which are the management and guiding instruments used for the development of their municipalities.



Chiquimulilla



Moyuta



Quesada



Jocotán



Zacapa



Jalpatagua



San Jorge



Taxisco



Cuilapa



Advice and technical assistance for the country's municipalities, together with the development of the **Guide for the creation of the Municipal Development and Land Use Plan**. Thus, organization and land use planning become a reference for institutional actions, generating strategic information for public decision-making and aligning public investments with planning processes with the objective of achieving sustainable development within the territories



Promoting the active and purposeful participation of the key stakeholders in the territories before, during and after the creation process of a Municipal Development and Land Use Plan through a mediated **guide** that presents the legal and political framework processes that support and endorse land use management.



Supporting the creation of three computer tools for the dissemination and monitoring of the National Development Plan.

- **Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals**
- **Monitoring and Evaluation System**
- **Geospatial Data**



LESSONS LEARNED



Approaches

It has been observed that training for municipal stakeholders (such as the Diploma Course in Planning and Land Use) during the development process of municipal development and land use plans ensures the incorporation of non-traditional focuses, such as ethnicity and gender, threats and vulnerabilities to risk management, climate change, economic land development and the valuation of services and ecosystem. These processes have strengthened local capacity and raised awareness regarding the management and conservation of natural resources, as well as the need to contribute to environmental sustainability and the valorization of ecosystems and their territories.



Dialogue and Coordination

At a sub-national level, the conduction of forums for dialogue and coordination with strategic stakeholders concerning the potential of the territories, the collective formulation of the Integral Development Plan for the Eastern Region, and its socialization within the structure of the System of Development Councils, has promoted and supported (1) the plan as a management and orientation instrument within the planning and land use processes, and (2) its link with the municipalities that make up the Eastern Region.





PARAGUAY



PROJECT TITLE

Green and Inclusive Economy to reduce the gap between sustainable development and poverty reduction



MAIN SDGS TO WHICH IT CONTRIBUTES



DURATION

May 2014 - March 2018



IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

United Nations Development Programme - United Nations Environment Programme



REGION

Level of Implementation:
-National
-Sub-national: Caazapá and Tavaí



IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

Secretariat of the Environment (SEAM)
Secretariat of Social Action (SAS)
Ministry of Agriculture (MAG)



BUDGET (IN USD)

PEI Donors: USD 771,728
In-kind contribution of the country: USD 946,813
Total: USD 1,718,541



HOMEPAGE LINK

http://www.py.undp.org/content/paraguay/es/home/operations/projects/poverty_reduction/economia-verde-e-inclusiva.html

Paraguay

BACKGROUND

Paraguay's economy is mainly based on agricultural production. The primary sector (agriculture, livestock, forestry and fisheries) accounts for 20% of GDP, employs 26.4% of the economically active population and produces 65% of exports. Within the primary sector, agriculture represents 60% of the sectoral GDP. Paraguay has a large rural population of 41% (General Directorate of Statistics, Surveys and Censuses, 2011). This population has a greater concentration of poverty-stricken people (57%), resulting in 32% of the country's population.

Paraguay suffers from environmental problems, such as degraded and low yielding soils and illegal logging for coal production. Due to this, there are a series of environmental challenges facing the country, such as erosion, the loss of biodiversity and productive agricultural land, and degradation of water quality.

