



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.28/13
4 October 2021

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Twenty-eighth Meeting
Virtual meeting, 11-13 October 2021

Agenda Item 4 g)

PROPOSAL FOR HONDURAS

Background

1. The Operational Policies and Guidelines (OPG) for Parties to Access Resources from the Adaptation Fund (the Fund), adopted by the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board), state in paragraph 45 that regular adaptation project and programme proposals, i.e. those that request funding exceeding US\$ 1 million, would undergo either a one-step, or a two-step approval process. In case of the one-step process, the proponent would directly submit a fully-developed project proposal. In the two-step process, the proponent would first submit a brief project concept, which would be reviewed by the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) and would have to receive the endorsement of the Board. In the second step, the fully-developed project/programme document would be reviewed by the PPRC, and would ultimately require the Board's approval.

2. The Templates approved by the Board (Annex 5 of the OPG, as amended in March 2016) do not include a separate template for project and programme concepts but provide that these are to be submitted using the project and programme proposal template. The section on Adaptation Fund Project Review Criteria states:

For regular projects using the two-step approval process, only the first four criteria will be applied when reviewing the 1st step for regular project concept. In addition, the information provided in the 1st step approval process with respect to the review criteria for the regular project concept could be less detailed than the information in the request for approval template submitted at the 2nd step approval process. Furthermore, a final project document is required for regular projects for the 2nd step approval, in addition to the approval template.

3. The first four criteria mentioned above are:

- (i) Country Eligibility,
- (ii) Project Eligibility,
- (iii) Resource Availability, and
- (iv) Eligibility of NIE/MIE.

4. The fifth criterion, applied when reviewing a fully-developed project document, is:
(v) Implementation Arrangements.

5. It is worth noting that at the twenty-second Board meeting, the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Fund was approved and at the twenty-seventh Board meeting, the Gender Policy (GP) of the Fund was also approved. Consequently, compliance with both the ESP and the GP has been included in the review criteria both for concept documents and fully-developed project documents. The proposal template was revised as well, to include sections requesting demonstration of compliance of the project/programme with the ESP and the GP.

6. At its seventeenth meeting, the Board decided (Decision B.17/7) to approve "Instructions for preparing a request for project or programme funding from the Adaptation Fund", contained in the Annex to document AFB/PPRC.8/4, which further outlines applicable review criteria for both concepts and fully-developed proposals. The latest version of this document was launched in conjunction with the revision of the Operational Policies and Guidelines in November 2013.

7. Based on the Board Decision B.9/2, the first call for project and programme proposals was issued and an invitation letter to eligible Parties to submit project and programme proposals to the Fund was sent out on April 8, 2010.
8. According to the Board Decision B.12/10, a project or programme proposal needs to be received by the secretariat no less than nine weeks before a Board meeting, in order to be considered by the Board in that meeting.
9. The following project concept project document titled "Let's save the Merendon" was submitted for Honduras by the Comisión de Acción Social Menonita (CASM), which is a National Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund.
10. This is the first submission of the concept proposal using the two-step submission process.
11. The current submission was received by the secretariat in time to be considered in the thirty-eighth Board meeting. The secretariat carried out a technical review of the project proposal, assigned it the diary number AF00000258, and completed a review sheet.
12. In accordance with a request to the secretariat made by the Board in its 10th meeting, the secretariat shared this review sheet with CASM, and offered it the opportunity of providing responses before the review sheet was sent to the PPRC.
13. The secretariat is submitting to the PPRC the summary and, pursuant to decision B.17/15, the final technical review of the project, both prepared by the secretariat, along with the final submission of the proposal in the following section. In accordance with decision B.25.15, the proposal is submitted with changes between the initial submission and the revised version highlighted.



ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT/PROGRAMME CATEGORY: Regular-sized Project Concept

Country/Region:	Honduras	
Project Title:	Let's save the Merendon	
Thematic Focal Area:	Multisector	
Implementing Entity:	Comisión de Acción Social Menonita (CASM)	
Executing Entities:	Cuerpos de conservación de Omoa (CCO), FENAPROCACAO	
AF Project ID:	AF00000258	
IE Project ID:		Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): 6,000,000
Reviewer and contact person:	Hugo Remaury	Co-reviewer(s): Jason Spensley
IE Contact Person:	Nelson Garcia Lobo	

Technical Summary	<p>The project "Let's save the Merendon" aims to introduce adaptation practices to strengthen resilience of communities living in the Sierra del Merendon. This will be done through the three components below:</p> <p><u>Component 1:</u> Develop sustainable processes of inclusive governance and climate adaptability, for the agreement of a territorial development plan in the Sierra Merendon, with the participation of community, municipal, academic and private sector organizational structures (USD 1,115,200)</p> <p><u>Component 2:</u> Implement with communities and families, actions and agroecological practices for adaptation to climate change (USD 1,148,000)</p> <p><u>Component 3:</u> Strengthen the capacities of key actors for the generation and dissemination of knowledge aimed at raising awareness about the effects of climate variability (USD 1,016,800)</p> <p><u>Requested financing overview:</u> Project/Programme Execution Cost: USD 380,000 Total Project/Programme Cost: USD 3,660,000 Implementing Fee: USD 340,000</p>
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	<p>Financing Requested: USD 4,000,000</p> <p>The proposal does include a request for a project formulation grant of USD 30,000 and a request for a project formulation assistance grant of USD 20,000.</p> <p>The initial technical review raises several issues, such as the lack of in-depth analysis of expected climate scenarios and hence lack of clear linkages with the proposed interventions and several missing information and sections that are required (ESP-related risk identification table, consistency with national/sub-national strategies and plans, alignment with national technical standards, among others), as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Request (CAR) raised in the review.</p> <p>The final technical review finds that the proposal has not addressed most of the CR and CAR requests. Namely, the compliance with the Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP), the sustainability of the proposed interventions, the lack of overlap/complementarity with other funding sources, the cost-effectiveness and the concreteness of the proposed activities remain to be demonstrated.</p>
Date:	20 September 2021

Review Criteria	Questions	Comments Initial Technical Review	Comments Final Technical Review
Country Eligibility	1. Is the country party to the Kyoto Protocol?	Yes.	-
	2. Is the country a developing country particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	Yes. Honduras is vulnerable to climate change due to its high exposure to climate-related hazards (hurricanes, tropical storms, floods, droughts, landslides) that devastate crops and critical infrastructure. Nevertheless, the proposal background section provides only limited and generalized information, particularly on current and anticipated impacts of climate hazards in the project areas. For instance, although the direct impact of increased frequency and severity of landslides is	

		<p>mentioned, as a result of increased prolonged periods of drought, intense rainfall and extreme weather events, there is no information on the extent to which landslides or other impacts are anticipated to increase over time. Without more in-depth analysis of the climate change problem, it is not possible to define the extent to which the project objectives, strategies and actions are likely to address the climate problem.</p> <p>CAR1: The background section of the proposal should be reinforced. The proposal should indeed further outline the economic, social, and environmental context in which the project would operate, including a much stronger description of climate scenarios (see specific CR below). To help structuring and expanding this section it may be considered to create sub-sections describing specific topics such as geography, current climate, national and regional climate change scenarios, socio-economic context (brief description of the agricultural sector, gender, indigenous people, youth), brief description of vulnerable communities in target areas, maps of target areas, among others.</p> <p>CAR2: The proposal should provide an</p>	<p>CAR 1: Not cleared. Despite providing additional information on p.2 to 7, the background section of the proposal needs to be further strengthened. Economic, social, and environmental information are currently mixed up and information on the agricultural sector, gender, indigenous people, and youth are either insufficient or missing. In addition, some sentences are redundant, some have typos, sources of citations are either not sufficient or not provided in their entirety. The proposal should describe the aforementioned dimensions in separate sub-sections to better understand the context in which the project would operate and should address the issues referred to in this comment.</p> <p>CAR2: Not cleared. The description of climate scenarios (p.4-5) is limited to impacts of climate change on precipitations and temperatures only and rely on one reference only. This section should be reinforced to further describe the variety of anticipated impacts of climate change, particularly those that the project aims at tackling, and should refer to a wider range of available scientific information.</p> <p>CAR3: Not addressed. Although</p>
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		<p>in-depth description of current and anticipated climate scenarios (e.g., precipitations, temperatures and natural hazards such as tropical cyclones, landslides, flash floods). In doing so, please refer to climate data and scenarios that can be obtained from existing publicly available sources, such as the World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal and others.</p> <p>CAR3: Please remove template instructions from the document (p.4). The text is not readily accessible. Please consider using clearer, shorter sentences to help improve readability.</p>	<p>improvements have been made, additional editing efforts should be made to improve the document's readability and to address the typos outlined in the response to CAR1. The use of "outputs" and "outcomes" should also be revised throughout the proposal, as it is currently inappropriately used.</p>
Project Eligibility	1. Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project/programme?	Yes. As per the endorsement letter dated 9 August 2021.	The revised proposal does not include part IV of the project template 'endorsement by Government and certification by the Implementing Entity', which is required.
	2. Does the length of the proposal amount to no more than Fifty pages for the project/programme concept, including its annexes?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>If needed, annexes may be removed at this stage to provide sufficient room to address the CRs/CARs raised in the review.</p>	As suggested during the initial technical review, annexes included as part of the concept proposal (p.34 to 48) may be removed in any revised concept proposal to address the pending issues raised in this final technical review.
	3. Does the project / programme support concrete adaptation actions to assist the country in addressing adaptive	Not clear. However, there is a hypothesis inherent in the project design that increasing ecosystem health will translate directly into climate change adaptation and impact	

	<p>capacity to the adverse effects of climate change and build in climate resilience?</p>	<p>outcomes. While this may be true to different degrees in different contexts, the linkage is not automatic or consistent. Moreover, this is not substantiated by making more direct linkages between current and anticipated climate impacts and how project activities will reduce the impact of these activities on people's wellbeing through ecosystem protection, restoration and/or sustainable use. This section should therefore be revised accordingly (see below CRs).</p> <p>CR1: The proposal should distinguish itself from a business-as-usual natural resource management project by clearly demonstrating that the proposed adaptation measures are suited or adequate for the current and anticipated scenarios and related threats. One may indeed wonder what scale of landslides, and what scale and type of natural disasters will the regional territorial plan through objective 1 be designed to adapt to? Similarly, what climate impacts and to what extent will the technologies through objective 3 be designed to address?</p> <p>CR2: The proposal provides a</p>	<p>CR1: Not addressed. The concept proposal is yet to distinguish critical outputs (namely output 2.1, 2.2, 3.1 and 3.2) from a business-as-usual natural resource management project. It should describe how such activities are suited to the current and anticipated type and scale of impacts (e.g., landslides, crop failure, infrastructure damage, etc.) from specified climate hazards (e.g., precipitation changes, temperature changes, extreme weather events) to demonstrate the adequateness of the project interventions.</p> <p>CR2: Not addressed. The description of the proposed activities remains too</p>
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		<p>description of activities that is too generic at this stage (e.g. agroecological proposals, forest regenerative practices, diagnosis of natural resources). The proposal should make an effort to provide a higher level of granularity to the description of the proposed components and associated outputs/activities.</p> <p>CAR4: The description of outputs and associated activities should highlight the concreteness of the proposed activities by describing the visible and tangible results expected on the ground.</p> <p>CAR5: Please homogenize the description and wording used when describing project outputs in section VI and in the “Project / Programme Components and Financing” table to avoid any confusion.</p> <p>CAR6: Please state which AF strategic objective each component aligns with (see Adaptation Fund strategic results framework as last adopted in 2019).</p> <p>CR3: When describing the proposed activities, the proposal should demonstrate that the non-climatic barriers listed in the proposal have</p>	<p>generic, making it difficult to assess their scope. The proposal should provide a higher level of granularity to the description of the proposed components and associated outputs/activities.</p> <p>CAR4: Not addressed. As pointed in the response to CR2, the current description of the interventions does not sufficiently highlight the concreteness of the proposed activities and their expected tangible impact on the ground.</p> <p>CAR5: Not addressed. Discrepancies in terminology persist between part II.A and the “Project / Programme Components and Financing” table.</p> <p>CAR6: Not addressed. Revisions have been made to the diagram provided on p.8, however, the proposal needs to use the exact terminology used in the Adaptation Fund strategic results framework as last adopted in 2019 when referring to the AF results framework’s expected results.</p> <p>CR3: Not addressed. The proposal should demonstrate that the non-</p>
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		<p>been taken into account in the design of such activities. For instance, the lack of implementation of the existing environmental protection laws is well noted, as is the intention for alliances with central government entities and local governments to serve to empower local authorities and communities to monitor the application of environmental legislation. However, it is unclear how this increased empowerment will be achieved and the extent it will result in increased impact on protecting ecosystem services to generate climate adaptation and resilience benefits from specific climate impacts.</p> <p>For example, to what extent and through what mechanisms will local authorities and communities be more effectively and substantially financially resourced to conduct local policing and monitoring activities in specific areas critical for climate adaptation services? Please revise the document accordingly.</p>	<p>climatic barriers described have been taken into account in the design of such activities.</p>
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	<p>4. Does the project / programme provide economic, social and environmental benefits, particularly to vulnerable communities, including gender considerations, while avoiding or mitigating negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?</p>	<p>No. Limited information is provided on specific benefits that the project will generate. The proposal needs to deepen the articulation of benefits and the extent of anticipated impact for each.</p> <p>CAR7: As instructed in the instructions for preparing a request for project funding, please add a dedicated section to the proposal that would include i) information on the expected beneficiaries (brief socio-economic description of communities); ii) an explanation on how the project will ensure an equitable distribution of benefits amongst vulnerable communities, households, and individuals; iii) should minority groups and indigenous communities be identified, a description of the particular benefits provided by the project to those groups; and iv) a description of economic, social and environmental benefits and estimated quantified benefits, whenever possible.</p> <p>CAR8: To ensure compliance with the Gender Policy, please provide an initial gender analysis, and/or assessment to determine the different needs, capabilities, roles and knowledge resources of women and men, and/or identify how changing gender</p>	<p>CAR7: Not cleared. A description of economics, social and environmental benefits is provided on p. 17-21. However, benefits are described in broad sense and are unquantified. In addition, the proposal fails to include the following: i) information on the expected beneficiaries (brief socio-economic description of communities); ii) an explanation on how the project will ensure an equitable distribution of benefits amongst vulnerable communities, households, and individuals; iii) should minority groups and indigenous communities be identified, a description of the particular benefits provided by the project to those groups.</p> <p>CR8: Addressed. An initial gender analysis is provided on p.19-21.</p>
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		dynamics might drive lasting change.	
	5. Is the project / programme cost effective?	<p>Yet to be demonstrated. The proposal does not provide sufficient information to assess compliance with this criterion at this stage.</p> <p>CR4: Provide a logical explanation on the selected scope and approach which demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of the selected approach also from a sustainability standpoint.</p> <p>CR5: Please consider comparing the proposed approach with alternative options to highlight its cost effectiveness. When doing so, it appears particularly useful to provide a more specific explanation of why the proposed strategy, particularly involving participatory governance and planning, are a particularly cost-effective approach to address the climate problem vis-à-vis other alternative strategies.</p>	<p>CR4: Not addressed. Despite including generic references to quantified cost-effective figures (p.21-22), the concept proposal does not provide a logical explanation on the selected scope and approach nor demonstrate its cost-effectiveness from a sustainability standpoint.</p> <p>CR5: Not addressed.</p>
	6. Is the project / programme consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies,	Not clear. No information is provided on national and sub-national sustainable development strategies, development plans, poverty reduction	CAR9: Not cleared. Only two relevant plans are identified. The proposal should identify all national or sub-national sustainable development

	national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and adaptation programs of action and other relevant instruments?	<p>strategies, adaptation planning processes and other relevant instruments.</p> <p>CAR9: Please identify national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and adaptation planning processes and other instruments relevant to the proposed project and explain how the proposed project will directly build on and align with such plans.</p>	<p>strategies, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and adaptation planning processes and other instruments relevant to the proposed project and briefly explain how the proposed project is consistent with such plans/strategies.</p>
	7. Does the project / programme meet the relevant national technical standards, where applicable, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund?	<p>No. The proposal does not provide any information on applicable national technical standards.</p> <p>CAR10: Please identify national technical standards relevant to the proposed project (e.g. Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), building codes, water quality regulations, and sector-specific regulations) and please state compliance with each standard in a logical manner.</p>	<p>CAR10: Not cleared. A list of only five national technical standards is provided on p.23 of the proposal. A more comprehensive identification of any other relevant technical standards is likely to be needed. In addition, compliance with the standards identified needs to be stated in a logical manner, which is currently not always the case.</p>
	8. Is there duplication of project / programme with other funding sources?	<p>Yet to be demonstrated. No information is provided on possible complementarity and/or duplication of the project with other funding sources.</p> <p>CAR11: Please identify all relevant potentially overlapping on-going or soon-to-be-implemented projects and</p>	<p>CAR11: Not addressed. The proposal should identify all relevant potentially overlapping on-going or soon-to-be-implemented projects and programmes</p>

		<p>programmes from other domestic, international bilateral cooperation and multilateral funding sources (for example the GCF supported National Adaptation Planning Process, relevant GCF and GEF supported projects, and relevant World Bank, IDB investments in the country, among others).</p> <p>In addition, for each identified initiative, please explain in a logical manner how the proposed project will complement and/or avoid duplication.</p>	<p>from other domestic, international bilateral cooperation and multilateral funding sources (for example the GCF supported National Adaptation Planning Process, relevant GCF and GEF supported projects, and relevant World Bank, IDB investments in the country, among others). For each identified initiative, it should explain in a logical manner how the proposed project will complement and/or avoid duplication.</p>
	<p>9. Does the project / programme have a learning and knowledge management component to capture and feedback lessons?</p>	<p>Yes. Although Component 4 is dedicated to “Knowledge management and technological innovations”, some aspects of the learning and knowledge management component must be clarified.</p> <p>CR6: Please reinforce the proposed KM component by describing i) the mechanisms that the project will use to systematically keep track of experiences gained from the project, ii) how the project will analyse such experiences periodically and iii) how lessons learned from the project will be disseminated to enrich the global and national knowledge on climate change adaptation to accelerate understanding about what kinds of interventions work.</p> <p>CR7: The description of output 4.2</p>	<p>CR6: Addressed, as per information provided on p. 15-17 and on p.24.</p> <p>CR7: Not addressed. Information have been added on p.18-19. Nevertheless, in line with the response</p>

		would benefit from being slightly elaborated and more specific as its scope is currently unclear.	made to CR2, the description of the “early warning networks” remains too generic to assess its adequateness and specific role in the project’s learning and knowledge management component.
	10. Has a consultative process taken place, and has it involved all key stakeholders, and vulnerable groups, including gender considerations in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	<p>No. There is insufficient information in the project concept to analyze compliance with this criterion.</p> <p>CAR12: An initial consultative process has to take place at the concept stage with key stakeholders involved in the project. The proposal should demonstrate that the proposal reflects the outcomes of such consultations. In target areas where minority groups and indigenous peoples have been identified, they should be consulted at the concept stage and their interests or concerns taken into account when designing the proposal.</p>	<p>CAR12:Not cleared. Information on the consultative process, including stakeholders consulted and key findings, are provided on p.24 to 26. However, the proposal does not demonstrate how such findings were integrated into the concept proposal (for instance how the proposed interventions will tackle the most critical threats identified by the stakeholders, namely extension of agricultural lands, forest fires and landslides). In addition, the proposal does not identify minority groups and indigenous people (although acknowledging the presence of such communities in other sections) nor it explains how their interests and concerns are considered in the project design.</p>
	11. Is the requested financing justified on the basis of full cost of adaptation reasoning?	Not clear. The proposal does not provide sufficient information at this stage to assess compliance with this criterion. No information is provided on	

