

Heifer International

Heifer International is a global development organization on a mission to end hunger and poverty in a sustainable way. Working with farmers and their communities to identify and invest in business opportunities that deliver living incomes, Heifer International creates solutions to local challenges designed to build inclusive, resilient economies. Since launching in 1944, Heifer International has assisted more than 35 million people, with millions more now on a pathway to living incomes.



Heifer Honduras

In 1978, Heifer International started work in Honduras, distributing livestock to rural families through a food security program. Working alongside local partners, it provided families with technical assistance and materials to establish farms and corrals. To date, Heifer Honduras has supported 565,000 families, implementing programs focused on developing entrepreneurial and productive capacities. Through training, farmers are learning beekeeping to diversify their farms and constructing biodigesters and solar dryers to improve production and increase incomes. Many farmers are adopting climate-smart practices, producing organic fertilizers. New enterprises are being created, integrating women and youth into the dairy, honey and coffee value chains. Medium and small producers are being connected to financial products and technologies such as blockchain, enabling them to reach new markets and increase profitability. Heifer Honduras' work has reached over 700 communities, supporting farmers and business owners to become more competitive and better able to adapt to climate change, increasing incomes and improving living conditions.





Creating Microenterprises with Lenca Indigenous Families II (2017-2020)

Donors include: Rural Development Bank (BANRURAL) Total Value: \$1.7 million

The municipalities of Santa Cruz, Las Flores, La Iguala, San Andrés, San Sebastian and Piraera are actively engaged in this project, which provides funding and support for activities to improve the livelihoods of 4,500 indigenous families in the Lempira Department. Farmers receive technical assistance and training on topics such as animal health and agroecological farming practices, enabling them to increase dairy and grain yields and secure higher prices for their products, increasing incomes. A total of 63 Farmer Field Schools and 35 microenterprises are being established to strengthen businesses and organizations. Training on quality standards, traceability and manufacturing further improves their ability to meet market demand.

Leveraging Success (2017-2021)

Total Value: \$9.8 million

This project supports 24,500 families linked to 300 enterprises and associations working in the coffee, honey, dairy and tourism value chains, improving economic security. Project participants are connected to advisors who support them to strengthen their operations, increasing profits and improving the quality of life of members of associative enterprises or cooperatives. With support from the project, enterprises are upgrading their accounting, administrative and financial terms, implementing records and control measures so they can issue financial statements to improve decision-making process. Coffee producers participating in farmer field schools are learning to improve production, quality, safety and wet and dry processing – incorporating climate-smart practices. Beekeepers are learning post-harvest hive management, while dairy producers are linked to processing plants. As of the July/December 2019 reporting period, 39% of companies connected to the project reported increases in sales of over 20%.

Agroforestry Landscapes and Sustainable Forestry (2018-2021)

Donors include:
United Nations Development
Programme (UNDP)

Total Value: \$1.4 million

Heifer Honduras will assist 22 existing and 18 new enterprises to develop business models and plans to meet the needs of their clients. Using an environmentally sustainability approach that is integrated with the market, this project will provide advice and assistance to actors in the coffee value chain. As farmers deploy the sustainable agroforestry coffee and cacao systems and ecosystem services that are part of the project, they are increasing incomes and protecting biodiversity. Financial products are being designed to provide capital to reestablish groves, maintain farms and establish an agroecological system that benefits the environment. A harvest marketing strategy is being rolled out to promote participation by more producers at regional events, providing them with opportunities to schedule meetings with buyers.