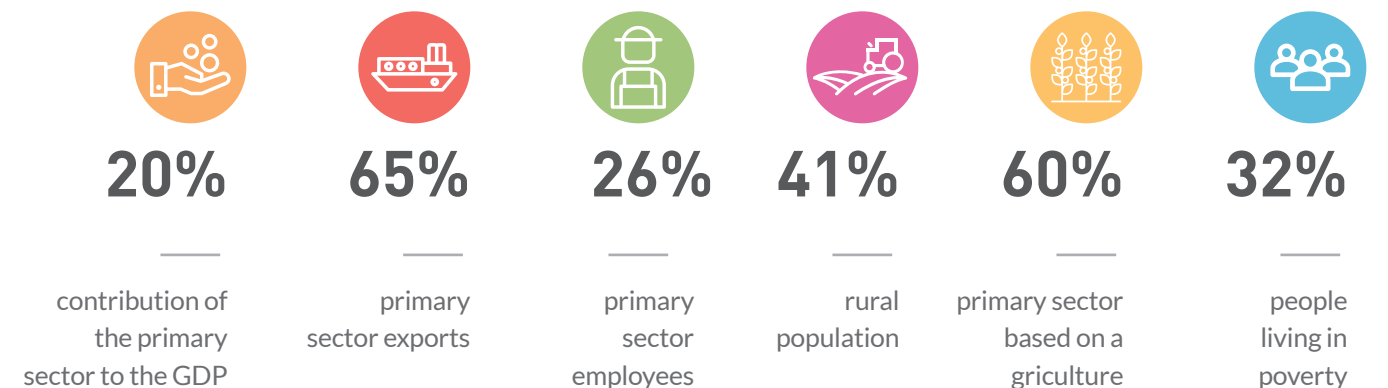
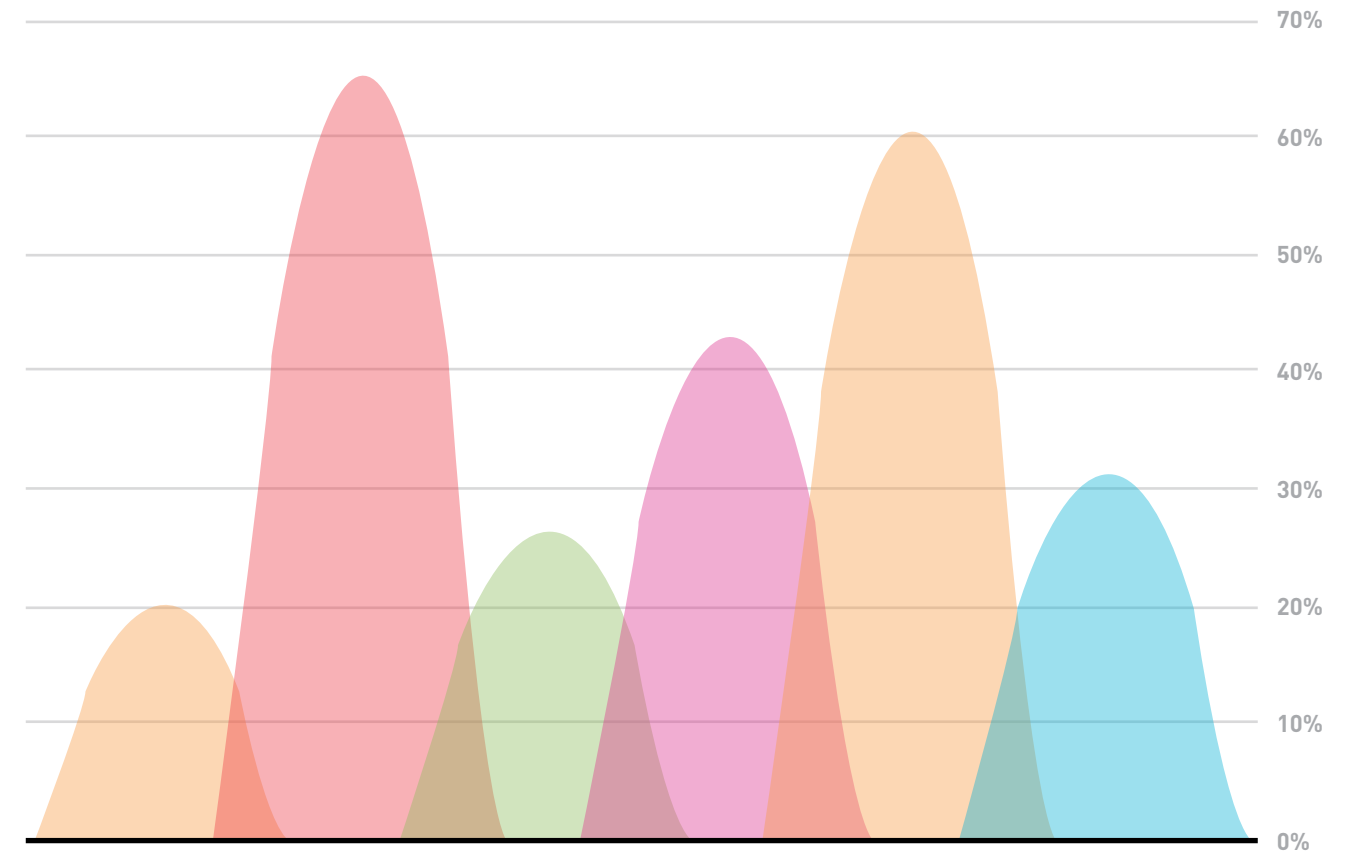
In this context, PEI worked on the implementation of a **project** whose objective was to achieve the effective integration into local and regional economies of sustainable agricultural production and inclusive markets, as well as participation in local development programmes as a means to improve the livelihoods of families. PEI has worked hand in hand with the Secretariat of Social Action and the Secretariat of the Environ-

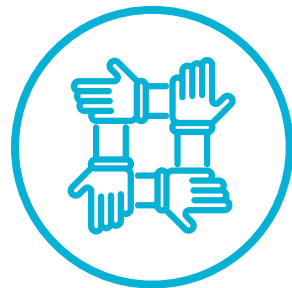
ment with the intention of improving the level of coordination between social protection programmes and public policies for both agricultural development and the environment.

Collaboration between these entities was key to the support given to 400 rural families who reside in the buffer zone of the Caazapá National Park and who participate in the Secretariat of Social Action's protection and promotion programmes, including **TEKOPORÁ** and **TENONDERÁ**, which provide monetary transfers with co-responsibility, and socio-economic inclusion capacity building, respectively.

At the national level, the project provided long-term institutional support through capacity building and improvement of coordination mechanisms to improve the application for TEKOPORÁ, with a special emphasis on gender equality and environmental sustainability issues.

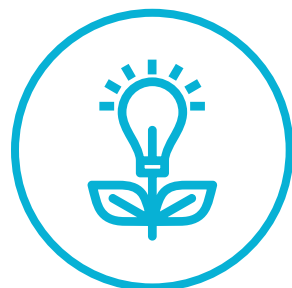
At the local level, the project also provided institutional support for the government of Caazapá and the Tavaí municipal government to improve their development plans, with a focus on the ecosystem, in an effort to improve field action, allowing these institutions to improve their coordination with TEKOPORÁ and TENONDERÁ.





Interinstitutional working space

To achieve its objective, the Green and Inclusive Economy project worked with the main stakeholders involved in local and national development; Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Secretariat of Social Action, Ministry of the Environment, Caazapá Governor's Office, Municipality of Tavaí, connecting the actions of each institution and strengthening institutional capacity for understanding the links between Poverty and the Environment, and incorporating environmental criteria.



Institutional strengthening, increased awareness

This inter-institutional working space made it possible to improve the capacity of local actors and stakeholders to increase opportunities for integration and socio-economic and environmental participation in local development programmes.

Likewise, it was possible to develop joint activities in the field that raised families' awareness on the importance of the Caazapá National Park and to communicate in a pragmatic way the need to apply sustainable production practices.



Inclusive Sustainable Businesses

Local ways of life place a lot of pressure on natural resources in the area (coal production, inefficient production models). To reverse this situation the project sought, through public-private partnerships, an agricultural production more in harmony with the environment, the handling/ conservation of natural resources and the promotion of microenterprises for food production and income generation. This way, alternatives ways of life reduce the vulnerability of families and their high dependence on natural resources.