		<p>possible co-financing, including with relevant on-going initiatives in the countries (see CR above).</p> <p>CAR13: Please consider adding a dedicated section demonstrating that the project activities are relevant in addressing its adaptation objectives and that, taken solely, without additional funding from other donors, they will help achieve these objectives. In case co-financing is expected from other project(s)/funding source(s), the proposal should explain how it will deliver its outcomes and outputs regardless of the success of the other project(s).</p>	<p>CAR13: Addressed. The concept proposal states on p.26 that activities funded through the project will not depend on other funding sources.</p>
	12. Is the project / program aligned with AF's results framework?	<p>Not clear. There is no reference to the AF's results framework in the proposal.</p> <p>CAR14: Please describe alignment of the project with the Adaptation Fund strategic results framework as last adopted in 2019.</p>	<p>CAR14: Addressed, as per the diagram provided on p.8. However, please use the exact terminology when referring to outcome/outputs/indicators of the Adaptation Fund strategic results framework as last adopted in 2019.</p>
	13. Has the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes been taken into account when designing the project?	<p>Not clear. Too little information is provided in the proposal to assess this criterion.</p> <p>CAR15: Please explain in a dedicated section of the proposal how the adaptation benefits achieved through the project will be sustained after its end. The proposal should explain the arrangements through which this</p>	<p>CAR15: Not addressed. Sustainability related information provided on p.26-28 does not sufficiently demonstrate how the interventions and associated adaptation benefits (especially those generated under components 2 and 3)</p>

		would be achieved, considering sustainability and maintenance of any infrastructure or installations to be developed, policies and governance arrangements to be developed and implemented, knowledge to be generated, management and other capacity to be improved, among others. All key areas of sustainability should be addressed, including but not limited to economic, social, environmental, institutional, and financial.	will be sustained once the project ends. The proposal should elaborate on the arrangements through which sustainability of these components will be ensured, covering all areas of sustainability including but not limited to economic, social, environmental, institutional, and financial.
	14. Does the project / programme provide an overview of environmental and social impacts / risks identified, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	<p>Not adequate.</p> <p>CAR16: Referring to the Guidance document for IEs on compliance with the AF ESP, please revise the entire section. The proposal should i) clearly identifies potential environmental and social impacts and risks; ii) elaborates on the gender-specific cultural and/or legal context in which the project/programme will operate; iii) states the category in which the screening process has classified the project/programme. (Category A, B or C); iv) complete the checklist provided in the request for project funding document template (part II.K) indicating in a substantiated manner which environmental and social impacts and risks have been identified, considering all potential direct, indirect,</p>	<p>CAR16: Not addressed. Information included in section K (p.28-33) of the proposal is not in line with the AF ESP and the associated Guidance document for IEs on compliance with the AF ESP.</p> <p>The proposal should identify potential environmental and social impacts and risks. The screening process shall consider all potential direct, indirect, transboundary, and cumulative impacts and risks that could result from the proposed project/programme. The screening should determine whether or not the project/programme requires further environmental and social assessment, mitigation, and management. The checklist shall indicate which environmental and social impacts and risks are triggered</p>

		transboundary, and cumulative impacts that could result from the proposed project; v) ensure that risks related to the 15 ESP principles have been identified whenever applicable; vi) provides an initial gender assessment, ideally providing qualitative and quantitative data for gender roles, activities, needs, and available opportunities and challenges or risks for men and women.	by the project as requiring more detailed environmental and social assessment, and which impacts and risks do not require any further assessment, to achieve full compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy.
Resource Availability	1. Is the requested project / programme funding within the cap of the country?	<p>Yes, however the project limit size exceeds the maximum amount allowed by Board Decision B.35-36/19, which establishes that CASM is eligible to submit project and programme proposals for up to US\$ 4 million.</p> <p>CAR17: Please revise the total amount requested to be aligned with the accreditation type and Board Decision above mentioned.</p> <p>CAR18: In addition, the maximum amount that can be requested with a PFG is US\$ 30,000 while the total amount that can be requested with a PFA is US\$ 20,000, while the PFA submitted is for a total amount of US\$ 30,000. Please amend accordingly.</p>	<p>CAR17: Addressed, the total amount request (p.1) is now aligned with the Board Decision B.35-36/19.</p> <p>CAR18: Addressed, as per the revised PFG and PFA.</p>
	2. Is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme	<p>No.</p> <p>CAR19: The total project cost should include the project execution cost.</p>	CAR19: Addressed , as per the revised "Project / Programme Components and Financing" table (p.10).

	budget before the fee?	Please revise the figure accordingly. CAR20: Please revise the IE fee to ensure it remains at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee.	CAR20: Not addressed. The IE fee exceeds the 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee.
	3. Are the Project/Programme Execution Costs at or below 9.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget (including the fee)?	Yes. CAR21: Please correct the typo on p.16. "570,00" should be "570,000", in addition please refer to CAR 17 for further adjustments.	CAR21: Not addressed, the project execution costs exceed the 9.5% of the total project budget.
Eligibility of IE	1. Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?	Yes.	-
Implementation Arrangements	1. Is there adequate arrangement for project / programme management, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?	n/a at concept stage	
	2. Are there measures for financial and project/programme risk management?	n/a at concept stage	
	3. Are there measures in place for the management of for environmental and social risks, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of	n/a at concept stage	

	the Fund?		
	4. Is a budget on the Implementing Entity Management Fee use included?	n/a at concept stage	
	5. Is an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs included?	n/a at concept stage	
	6. Is a detailed budget including budget notes included?	n/a at concept stage	
	7. Are arrangements for monitoring and evaluation clearly defined, including budgeted M&E plans and sex-disaggregated data, targets and indicators, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?	n/a at concept stage	
	8. Does the M&E Framework include a break-down of how implementing entity IE fees will be utilized in the supervision of the M&E function?	n/a at concept stage	
	9. Does the project/programme's results framework align with the AF's results framework? Does it include at least one core outcome indicator from the Fund's results framework?	n/a at concept stage	

	10. Is a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones included?	n/a at concept stage	
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ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT/PROGRAMME CATEGORY: Regular-sized Project Concept

Country/Region:	Honduras		
Project Title:	Let's save the Merendon		
Thematic Focal Area:	Multisector		
Implementing Entity:	Comisión de Acción Social Menonita (CASM)		
Executing Entities:	Cuerpos de conservación de Omoa (CCO), FENAPROCACAO		
AF Project ID:	AF00000258		
IE Project ID:			
Reviewer and contact person:	Hugo Remaury	Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars):	6,000,000
IE Contact Person:	Nelson Garcia Lobo	Co-reviewer(s):	Jason Spensley

Technical Summary	<p>The project "Let's save the Merendon" aims to introduce adaptation practices to strengthen resilience of communities living in the Sierra del Merendon. This will be done through the four components below:</p> <p><u>Component 1:</u> Effective and efficient management of natural resources (USD 1,330,000)</p> <p><u>Component 2:</u> Sustainable Agroecological and Forestry Practices (USD 1,722,000)</p> <p><u>Component 3:</u> Inclusive and multisectoral governance (USD 984,000)</p> <p><u>Component 4:</u> Knowledge Management and Technological Innovation (USD 884,000)</p> <p><u>Requested financing overview:</u> Project/Programme Execution Cost: USD 570,000 Total Project/Programme Cost: USD 4,920,000 Implementing Fee: USD 510,000 Financing Requested: USD 6,000,000</p>
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	<p>The proposal does include a request for a project formulation grant of USD 20,000 and a request for a project formulation assistance grant of USD 30,000.</p> <p>The initial technical review raises several issues, such as the lack of in-depth analysis of expected climate scenarios and hence lack of clear linkages with the proposed interventions and several missing information and sections that are required (ESP-related risk identification table, consistency with national/sub-national strategies and plans, alignment with national technical standards, among others), as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Request (CAR) raised in the review.</p>
Date:	25 August 2021

Review Criteria	Questions	Comments
Country Eligibility	3. Is the country party to the Kyoto Protocol?	Yes.
	4. Is the country a developing country particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	<p>Yes. Honduras is vulnerable to climate change due to its high exposure to climate-related hazards (hurricanes, tropical storms, floods, droughts, landslides) that devastate crops and critical infrastructure. Nevertheless, the proposal background section provides only limited and generalized information, particularly on current and anticipated impacts of climate hazards in the project areas. For instance, although the direct impact of increased frequency and severity of landslides is mentioned, as a result of increased prolonged periods of drought, intense rainfall and extreme weather events, there is no information on the extent to which landslides or other impacts are anticipated to increase over time. Without more in-depth analysis of the climate change problem, it is not possible to define the extent to which the project objectives, strategies and actions are likely to address the climate problem.</p> <p>CAR1: The background section of the proposal should be reinforced. The proposal should indeed further outline the economic, social, and environmental context in which the</p>

		<p>project would operate, including a much stronger description of climate scenarios (see specific CR below). To help structuring and expanding this section it may be considered to create sub-sections describing specific topics such as geography, current climate, national and regional climate change scenarios, socio-economic context (brief description of the agricultural sector, gender, indigenous people, youth), brief description of vulnerable communities in target areas, maps of target areas, among others.</p> <p>CASM: The context and background have been reinforced according to your comments, elements of analysis have been added identifying them according to your suggestions.</p> <p>CAR2: The proposal should provide an in-depth description of current and anticipated climate scenarios (e.g., precipitations, temperatures and natural hazards such as tropical cyclones, landslides, flash floods). In doing so, please refer to climate data and scenarios that can be obtained from existing publicly available sources, such as the World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal and others.</p> <p>CASM: In the part of the context and Background a specific part of analysis of climate scenarios has been added, several sources have been consulted for this.</p> <p>CAR3: Please remove template instructions from the document (p.4). The text is not readily accessible. Please consider using clearer, shorter sentences to help improve readability.</p> <p>CASM: Your suggestions have been considered</p>
Project Eligibility	15. Has the designated government authority for	Yes. As per the endorsement letter dated 9 August 2021.

	the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project/programme?	
	16. Does the length of the proposal amount to no more than Fifty pages for the project/programme concept, including its annexes?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>If needed, annexes may be removed at this stage to provide sufficient room to address the CRs/CARs raised in the review.</p>
	17. Does the project / programme support concrete adaptation actions to assist the country in addressing adaptive capacity to the adverse effects of climate change and build in climate resilience?	<p>Not clear. However, there is a hypothesis inherent in the project design that increasing ecosystem health will translate directly into climate change adaptation and impact outcomes. While this may be true to different degrees in different contexts, the linkage is not automatic or consistent. Moreover, this is not substantiated by making more direct linkages between current and anticipated climate impacts and how project activities will reduce the impact of these activities on people's wellbeing through ecosystem protection, restauration and/or sustainable use. This section should therefore be revised accordingly (see below CRs).</p> <p>CR1: The proposal should distinguish itself from a business-as-usual natural resource management project by clearly demonstrating that the proposed adaptation measures are suited or adequate for the current and anticipated scenarios and related threats. One may indeed wonder what scale of landslides, and what scale and type of natural disasters will the regional territorial plan through objective 1 be designed to adapt to? Similarly, what climate impacts and to what extent will the technologies through objective 3 be designed to address?</p> <p>CASM: The objectives have been redefined by taking up these aspects mentioned especially to make better visible the adaptation to climate change and climate scenarios</p>

		<p>CR2: The proposal provides a description of activities that is too generic at this stage (e.g. agroecological proposals, forest regenerative practices, diagnosis of natural resources). The proposal should make an effort to provide a higher level of granularity to the description of the proposed components and associated outputs/activities.</p> <p>CASM: components and their products and results have been further developed (Part II Section A)</p> <p>CAR4: The description of outputs and associated activities should highlight the concreteness of the proposed activities by describing the visible and tangible results expected on the ground.</p> <p>CASM: Products and results have been described and explained (Part II Section A)</p> <p>CAR5: Please homogenize the description and wording used when describing project outputs in section VI and in the “Project / Programme Components and Financing” table to avoid any confusion.</p> <p>CASM: The description in Part II Section A is in accordance with the information in the Project Components table</p> <p>CAR6: Please state which AF strategic objective each component aligns with (see Adaptation Fund strategic results framework as last adopted in 2019).</p>
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		<p>CASM: In the section of objectives there is a table that illustrates the relationship of the components to the AF results framework</p> <p>CR3When describing the proposed activities, the proposal should demonstrate that the non-climatic barriers listed in the proposal have been taken into account in the design of such activities. For instance, the lack of implementation of the existing environmental protection laws is well noted, as is the intention for alliances with central government entities and local governments to serve to empower local authorities and communities to monitor the application of environmental legislation. However, it is unclear how this increased empowerment will be achieved and the extent it will result in increased impact on protecting ecosystem services to generate climate adaptation and resilience benefits from specific climate impacts.</p> <p>For example, to what extent and through what mechanisms will local authorities and communities be more effectively and substantially financially resourced to conduct local policing and monitoring activities in specific areas critical for climate adaptation services? Please revise the document accordingly.</p> <p>CASM: The description of the components and their results considers these aspects.</p>
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	<p>18. Does the project / programme provide economic, social and environmental benefits, particularly to vulnerable communities, including gender considerations, while avoiding or mitigating negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?</p>	<p>No. Limited information is provided on specific benefits that the project will generate. The proposal needs to deepen the articulation of benefits and the extent of anticipated impact for each.</p> <p>CAR7: As instructed in the instructions for preparing a request for project funding, please add a dedicated section to the proposal that would include i) information on the expected beneficiaries (brief socio-economic description of communities); ii) an explanation on how the project will ensure an equitable distribution of benefits amongst vulnerable communities, households, and individuals; iii) should minority groups and indigenous communities be identified, a description of the particular benefits provided by the project to those groups; and iv) a description of economic, social and environmental benefits and estimated quantified benefits, whenever possible.</p> <p>CASM: The comments and aspects considered in the instructions for the preparation of applications have been considered, these descriptions of the population and the benefits are described in part II section B</p> <p>CAR8: To ensure compliance with the Gender Policy, please provide an initial gender analysis, and/or assessment to determine the different needs, capabilities, roles and knowledge resources of women and men, and/or identify how changing gender dynamics might drive lasting change.</p> <p>CASM: A gender analysis is provided in Part II section B.</p>
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	19. Is the project / programme cost effective?	<p>Yet to be demonstrated. The proposal does not provide sufficient information to assess compliance with this criterion at this stage.</p> <p>CR4: Provide a logical explanation on the selected scope and approach which demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of the selected approach also from a sustainability standpoint.</p> <p>CR5: Please consider comparing the proposed approach with alternative options to highlight its cost effectiveness. When doing so, it appears particularly useful to provide a more specific explanation of why the proposed strategy, particularly involving participatory governance and planning, are a particularly cost-effective approach to address the climate problem vis-à-vis other alternative strategies.</p> <p>CASM: These comments are taken up in Part II Section C</p>
	20. Is the project / programme consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and adaptation programs of action and other relevant instruments?	<p>Not clear. No information is provided on national and sub-national sustainable development strategies, development plans, poverty reduction strategies, adaptation planning processes and other relevant instruments.</p> <p>CAR9: Please identify national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and adaptation planning processes and other instruments relevant to the proposed project and explain how the proposed project will directly build on and align with such plans.</p> <p>CASM: In the Context and in part II section D describes the relationship and alignment of the project with the main national plans and strategies and especially with the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change of Honduras</p>

	21. Does the project / programme meet the relevant national technical standards, where applicable, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund?	<p>No. The proposal does not provide any information on applicable national technical standards.</p> <p>CAR10: Please identify national technical standards relevant to the proposed project (e.g. Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), building codes, water quality regulations, and sector-specific regulations) and please state compliance with each standard in a logical manner.</p> <p>CASM: in part II section E a relationship of the project with the legal regulations of the country is made</p>
	22. Is there duplication of project / programme with other funding sources?	<p>Yet to be demonstrated. No information is provided on possible complementarity and/or duplication of the project with other funding sources.</p> <p>CAR11: Please identify all relevant potentially overlapping on-going or soon-to-be-implemented projects and programmes from other domestic, international bilateral cooperation and multilateral funding sources (for example the GCF supported National Adaptation Planning Process, relevant GCF and GEF supported projects, and relevant World Bank, IDB investments in the country, among others).</p> <p>In addition, for each identified initiative, please explain in a logical manner how the proposed project will complement and/or avoid duplication.</p> <p>CASM: This is worked on in Part II Section F</p>
	23. Does the project / programme have a learning and knowledge management component to capture and feedback lessons?	<p>Yes. Although Component 4 is dedicated to “Knowledge management and technological innovations”, some aspects of the learning and knowledge management component must be clarified.</p> <p>CR6: Please reinforce the proposed KM component by</p>

