Protecting Forests in Central America

Name of the initiative: Reversing the loss of critical forests in Central America

Duration: 2024-2027

Participating countries: Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Belize

Objective: The rapid loss of forest resources in Central America is

contributing to biodiversity loss and greenhouse gas emissions. Further, this loss threatens the livelihoods of people living in rural areas. This initiative will provide participating countries with policy and regulatory technical support aimed at strengthening governance measures to better protect and restore national forest assets. Additionally, the initiative will assist countries of the region to identify and secure financial resources to invest in forestry conservation and restoration

projects.

Activities: Complete an assessment of forest management practices in the

participating countries. Development of targeted policy and regulatory training programs designed to address the most critical gaps in forestry management efforts. Multistakeholder workshops (government, private sector, civil society) to determining the preferred pathways for forest conservation and restoration. Forest conservation and restoration project identification workshops to identify projects for submission to

the Forest Action Facility (IKI).

Cost and financing: US\$500,000 in full program financing is required.

Country contribution: In Kind

Request for partners: - Additional financing.

Technical cooperation and data sharing.

- Project development mentoring support

Sub-topics

- Biodiversity conservation
- Rural Economic
 Development
- Sustainable Tourism
- Conservation Finance

Beneficiaries

- Rural communities in participating countries
- Land, agriculture, water and other affected sectors
- Participating Governments

Expected outcomes

- Increased forest coverage
- Improved governance of forest lands
- Development of innovative sustainable forest product businesses

Point of contact: Mark Lambrides mlambrides@oas.org