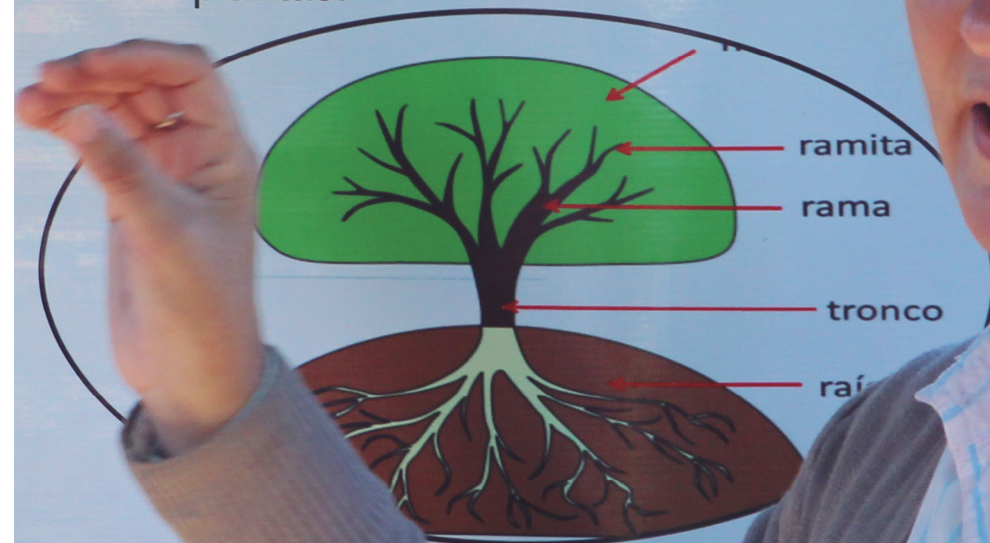
Planes Tecnológicos para cultivos productores en el Paraguay (PPT) Yerba Mate



Crédito: Natalia Zelad

V. PRINCIPIOS FISIOLÓGICOS BÁSICOS

1. Existe una relación proporcional entre el desarrollo de la copa de la planta y el sistema radicular, que afecta la longevidad y el vigor de las plantas.



Crédito: <https://www.monjas.com/educacion>

2. La disponibilidad de nutrientes en las plantas afecta procesos como la fotosíntesis.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



- **Strengthening coordination** between the **Environmental and Social Action Secretariats** from the 2016 signing of the inter-institutional cooperation agreement. In the Department of Caazapá this led to:
 - the joint and interdisciplinary training for the **Tekoporá Program family guides** with the objective of ensuring that participating families managed the environment sustainably.
 - the development of **farm days** in partnership with the Inter-institutional Coordination Bureau for Production, reaching hundreds of farmers and leaders of farmers' organizations with the aim of ensuring the agro-ecological management of farms and estates.



This collaboration also has an impact at a national level, such as the development of the **Guide for the preparation of business profiles for best practices in environmental management**, which trains managers of the Tekoporá and Tenonderá programmes to give technical advice to families about the incorporation of an environmental focus within their businesses and ventures.



Also important are the environmental vulnerability integration indicators for the **Quality of Life Index**, which aim to identify all households that are experiencing shortages or deprivation beyond income. The indicators will be used as a tool for selecting participants of social programmes. This work has been the forerunner of the country's Multidimensional Poverty Index.



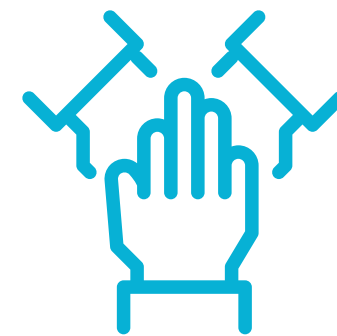
Creation of forums for dialogue and cooperation between the Technical Secretariat of Planning and the Environment Secretariat with the aim of building a planning and land use tool. The result of this joint work was the **Guide for the development of Urban and Land Use Plans**, which is a reference guide for the country's municipalities in the development of local projects aligned with the **National Development Plan of Paraguay 2030**.



Inclusion of the poverty-environment concept in municipal planning processes and support for coordination among relevant institutions for the preparation of the 2015-2016 **Tavaí District Operational Plan for Land Use**.



LESSONS LEARNED



Agreement

A key step in achieving efficient inter-institutional coordination in Paraguay has been the development of a technical cooperation framework agreement in which joint knowledge management processes, coordination spaces and concrete actions to be carried out are defined.



Ongoing Training

Continuous training about the poverty-environment concept for ministerial technical staff has resulted in the development of improved procedures and tools. As an example, the new Quality of Life Index has a more holistic view, in which environmental issues have become more relevant.



PERÚ



PROJECT TITLE

Integrated Solid Waste Management for Sustainable and Inclusive Development



MAIN SDGS TO WHICH IT CONTRIBUTES



DURATION

November 2013 - December 2017



IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

Ministry of the Environment (MINAM)



REGION

Level of Implementation:
 -National
 -Sub-national: Arequipa



IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

Ministry of the Environment (MINAM)
 Arequipa Provincial Municipality



BUDGET (IN USD)

PEI Donors: USD 911,954
 UN Volunteers Contribution: USD 125,633
 Total: USD 1,037,587



PROJECT PAGE

http://www.pe.undp.org/content/peru/en/home/operations/projects/environment_and_energy/initiative-poverty-and-media-environment.html