		<p>describing i) the mechanisms that the project will use to systematically keep track of experiences gained from the project, ii) how the project will analyse such experiences periodically and iii) how lessons learned from the project will be disseminated to enrich the global and national knowledge on climate change adaptation to accelerate understanding about what kinds of interventions work.</p> <p>CASM: Part II Section G describes these aspects</p> <p>CR7: The description of output 4.2 would benefit from being slightly elaborated and more specific as its scope is currently unclear.</p> <p>CASM: The component and specifically the product mentioned has been revised, it is explained in Part II section A</p>
	<p>24. Has a consultative process taken place, and has it involved all key stakeholders, and vulnerable groups, including gender considerations in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?</p>	<p>No. There is insufficient information in the project concept to analyze compliance with this criterion.</p> <p>CAR12: An initial consultative process has to take place at the concept stage with key stakeholders involved in the project. The proposal should demonstrate that the proposal reflects the outcomes of such consultations. In target areas where minority groups and indigenous peoples have been identified, they should be consulted at the concept stage and their interests or concerns taken into account when designing the proposal.</p> <p>CASM: Part II Section H describes the initial consultation process that has been carried out</p>

	25. Is the requested financing justified on the basis of full cost of adaptation reasoning?	<p>Not clear. The proposal does not provide sufficient information at this stage to assess compliance with this criterion. No information is provided on possible co-financing, including with relevant on-going initiatives in the countries (see CR above).</p> <p>CAR13: Please consider adding a dedicated section demonstrating that the project activities are relevant in addressing its adaptation objectives and that, taken solely, without additional funding from other donors, they will help achieve these objectives. In case co-financing is expected from other project(s)/funding source(s), the proposal should explain how it will deliver its outcomes and outputs regardless of the success of the other project(s).</p> <p>CASM: see Part II Section I</p>
	26. Is the project / program aligned with AF's results framework?	<p>Not clear. There is no reference to the AF's results framework in the proposal.</p> <p>CAR14: Please describe alignment of the project with the Adaptation Fund strategic results framework as last adopted in 2019.</p> <p>CASM: In the section of objectives there is a table that illustrates the relationship of the components to the AF results framework</p>
	27. Has the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes been taken into account when designing the project?	<p>Not clear. Too little information is provided in the proposal to assess this criterion.</p> <p>CAR15: Please explain in a dedicated section of the</p>

		<p>proposal how the adaptation benefits achieved through the project will be sustained after its end. The proposal should explain the arrangements through which this would be achieved, considering sustainability and maintenance of any infrastructure or installations to be developed, policies and governance arrangements to be developed and implemented, knowledge to be generated, management and other capacity to be improved, among others. All key areas of sustainability should be addressed, including but not limited to economic, social, environmental, institutional, and financial.</p> <p>CASM: These Aspects Are Described in Part II Section J</p>
	<p>28. Does the project / programme provide an overview of environmental and social impacts / risks identified, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?</p>	<p>Not adequate.</p> <p>CAR16: Referring to the Guidance document for IEs on compliance with the AF ESP, please revise the entire section. The proposal should i) clearly identifies potential environmental and social impacts and risks; ii) elaborates on the gender-specific cultural and/or legal context in which the project/programme will operate; iii) states the category in which the screening process has classified the project/programme. (Category A, B or C); iv) complete the checklist provided in the request for project funding document template (part II.K) indicating in a substantiated manner which environmental and social impacts and risks have been identified, considering all potential direct, indirect, transboundary, and cumulative impacts that could result from the proposed project; v) ensure that risks related to the 15 ESP principles have been identified whenever applicable; vi) provides an initial gender assessment, ideally providing qualitative and quantitative data for gender roles, activities, needs, and available opportunities and challenges or risks</p>

		<p>for men and women.</p> <p>CASM: A description of the risks and impacts has been developed in accordance with the AF application preparation instructions, see part II section K</p>
Resource Availability	4. Is the requested project / programme funding within the cap of the country?	<p>Yes, however the project limit size exceeds the maximum amount allowed by Board Decision B.35-36/19, which establishes that CASM is eligible to submit project and programme proposals for up to US\$ 4 million.</p> <p>CAR17: Please revise the total amount requested to be aligned with the accreditation type and Board Decision above mentioned.</p> <p>CASM: the budget has been adjusted according to the approved limit.</p> <p>CAR18: In addition, the maximum amount that can be requested with a PFG is US\$ 30,000 while the total amount that can be requested with a PFA is US\$ 20,000, while the PFA submitted is for a total amount of US\$ 30,000. Please amend accordingly.</p> <p>CASM: Adjustments have already been made to these requests according to the amounts allowed in each of them.</p>
	5. Is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee?	<p>No.</p> <p>CAR19: The total project cost should include the project execution cost. Please revise the figure accordingly.</p> <p>CAR20: Please revise the IE fee to ensure it remains at or</p>

		<p>below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee.</p> <p>CASM: adjustments and revisions have already been made, see in the components table.</p>
	6. Are the Project/Programme Execution Costs at or below 9.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget (including the fee)?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>CAR21: Please correct the typo on p.16. "570,00" should be "570,000", in addition please refer to CAR 17 for further adjustments.</p> <p>CASM: adjustments and revisions have already been made, see in the components table</p>
Eligibility of IE	2. Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?	Yes.
Implementation Arrangements	11. Is there adequate arrangement for project / programme management, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?	n/a at concept stage
	12. Are there measures for financial and project/programme risk management?	n/a at concept stage
	13. Are there measures in place for the management of for environmental and social risks, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	n/a at concept stage
	14. Is a budget on the Implementing Entity Management Fee use included?	n/a at concept stage
	15. Is an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs included?	n/a at concept stage

	16. Is a detailed budget including budget notes included?	n/a at concept stage
	17. Are arrangements for monitoring and evaluation clearly defined, including budgeted M&E plans and sex-disaggregated data, targets and indicators, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?	n/a at concept stage
	18. Does the M&E Framework include a break-down of how implementing entity IE fees will be utilized in the supervision of the M&E function?	n/a at concept stage
	19. Does the project/programme's results framework align with the AF's results framework? Does it include at least one core outcome indicator from the Fund's results framework?	n/a at concept stage
	20. Is a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones included?	n/a at concept stage



AFB/PPRC.28/13



**REQUEST FOR PROJECT/PROGRAMME FUNDING
FROM THE ADAPTATION FUND**

PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL TO THE ADAPTATION FUND

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Project/Programme Category: Regular Project/Programme

Country/ies: Honduras, CA

Title of Project/Programme: Let's Save the Merendon

Type of Implementing Entity: NIE

Implementing Entity: CASM

Executing Entity/ies: Cuerpos de conservación de Omoa, FENAPROCACAO

Amount of Financing Requested: \$ 4,000,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

PROJECT / PROGRAMME BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT:

1.- National Context

According to the World Bank (WB), Honduras faces high levels of poverty and inequality, according to international estimates for the last available year (2019), before the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and hurricanes Eta and Iota that showed that the 14.8% of the Honduran population lived on less than \$ 1.90 per day. In addition, almost half of the population (4.8 million people) lived on less than \$ 5.50 a day, constituting the second highest poverty rate in Latin America, with the possibility that these rates will rise in the next years.

According to a report prepared by ECLAC, the damage from the two tropical storms ETA and IOTA reached a loss of 1,879 million dollars, given the aforementioned phenomena, it is expected that in the coming years the deepening of social and economic inequality will continue to be a persistent phenomenon that especially affects women and young people in rural areas.

Honduras is considered one of the 20 most vulnerable countries in the world to the impacts of climate change. Its geographical location favors the passage of extreme climatic phenomena such as hurricanes and tropical storms that, year after year, hit the country, a situation that weakens its fragile economy, slowing down sustainable development. Given the condition of these high levels of vulnerability, floods and landslides put us in a recurring emergency situation demonstrated during 2020 with the storms ETA and IOTA. The Government of Honduras has developed, in conjunction with the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) the multidimensional vulnerability index (According to a report prepared by ECLAC, the damage from the two storms ETA and IOTA reached about 1,879 million dollars, given the aforementioned phenomena, it is expected that in the coming years the deepening of social and economic inequality will continue to be a persistent phenomenon that especially affects women and youth in rural areas (VM)). Such index was created to provide electronic vouchers that can be exchanged for food, medicine and biosafety equipment, for independent and self-employed workers who were hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic and tropical storms. The foregoing shows the reactive nature of assistance to respond to the effects with very low strategies. to address the causes that provoke and favor the social, environmental and food vulnerability of citizens, especially those who live in rural areas of our country.

Poverty and Climate Change

The cyclical increase in climate disasters has been a determining factor in maintaining, and in some cases increasing, the systemic poverty that Honduras has experienced in recent decades. Therefore it is urgent to end poverty in all its forms according to the Millennium Development Goals (ODS), as well as adopting urgent measures to combat climate change, strengthening resilience and adaptation capacity if these challenges are to be addressed. The country runs the risk of unleashing a social decomposition that will result in increased crime, a deterioration of macroeconomic conditions and of the business environment, compound with the massive migration of the population seeking better survival opportunities outside the country.

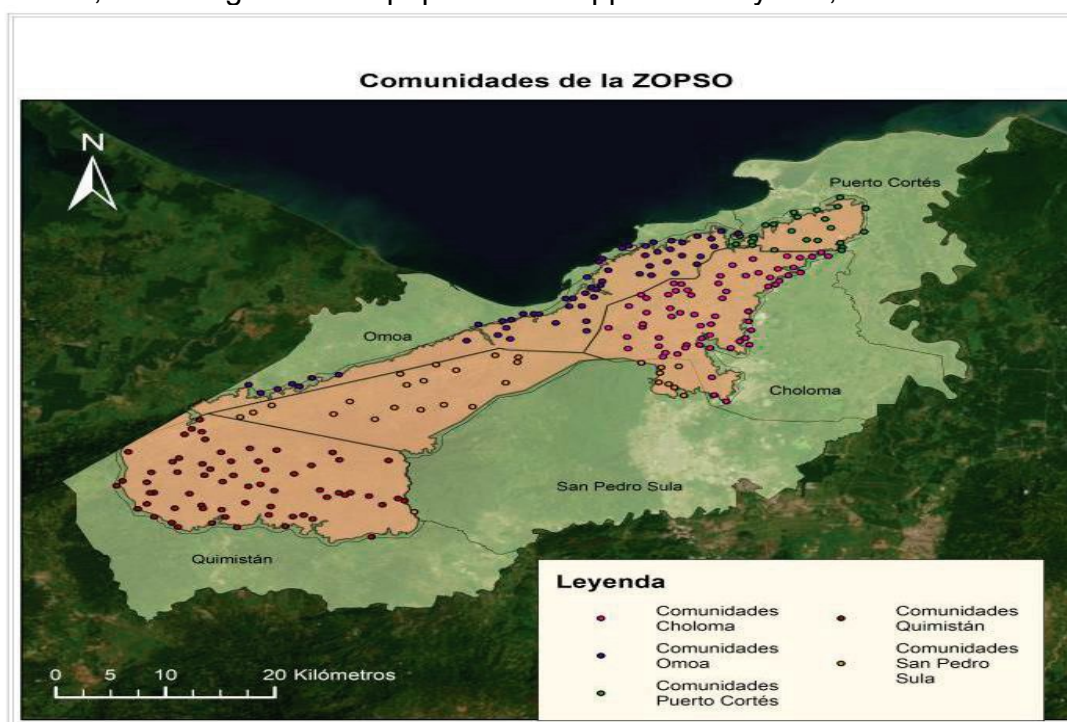
This reference framework positions Honduras with enormous challenges, but with opportunities to develop and strengthen resilient and adaptive livelihoods to climate change, based on the vision towards the 2030 sustainable development agenda, with a special focus on resilience and contributing to overcome the socio-economic vulnerabilities currently increased by the pandemic and tropical storms ETA and IOTA. The Climate Change Law, the National Climate Change Strategy and the National

Climate Change Plan of Honduras promote actions to protect, conserve and restore ecosystems and their biodiversity which favor the integral management of climate risk in several fundamental axes that favor adaptation. To reduce the vulnerability of the country, there are opportunities to promote adaptation measures for natural and productive systems.

The project will take advantage of a legal framework of coordination established through the Interinstitutional Committee on Climate Change (CICC). As an advisory body and political platform to manage actions its function is aimed at the implementation in the area of public policies, and guarantee the execution of plans, strategies, programs and projects to be developed in the Sierra del Merendon. Such tasks includes overseeing the management of water resources, forests, biodiversity, marine-coastal risk management, environmental education, land use planning, food security, energy and human health.

2.- Regional Context

The Sierra de Merendon is a mountainous ecosystem that moves from east to west, from the department of Cortés to the department of Santa Bárbara, and borders the Caribbean Sea on the north coast of the country. The Sierra del Merendon, registered as part of a reserve zone, is geographically located in the departments of Santa Bárbara and Cortés, it crosses 5 municipalities, Omoa, Puerto Cortes, Choloma, San Pedro Sula and Quimistán. This mountain range has an approximate extension of 2,548 km², 200 villages¹ and a population of approximately 300,000 inhabitants.



This mountain range is part of a development region, which includes the hydrographic basin called the Sula Valley Region and the Chamelecón, Ulúa and Motagua river basins. These contains soils of high environmental value, and with high water percolation with which the above mentioned municipalities are supplied. In addition is a region with a unique biotic,

¹ There is a legally registered geographical division in each municipality, each village is made up of different hamlets.

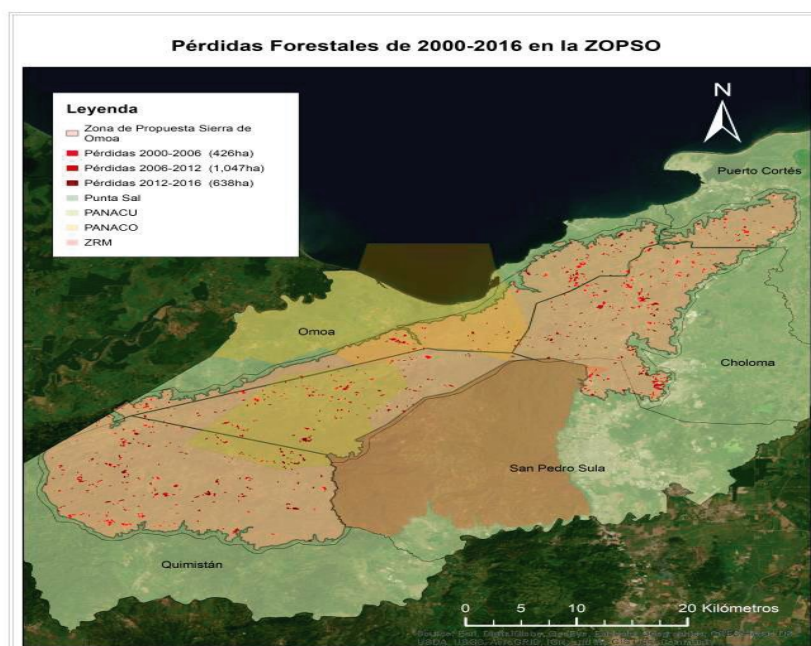
ecological, socio-economic, cultural base. The Sierra del Merendon is the main source of water for most of the region, providing this resource to a total area of approximately 2,839,575km² and more than 1.3 million people.

FAO estimates an average annual precipitation of 2400mm during the rainy season and 1200-1800mm during the driest season, but it varies considerably according to altitude and biogeophysical interactions (FAO, 2016). According to the FAO soil classification, this region has an ortho acrisol soil, which means that it is acidic and well drained, with natural tropical forest vegetation and a clay subsoil. This results in extensive leaching of nutrients, an excess of aluminum, and a high heritability of the soil (FAO and UNESCO, 1972; Encyclopedia Britannica, 2000).

In addition, pine, broadleaf and mixed forests, with commercial and environmental value is part of the landscape. Broadleaf forests, form an average canopy of 70%, and have a dense and continuous presence, with a lot of organic matter and a high presence of epiphytes. These special characteristics contribute to the protection of these vulnerable soils.

The population that lives in the Sierra is made up mainly from subsistence agricultural producers and the breeding of minor and major animal species. In recent years, climate change has impacted the patterns of the rainy seasons, and prolonged droughts periods. Such situation creates contrasting rainfall that affects crops and favors landslides in the mountains. It also produces crops losses, and uncertainty on what are suitable times for sowing on the part of the farmers.

Added to the above is the weak implementation of agri-environmental laws by the respective authorities, both at the regional and municipal levels, as well as the increase in migratory agriculture activities, the burning of forests. An uncontrolled deforestation activity, between 2000 and 2016, determined the loss of more than 2,111 hectares of wooded land (LandTrender method developed by Kennedy 2010). The uncontrolled application of agrochemicals and changes in land use, has resulted in the loss of habitat for various species and biodiversity, deterioration and erosion of soils, loss of water resources which has been constantly reduced, especially surface currents. Finally all these factors resulting in the breakdown of the harmonic relationship of water, soil and forest resources impacting on the fundamental agro-food production for the development and survival of those communities that inhabit the Sierra.



3. Precipitation and climate scenarios

According to studies by the United Nations Program (UNDP), the scenarios do not show representative changes in total precipitation in the region, however slight increases are projected towards the south and decreases towards the north under the RCP 4.5 scenario, and generalized decreases, accentuated towards the north under the RCP 8.5 scenario. In general, the populations that may be most affected by increases in precipitation would be high areas such as Villanueva and Potrerillos. The scenarios propose increases in precipitation for the region of up to 5% by 2050s and decreases of up to 12% by the end of the century. Decreases are projected mostly in the rainy season (Jun-Sep) and increases at the end of this (Oct-Nov). Climate scenarios show mean annual temperature increases of up to 2 ° C by 2050 and 3.5 ° C by the end of the century. The areas with the highest increase are concentrated in the south of the region, towards Lake Yojoa, where the highest rainfall also occurs. The change in temperature increases transversely to the south east.

4. Livelihoods scenarios²

- Family and large-scale agriculture can be affected by increases in temperature, mainly on coffee, banana, cocoa and palm systems.
- Due to variations in precipitation patterns, basic grains such as corn and beans, and other crops such as sugar cane and vegetables, would need adaptation strategies for sustainable production.
- By increasing temperature and rainfall, especially towards the end of the wet period and with the soil saturated, evaporation, the intensity of short rainfalls, and possibly the appearance and spread of pests and diseases in crops would increase.
- Increases in precipitation towards the end of the wet season (Sep-Oct) could increase the incidence of floods, affecting the African palm, banana, plantain, sugar cane and cocoa agribusiness, especially in low-lying areas.
- The decrease in rainfall, especially in July-August with higher temperatures, could increase irrigation requirements.