BACKGROUND

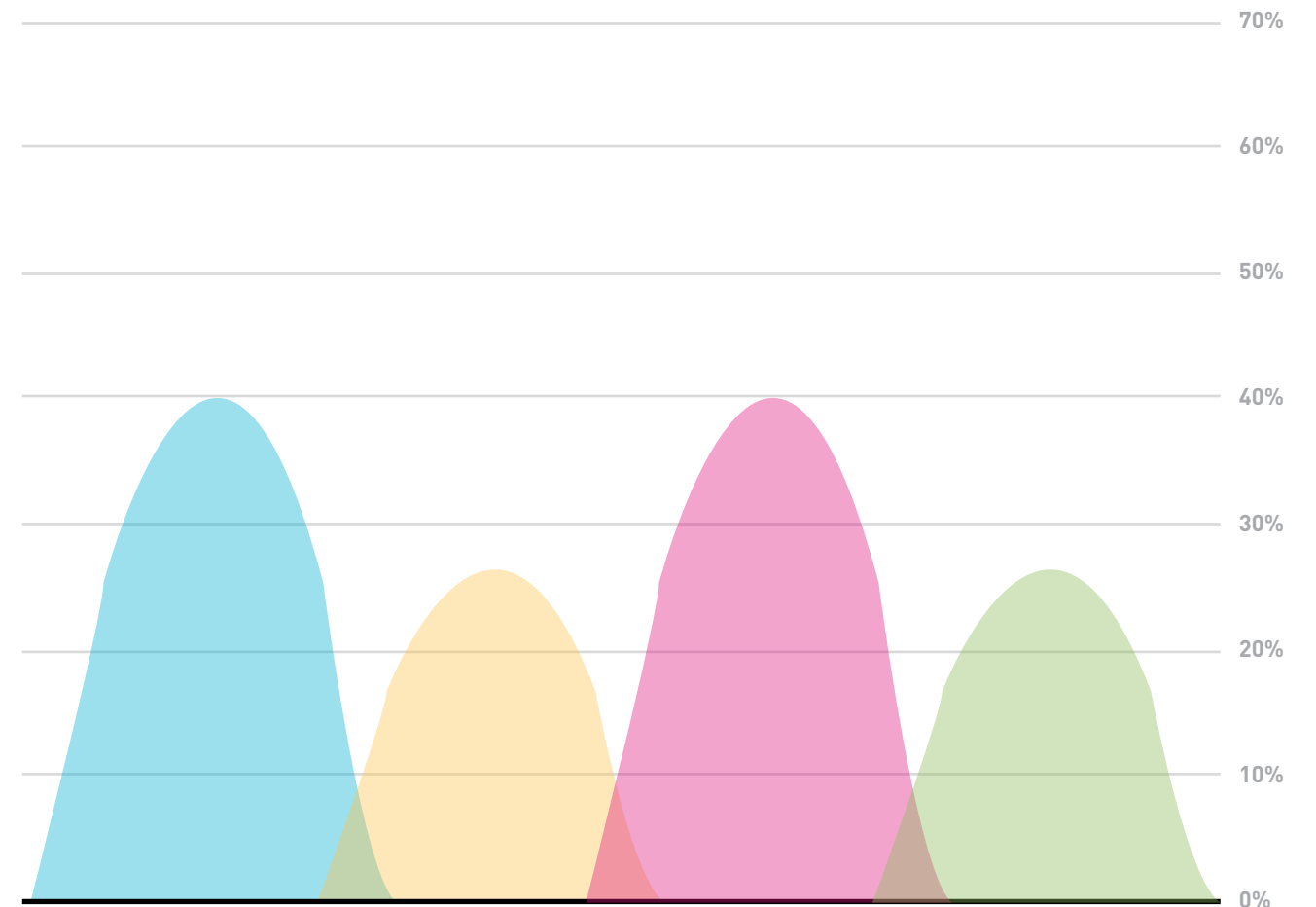
In Peru, seven million tons of solid waste is generated annually. Less than half of these residues are disposed of in a sanitary landfill; the vast majority ends up in dumps where recyclers and informal collectors work under high-risk conditions to earn an economic income. In addition, the generation of waste per capita has increased by 40% in the last 10 years. This is due to the increase in population, economic development, a change in eating habits, technological development and the rise in the population's living standards.

Faced with these challenges, PEI set out to innovate solid waste management in Peru by integrating social inclusion strategies such as poverty reduction, incorporation of the gender factor, and the promotion of young people to provide solutions to the sustainable and inclusive development of cities.

PEI searched for a transformation towards a system of integral solid waste management that

would incorporate the poverty-environment concept in public environmental policies at both a national level—through the Ministry of the Environment—and at a local level with the Arequipa Provincial Municipality. The main work areas were: a) integration of social variables of poverty and gender in Policies/Plans and Projects of the National Solid Waste Management programmes of Peru; b) strengthening of the Arequipa Provincial Municipality to improve the integral management of solid waste by incorporating the social variables into policies, instruments, local waste management tools and a Comprehensive Environmental Management Plan for Solid Waste; c) strengthening the recycling associations and generating favorable conditions for financial sustainability; d) sensitizing the population to the change in consumption patterns and recycling culture supported by the actions of volunteers and; e) systematization of the project's experiences to promote its replication.

Perú



40%

Increase in waste per capita, 10 years



50%

waste disposed of in sanitary landfills.



57,8%

forest covered area



19%

protected land and marine areas

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



Update and incorporation of the relationship between poverty and the environment in the **National Plan for the Comprehensive Management of Solid Waste (PLANRES 2016-2024)** approved by Ministerial Resolution. This National Plan, which constitutes the instrument for national planning and management, seeks to establish guidelines and common actions, transcending the country's political-administrative and geographic-district divisions. This updated plan not only involves the technical components but also aspects of poverty reduction, focuses on social inclusion and gender, in addition to proposing monitoring indicators related to improving the quality of work and life for those working in the waste collection services.



Strengthening of the Information System for Solid Waste Management (SIGERSOL), administered by the Ministry of Environment, a digital platform that records information on the management of solid waste in 1,800 municipalities. The update incorporates data disaggregated by gender and the number of male and female workers within the waste collection services, selective collection, street sweeping, transportation, treatment plants and final disposal.



Formulation of the Comprehensive Plan for the Environmental Management of Solid Waste (PIGARS 2017-2028) of the **Arequipa Municipality**, which is a first in Peru. It includes the reflections and recommendations of a complete **social and gender diagnosis** that determines the inequalities, gaps, equity, and access to opportunities in the waste management service offered by the municipalities. This work served as the basis for the creation of a **methodological guide to incorporate aspects related to gender**, poverty and green jobs in municipal districts' solid waste management plans.



Incorporation of social aspects in the **Incentive Program for the improvement of Municipal Management**, in which resources are allocated to municipalities that formalize and train **those who recycle**. This was possible because of the inter-institutional coordination between the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Economy and Finance.



Strengthening of the skills of Arequipa's recycling associations in business management, leadership, and conflict resolution that include sensitive gender aspects.

In parallel, more than 15 thousand homes were sensitized and now participate in recycling programmes thanks to the support of one hundred volunteers.



Creation of the public recognition scheme "Arequipa, White and Healthy City" by Municipal Ordinance, as **an incentive for companies to participate** in the municipal recycling programmes.



LESSONS LEARNED



Political Coherence

To ensure progress in the empowerment of women within the sector, it is essential to ensure harmonization and coherence of the same language focused on inclusion in both national and sub-national policies.



Valorization

The development of a more accessible and competitive recycling market is achieved through the valorization of solid waste with an inclusive focus, recognizing the importance of male and female recyclers in the recycling value chain and the search for formal recycling markets that promote organizational improvement, formalization, and sustainability of their functions.



Social Indicators

To achieve true recognition for male and female recyclers in their role as local development stakeholders at a national level, the incorporation of social indicators in management, planning and monitoring systems and tools is key at both the municipal and the national level.



Acknowledgment

Public recognition and environmental certifications are good practice in ensuring private sector involvement in municipal recycling programmes



THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



PROJECT TITLE

National programme for the incorporation of environmental variables in the development and the reduction of the vulnerability of poor, rural households to climate hazards.



MAIN SDGS TO WHICH IT CONTRIBUTES



DURATION

2009 - 2014



IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

United Nations Development Programme - United Nations Environment



REGION

Level of Implementation:
-National
-Sub-national: Lake Enriquillo region



IMPLEMENTING INSTITUTIONS

Coordination of Social Policies Cabinet (Social Cabinet), which includes the Single System of Beneficiaries of the Social Cabinet (SIUBEN)



BUDGET

PEI Donors: USD 240,000
REGATTA-UN Environment: USD 367,200
Total: 607,200



PROJECT PAGE

http://www.do.undp.org/content/dominican_republic/en/home/ourwork/environmentandenergy/successstories/proyecto-pei-regatta-articulando-esfuerzos-con-un-bordado-inte.html

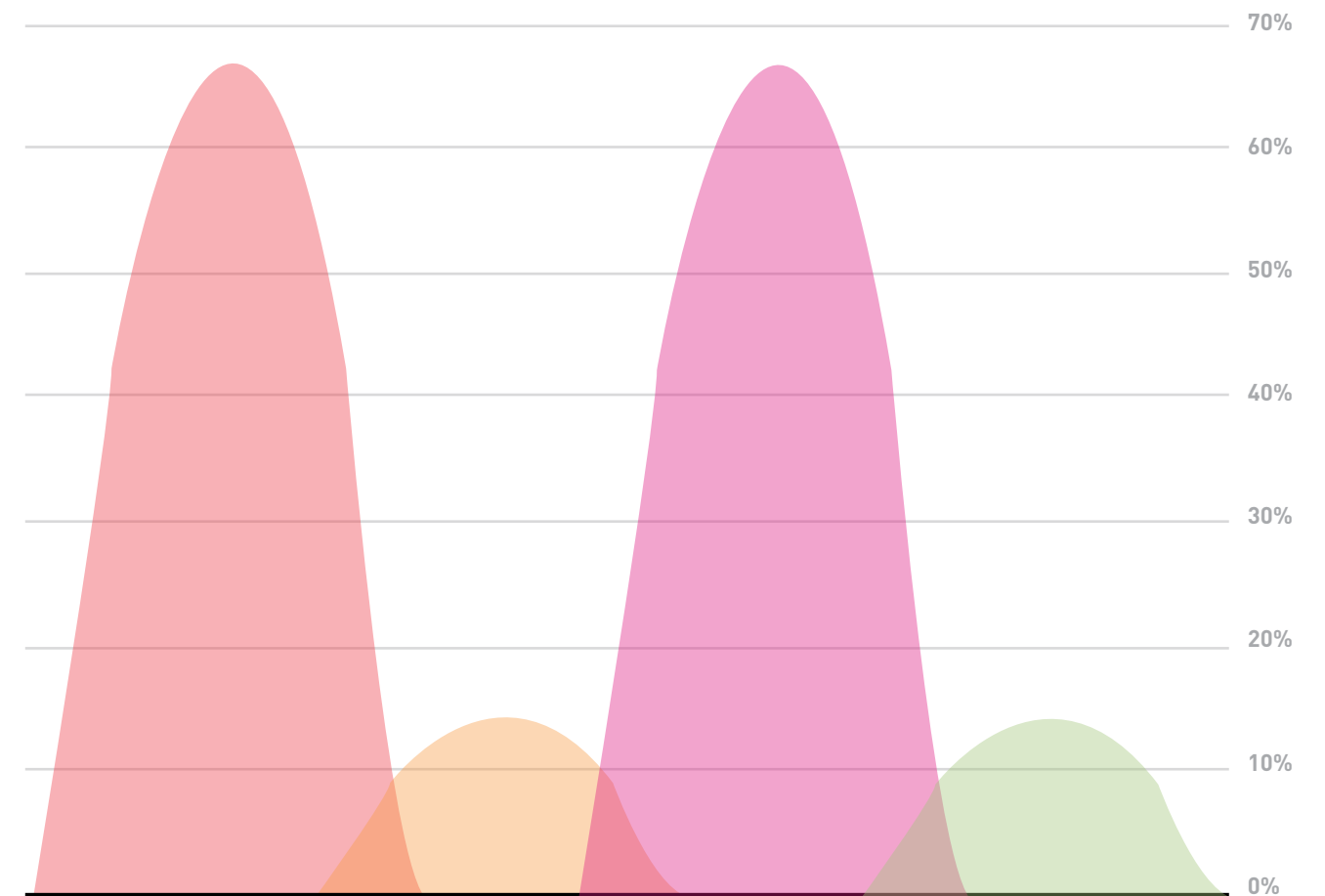
BACKGROUND

“Among the most relevant environmental challenges faced are droughts, floods, deforestation, soil degradation and water availability”.

The majority of the Dominican Republic's population (69%) lives in urban areas. Although it is one of the countries with the highest economic growth in the region, it is affected by several crucial issues, such as high levels of poverty and social inequality, high unemployment rates (14.2% in 2008), and environmental vulnerabilities that can worsen due to the impacts of climate change. Among the most important environmental challenges faced are droughts, floods, deforestation, soil degradation and water availability.