² Climate Scenarios of Honduras UNDP 2018

- The increase in temperature could reduce the production of meat and dairy products due to the increase in the energy expenditure of the animals and there could be losses of forage in the low flood areas.
- Increases in temperature, especially in the months of greatest tourist influx (March-April and October), can cause a decrease in the fishing grounds due to changes in metabolism, typical of increases in water temperature, especially in the Lake. from Yojoa and on the Atlantic coast.
- Increases in energy costs in maquilas would be expected due to temperature increases and the use of air conditioners.
- Changes in the climate would also affect health (water pollution and proliferation of vectors).
- Domestic tourism could increase due to optimal temperature conditions and low rainfall in Omoa, Puerto Cortés and Tela.
- However, the rise in sea level (around 30cm) could affect the tourist infrastructure on some beaches and coastal communities that subsist on this livelihood.
- In the area of hydroelectric production, increases in temperatures would negatively influence river flows, however, the projected increase in precipitation could positively impact the energy sector, especially in the long term.

5. Description of the problem to be addressed / resolved.

Extreme climatic events will continue to be unavoidable in Honduras, and evidently in the Cordillera del Merendon, further increasing the already existing situations of vulnerability, particularly in the most unprotected urban-rural communities. Such environment is already generating new displacements of families and communities, giving rise to floods and landslides, drought situations, contamination of rivers and basins, affecting people's health through pandemics. Such no doubt has an evident impact in their productive agro-silbo activities and crops, and consequently their nutritional and food diet. In short, creating enormous challenges to reach a community and family basic life standards in a sustainable way.

Taking as reference the aforementioned context and scenarios, within the framework of the vision of the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change Honduras 2018 (PNA-CC), the proposal will seek to focus its efforts on strengthening the resilience of communities to climate change, increasing their productive capacity, reducing their vulnerability and give sustainability to the well-being of the people subject to this proposal.

This will be possible by strengthening capacities from the local level in actions to adapt to climate change that result in a reduction of their socioeconomic vulnerabilities, mitigating the effects of environmental degradation, having as Pillars in this effort the development of a solid institutional and local governance base. The improvement of those capacities will allow the materialization and feasibility of adaptation plans. It is expected the full participation and ownership by the communities in the planning processes in order to achieve their well-being, in accordance with the National Adaptation Plan of Honduras.

The approach of the proposal adheres to the principles established in the (PNA-CC) National Plan, taking as a basis those that have special relevance for the development of the future proposal the following 6 principles:

1.- Inter-institutional and intersectoral coordination.

The proposal hopes to contribute and promote an intersectoral, public-private collaboration within the territory, as a way to reduce fragmentation and institutional action currently prevalent. Based on CASM's strategy and expertise on public-private partnerships, it is expected, in the current Honduran context, to develop strong ties of collaboration and inter-

institutional complementarity, and of the actors participating in the proposal, to confront the challenges posed by climate change.

2.-Education, research and transfer of knowledge and technologies based on scientific and traditional knowledge of indigenous and Afro-Honduran communities and peoples.

Very important elements in the formation of the final proposal will be the elements of training, knowledge management, transfer of appropriate technologies to face the vulnerabilities created by climatic phenomena, and how to develop adequate resilience in this regard. Rescuing ancestral knowledge and practices that benefit sustainability and resilience in the face of climatic phenomena that affect communities will be key components of the future proposal.

Raising awareness about the issue of climate change, knowing its origins, its impacts and consequences, and the various ways of facing it, mitigating it and adapting to the level of people and communities is perceived as key for adaptation plans to have an impact beyond of a declaration in public policies and plans. Today, in Honduras, at the national and local level, there continues to be a weak application of environmental laws, and insufficient appropriation of the impacts of climate change by the population.

3.-Recognition of the value of ecosystems and biodiversity in reducing the adverse effects of climate change on human communities and on infrastructure.

There is a national recognition of the value of ecosystems and biodiversity as key factors in reducing the adverse effects of climate change, a number of elements play against the viability of such recognition, among which we mention the weak processes of control of environmental norms, lack of capacities and resources on the part of local organizations for the implementation of solid adaptation plans (includes the improvement of their livelihoods, construction of earthquake resistant infrastructure and sustainable ecological practices) the fragmentation of efforts to confront climatic phenomena effectively, and therefore the recognitions are not able to materialize effectively so that they are translated into a real valorization of the ecosystems, and that they go towards the well-being of people and communities.

4.- Mainstreaming the issue of adaptation to climate change in the framework of public policy and sustainable development planning under a human rights approach.

The implementation of different environmental legal frameworks, national plans related to the management, protection and conservation of natural resources, as well as the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change, among other initiatives, represent a baseline for mainstreaming the adaptation issue in all areas of the work of Honduran society and its institutions. But there are still obstacles of an economic, social and political nature, at the national and local levels, that prevent such initiatives from achieving their purpose. A fragile public institutional structure and the dispersion of sector programs and initiatives make it difficult to obtain the desired impacts that these principles establish.

5.- Recognition and appreciation of the traditional knowledge of indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples linked to adaptation to climate change.

In CASM's trajectory in its different programs and projects at the national level, it has been important to value indigenous knowledge, which will undoubtedly be reflected and materialized in the construction of the final proposal and particularly in relation to the knowledge and practices of adaptability to change. However, it will always be necessary to carry out periodic scientific studies with the participation of the communities on the existing vulnerabilities and potential climatic scenarios that allow us to define alternatives for adaptation that can be developed in the intervention area.

6.- Participation and social inclusion in the design and implementation of adaptation measures, with special attention to vulnerable groups, with gender equity and in accordance with the needs and potential of indigenous and Afro-Honduran groups.

In the framework of the PNA-CC, this principle is fundamental that will guide the development of the final proposal, the long experience of CASM at the national level, with programs and projects co-designed with families and communities, will be of enormous value for an inclusion effective and real social action in all stages of the formulation of the final proposal. CASM has been present in the proposed territories for more than 5 years, executing different projects that allows it to have an approach with the leadership of the different communities as well as with local governments that will facilitate the construction and development of a proposal for adaptation to climate change in the Sierra del Merendon. CASM's current gender policy will be a valuable complement that will allow this principle to be present in the construction of the global proposal.

PROJECT / PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES:

General objective

Strengthen the capacities of families and, to adapt to climate change through sustainable management and conservation practices aimed at improving resilience to climate variability in the Sierra del Merendon.

The project objectives are aligned to the fund's outcome framework, as follows:

Objectives of the project	Alignment	Results at the impact level of the Adaptation Fund
1.- Develop sustainable processes of governance and inclusive climate adaptability, for the agreement of a territorial development plan in the Sierra Merendon, with the participation of community, municipal, academic and private sector organizational structures.		Greater adaptive capacity of communities to respond to the impacts of climate change.
		Increased resilience of ecosystems in response to stresses induced by climate change
		Results
		R1: Reduction of exposure to hazards and threats
		R2: Strengthening institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socio-economic and environmental losses.
2.-Implement with communities and families, actions and agroecological practices for adaptation to climate change.		R3: greater awareness and ownership of the processes of adaptation and reduction of climate risk at the local level
		R4: Greater adaptability within relevant development sector infrastructure and services assets
		R5: Increased resilience of ecosystems in response to climate change and stress induced by variability
3. Strengthen the capacities of key actors for the generation and dissemination of knowledge aimed at raising awareness about the effects of climate variability.		R6: diversified and strengthened livelihoods and sources of income for vulnerable people in specific areas
		R7: Enhanced policies and regulations that promote and enforce resilience measures.
		R8: Support the development and dissemination of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies.

PROJECT / PROGRAMME COMPONENTS AND FINANCING:

Before presenting the table of the relationship between project components and their respective activities and results, it is important to highlight that there are cross-cutting approaches which will be present in the different components and activities of the project.

5.1 A Territorial Approach. Climatic change doesn't respond to geographical political-administrative borders established by governments. Ecosystems are interdependent and continuous, this results in the need to propose conservation, development and adaptation proposals that introduce a comprehensive and territorial approach, identifying the set of actors, the connections and interactions that exist between the various natural resources and the existing population in the project area.

5.2 Human Rights Approach It means, recognizing the actors of the project as subjects of rights and not as objects or depositories of a service, this requires strengthening their knowledge of their fundamental rights, so their rights are fully exercise, and subsequently improve their life conditions.

5.3 A Gender Equity Approach. Beyond the fact that the project will include activities specifically aimed at strengthening the management capacities and improvement of the quality of life of women, a gender perspective will be present in all the components of the project. There will be a presence of this perspective not only at the level of the activities to

be programmed, and their results, but from the start of the assessments, planning, management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes of the various components of the Project.

5.4 An Approach to Sustainability. It will be verified that each component of the project includes elements that guarantee its continuity, and appropriation by the communities and actors subject to the project. The levels of sustainability achieved will be determined by the levels of the resilience acquired by the communities, and the improvement of livelihoods resources.

5.5 A Risk Management and Mitigation Approach. Given the occurrence of climatic change and critical social events, it is essential to integrate such considerations in all aspects of a project. New natural disasters will take place, new socio-political conflicts will develop that will need to be managed, or mitigate, to guarantee the elements of sustainability of the project objectives, as well as the livelihoods of the communities, each activity developed in the project will have a risk analysis in order to ensure its sustainability.

Project / Programme Components and Financing

Project/Programme Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Amount (US\$)
1. Develop sustainable processes of inclusive governance and climate adaptability, for the agreement of a territorial development plan in the Sierra Merendon, with the participation of community, municipal, academic and private sector organizational structures.	<p>1.1.- Effective training and learning models are introduced to strengthen governance with a territorial approach, which allow vulnerable communities and local governments to adopt measures to adapt to climate change in the Cordillera del Merendon.</p> <p>1.2.- Effective processes of permanent collaboration are put into practice for the development of the territorial plan between the communities and the municipalities on the management of risks associated with climate change in the</p>	<p>1.1.1. Community and municipal organizations have adopted innovative mechanisms and adaptation technologies that make it possible to reduce their vulnerabilities to climate change in the Cordillera del Merendon.</p> <p>1.1.2.- Community and municipal organizational structures have achieved the organizational and institutional solidity that allows the effective implementation of actions related to the National Plan for the Adaptation of Climate Change in Honduras.</p> <p>1.2.1. Operating a Territorial Advisory Council with the participation of different actors from the Sierra del Merendon, which facilitates</p>	\$ 1,115,200

	territory.	the implementation of the plan.	
2.-Implement with communities and families, actions and agroecological practices for adaptation to climate change.	<p>2.1 Introduced agroecological technologies that improve families' livelihoods and replace current conventional farming practices in communities</p> <p>2.2. Recovered ancestral conservationist knowledge of communities that are favorable to climate change and the environment</p>	<p>2.1.1 The vulnerable communities of the Cordillera del Merendón have incorporated agroecological technologies that are adaptive to climate change that imply the development of community resilience.</p> <p>2.2.1 Combining ancestral knowledge with new mechanisms for adaptation to climate change and vulnerable communities integrate a sustainable management of Natural Resources.</p>	\$ 1,148,000
3.- Strengthen the capacities of key actors for the generation and dissemination of knowledge aimed at raising awareness about the effects of climate variability.	<p>3.1 A platform has been created between community structures, local governments, academia and the private sector for the generation of knowledge and learning</p> <p>3.2 Effective early warning networks are created for the prevention and awareness of the threats generated by climate change in the municipalities of the Sierra del Merendon</p> <p>3.3 A tourist corridor has been created with information stations</p>	<p>3.1.1. Permanent mechanisms for the exchange of information and knowledge between the different actors for climate adaptation established</p> <p>3.2.1. Local stakeholders make informed disaster prevention decisions based on the information generated by the Early Warning System</p> <p>3.3.1 Visitors to the corridor are sensitized and disseminate information on the biodiversity of the ecosystems present in the</p>	\$ 1,016,800

	and visitor services to raise awareness about biodiversity and climate variability in Sierra del Merendon.	Sierra del Merendon.	
6. Project/Programme Execution cost			\$ 380,000
7. Total Project/Programme Cost			\$ 3,660,000
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)			\$ 340,000
Amount of Financing Requested			\$ 4,000,000

PROJECTED CALENDAR:

Indicate the dates of the following milestones for the proposed project/programme

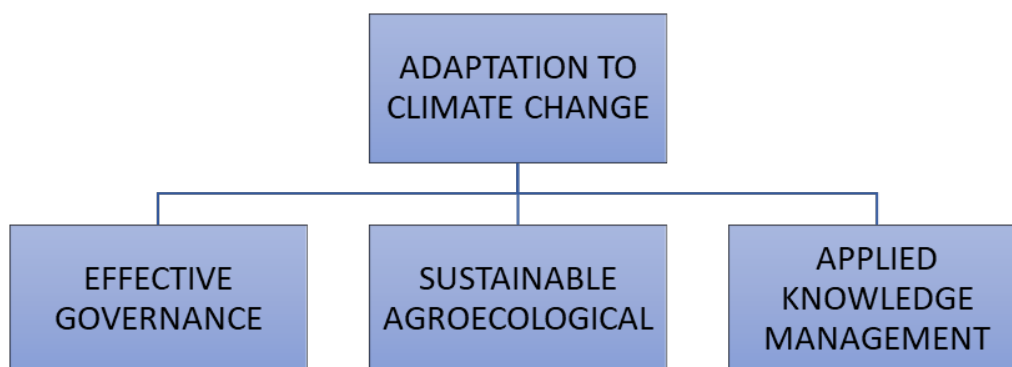
Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	2022
Mid-term Review (if planned)	2024
Project/Programme Closing	2026
Terminal Evaluation	2026

PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

A. Description of components and products:

The project that is expected to be developed is directly related to the objectives of the AF whose global framework is to reduce vulnerabilities and increase the capacities of communities, and institutional bodies, at the national and local level, with measures and actions of adaptability to climate change.

The CASM project starts from the premise that in order to obtain effective results in relation to climate change adaptation measures, an approach must be adopted that integrates three pillars in a complementary manner that can guarantee the sustainability of said measures, and these components are: effective governance, sustainable agroecological development, and applied knowledge management, which continuously nurture the two aforementioned components.



Components

Component # 1: Develop sustainable processes of governance and inclusive climate adaptability, for the agreement of a territorial development plan in the Sierra Merendon, with the participation of community, municipal, academic and private sector organizational structures.

The fragility and often the dispersion of government institutions and social structures in Honduras, makes any policy, regulation, or plan for adaptation to climate change and natural disaster mitigation strategies, in general, remain on paper. In addition to this fragility, it is added that the inspection instruments, for the fulfillment of said regulations, often lack the resources and capacities that allow them to fulfill their function. Therefore, without a minimum basis for effective governance, both from the perspective of local governments and social structures, it will be very likely that any adaptation plan will not materialize or have little sustainability over time.

In this sense, the concertation of efforts and initiatives, and contribution of resources, of the different key actors in the territory, a public-private alliance can be a guarantee of effectiveness and sustainability over time in the face of any measure or plan of adaptability to climate change.

This approach is clearly outlined in CASM's "Institutional policy for the establishment of alliances with the public-private and academic sectors" (Sept, 2015). On its page # 4 states:

"The complexity of social and economic problems that transcends the individual response capacity of the different sectors is increasingly evident. Challenges such as poverty reduction, community education, health, environmental sustainability, climate change, among others, cannot be overcome unilaterally by States and other organizations as the only providers of basic services.

These types of alliances are intended to be agile, flexible and innovative mechanisms that represent a discharge of co-responsibilities of different groups that in the search for common well-being, share resources, knowledge and above all the commitment to contribute to development and therefore well-being. of the society".

Hence the interest in translating, as a first step, a strengthening of the governance structures of the Sierra del Merendon, through a process of appropriation of the adaptation measures to climate change within a territorial plan, which allows increasing the capacities of communities and local governments to face climate variables in a systemic and sustainable way.

Output 1.1.- Effective training and learning models are introduced to strengthen governance with a territorial approach, which allow vulnerable communities and local governments to adopt measures to adapt to climate change in the Sierra del Merendon.

Such models will be diverse, from itinerant modules, knowledge exchange platforms on participation, inclusion and co-responsibility in the design of decision-making instances, with an emphasis on the participation of women and sectors of indigenous communities and representations of local governments. This development of capacities will allow progress in establishing adaptation measures that are viable and with a sense of co-responsibility in their application.

Governance models, with a territorial and inclusive approach, will make it possible to benefit to the maximum from the knowledge and material resources of government actors, social / private organizations and academics at the territorial level.

Outcome 1.1.1. Community and municipal organizations have adopted innovative mechanisms and adaptation technologies that allow them to reduce their vulnerabilities to climate change in the Sierra del Merendon.

As established in the component, the strengthening of the territory's social and government structures will allow them to be placed in a position to be able to appropriate these new forms of effective participation in the planning and operation of adaptation measures to climate change.

Research, interactive workshops, exchanges will be developed, in consultation with the communities and actors of the project, to identify the most appropriate instruments to facilitate this participation with a territorial approach. There will be special emphasis on socializing gender perspectives that achieve the full incorporation of women in processes of new delineations before climatic variables.

Outcome 1.1.2.- Community and municipal organizational structures have achieved organizational and institutional strength that allows the effective implementation of actions related to the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan in Honduras.

As previously stated, the project precisely seeks to strengthen the base line of social organizations and local governments. This strengthening seeks to put them in the capacity to assume the challenge that implies being able to assume joint responsibility in decision-making to develop and propose adaptation measures to climate change at the territorial level. That is, without local government organizations with levels of consolidation and base functioning, it will be difficult for them to participate and be informed actors in the adoption of adaptation measures to climate variables.

Output 1.2.- Effective processes of permanent collaboration are put into practice for the development of the territorial plan between the communities and municipalities on the management of risks associated with climate change in the territory.

We have already indicated the sectorialization and fragmentation that exists at the government level, and of the social organizations themselves, in terms of risk management of climate variables. Each municipality has its own plan, which sometimes or does not coincide with the guidelines of other municipalities. And similar situation is lived with the instances of the State. As a starting point, a close collaboration relationship between local government and communities, with permanent mechanisms of consultation and accountability, in relation to the measures to be adopted in the face of climatic variables, can be a good starting point to arrive at a structure effective collaboration at the territorial level.

There is a particular intention of incorporating processes rather than specific activities, which will also be considered, to the extent that the incorporation of new capacities to reduce the vulnerabilities of communities and local government instances does not end in a particular activity, but rather they have to be adapted on a continuous basis to the variables and uncertainties of climatic phenomena, and the risks that they entail.

Outcome 1.2.1. Operating a Territorial Advisory Council with the participation of different actors from the Sierra del Merendon, which facilitates the implementation of the national adaptation plan.

This Council is the result of a process that in the first place implies a strengthening of community organizations and local governments, as a second step the development of their capacities to face climate vulnerabilities through adaptation measures, and in this third stage the articulation of a mechanism that can make viable and give sustainability to adaptation measures at the territorial level, such as the operation of a Consultative Council.