PEI managed to include the binomial focus of poverty-environment in the process of targeting social protection systems in the face of extreme hydro-meteorological events. The objective of the project was to integrate the links between poverty and vulnerabilities to environmental shocks—for example, storms, droughts, floods, deforestation and soil degradation—into poverty reduction strategies and national development processes.

Dominican Republic



69%

of the population living in urban areas



14,2%

National unemployment rate



38,6%

Surface area covered by forests



11,2%

protected land and marine areas

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



Inclusion of the poverty-environment concept in the **National Development Strategy 2030** (Law No. 01-12) through four thematic pillars.



Creation of the module 'Natural problems and environmental pollution risks' in the national household survey, which was the basis for creating the 'Environmental Vulnerability Index' (EVI) at a household level.



Strengthening capacities to improve the planning and the quality of development management in the territory from the preparation of the **Methodological Guide for the Formulation of the Municipal Land Use Plan together with the General Directorate of Planning**. This technical document includes mechanisms for the mainstreaming of the approach to climate change adaptation, gender equity, risk management and poverty reduction in land use processes.



Formulation, with the support of the Vice Presidency of the Republic, of a **strategy to adapt solutions to climate change in Lake Enriquillo**, connecting climate disasters with poverty reduction strategies.

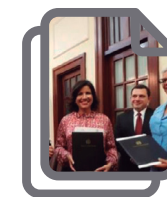


Knowledge generation concerning the relationship between poverty and climatic shocks. There was **focused analysis on Lake Enriquillo** of these two problems that are multidimensional and that demand considerable analytical effort and inter-institutional resources as well as the coordination of sectoral and territorial public policies.



Development, together with the Social Cabinet's Single System of Beneficiaries, of the **Climate Impact Vulnerability Index**, a tool that measures the vulnerability of the poorest households to extreme hydroclimatic events. This tool is widely used in the country to a) identify the population that has high exposure to environmental risks; b) focus interventions and actions at national and population levels, prioritizing poor households located in high-risk areas; and c) design public policies to face the effects of hydro-meteorological shocks—in particular, storms, floods, and hurricanes. Humanitarian agencies also know and make use of the Vulnerability to Climate Hazards Index, as was the **case of Hurricane Irma in 2017**.

Knowledge exchanges and agreements as part of South-South Cooperation actions.



The Social Policy Coordination Office (GCPS) of the Vice-presidency of the Dominican Republic and the Social Action Secretariat of Paraguay (SAS) signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** in 2017 to strengthen political and technical links between the governments in matters of protection and social initiatives, institutional strengthening, productive sectors, gender issues, environment and risk management. This has supported the creation of multidimensional poverty index in Paraguay.



The Ministry of Social Development and the National Emergencies System of Uruguay conducted an **exchange of knowledge** with the Social Policy Coordination Office. This has facilitated the development of an index on flood vulnerability in Uruguay.



LESSONS LEARNED

Social



From the experience in the Dominican Republic, it can be observed that social protection policies can be an important factor that prevent vulnerability and short-term poverty generated by climate shocks from turning into medium and longer-term poverty. Protection not only guarantees baseline consumption but also the increase of human capital and the promotion of the assets of vulnerable families.

Focalization



Spending on post-disaster recovery processes is often aimed at financing the sectors that in absolute terms, have the highest losses and with the greatest social influence and political representation, which are not regularly the poorest. If there are no adequate and foreseen mechanisms to focus on post-disaster investment, there is a risk of excluding many poverty-stricken people and accentuating inequality. Post-disaster processes must seek both recovery and equity; these are complementary objectives that can be achieved simultaneously.