Component # 2.-Implement with communities and families, actions and agroecological practices for adaptation to climate change.

It has been evidenced, among others, through a CASM-CUSO report (Pag. 14 and 15 Sept-2019), of the unsustainable agricultural practices that are currently being implemented in the Sierra del Merendon.

“These are characterized by a high investment of commercial chemical products to be able to cultivate. It has negative environmental impacts on the quality of soil and water. The open and liberal application of pesticides, fungicides, insecticides, herbicides and fertilizers cannot continue in the same way in the mountains because they easily run down the slopes towards the headwaters and then people consume them”.

Additionally, the amount of soils transformed to agriculture and overgrazing further increase the vulnerability conditions of the communities to face climatic variables.

Such context urgently determines the identification of alternative agroecological practices since current practices make the livelihoods of the communities and the conservation of the ecosystems of the Sierra del Merendon unsustainable.

Some of the considerations in the search for alternatives imply the adoption of an agroecological approach, such as:

- Measures for the protection of existing vegetation.
- Forest cover protection plans.
- Apply new techniques for the conservation of soils and water resources.
- Development of works such as the construction of hillside ditches and slopes terraces.
- Establish limitations on urban expansion in rural areas.
- Go from subsistence agriculture to one of adaptation to climate change that generates sustainable livelihoods for the most vulnerable sectors, and is friendly to the environment.

Without sustainable strategies that guarantee the survival of the communities, with the development of new capacities and resources to develop ecological agriculture, it will be very difficult for those same communities to be able to responsibly assume measures of adaptation to climate change, or to have an impact on the implementation of the national adaptation plan.

Output 2.1: Agroecological technologies introduced that improve families' livelihoods and replace current conventional farming practices in communities.

It is important to identify what could be the technological interventions that could strengthen an improved resilience of the communities to face climate variables (“Adaptation to climate change and ecosystem services in Latin America”. CATIE, Pag. 88, 2008):

- Diversification of crops.
- Increased water storage capacity in the soil.
- The improvement in the efficiency of water use.
- Use of cultivars resistant to drought.
- Establishment of comprehensive farms.

With the projected increase in temperature in the Sierra del Merendon, the inclusion of technologies for the optimal and sustainable use of water resources takes a central place in the application of new technologies that guarantee a real adaptability to the climatic variables that the communities will experience.

Outcome 2.1.1: The vulnerable communities of the Cordillera del Merendon have incorporated agroecological technologies adaptive to climate change that imply the development of community resilience. This outcome is directly related to Output 2.1 where some of the activities to be developed have already been identified.

The participation of public-private alliances, and of the academic sector, as specialized centers of the Universities, will be fundamental to achieve this result, insofar as they can contribute new knowledge in this area, to support the resilience of communities and continuity to the adaptation measure in the agricultural field.

Without a doubt, the preparation of risk management plans, in force in many of the municipalities, will be a good starting point and a good complement in establishing adaptation measures for the climatic variables experienced by farmers.

Output 2.2: Recovered the ancestral conservationist knowledge of the communities that are favorable to climate change and the environment.

Along with new technological approaches, it is of enormous benefit to complement them with the communities' own knowledge. This knowledge, accumulated over time, has allowed them to overcome some of the climatic variables that have intensified today. The development of drought-resilient crops, some experiences of sustainable water management, the combination of horticulture, agriculture, forestry activities, and livestock in a sustainable way over time by some farmers, can become valuable points of reference for the whole of the communities.

Creating demonstration spaces on the ground can be a huge incentive to share knowledge and experiences of resilience to climate change.

Outcome 2.2.1 Combining ancestral knowledge with new mechanisms for adaptation to climate change, vulnerable communities integrate a sustainable management of Natural Resources.

In the communities, ancestral practices that were harmonious with the environment and had a positive impact on climate variability existed and have almost become extinct. The project, in its final design, will try to rescue those practices of productive culture and reintroduce them in those communities where they have been lost. In addition, it is intended to combine with new conservationist technologies, so that communities generate their livelihoods, under approaches to adaptation to climate change and that transcend future generations, as well as to other geographical regions, where the project will not cover.

Component # 3.- Strengthen the capacities of key actors for the generation and dissemination of knowledge aimed at raising awareness about the effects of climate variability.

Without a well-informed community and local governments with an adequate understanding of climate phenomena and variables, it will be very difficult to achieve positive results in the implementation of Adaptation Plans to climate change.

In the current context, it is evident the need to conceive actions that allow to capture the existing knowledge in the institutions and organizations participating in the project, and use it in the achievement of the components related to effective governance and initiatives on agroecological alternatives within the territory of the Sierra

del Merendon. For this reason, the management of this knowledge is relevant in an intrinsic relationship with technological innovation as essential elements in the design of models for adaptation to climate change. The ancestral existence of agricultural knowledge and practices, and management of natural resources, by the communities together with the technical innovation practices will allow the incorporation of new knowledge and experiences that are necessary to respond to the economic-social, environmental challenges, and climatic phenomena that affect the sustainable development of rural communities.

This component has the purpose of generating and managing a multidisciplinary management of local-regional knowledge, and technological innovation, which allows promoting a virtuous cycle of learning, detecting the challenges that allow continuous improvements, both internally and externally and that generate sustained processes of debate that address the strategic and structural problems that affect the population in the face of climate change, trying at all times to promote a more active flow of knowledge between community leadership, families, organizations, local governments and the project team; This will allow them to be better informed and prepared to achieve the expected results in the different areas of intervention.

One way to capitalize on such knowledge involves the development of multisectoral collaborative alliances, especially with research centers, universities and specialized government institutions.

Output 3.1 A platform has been created between community structures, local governments, academia and the private sector for the generation of knowledge and learning.

These platforms can take on various models of knowledge generation and management, specifically around measures to adapt to climate change and reduce the vulnerability of communities and local governments to climate phenomena.

A model to be explored are the “Communities of Practice: Made up of participating people who share and develop information, knowledge, wisdom and capacities. This requires a deep dialogue and an open exchange; It is self-organized and has a common agenda that specifies joint actions”. (“Adaptation to climate change and ecosystem services in LA”. CATIE, Pag. 112, 2008).

These communities of practice could be established at the municipality level, and converge in a territorial coordination that can allow the maximum benefit of the communities, local governments, and relevant actors. Such communities would be focused on knowledge and experiences on adaptation to climate change, and strengthening the resilience of communities.

Outcome 3.1.1. Permanent mechanisms for the exchange of information and knowledge between the different actors for climate adaptation have been established.

The use of communication technologies can be extremely useful for information and knowledge exchange initiatives. Such is the amount of circulating information that is required from instances of processing them, and at the same time their "translation" for a vulnerable urban-rural community, such as those that inhabit the Sierra del Merendon.

In this regard, the establishment of Knowledge Networks in the field of research, experiences, and specific practices can be a valuable contribution to the dissemination of knowledge, and to develop a well-informed community and local governments for decision-making in the face of the generation. of risk management plans and measures for adaptation to climate change.

Said base will serve, among other aspects, for the understanding and appropriation, for example, of the National Plan for adaptation to climate change in Honduras, by the communities and local governments of the Merendon territory.

Output 3.2 Effective early warning networks are created for the prevention and awareness of the threats generated by climate change in the municipalities of the Sierra del Merendon.

Prevention and awareness are key aspects to be developed in training processes, as part of a set of actions that lead to concretize climate change adaptation measures.

These early warning networks allow the socialization and management of knowledge at the territorial level to provide concrete responses to the challenges experienced by communities and local authorities, specifically with regard to adaptation to climate change and resilience to natural disasters.

Outcome 3.2.1. Local stakeholders make informed disaster prevention decisions based on the information generated by the Early Warning System.

Both the representatives of the communities, and the communities as a whole, as well as the local governments, feel supported by the proactive operation of the Early Warning System. These systems are based on a recovery of past history, the accumulation of knowledge of the present, and that allows them to project themselves with possible future scenarios. In this way, the system reduces vulnerabilities to climate change, and reinforces the resilience of communities.

Output 3.3 A tourist corridor has been created with information stations and visitor services to raise awareness about biodiversity and climate variability in Sierra del Merendon.

Promoting a tourist corridor in the Sierra del Merendon area contributes to the knowledge and awareness of the urban, rural and general public on issues of the sustainability of ecosystems and their close relationship with climatic phenomena in the territory. It also creates spaces and opportunities that allow the development of a better-informed community, more willing to participate and be part of the implementation processes of the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change.

Outcome 3.3.1: Visitors to the corridor are sensitized and disseminate information about the biodiversity of the ecosystems present in the Sierra del Merendon.

Given the diversity of actors involved in the tourist corridor, these can reach, as diffusers and communicators, different sectors of the community of the Sierra del Merendon. They become transmitters of information and knowledge about the climatic phenomena that affect the territory and the adaptation measures that have been defined at the local and regional level.

The participation of college students, universities, civil organizations, and the general public, generates a support network for initiatives that can be taken at the local and regional level to mitigate the consequences of climate change.

B. Economic, social and environmental benefits, with special reference to the most vulnerable communities and vulnerable groups within communities, including gender considerations.

The Project will generate the following environmental and socio-economic benefits:

Environmental benefits.

There are two central aspects of the project in which the project hopes to directly benefit the environment: A first aspect is the improvement of agroecological practices with which it is expected to better protect and conserve the soil, water and forests of the Sierra del Merendon. And secondly strengthening effective governance, at the local and territorial level, that allows a real implementation and appropriation, by the most vulnerable communities and local governments, of the environmental regulations and plans for adaptation to climate change.

As mentioned above, current agricultural practices have rather created unsustainable environmental conditions. Better management of the rational use of water, the replacement of the use of chemical elements in the soil and crops, and plans for the conservation of vegetation and mountain ecosystems, will undoubtedly contribute significantly to creating the conditions for a healthy and sustainable environment in the Sierra, but at the same time a better understanding and appropriation by vulnerable communities of a positive valuation, protection and conservation of their environmental surroundings.

Without a doubt, the measures for adaptation to climate change that are developed through the project, and those already defined in the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change, are precisely aimed at regenerating a sustainable environment. In this sense, the resilience capacities that are developed through the project, together with inclusive governance practices of the most vulnerable sectors, will also create the basis for the development of a more empowered community in relation to its environmental environment.

Since the project's approach is a territorial approach, and keeping mind that administrative borders are superseded by environmental conditions, in this case the environmental benefits will be perceived by the 5 municipalities of the Sierra del Merendon, which covers an area of 975 square kilometers. It is only worth mentioning that the Sierra del Merendon is the main source of water for most of the region, providing this resource to a total area of approximately 2,839,575 square km and more than 1.3 million people, which makes it key to environmental sustainability and people's quality of life.

Socio-economic benefits.

Introduction of Adaptive Capacities.

One of the main purposes of the project is to improve the capacities of communities and local governments to engage in initiatives to adapt to climate change, and to allow them to make better and informed decisions regarding their environment and improve their quality of life.

In this sense, how this development of capacities increases their states of resilience is a factor of enormous value to give sustainability and viability to adaptation plans, and an improved response to climatic phenomena.

The effective governance-improved agroecological capacities-knowledge management relationship represents an integrating strategy of the basic and interdependent elements to achieve an adaptive viability to climate change by communities and local governments. The integration of diverse knowledge and practices, both ancestral and new technologies, creates an optimal scenario to develop new bases of resilience. The collaborative confluence of political actors, communities and academia, with well-founded information, on advances in sustainable soil treatment, for example, can only benefit all communities and the environment, not only in their social conditions but also economical. And in this way, to be in better conditions to assume the implementation of adaptation plans and prevention of natural risks.

Food safety

The conditions of poverty facing Honduras have already been described, of which the Sierra del Merendon is no exception. By improving cultivation practices, diversification, water quality, and resilience to climate change, the foundations are being laid so that communities can improve their levels of nutrition and diets. Without solving these aspects of poor food security, it could not be expected that the communities will be in a position to take on adaptation challenges and reduce their vulnerability to climatic phenomena.

With climate-resilient crops, conservation of their water resources, and new agroecological practices, significant improvements in the diet can be expected, but also an opening in the generation of income for families and their economic-social well-being.

With the introduction of new agroecological practices, their crops of red beans, rice, coffee and farm animals such as chicken and pork can be highly benefited, under a scheme of environmental protection and sustainable food security. The benefit of moving from a mere subsistence agricultural economy to one of comprehensive socio-economic benefit, as a premise for the development of adaptability to climate change, in the 238 communities that make up the Sierra del Merendon, is one of the goals that the project arises.

Inclusion of the most vulnerable sectors.

Women will have a broad participation in the development of the final project and the implementation of the activities.

In relation to women, this statement is based not only on the intention of the project, but also finds its foundation in the CASM "Gender Policy" Guidance Document.

In this sense, it is expected to transform the perceived secondary importance that women have had in agricultural participation, and decision-making instances, at the level of commuter organizations and

municipal governance structures. Given the preponderant role that women have had in agricultural activities, horticulture, animal care, and others, their inclusion in processes and plans for adaptation to climate change is irreplaceable.

It is also expected that the project, by incorporating new agroecological practices, will not only imply technical improvements in the area, but also improvements and social benefits for women in these processes. For the time being, reducing the triple shift to which women are currently exposed: work at home, work shift in the field, family care, will be a permanent consideration of the project.

The ancestral knowledge of rural communities will be reinforced, and at the same time will be of enormous value to the rest of the community in terms of understanding and conserving the environment, restoring environmentally friendly agricultural practices, and inclusive decision-making processes and culturally relevant.

Analysis of the Gender Situation and Project Measures to seek equity

One of the difficulties in addressing the situation of rural women in Honduras, and specifically in the area, is the lack of up-to-date statistics on land tenure, access to credit, the relationship with natural resources and their incorporation into actions. adaptation to climate change. However, it can be observed in the fieldwork experience that the sexist and patriarchal culture has multiple expressions of machismo that prevent the full enjoyment of the rights of women and girls for the development of their autonomy and self-realization. Some of these expressions are the exclusion of women from decision-making spaces, economic and psychological dependence, sexual abuse, early pregnancy and domestic violence; For example, two of the municipalities in the area (San Pedro Sula and Choloma) are among those with the highest rate of violence in general and gender-based violence in the country, according to data from the Violence Observatory of the National Autonomous University of Honduras.

The life of this population depends to a great extent on the availability of natural resources, especially due to situations of poverty and low productivity in food; which is causing a depletion of these resources, especially if there are no sustainable practices in their use. Women are affected by being responsible for the daily use and management of these resources, in their role of satisfying the needs of their families through food processing, gathering wild products, hauling water and collecting firewood. The vast and growing deforestation coupled with the depletion of water sources force women to travel ever longer distances. This requires them to spend more time and consume more energy to obtain these much-needed resources, increasing the workload and reducing the time available for other activities.

This impact described above is little acknowledged by the population, and by the local authorities of El Merendon region. When consulting community leaders about how the impacts of climate change and climate threats affect gender, the majority say that it affects the same way to men and women, that is to say, gender differences are little recognized. This aspect is very important because by not identifying the differences in needs and impacts, the approaches are not considering strategies in a differentiated way, which is evidenced in that the Development plans and the Risk management plans of the municipalities do not have any analysis, nor strategies differentiated by gender, even if there has been participation of women in the construction of these.

In the country there is a regulation and institutional framework for gender equality in accordance with international instruments, one is the Plan for Gender Equality and Equity 2010-2022, it has several axes including Access, sustainable use and control of biodiversity, natural resources and risk management. The challenge in this area is to adopt a gender equity approach in strategies related to climate change, protected areas, forest management areas, biodiversity, water and risk management. This is a great challenge that needs to be addressed in the area because, as mentioned above, local instruments on these issues do not even identify gender-differentiated problems, therefore, they do not establish strategies to address these differences, consequently, it is followed reproducing the same traditional patterns; Likewise, to understand these differences in problems and impacts, it is necessary to develop diagnoses and data collection.

With the proposed analysis, the following actions are proposed:

- a) Develop a diagnosis to identify and have data on the specific differences in the problem, participation and impacts on the genders of the threats that climate change entails and of the adaptation measures, as well as identify the limitations / obstacles that prevent the active participation of women and men. It is also necessary to map women's organizations and if a gender approach is established in community organizations.
- b) Gender indicators will be established in each of the project objectives.
- c) Establish differentiated work strategies by gender to carry out the project actions.
- d) The participation of women will be promoted and strengthened at all levels: consultative, decision-making, executive and operational in the structuring of local alliances.
- e) There will be reflections within environmental and community organizations on gender differences in leadership.
- f) Support organizations to establish affirmative measures that help to incorporate more women in their organizations and especially in the integration of boards of directors (minimum 30%) not only in traditional positions such as secretary.
- g) In training and awareness-raising activities, the participatory methodology should be used in such a way that the contributions of each and every participant are visualized.
- h) Inter-institutional coordination with local organizations (municipal offices for women, National Women's Institute, Women's Networks) and national organizations is proposed to develop gender awareness and training processes.

Avoid Negative Impacts.

The following measures will be included to avoid or lessen potential negative impacts of the project.

- 1.- Throughout the process of design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, the "Policies of Transparency and Conflict of Interest of CASM" will be applied.
- 2.- With the application of its policy of "Procedure for the Management of Complaints, Suggestions and Congratulations", the inputs provided by the key actors of the project, in particular community organizations and local governments, will be constantly monitored.
- 3.- In relation to particularly vulnerable sectors, such as children and the elderly, as part of the population that will be impacted by the project, CASM will be guided by its "Protection Policy for Vulnerable Adults", and its "Protection Policy Childish".
- 4.- The purposes of the Project are directly aligned with the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change of Honduras", consequently, we will be in permanent contact and collaboration with state institutions to join forces and resources and avoid potential obstacles and delays in the development of the project.
- 5.- The inclusion of a comprehensive approach and multisectoral participation in the development and implementation of the project will mitigate possible shortcomings in relation to fragmented contributions from the different sectors, which would weaken the achievement of the proposed objectives.
- 6.-The project, with the inclusion of academic contributions, will ensure that the information inputs and scientifically proven practices have the necessary solidity to generate the changes proposed in the project. This both in the development of the organizational capacities of the communities and local governments and in the incorporation of new agroecological practices.
- 7.- In the development of the total and definitive proposal, the 15 principles of the Adaptation Fund will be considered in relation to its Social and Environmental and Gender Policy to carry out the diagnoses of social and environmental risks.
- 8.- Through its "Institutional Contingency Plan", CASM is in a position to face potential situations of threats and dangers that may affect the Sierra del Merendon region. This includes general principles and

rules for handling humanitarian aid. Threats include rising waters, hurricanes, fire, floods, landslides, and landslides, among others.

9.- The project, from its inception in the definitive formulation of the complete proposal, will have the long experience and knowledge of the CASM teams in processes of inclusion and multilevel participation of the actors and beneficiaries of the project. Particular attention will be paid to the participation of the most vulnerable sectors, women and indigenous communities.

C. Analysis of the cost-effectiveness.

Economic Analysis of Climate Change Effects ³

Initial results from the ECC CA (Economics of Climate Change in Central America) initiative indicate that climate change could have direct and growing negative economic impacts for Honduras. A significant reduction in the yields of the main crops such as basic grains and other agro-industrial crops is expected, while the pressure on water resources, biodiversity losses and the costs associated with extreme events will grow. These reductions will have an impact on income, employment, migration, and human security.

The cumulative cost of the measurable impact of climate change in Honduras, based on the impacts on the agricultural sector, water resources (municipal and agricultural availability and consumption), biodiversity (economically recorded costs and indirect impact on agriculture), hurricanes, storms and floods (increase in intensity without including increase in frequency and other types of extreme events) and with a discount rate of 0.5%, it could be 3.6% of GDP in 2008 at net present value (NPV) in scenario B2 and 5.0% in scenario A2 in 2030, 10.2% in B2 and 14.7% in A2 in 2050, reaching 45.8% in B2 and 79.6% in A2 at the end of the century. Costs would begin to accelerate in the water sector as of 2030, in biodiversity and extreme events as of 2050, and in the agricultural sector as of 2070. This analysis suggests that costs would be significantly higher in a high-trend emissions scenario (scenario A2) than in a lower emissions scenario (scenario B2). It should be noted that there is a high level of uncertainty due to the interaction between economic variables, weather conditions and social, political and cultural aspects. As these are future scenarios that integrate various “layers” of analysis with their respective uncertainties and methodological difficulties, the results should be interpreted as relative trends and magnitudes, not as exact figures.

In general, this type of analysis seeks to estimate the potential impacts if public policies and actions of all actors are not created to adapt. It is important to consider that the estimates made in these scenarios seek to identify the impacts of changes in temperature and precipitation attributable to climate change, therefore maintaining the historical values of the other variables. The estimates must be interpreted as possible scenarios if adaptation measures are not taken. Two other important considerations are, first, that the analysis does not estimate the future cumulative effect of productive practices that undermine sustainability, such as soil degradation and erosion, practices that could contribute to reducing agricultural yields, and hydroelectric generation even without climate change. Second, several of the analyzes focus on the regional and departmental levels but do not characterize smaller-scale areas within these, for the purposes of this project, this aspect of the socio-economic analysis should be studied in greater depth in the construction of the proposal because it lacks accurate information in this regard.

D. Coherence of the project with international, national and subnational strategies:

What is being proposed in this concept note is framed internationally with the Paris Agreement that was ratified by the National Congress of Honduras on July 20, 2016 and that says in Article 2, literal b) relative to the commitment of parties on Increasing the capacity to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change and promoting climate resilience and development with low greenhouse gas emissions, in a way that does not

³ The Economics of Climate Change in Honduras 2016

compromise food production. The project consistent with this international instrument seeks to strengthen capacities for adaptation to climate change in communities and different actors.

Directly as it has been raised in the context, it is also linked to the Vision and Mandate of the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change of Honduras:

Vision: A Honduras resilient to climate change, productive and inclusive, generating jobs worthy, which takes advantage of the benefits and services of its natural resources in a sustainable way and that reduces their vulnerability to climate change with a focus on people's well-being.

Mission: Improve the national capacity to adapt to the effects of climate change, in the communities and cities, in order to promote sustainable and low-carbon development by reducing socioeconomic vulnerabilities and environmental degradation.

The proposal will ultimately seek to focus its efforts on strengthening the resilience of communities to climate change, increasing their productive capacity, reducing their vulnerability to give sustainability to the well-being of the people subject to this proposal, strengthening their local capacities to adapt to climate change, through a reduction of their socioeconomic vulnerabilities and mitigating the effects of environmental degradation. For this, it is essential to develop solid institutional and local governance that allows adaptation plans to be materialized and made viable, which the project addresses in component one.

Another instrument in the national framework that gains importance in this project, due to the impact of the Eta / Iota Tropical Storms in the area, is the **Reconstruction Plan for Sustainable Development (PRDS)** that has recently been presented by the Government of Honduras and the United Nations System, in its volume 1 of Early Recovery whose main objective is to achieve physical, social and productive recovery from the effects and impacts of storms Eta and Iota, seeking to strengthen institutional and social capacities for governance, sustainable development and resilience. The project is consistent with this objective since it also aims to strengthen capacities of the different local actors for resilience.

The PRDS also has an Environment, Risk Management and Climate Change axis that seeks immediate comprehensive intervention in the Sula Valley, with studies and projects that guarantee the safety of the population and the development of productive activities, in the face of future disasters. natural. In this axis, work will be done on the definition and implementation of effective programs for adaptation to climate change, which are inclusive and participatory, especially at the local and regional level, which is also aligned with the project since it seeks to generate participatory actions with governments. local, civil society actors, academia and the private sector to implement measures to adapt to climate change and build resilience to face new disasters.

E. Linking the project with national legal regulations.

The intervention proposed by the program will comply with and promote compliance with national technical standards in accordance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund, in this sense it will use the following instruments minimally:

- **FOREST LAW, PROTECTED AREAS AND WILDLIFE (DECREE No. 156-2007)**, establishes the legal regime to which the administration and management of Forest Resources, Protected Areas and Wildlife will be subject, including their protection, restoration, use, conservation and promotion, promoting sustainable development, in accordance with the social, economic, environmental and cultural interest of the country. The project will take this law into consideration since within the project area there are three protected areas and this law in the forestry sector establishes the advisory councils and their operation, to which the project also refers.
- **GENERAL WATER LAW (Decree No. 181-2009)**. Its objective is to establish the principles and regulations applicable to the adequate management of the water resource for the protection, conservation, valorization and use of the water resource to promote the integrated management of said resource at the national level.
- **LAW OF TERRITORIAL ORDER (Decree No. 180-2003)**, promotes the integral, strategic and efficient management of all the Nation's resources, human, natural and technical, through the application of effective

policies, strategies and plans that ensure human development in a dynamic, homogeneous, equitable, equal opportunity and sustainable way. It also establishes the provisions to develop these policies, strategies and plans. The project establishes a product that seeks, together with all the stakeholders, to have a territorial plan for the Cordillera de El Merendon, so these legal guidelines must be followed.

- GENERAL ENVIRONMENT LAW (Decree No. 47-2010), establishes that the protection, conservation, restoration and sustainable management of the environment and natural resources are of public utility and social interest. The Central Government and the municipalities will promote the rational use and sustainable management of these resources, in order to allow their preservation and use. The project will be working so that local governments in the area strengthen their capacities to fulfill their responsibility for the sustainable management of natural resources with a focus on adaptation to climate change. An important part is related to Environmental Impact assessments and that a specific protocol is established in the law.
- SINAGER Law, aims to create the National Risk Management System, constituting the Honduran legal framework aimed at ensuring that the country has and develops the capacity to prevent and reduce the risks of potential disasters, in addition to preparing, responding and recovering of the real damages caused by natural phenomena that impact us or by those generated by human activities. One of the principles of the System is decentralization, where it is established that the municipalities, within the scope of their respective competencies, must assume and execute the tasks and concrete actions in the territory to comply, adequately and in a timely manner, with their responsibility for prevention and reduction of risks, to prevent and mitigate disasters, adapt to climate change, respond to emergencies and rehabilitate and rebuild areas. The project will be working directly with local governments helping them to comply with these established aspects.

F. Complementarity with other projects and programs:

CASM is an organization that has within its work policies inter-institutional coordination and collaborative relationships with other institutions that establish programs in the areas of intervention, this is why it is essential to have knowledge of the programs and projects that are developed, either With government cooperation funds as other types of cooperation, this area of the Project is not the exception, so there is knowledge of projects related to the issues that are being managed within the Reconstruction Plan for Sustainable Development that are planned for the Sula Valley area, where the El Merendon Mountain Range is located; with which the non-duplication and have the complementarities will be ensured.

G. Knowledge management and dissemination of learned lessons.

Knowledge management is necessary and important in the execution of the project; Therefore, it will be a priority to periodically rescue and document each of the learning and processes that are undertaken and thereby create the pertinent evidence; Likewise, actions will be carried out that capitalize on these learnings, thus allowing the multiplication of knowledge and the generation of sustained processes of debate that address the structural problems that affect the population of the Sierra del Merendon in the face of climate variability. During the execution, an attempt will be made at all times to promote a flow of information between families, community leadership, local organizations, municipal governments, academia and the private sector as follows:

- From the first actions of the project, each of the learning that can be replicated with other populations and stakeholders will be systematized and documented.
- Each quarter, meetings will be held with the different actors of the project, implementing analysis circles to rescue and deepen the lessons and learnings generated in the development of the different processes.
- In all training events, spaces will be allocated to raise awareness and awareness of the climatic effects in the Sierra del Merendon and how to adapt and be more resilient.

- At the level of the project team, spaces for continuous and systematic analysis will be generated on the practices that are being carried out and, in this way allow the design of action plans that disseminate and enhance the processes and results generated.
 - The practices of other organizations and countries that are implementing similar projects will be considered in order to rescue successful experiences and be able to replicate them in the project, mainly those that are linked to actions to adapt to climate change.
 - Information will be disseminated through institutional portals / social networks (facebook, instagram, twitter, website), on good practices, technological innovation as an element in the environmental management model and adaptation to climate change, which the project is generating through the different actions carried out in the Sierra del Merendon.
 - A bulletin will be generated every quarter to be shared with the population involved in the project and other interested parties.
 - Short videos with educational messages will be recorded to raise awareness of the population for the care and protection of the Sierra del Merendon.
- With these actions, the knowledge management component will generate, monitor and manage a multidisciplinary management of local, national and regional knowledge that fosters a virtuous cycle of learning and detect the challenges that allow continuous improvements, both internally and externally. For this, it will be necessary to carry out the following strategic activities:
- a. The creation of a platform between community structures, local governments, academia and the private sector for the generation of knowledge and learning.
 - b. The organization of effective early warning networks for the prevention and awareness of the threats generated by climate change in the municipalities of the Sierra del Merendon.
 - c. The installation of a tourist corridor with information and attention stations for visitors to raise awareness about biodiversity and climate variability in Sierra del Merendon.

H. Consultation process

CASM has been developing an accompaniment effort in the municipalities that are located in the Sierra del Merendon (Choloma, Omoa, Puerto Cortés, San Pedro Sula and Quimistán), executing different processes with men and women, belonging to community, municipal, and academic structures. and private sector; what allows him to understand the social, economic, productive, cultural dynamics, to know in depth the problems that affect them; Therefore, the information required to prepare this concept note has been generated by local actors in different ways:

- Field visits and meetings with community leaders and key stakeholders; These have facilitated decision-making, due to their concern for the different changes generated and produced in the Sierra del Merendon.
- Analysis within CASM, which has allowed to visualize the different contexts, alliances, climatic scenarios and risks that the populations of the Sierra del Merendon are exposed, which supports the approach that will be carried out in the Sierra; two investigations were also carried out:

1. A study⁴ on environmental impacts in the Sierra where communities, public and private institutions were consulted, of the 5 municipalities located in the Sierra del Merendon, the study provided the different problems with respect to climate change, highlights the environmental and social impacts, product of anthropogenic and social activities, which are affecting the natural balance and the impacts on the availability of resources in the face of continuous population growth and that it is urgent to address them comprehensively to reduce climate variability.

⁴ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1W9iw2ivYQEizNG4zZBs2EZjSfP_0L7cn/view?usp=sharing

2. A survey was applied to the different key actors that are part of the community leadership (13 people) and public servants (12)⁵, to know different aspects, their knowledge, interests and needs; consulting two main topics, the practices developed in reference to the care and management of the Sierra del Merendon as the forms of community and municipal governance; reflecting the following findings:

- a. Most of the interviewees (public servants) 71% stated that there is a territorial development and management plan for the Merendon mountain range, however, only 50% of the measures contemplated in it are being applied to mitigate the different threats present in the Sierra; the obstacles for the application of the measures in a 100%, stands out the lack of financial resources in the first instance, followed by personnel and logistics; being this an opportunity for the project that allows coordination between different actors present in the Sierra del Merendon.
- b. When asking the community leadership if they have participated in the construction of the plan, it is striking that 71% said they did not participate. However, 43% report that there was participation of women in the preparation of the territorial plan, a situation that can be used to continue promoting the equitable and equal participation of women in these development processes.
- c. The consultation also allowed the community leadership to learn about the current and most recurrent threats in the Sierra del Merendon, being in the first place landslides followed by forest fires, and the extension of the agricultural frontier, arguing that this has caused crop losses, housing, damage to road infrastructure, basic services and therefore economic losses. In order to face these threats, people expressed that as measures they have developed their community risk / emergency management plans, this being a tool that facilitates work in the community.
- d. In reference to agricultural practices to protect the Sierra del Merendon, 79% of the interviewees stated that families carry out practices and the most used is reforestation, followed by productive diversification; however, there are few practices to avoid landslides and the extension of the agricultural frontier. They are also aware that the practices have helped many to prevent the effects of climate change.
- e. An important finding is that 50% of those interviewed stated that climate hazards affect women and men equally; however the other 50% argument that they affect differently; this being something important to be able to work on gender considerations in the face of climate vulnerabilities.

I. Justification of Required Funds

The fund requested from AF for the execution of the project is very necessary, since although in the area there may be projects that complement and are related, most of them do not have the approach of adaptation to climate change, so it is necessary to work with the local governments, civil society and the private sector so that their actions and development and risk management plans identify the impacts of climatic variations and make adaptation actions visible; so a part of the budget is aimed at this in component 1.

Another important aspect is that the few actions aimed at adaptation are developed by the actors without considering the Cordillera de El Merendon as an integral system, the proposed project seeks that the actors of the 5 municipalities make visible the conditions of the mountain range and how their actions Individuals affect the system and define joint actions for the adaptation of climate change in the Merendon territory, translating this into a territorial plan; the project budget includes costs for this process for which other projects do not have.

Working with women and men in the identification of impacts of climate variability and the strengthening of adaptation measures in their productive activities is an aspect that is incorporated into the budget within

⁵ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1I40_-t-5Z4SCTf4ff64MZryzIIPI_QC/view?usp=sharing

component 2 and that requires investments in practices and technologies with the adaptation approach, although there are many projects that work on the productive part, most lack the climate change adaptation approach.

Likewise, component 3 referring to knowledge management is very important since other projects are weak in the generation and multidisciplinary management of local-regional knowledge, as well as in technological innovation; The project will also invest in this, considering that it is essential that the population and different actors are strengthened to generate this knowledge and also to raise awareness of the impacts of climate change in their territory and the adaptation measures that can be built.

Although, as mentioned, there may be other projects that may be related, they are collateral and not in the main essence, those resources and others that CASM has in the area can complement but in no way will the project depend on them for execution. successful.

J. Sustainability construction

The project has been designed with an approach that will allow the expected results to generate a multiplier effect and be able to be sustained in time and space and with mechanisms that the different social actors involved, appropriate, enact, and defend before public and private entities. For this purpose, it is considered to develop the components with a sustainability approach.

Governance component and adaptability to climate change.

It is planned with the different community and municipal organizations of the five municipalities, to consolidate the Forestry Advisory Councils at the community, Municipal and Regional level, which must be articulated to the National instance and protected by Legislative Decree 98-007, of the laws Honduran, which establishes that this is an instance of citizen participation, consultation, agreement and coordination of the actions of the public sector and of private and community organizations involved in the protection, use and conservation of forest areas, protected areas and life wild.

With the Advisory Councils of each Municipality, advocacy will be made before decision-makers at the public level, to create consensus, agreements, Municipal ordinances, as well as the approval of public policies at the local level, so that the benefits generated in the framework of development of the project, is maintained over time and that good practices transcend to other geographical areas of Honduras.

The strategies to be developed within the framework of this project will seek for community organizations to achieve organizational strength, to adopt innovative mechanisms and adaptation technologies to reduce their vulnerabilities to climate change, and it will be done through the introduction of effective training and learning models. for the strengthening of governance with a territorial approach, articulating the five local governments and linked to the My Environment 2012-2026 strategy of Honduras.

Component for the implementation of agroecological practices for adaptation to climate change

For the production of livelihoods in the communities where the project will cover, they will promote agroecological practices of adaptation to climate change, replacing traditional harmful agricultural practices with conservationist technologies. For this process to be sustainable, the theoretical and procedural training contents will be designed and implemented in such a way that the families and organizations involved adopt as a productive culture, under adaptation technologies, combined with ancestral knowledge favorable to the environment that are part of the social fabric. productive, of the families settled in the Sierra del Merendon.

Knowledge management on adaptation to climate change.

The project plans to generate knowledge about the climatic variety and adaptation to use it during the implementation and for decision-making and management of the Sierra del Merendon, once the execution period has ended. For this purpose, all community, public and private actors will be articulated with an active participation of the academy through the generation of studies. Among other processes that are intended to be developed are:

1. Throughout the coverage area of the project, (the sierra del merendon in the municipalities of Omoa, Puerto Cortes, San Pedro Sula, Choloma and Quimistan) access routes will be made that allow observing the environmental degradation that affects the climatic variety . In these access routes, information stations will be established on climatic variation, adaptation actions so that visitors can be sensitized and disseminate information at the population level of other areas, and the respective lobbying will be made to ensure that these routes are assumed by each municipality, so that they give it maintenance and that improvements are gradually implemented.
2. To ensure that the local governments will assume the responsibilities of following up on the results generated by the project, with the Forestry Advisory Councils it will be managed so that the Municipal Corporations approve as part of the budget, financial resources to invest in the maintenance of the stations. of climatic information of the mountain range. In addition, this local initiative will be accompanied by the organizational structures at the community level, who will carry out surveillance work aimed at ensuring that the infrastructure work is maintained for the purposes that have been established.
3. As part of the sustainability in the development strategy of the project, it is planned to make a link between community actors, Municipalities and Universities, to carry out studies in the Sierra del Merendon. These investigations will be carried out to disseminate information through the mechanisms that are going to be created and to have scientific data that allow incentives to environmentalist and protectionist investors to channel resources and adaptation projects to climate change in the Sierra del Merendon).