Partnership/Alliance

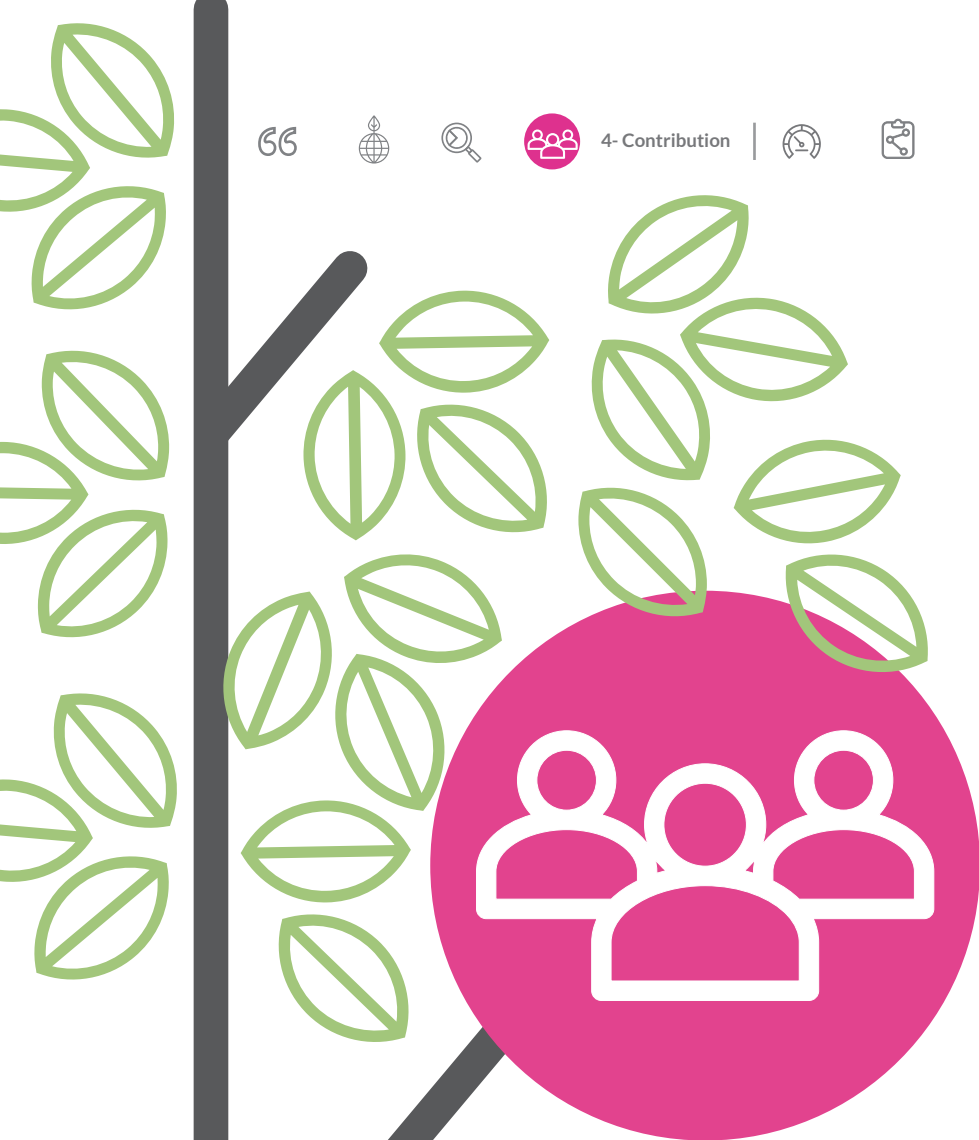


Inter-institutional strategic alliances were key for the development of a vulnerability index that supported the targeting of public policies.

Analysis



For the construction of a vulnerability index, the analysis of several variables was fundamental. Econometric correlation tests were performed between them.



4

THE POVERTY AND ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVE'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



In the region, PEI has contributed to eleven of the seventeen SDGs. The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs involve the integration of public policies to facilitate the coherence of development interventions. PEI has shown in this document that it has developed together with the governments of the

region, experiences of models and tools that can generate simultaneous positive impacts in terms of poverty reduction, and environmental sustainability. These models, scaled up as policy options, could achieve progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.



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Knowledge Products created by the PEI in Latin America and the Caribbean

ARTICULATING SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: PRACTICAL OPTIONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



The paper identifies entry points to integrate environmental sustainability and social protection goals. Its objective is to contribute with strategic and practical elements to the discussion among the main stakeholders in the region and promote an integrated approach for the 2030 Agenda implementation.

Potential policy tools analyzed that could serve this purpose: 1) Conditional Cash Trans-

fers (CCT) systems, 2) Multidimensional Poverty Measures, 3) Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES), and 4) Food Security and Nutrition programmes. It presents four specific examples from the region: Bolsa Verde Programme Brasil, Alianza Manos al Agua Colombia, the Single Beneficiary System from Dominican Republic, and the Strategic Project for Food Security from Mexico.

LESSONS LEARNT



Integration

Advancing towards sustainable development will depend on the efforts governments make to integrate inequality reduction and sustainable environmental management objectives in development planning



Equal access

Environmental initiatives must include a pro-poor component to ensure marginalized and vulnerable populations play a role and have equal access to natural resources.



Articulation

Social protection must be articulated with other public policies to support a transformation to more sustainable and equal societies in LAC, including the environmental dimension by maintaining the natural resources and environmental services base from which communities depend.



Tools

In Latin America and the Caribbean, tools and models to generate combined positive impacts in poverty reduction, social protection and environmental sustainability already exist.

- CCT programmes can be complemented to support environmental management and ensure sustainable exits from poverty.
- Multidimensional poverty measures that include environmental vulnerability variables are key at this regard.
- Environmental policy instruments, such as PES, can improve the quality of rural populations and involve them in the protection of key environmental services. Social inclusion and poverty reduction should be included as goals from their formulation.



Links

The links between social protection systems and food security and sustainable agriculture are fundamental to create opportunities to sustainably exit poverty.



Social protection

Countries in the region can adopt social protection policies that generate resilience to climate change and disasters.

ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABLES IN MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY MEASUREMENT:

A practical guide with examples from Latin America and the Caribbean



This document analyzes the integration of environmental indicators in the mechanisms for poverty measurement, and, specifically, in the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), which is one of the indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals.

The paper presents the relationship between poverty and the environment and analyzes the

way in which environmental indicators have been integrated in five representative examples in the region: Chile, El Salvador, Mexico, the Dominican Republic and Panama. Additionally, the document presents a practical guide for the incorporation of the most relevant environmental variables for each country in the poverty measurement systems

Some of the key conclusions and lessons learned from the analysis:



The holistic nature of the 2030 Agenda leads to rethink new models to integrate different dimensions for poverty reduction. The Latin American and Caribbean region has demonstrated strong leadership in the development of MPIs, with nine countries having national multidimensional poverty measurements, which are progressively incorporating the environmental dimension in their methodologies and measurements



The analysis of the case studies shows that some indicators of an environmental nature have been widely adopted, such as those related to pollution, exposure to natural disasters and household conditions (access to potable water and improved sanitation or the use of solid fuels for cooking), while other indicators have yet to be incorporated, such as those related to livelihoods or environmental health at work.



With respect to methodology, most of the case studies reviewed in this document use data from household surveys that were modified, at some point, to provide the necessary information to estimate their multidimensional poverty indicators. All that remains now is to explore the possibilities of associating other data sources with household surveys in an effort to crosslink different databases.



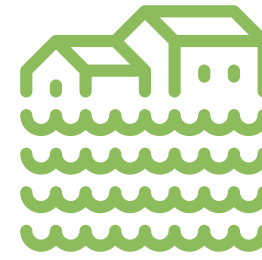
Recently, countries in the region have begun developing national registries of beneficiaries. These registries offer enormous potential for monitoring socioeconomic indicators and could be used to incorporate environmental variables that make the links more explicit between beneficiaries of social programmes, their environment and environmental management.



Finally, multidimensional poverty measurement fosters the adoption of holistic perspectives for the solution of contemporary problems. A multidimensional vision is fundamental to break silos and overcome fragmented and disjointed strategies to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of government actions.

VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE HAZARDS INDEX (IVACC):

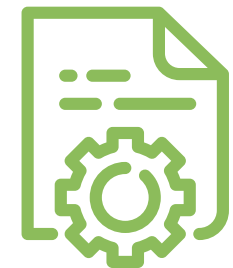
Lessons learned and systematization of the IVACC design and application process in the Dominican Republic



The IVACC was the first index, at a global level, of vulnerability to extreme climatic events focused on households



The objective of the tool is to integrate variables of poverty, environment and climate change.



The IVACC is today part of the national efforts for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the Dominican Republic

This publication systematizes the process of creation and application of the IVACC in the Dominican Republic, identifying lessons learned, requirements and options for its replication.

The IVACC was developed within the framework of the National Programme for poverty reduction with the support of the PEI Initiative and the Regional Portal for the Transfer of Technology and Action against Climate Change (REGATTA) and with the financial support of the Spanish Agency for Cooperation and Development (AECID). Its objective has been to integrate the variables of poverty, environment

and climate change in order to reduce the vulnerability of households.

The IVACC was the first index, at a global level, of vulnerability to extreme climatic events focused on households. The information provided facilitates the identification of beneficiaries of social protection programmes and its integration with the policies of adaptation to climate change and risk management.

This tool is the result of an inter-institutional work that had the leadership of the National System of Beneficiaries (SIUBEN), and the participation of the Ministry of the Environment,

the National Council for Climate Change and the Clean Development Mechanism, the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPYD), the General Directorate of Territorial Development and Regulation (DGODT), and the Coordination of the Social Cabinet (GASO). One of the key factors for its sustainability is precisely the leadership and appropriation of the technical solutions by SIUBEN, which is the national entity responsible for identifying the households with the greatest deficiencies.

The IVACC is today part of the national efforts for the implementation of the 2030 Agen-

da in the Dominican Republic. Its development has generated bridges between several sectors allowing coherent policy frameworks (SDG 17) that ensure the identification, prioritization and targeting of social programmes in vulnerable households (SDG 1 and SDG 2). The IVACC is also an important tool for designing policies that generate resilience to the effects of climate shocks (SDG 13).

This intersectoral and multidimensional approach is an example of how the 2030 Agenda can be implemented in the region, simultaneously addressing social and environmental vulnerability.

GENDER APPROACH APPLIED TO INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN PERU:

Lessons learned and tools for a sustainable and inclusive development.



This publication systematizes the experience of Peru and the city of Arequipa in the development of an equitable, supportive and participatory market for waste management.

The integrated and inclusive management of solid waste, in addition to being a goal of the SDGs, is an opportunity to improve the quality of life in cities through the generation of environmental awareness and contributes to assess, vi-

sualize and formalize people whose main source of income is recycling. This is possible by integrating social inclusion strategies, as in the case of Peru: poverty reduction, gender equality and promotion of young people to provide innovative solutions in the recycling value chain.

The incorporation of this approach represents a pioneering initiative in the country, particularly within the municipality of Arequipa, in a con-



Women recyclers face particular limitations and obstacles in this sector:



Health risks

Both women and men are exposed to numerous health risks that increase in informal contexts due to unhealthy conditions.



Lower income

They tend to work less hours, due to their domestic responsibilities, so they receive a lower income for their daily work.



Exclusion

They live in conditions of exclusion and have limited access to basic social services as well as to spaces for decision-making and political participation.



Limited Access

They have less access to recyclable materials of greater value.

text in which 85.8% are women recyclers in the formal sector. In fact, this document includes the considerable amount of material, experiences and tools for the inclusive management of solid waste, replicable in similar contexts. To do this, it has been extracted the lessons learned from public planning processes and the application of the gender approach, as well as defining concrete proposals to guide and improve the work

of the institutions involved, recycling associations and private companies, among others.

The environmental, social and economic advances of Peru constitute a firm step towards the revitalization of the recycling industry, the inclusion of recyclers and recyclers in the value chain of solid waste and the generation of new business opportunities, reducing pollution environmental.



Online Free Courses

Online Course:

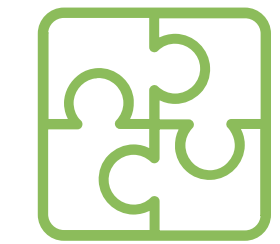
WELLBEING BEYOND INCOME

Mainstreaming environmental variables in Multidimensional Poverty Measures



Objectives

- Strengthen knowledge about the relationship between poverty reduction and environmental sustainability.
- Deepening practical measurement tools that serve for planning, monitoring and evaluation in this area, from the perspective of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.



Modules

- A multidimensional approach to address the 2030 Agenda
- The links between poverty and the environment
- Examples of environmental variables in MPI in Latin America
- Steps to apply the Alkire-foster poverty measurement methodology with environmental variables

Online Course:

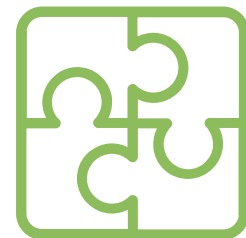
MAINSTREAMING ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE

in Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development processes



Objectives

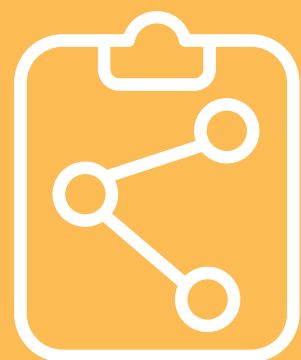
- Strengthen knowledge about the relationship between poverty and the environment within the framework of the 2030 Agenda
- Demonstrate how the application of an integrated approach between combating poverty and improving environmental sustainability in the design of policies, plans, development budgets and programmes at the national, subnational and sectoral levels, reverts in favor of sustainable development



Modules

- Break the silos for "Do not Leave Anyone Back": Latin America and the Caribbean
- Integration of environmental considerations in social protection policies
- Urbanization and sustainability in Latin America and the Caribbean
- The sustainable management of natural resources to reduce poverty
- Reducing socio-environmental vulnerability; integration of climate change management and disaster risks
- Financial feasibility of the poverty and environment approach: Budgetary management, environmental tax reform and economic analysis





6

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DONORS



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