K. Relevant risks and impacts

The project in all its stages will be designed and implemented under a focus of action without damage and thus reduce the probable negative socio-environmental risks that could result. Each activity that is undertaken at the community level, a participatory environmental risk assessment will be applied, with close consultation with the beneficiaries, including the most vulnerable groups and key stakeholders, and it will be done by applying the CEDRA methodology, to combine scientific information with knowledge. ancestral in decision-making.

Due to its conservationist approach and adaptation to climate change, the project is classified as medium risk or category B, and it is not considered that there will be negative effects as a result of the processes that are going to be undertaken. However, a rapid evaluation has been carried out taking as a parameter the 15 environmental and social principles of the adaptation funds established in the environmental and social policy of the Adaptation Fund, which will serve as a guiding guide in the implementation of the activities.

Next, a list on rapid assessment taking as a parameter the 15 principles of the adaptation fund.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
<i>Compliance with the Law</i>	x	It will act in strict adherence to the Honduran environmental and climate change legal framework,

		which implies that the actors involved will observe the laws and make the respective consultations to the public authorities with the legal powers for this purpose and apply the advice received.
<i>Access and Equity</i>		This risk is considered low or null, because the project will be highly participatory in the community and will guarantee that for no reason inequality and lack of equity will deepen. On the contrary, equitable access to services will be promoted, and that, for any historically violated and marginalized group, this will be an opportunity to include and empower them.
<i>Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups</i>		<p>This risk is low or null, since families that are part of marginalized groups, especially women, older adults, the project in their management will consult them and they will be involved in decision-making and will participate as a priority in services and everything. benefit emanating from the implementation.</p> <p>In addition, it will be used to sensitize the entire community about the need to serve these groups, to understand and analyze the challenges experienced by them to access specific services, such as climate information, financial products, supplies, etc. And the ways to extract this information will be through a combination of household surveys, focus group discussions, and community consultations at general meetings.</p>
<i>Human Rights</i>		This risk is low or non-existent, since an in-depth analysis has been carried out and it is preliminarily determined that this project does not under any

		circumstances violate any pillar of human rights. However, in the implementation process, the respective monitoring will be carried out to ensure that it is fully complied with.
<i>Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i>		<p>This risk is since the project will be implemented in a context where gender inequality prevails, therefore, greater efforts must be made to ensure that project activities contribute to gender empowerment. This project will promote women's leadership in governance processes and decision-making power for adaptation to climate change and food security. Through specific consultations with women, the design and implementation of the project will ensure that gender considerations are mainstreamed. Both women and men will participate equally and lead inclusive spaces for participation and decision-making. During the formulation of the final project, a gender assessment will be conducted to ensure that the project also effectively responds to the unique needs of women and girls and promotes gender equity.</p> <p>In addition, each activity planned within the framework of the project will be reviewed to see if gender equity considerations are reflected in the work scripts.</p>
<i>Core Labour Rights</i>		<p>This risk is low or null, since respect for international and national labor laws and codes will be guaranteed, as established in the Honduran legal framework, for which permanent communication will be established with the Secretary of Labor and thus receive advisory.</p>
<i>Indigenous Peoples</i>		<p>This is a low or non-existent risk, since in the communities of the</p>

		Sierra del Merendon there are no indigenous groups settled except for a few families that have emigrated from other than the country. However, in the activities to be carried out, consultations will always be made about this particular group and thus take the appropriate measures, regarding the respect for the integrity of the indigenous people, if any.
<i>Involuntary Resettlement</i>		In this regard, the risk is nil, because the project will not lead to resettlement, on the contrary, it will try to ensure that the families that are already settled in these communities learn new production techniques and that, combined with their ancestral knowledge, they will be able to establish a culture of generation of livelihoods, under conservation mechanisms.
<i>Protection of Natural Habitats</i>		Low risk. By implementing activities for sustainable land use, conservation and restoration, and integrated water management, the project will ensure the protection of natural habitats. Additionally, consultations with government stakeholders, community leaders, and communities will ensure that discussion or degradation of critical natural habitats (including those that are legally protected, officially proposed for protection, recognized for their high conservation value or recognized as protected by traditional norms or indigenous local communities) is avoided.
<i>Conservation of Biological Diversity</i>		This risk is low or zero, as the project will not generate significant greenhouse gas emissions and will not contribute to climate change in any other way. All the components and activities of the project contribute

		to increasing local capacities to sustainably face long-term climate change and short- and medium-term climate variability. The project will not introduce any agrochemicals for agricultural production, all inputs will be organic and, as far as possible, locally produced.
<i>Climate Change</i>		This risk is low or zero, as the project will not generate significant greenhouse gas emissions and will not contribute to climate change in any other way. All the components and activities of the project contribute to increasing local capacities to sustainably face long-term climate change and short- and medium-term climate variability. The project will not introduce any agrochemicals for agricultural production, all inputs will be organic and, as far as possible, locally produced.
<i>Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</i>		In this principle there is no risk, since the project will not release pollutants. Energy efficiency, minimization of the use of material resources and minimization of waste production will be integrated into the project design. In addition, all the management will be done, so that the same producers and producers generate their own fertilizers under one hundred percent organic mechanisms.
<i>Public Health</i>		This risk is low since in the different community actions a risk assessment will be applied through the application of the CEDRA methodology, this will help the interventions to be without damage to health, taking all the precautionary measures of the case to safeguard physical health and mental of the families that are reached by the project.

<i>Physical and Cultural Heritage</i>		This risk is low or null since the project is highly participatory, in the consultations that are made and the commitments that are assumed, it will guarantee that any physical or cultural heritage in the area of implementation of the project, damages or possible negative impacts are avoided. On the contrary, if some physical infrastructure works remain in the execution, the information will emphasize that this belongs to the community and that it must take care of it as its patrimony.
<i>Lands and Soil Conservation</i>		This risk is low to nil because, although it is true that the adaptation actions that are implemented in the communities, especially for the generation of their livelihoods, could generate some negative impact on soil conservation by not designing them properly or by not being sufficiently informed of these challenges to reduce this possibility, awareness will be raised at all times and all these precautions will be made in the work scripts. In addition, in the permanent monitoring they will be points of focus to make the pertinent corrections in case of finding any aspect that does not contribute to the achievement of the objectives set by the project.

Política Institucional para el Establecimiento de Alianzas con el Sector Público Privado y Académico



SEPTIEMBRE 2015

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I. INTRODUCCION

CASM es una institución que ha venido observando y experimentando los constantes cambios de contexto. Los desafíos que la creciente problemática social, política, ambiental y económica presenta, son cada vez más fuertes. Esta condición ha permitido a **CASM** crecer institucionalmente, desarrollando capacidades internas, pero también estableciendo marcos estratégicos y normativos que permitan mantener la calidad y la transparencia en su accionar, aún y cuando los contextos sean cambiantes.

La presente “política institucional para el establecimiento de alianzas con el sector público-privado y académico” se convierte en una guía útil, que permite a **CASM** tener un marco de referencia, para la toma de decisiones en cuanto a las relaciones de trabajo con diferentes sectores y salvaguardar la filosofía y principios ético cristianos bajos los cuales se fundamenta.

II. FILOSOFIA INSTITUCIONAL

CASM está sustentada en que Dios es el centro del universo y la familia la unidad fundamental de la sociedad. Bajo este concepto cristiano, de tradición Anabautista - Menonita, basados en el amor, la paz, la justicia, la no-violencia y solidaridad, es que como institución, creemos que todas las familias tienen derecho a la integración social, a la utilización y uso racional de los recursos, a tener más oportunidades y mayor capacidad de gestión y de negociación, a fin de que ellas puedan obtener mayor participación en los sectores sociales, económicos, políticos, culturales, espirituales y por lo tanto, mayor bienestar, mejor condición y calidad de vida.

III. DEFINICION INSTITUCIONAL

CASM es una institución cristiana, facilitadora de procesos de desarrollo humano integral, sin fines de lucro, que se sustenta en los principios menonitas de tradición anabautista (paz, Justicia, no violencia y solidaridad).

CASM es una institución que trabaja de la mano con organizaciones comunitarias, Municipales y regionales, integradas por hombres y mujeres situadas en condiciones de mayor desventaja social, a fin de que estas logren fortalecerse y empoderarse como estructuras representativas y democráticas, que articuladas a los gobiernos locales, contribuyen al desarrollo integral de sus municipios.

CASM es una institución que brinda atención oportuna a las familias en situación de Emergencia, sin distinción política, económica, religiosa y social, que brinda apoyo continuo a las familias más vulnerables en su reactivación social, productiva y preparación para futuros desastres.

CASM es una institución que promueve y practica la justicia, la equidad y la democracia Pluralista, por lo cual participa e incide en temas importantes a nivel regional, nacional y en conjunto con las alianzas a nivel internacional a fin de contribuir a generar cambios positivos, dirigidos a mejorar la calidad de vida de la población vulnerable y excluida de nuestro país.

3.1 Visión

Ser una organización cristiana menonita que acompaña a familias y movimientos comprometidos con la transformación del país para una sociedad más justa.

3.2 Misión

Facilitar procesos de desarrollo humano integral sustentado por principios y valores éticos cristianos, con enfoque de derechos humanos.

IV. MARCO CONTEXTUAL

Cada vez es más evidente la complejidad de los problemas sociales y económicos que trasciende la capacidad de respuesta individual de los distintos sectores. Retos como la reducción de la pobreza, la educación de las comunidades, la salud, la sostenibilidad del medio ambiente, el cambio climático entre otros, no pueden ser superados unilateralmente por los Estados y otros organismos como únicos prestatarios de los servicios básicos. Esta compleja y creciente problemática viene a reorientar las formas de promoción de desarrollo y bienestar de los diferentes actores, los cuales en la actualidad han adquirido la forma de alianzas público-privadas para el desarrollo, también conocidas como alianzas para el desarrollo, o alianzas multisectoriales, que pueden abrir diversas áreas de intervención en las temáticas antes mencionadas.

Este tipo de alianzas tienen el propósito de que sean mecanismos ágiles, flexibles y novedosos que representan una descarga de corresponsabilidades de diferentes grupos, que en la búsqueda del bien común, comparten recursos, conocimientos y sobre todo el compromiso de contribuir al desarrollo y por ende al bienestar de la sociedad.

Uno de los grupos involucrados en las alianzas es la Empresa Privada donde en su mayoría consideran que el mejoramiento de las condiciones sociales es necesario para el desarrollo de mercados duraderos y con tendencias a la expansión. La participación de éste sector generalmente es impulsado por sus políticas de responsabilidad social empresarial (**RSE**) que ha evolucionado de la típica relación basada en “donaciones”, a una que implica interactuar estratégicamente, generando así mayor valor para las partes involucradas de manera que se apunta a enfocar temas comunes que nuestra organización está impulsando.

El sector Gubernamental con sus diferentes dependencias tanto a nivel nacional, como departamental y municipal promueve procesos de desarrollo y de atención a la población basada en el establecimiento de alianzas con el sector privado como **CO-ALIANZA**, **INVEST** y otras organizaciones empresariales, con quienes establece convenios/contratos para la ejecución de programas como Vida Mejor, generación de empleo y otras.

Existe un sector como es la Sociedad civil que según sea el caso ésta se puede clasificar como receptores de beneficios directos de las acciones de desarrollo o como colaboradores en la ejecución de los procesos mismos. En éste último grupo se ubica **CASM** como una organización promotora del desarrollo y se posiciona en la condición de organización cooperante y/o proveedora de servicios que conllevan al cumplimiento de los objetivos que pueden ser comunes a los de una alianza con otros sectores como la empresa privada y académica.

V. CONSIDERACIONES GENERALES SOBRE LA POLITICA

5.1 CONCEPTUALIZACIÓN

☐ Alianza público-privada.

Es la interacción corresponsable de las instituciones públicas y las organizaciones privadas, en la cual, las partes comparten recursos, competencias y riesgos para el logro de objetivos comunes que contribuyan al desarrollo sostenible.

☐ alianza público-privada para el desarrollo (APPD)

Implica un esfuerzo de colaboración entre dos o más organizaciones del sector público y privado (incluyendo la sociedad civil organizada (SCO), donde se da un compromiso estratégico y voluntario, con objetivos comunes, para promover el desarrollo (aunque puedan tener intereses diferentes), compartiendo riesgos, beneficios y responsabilidades, por medio de la distribución equitativa del poder.

5.2 OBJETIVO DE LA POLITICA

Establecer los principios, normas y/o mecanismos que guíen las decisiones institucionales sobre el relacionamiento institucional con el sector público y privado hacia el logro de mayor impacto en los procesos de desarrollo sostenible, en el marco de la protección de los principios y filosofía institucional.

5.3 ANTECEDENTES

CASM en su trayectoria ha sido participe en diferentes espacios de relacionamiento tanto con la empresa privada, como con la academia y otras instancias en el marco de las cuales se han compartido recursos económicos, técnicos, logísticos y talento humano. De igual manera, CASM promueve la corresponsabilidad del estado como garantes de los derechos ciudadanos, a través de la ejecución de acciones coordinadas con las diferentes instancias públicas.

Durante los años **2004-2007 CASM** desarrollo procesos de planificación estratégica (**PEDM**) en una relación de trabajo con el **FHIS**, consultorías varias para **COPECO** con fondos del **BID**. Durante **2014- 2015 CASM** ha ejecutado convenios con el programa Vida Mejor, **PRONEGOCIOS** y generación de empleo en la ejecución de proyectos de infraestructura y de desarrollo apoyados por **FHIS** y Banco Mundial.

Para **CASM**, involucrarse en éstos procesos, significa asegurar que los servicios que fueron planeados para entregar a la población, sean entregados de manera transparente y con calidad, reduciendo de ésta manera el riesgo de malversación de los fondos públicos y por ende la corrupción.

En el marco de la empresa privada se ha mantenido relaciones de trabajo con instancias como Club Rotario, Asociación de Maquiladores, Cámaras de Comercio en la ejecución de programas de ayuda a familias en mayor desventaja social.

Con la Academia **CASM** ha sido una organización abierta a procesos de pasantías y prácticas profesionales de estudiantes tanto de nivel secundario como universitario. Actualmente ha establecido convenios con universidades como la **UCRISH, CURLA, UNA y UNAH**

5.4 OPORTUNIDADES DEL RELACIONAMIENTO INSTITUCIONAL.

A. CON LA EMPRESA PRIVADA E LAS INSTANCIAS PÚBLICAS

- Nos permite actualizar nuestros procesos y mecanismos sobre gestión por resultados que ya es una metodología para muchas organizaciones nacionales e internacionales. El sector privado ha empleado este modelo en su accionar lo que lo vuelve atractivo y más efectivo, donde organismos como **CASM** necesitamos aprender aún más.
- Abre la posibilidad en el sector gobierno de asegurar que los beneficios son entregados en su totalidad a las familias para quienes ha sido planificada la ayuda sin distingos de preferencias políticas partidarias u otro tipo de diferencias.
- Permite la captación de recursos institucionales que incrementan la sostenibilidad tanto de las acciones en las comunidades como apoyo en el accionar institucional.
- Incrementa la oportunidad de las poblaciones beneficiarias para que mejoren en la captación de recursos mediante relaciones de negocios.
- Se aprovecha la política de **RSE** para que la misma se haga visible entre los más pobres y mayor desventaja social.
- Posibilita la posibilidad de establecer coordinaciones y acuerdos para promover empleo especialmente en jóvenes.
- Nos da la oportunidad de informar e involucrar a la Empresa Privada y al sector público, sobre los modelos más sostenibles de desarrollo enfocados en el ser humano y su ambiente.
- Permite presentar propuestas conjuntas a diferentes instancias de cooperación nacional e internacional.

B. CON LA ACADEMIA

- Por un lado **CASM** se convierte en una organización que abre la oportunidad para los/as estudiantes desarrollen una experiencia de calidad.
- Promueve la realización de estudios, investigaciones, procesos de formación que ayudan a mejorar la gestión/procesos productivos entre otros, de los/as beneficiarias.
- Permite la movilización de talento humano que deje una contribución específica a la institución.

- Posibilita la movilización de estudiantes de otros países mejorando el tema de intercambio de conocimientos.
- Alimentar los procesos de desarrollo de las diferentes investigaciones que se realicen en el marco de la academia.

5.5 ALIANZAS ELEGIBLES

Las alianzas con el sector académico en sí se enmarcan en la intencionalidad de aprovechar las oportunidades y las potencialidades de ambos sectores a fin de sacarle el mejor provecho de éstos y que a la vez se cuente con productos que permiten brindar un mejor servicio a las poblaciones.

En el caso de alianzas con el sector público-privado, antes del establecimiento de una relación de trabajo o alianza, **CASM** deberá hacer un análisis de pertinencia que le indique identificar la proveniencia de los recursos, prácticas relacionadas con el ambiente, con su talento humano, con el respeto a la diversidad cultural así como la intención de fondo que las partes involucradas persigan a fin de determinar su elegibilidad para el establecimiento de la alianza.

Se define como instancias elegibles, aquellas que reúnen los requisitos siguientes:

- Instancia cuyo accionar es acorde o no violenta la filosofía y principios institucionales.
- Instancias cuyo accionar se desarrolla bajo los principios de respeto de los derechos humanos en general.
- Instancias cuyo accionar o procesos de producción no hacen uso de mano de obra infantil.
- Desarrolla su trabajo bajo condiciones de empleo digno.
- Sus recursos provienen de acciones lícitas y que cumplen con las leyes nacionales.
- La apuesta de su responsabilidad social está enmarcada en brindar un beneficio a las familias en mayor desventaja social.
- No atentan contra los bienes y la cultura de las sociedades.
- Empresa Privada que reúne los estándares de protección del medio ambiente en su entorno donde se desarrolla al igual que en el marco nacional.
- Alianzas sin intención de hacer proselitismo político partidario que induzcan a la población con alguna tendencia política en particular.

5.6 ALIANZAS NO ELEGIBLES

CASM por ningún motivo establecerá relaciones con instancias que:

- Contravienen los principios y filosofía institucional al igual que practiquen acciones que violentan los derechos humanos.
- Proveen condiciones de empleo que se desarrollan bajo situaciones de inseguridad en todos los niveles al igual que utilizan niños y niñas como mano de obra en sus acciones empresariales.
- Sus recursos/capital proviene de un accionar dudoso o desconocimiento de su procedencia.
- Organizaciones que tienen una intencionalidad de sacar ventaja política partidaria a expensas del apoyo brindado a las familias beneficiarias.
- Organizaciones que ponen en riesgo la seguridad tanto del personal de **CASM** como de sus beneficiarios-as.

3.8 PROCESO PARA EL ESTABLECIMIENTO DE ALIANZAS

Para que una alianza sea establecida debe haber consenso y análisis institucionales que permitan identificar objetivos comunes, ventajas, factores de riesgo entre otros que permitan determinar la elegibilidad de la misma. Esto implica entre otras acciones:

- Mantener un mapeo actualizado de instancias públicas y privadas con su respectivo accionar.
- Análisis de escenarios presentes y futuros de la relación.
- Entrevistas y/o reuniones de acercamiento en las cuales se pueda dar a conocer el accionar institucional en las cuales se definen puntos favorables o comunes que posibilitan una relación en beneficio de las familias.
- Identificación de recursos disponibles de las partes.
- Establecimiento de convenios y/o cartas de entendimiento.
- Evaluación continua de la relación o alianza establecida.

Oscar Eliu Dueñas

Presidente Junta Directiva

Maria Elena Benítez

Secretario Junta Directiva

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Y AMBI FNTE

Tegucigalpa, M.D.C., 09 de Agosto 2021

OFICIO No. UCEMR-DMA-0220-2021

To: The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement for Project ° Let's Save The Merendon"

As the designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Honduras, I confirm that the above-mentioned national project proposal is in line with the Honduran government's priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce the adverse impacts and risks posed by climate change in the country.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by Mennonite Social Action Commission (CASM).

Sincerely,


LIC. LILIAM RIVERA HERRA
Secretaria de Estado
en los Despacho de Recursos Naturales
y Ambiente (MiAmbiente+)





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ANNEXES

Comisión de Acción Social Menonita



POLITICA DE PROTECCION PARA ADULTOS VULNERABLES

NOVIEMBRE 2018

PRESENTACION

La Comisión de Acción Social Menonita (CASM), es una Institución cristiana sin fines de Lucro, Fundada en el seno de la Iglesia Evangélica Menonita que trabaja como Organismo no Gubernamental, conformado por una Asamblea general integrada por pastores y líderes menonitas, otros líderes Cristianos y miembros de las comunidades donde la organización acompaña, el carácter de estos miembros es de forma voluntaria, esta asamblea delega el accionar operativo de la institución en una Junta Directiva, gerencia, personal técnico, y apoyo de voluntarias y voluntarios extranjeros y nacionales.

Las instancias antes mencionadas hemos acordado desarrollar una Política de Protección a Adultos Vulnerables de cumplimiento en todo el accionar en los diferentes programas y proyectos que ejecuta la organización.

PRINCIPIOS INTERNACIONALES Y FILOSOFIA INSTITUCIONAL:

CASM es una institución cristiana facilitadora de procesos de desarrollo humano integral que está sustentada en que Dios es el centro del universo y la familia la unidad fundamental de la sociedad. Bajo este concepto cristiano, de tradición Anabautista - Menonita, basados en el amor, la paz, la justicia, la no-violencia y solidaridad, es que como institución, creemos que todas las familias tienen derecho a la integración social, a la utilización y uso racional de los recursos, a tener más oportunidades y mayor capacidad de gestión y de negociación, a fin de que ellas puedan obtener mayor participación en los sectores sociales, económicos, políticos, culturales, espirituales y por lo tanto, mayor bienestar, mejor condición y calidad de vida. Así mismo CASM prioriza el trabajo con población con mayores desventajas sociales y desarrolla sus acciones con enfoque de derechos, enfoque de equidad de género, enfoque etario y multicultural.

Esta Política de Protección se basa en instrumentos legales internacionales como la Convención sobre los Derechos de las Personas con Discapacidad de la ONU y las convenciones relacionadas; la Convención sobre la Eliminación de Todas las Formas de Discriminación contra la Mujer, la Declaración de la ONU sobre la Eliminación de la Explotación y el Abuso Sexuales; la Declaración de la ONU sobre el compromiso en la lucha del VIH/SIDA, Directrices Internacionales sobre el VIH/SIDA y los Derechos Humanos (ONUSIDA), Normas y Estándares del Sistema Interamericano sobre los Derechos Humanos de Migrantes, Refugiados, Apátridas, Víctimas de

Trata de Personas y Desplazados Internos. Así mismo se basa en las leyes nacionales de Honduras en materia de protección relacionadas con estos instrumentos legales internacionales y las buenas prácticas humanitarias internacionales.

Los principios que sostienen esta política se derivan de la filosofía de CASM y de su código de conducta que establecen en todo momento;

1. El respeto y promoción de los derechos de todas las personas especialmente las más vulnerables.
2. La preocupación por el bienestar de las personas vulnerables.
3. Trato con dignidad a todas las personas adultas vulnerables.
4. Responsabilidad, eficiencia, competencia, integridad y transparencia en el suministro de bienes y servicios a la población especialmente la más vulnerable.

DEFINICIONES Y TERMINOS:

Protección: Es la responsabilidad que tienen las organizaciones de asegurarse de que sus empleados, operaciones y programas no hagan daño a ningún niño, niña o adulto vulnerable; es decir, que no los expongan a los riesgos de daño y abuso. Así mismo de manejar adecuadamente o denunciar a las autoridades competentes cualquier preocupación que la organización tenga respecto de la seguridad de los niños, niñas y adultos vulnerables en las comunidades donde trabajan.

Adulto Vulnerable: Cualquier persona mayor de 18 años que tenga necesidades particulares de cuidado o apoyo, que tenga necesidades especiales y/o que dependa de otras personas para la provisión de servicios básicos por el contexto en el que se encuentra.

Tipos de abuso o daño:

Maltrato físico: daño físico real o potencial causado por otra persona, adulto o niño/a. Por ejemplo, golpear, sacudir, envenenar, ahogar y provocar quemaduras. También puede ocurrir cuando un padre, madre o cuidador inventa los síntomas de una enfermedad o induce de forma deliberada una enfermedad en un niño, niña o adulto vulnerable.

Abuso sexual: obligar o incitar a un niño o niña/adulto vulnerable para que realice actos sexuales que no comprende plenamente y en los que tiene poco poder de rehusarse. Por ejemplo, violación, sexo oral, penetración, actos sin penetración, como masturbar, besar, frotar y tocar. También puede consistir en hacer que un niño o niña/adulto vulnerable mire o produzca imágenes sexuales, mire actividades sexuales y adopte comportamientos sexuales inadecuados.

Explotación sexual: una forma de abuso sexual en que se obliga a un niño, niña o adulto vulnerable a realizar actividades sexuales a cambio de dinero, obsequios, alimentos, vivienda, afecto, estatus, o cualquier otra cosa que el niño, niña, adulto vulnerable o su familia necesite.. Es una forma de abuso que tanto los niños y las niñas como los adultos vulnerables pueden malinterpretar como consensuales. También podría involucrar redes de personas dedicadas a cometer abuso, oportunistas u organizadas, quienes se benefician económicamente de la trata de víctimas jóvenes entre distintos lugares para que participen en actos sexuales con distintos hombres o mujeres.

Acoso: Cualquier acción o conducta que implique generar incomodidad, disconformidad y daño a otra persona. Puede darse en distintos ámbitos y de las maneras más diversas, incluyendo el acoso sexual, acoso escolar, acoso laboral, ciber acoso, etc.

Acoso sexual: avances sexuales no deseados, solicitudes de favores sexuales y otro tipo de acoso verbal o físico de naturaleza sexual que suele crear un ambiente de hostil u ofensivo. Si bien dicha conducta puede consistir en el acoso de una mujer por parte de un hombre, numerosas leyes en distintas partes del mundo prohíben el acoso sexual y reconocen que tanto hombres como mujeres pueden ejercer el acoso o ser víctimas de acoso sexual.

Descuido y trato negligente: dependiendo del contexto, recursos y circunstancias, el descuido y trato negligente hace referencia al hecho de no satisfacer de manera persistente las necesidades físicas o psicológicas básicas de un niño o niña/adulto vulnerable y que como consecuencia se ponga en riesgo el desarrollo físico, espiritual, moral y mental de la niña o niño/adulto vulnerable.

Maltrato Físico y emocional: abuso físico y emocional persistente que afecta el bienestar y la salud física y mental. El maltrato físico incluye golpes, daño al cuerpo de la persona, el maltrato emocional incluye actos como la restricción de movimiento, trato degradante, humillante, acoso o bullying (incluido por internet), y trato amenazante, atemorizante, discriminatorio, ridiculizante u otro tipo de trato hostil o que implique rechazo.

Explotación comercial: explotar a un niño, niña o adulto vulnerable en actividades laborales o de otro tipo para beneficio de terceros y en perjuicio de la salud física y mental del niño/a y adulto vulnerable, su educación y desarrollo moral o socioemocional. Entre las distintas formas de explotación comercial se incluye el trabajo forzado.

AMBITO DE APLICACIÓN:

Esta política se aplica a todo representante de CASM, incluyendo su junta directiva, miembros de asamblea, todo el personal, voluntariado, practicantes, personas que brindan servicios de consultoría y contratos. Así mismo se socializara a todas las organizaciones asociadas y visitantes a la institución para que durante actividades conjuntas las acciones se orienten con esta política.

OBJETIVO Y ALCANCE DE LA POLITICA:

El objetivo de la Política es establecer una serie de principios que guíen el accionar de CASM en la toma de decisiones y prácticas a nivel institucional y de los proyectos a favor de la protección de los/las adultos vulnerables para promover y respetar sus derechos y contribuir a su desarrollo y apoyo.

Para CASM constituyen adultos vulnerables y a quienes priorizara en el desarrollo de sus acciones:

1. Personas adultos mayores (mayores de 60 años)
2. Personas con discapacidades o retos especiales.
3. Personas viviendo con VIH/SIDA
4. Personas en movilidad humana: migrantes internos en el país, migrantes deportados/as, migrantes en tránsito por el país, personas desplazadas internas por violencia o por situaciones de crisis naturales o sociales, personas con solicitudes de asilo o refugio en el país.
5. Personas en situaciones de crisis producto de fenómenos naturales, sociales o políticas.

Como institución Cristiana y fundamentada en la filosofía menonita de Tradición Anabautista con sus principios de amor al prójimo, justicia, paz, no violencia, vocación de servicio y solidaridad es que reafirmamos nuestro compromiso de proteger y promover los derechos y el bienestar de los grupos antes mencionados en las acciones emprendidas por la organización.

MEDIDAS Y ACCIONES DE PROTECCION:

- a) Contribuir a mejorar las relaciones, actitudes y comportamientos de las familias y comunidades para el buen desarrollo y Protección de Adultos vulnerables.
- b) Incidir en la reducción de la violencia intra-familiar en las comunidades con quienes trabajamos.
- c) Incorporar a los adultos vulnerables especialmente a los actores priorizados para que sean actores y gestores de una cultura sin violencia.
- d) Propiciar la iniciativa individual y colectiva, la solidaridad, la auto-ayuda y el espíritu de responsabilidad en todos los estratos de la población, para la prevención, solución y seguimiento de casos de discriminación y abuso que sean de nuestro conocimiento.
- e) Establecer alianzas con Instituciones de carácter público y privado de Promoción y Defensa de los Derechos Humanos para la elaboración y ejecución de planes de incidencia, prevención, atención y respuesta a casos de violación a derechos de estos actores vulnerables.
- f) Promover la implementación de las Leyes, Tratados y Declaraciones que en favor de estos grupos vulnerables se han emitido por parte del estado Hondureño.
- h) cuando se identifiquen casos de abuso o maltrato para estos grupos priorizados en las zonas de intervención, se debe notificar al coordinador(a) regional para plantearse acciones de intervención, en los casos que lo amerite porque existen limitaciones o situaciones que complejizan el caso se debe notificar a la Dirección para determinar acciones institucionales.

- i) Integrar en las planificaciones de las regiones de trabajo, acciones encaminadas a la promoción de los derechos de estos grupos vulnerables los cuales son contemplados en los proyectos en proceso de ejecución y aquellos que se gestionaran de futuro.
- j) Se incorporaran en evaluaciones y diagnósticos que se desarrollen en los programas y proyectos aspectos sobre estos grupos vulnerables que ayuden a comprender de mejor manera sus necesidades y características especiales para considerar estas en las diferentes acciones institucionales que se planteen.
- k) Sensibilizar a diferentes actores sobre los derechos de estos grupos vulnerables y promover acciones de protección.

ACCIONES PREVENTIVAS:

Con el propósito de prevenir abusos y maltratos, así como de fomentar la protección de adultos vulnerables se plantean las siguientes acciones:

1. Garantizar que todos y cada uno de las personas contratadas cumplan con el requisito de presentar constancia de sus antecedentes penales y policiales, y verificar los mismos antes de iniciar la relación laboral.
2. Antes de contratar el personal se debe incluir en las referencias los aspectos relacionados al comportamiento y relacionamiento con población meta, compañeros/as de trabajo y otros aspectos relacionados a un potencial comportamiento violento y abusador. Así mismo incluir estos aspectos en las entrevistas de selección de personal.
3. Todos los visitantes sean estos Patrocinadores, Donantes, oficiales de gobierno, personal de otras oficinas nacionales y de otras organizaciones cuando tengan que relacionarse con esta población vulnerable deben ser acompañados siempre por una Persona de la Oficina, Regional o Nacional. Así mismo se debe asegurar que se está en conocimiento de todas las medidas establecidas en esta política.
4. Todo el personal debe firmar su compromiso de cumplimiento de las disposiciones de la política.
5. Socializar las medidas de la política con la población vulnerable con la que trabaja la institución en las diferentes zonas de intervención.
7. Las fotografías y videos de adultos vulnerables debe solicitarse permiso de estos para socializarlos, compartirlos o subirlos a redes sociales.

CODIGO DE CONDUCTA:

Los y las trabajadoras de CASM, los voluntarios y voluntarias, y todos los demás involucrados dentro de la organización deberán manifestar la siguiente conducta con adultos vulnerables priorizados en la presente política:

- a) Tratar a toda la población con la cual se trabaja especialmente a los grupos vulnerables con respeto y dignidad.
- b) Escuchar a los adultos vulnerables priorizados en esta política en todo lo que les beneficie o afecte.
- c) Ser sensibles a las costumbres y prácticas de las familias (lenguaje, gestos, conversación y vestuario etc.) al momento de interactuar con ellas.
- d) Detener cualquier interacción con un adulto vulnerable si este lo solicita, o si parece incomodarse con la interacción.

- e) Respetar la integridad física y la dignidad de los adultos vulnerables al momento de interactuar con ellos.
- f) CASM no debe establecer ninguna discriminación para emplear adultos vulnerables y deberá respetar la normativa legal nacional sobre la empleabilidad de este tipo de personas tales como personas con discapacidad y personas viviendo con VIH/SIDA.
- g) Por ningún motivo se debe provocar daños o perjuicios en la salud física, mental o emocional de adultos vulnerables.
- h) No involucrarse nunca en una actividad sexual con población meta, y con mucha mayor restricción con personas adultas vulnerables.
- i) No aceptar, solicitar o participar en la “compra” de servicios sexuales o en la obtención de ganancias de allí derivadas. Esta norma se aplica al personal dentro y fuera del horario laboral.
- j) No explotar nunca la vulnerabilidad de ningún grupo beneficiario en el contexto del trabajo humanitario y de desarrollo, especialmente niños/niñas ni adultos vulnerables, ni permitir que una o más personas sean puestas en situaciones comprometedoras.
- k) Entender que está prohibido el intercambio de dinero, empleo, bienes o servicios por sexo, incluidos los favores sexuales u otras formas de conducta humillante, degradante o de explotación. Esta prohibición incluye todo intercambio de ayuda que se deba a los correspondientes beneficiarios/as.
- l) No abusar nunca de una posición reteniendo el desarrollo o la ayuda humanitaria, ni dar trato preferencial a cambio de favores sexuales, regalos, pagos de ningún tipo, ni ventajitas.

MANEJO DE CASOS:

Cuando se tiene conocimiento o sospecha sobre un caso de violación de derechos de adultos vulnerables priorizados en esta política o sobre el incumplimiento del código de conducta establecido en la presente política por parte de un miembro de la organización ya sea junta directiva, asamblea, personal, contratistas o voluntariado de CASM se debe proceder a lo establecido en Código de Conducta de CASM y su Manual y Procedimiento de Quejas de la manera siguiente:

- a) Si se trata de personal regional se debe notificar a la Coordinación regional, si se trata de personal gerencial debe notificarse a la Dirección o Junta Directiva de CASM
- b) Coordinación Regional, Dirección o Junta Directiva, según el caso que corresponda, con el apoyo del Equipo de Seguimiento y cumplimiento de la Política llevara a cabo una investigación interna del caso que permita identificar las pruebas de haberse cometido el abuso o maltrato.
- c) Referir a las autoridades competentes los casos dependiendo de los resultados de la investigación interna.
- d) Seguir el procedimiento que el código de trabajo y el Reglamento Interno sugiere cuando al empleado de la organización se le vincule en un caso de abuso, maltrato o explotación en contra de una persona adulto vulnerable.
- e) Brindar toda la Protección Integral a las personas adultos vulnerables que hayan sido víctimas de abuso, maltrato o violación por parte de uno de los empleados de la organización.

MECANISMOS DE IMPLEMENTACIÓN:

Los equipos técnicos y asambleístas, y todas las personas involucradas dentro de la organización, asumimos el cumplimiento de la política, como una necesidad real y con una convicción plena de que las personas adultos vulnerables deben recibir una atención especial, dentro del abanico de compromisos sobre los cuales nos debemos.

Para garantizar que la política se implemente se plantean las siguientes acciones:

- a) Armonizar el Reglamento Interno de Trabajo, los procesos de selección y evaluación de desempeño del personal con las disposiciones de la presente política.
- b) La socialización y reflexión permanente del contenido de esta política y de temas de protección para adultos vulnerables, en los espacios de inducción, devocionales, reuniones gerenciales y encuentros regionales y nacionales del personal de CASM.
- c) Conformar un equipo de seguimiento y verificación de la presente política, el cual estará integrado por miembros de la Junta Directiva de CASM y del equipo gerencial.
- d) Evaluar periódicamente la implementación de la presente política, para introducir los ajustes necesarios.

Aprobado y firmado por la junta directiva para cumplir los requisitos de ley, 2018.

Oscar Dueñas
Presidente J.D.

Isaías Aragón
Secretario