



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

USAID'S CLIMATE ADAPTATION

ACTIVITY

OBJECTIVE

USAID aims to increase resilience to climate change in the Dominican Republic by promoting water security and sustainable livelihoods, thereby reducing pressures on key water sources, enhancing watershed governance, and strengthening adaptation practices of vulnerable communities.

COUNTRY SITUATION

The Dominican Republic, one of the largest economies in Latin America and the Caribbean, boasts rich natural resources and diverse biodiversity, which are key to its economy. In particular, the tourism sector contributes 20 percent to its economic output. However, these resources face sustainability challenges arising from climate change, which severely impacts the livelihoods of rural communities, especially those near the Dominican Republic-Haiti border. These communities, some of the poorest in the nation, depend heavily on these natural resources but suffer from limited access to climate information and basic services, such as potable water. Despite progressive environmental policies, existing management practices have led to ecosystem degradation and water stress, endangering community welfare and economic stability.

OUR WORK

USAID, through its Climate Adaptation Activity, aims to enhance environmental sustainability and resilience in the Dajabón region by improving natural resource management and adopting climate-smart agricultural practices. USAID will focus on building locally-led, long-term resilience, with the goal of achieving significant environmental gains in the Dajabón watershed. It

will foster the capacity of local actors and encourage private sector participation to ensure ownership and sustainable outcomes of climate adaptation strategies in the northern border region between the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

USAID will reduce reliance on fuelwood and charcoal by boosting oven efficiency, introducing alternative cooking systems, and increasing the capacity of local forest rangers to support community-led reforestation. USAID will bolster climate resilience through improved irrigation technologies and nature-based water storage, reducing water consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. USAID will also promote sustainable agriculture and cattle-ranching practices to transform traditional farming. These efforts are geared toward fostering economically and environmentally sound practices, enhanced by strategic stakeholder collaboration and accessible financial products. USAID's Climate Adaptation Activity will also work to strengthen the capacities of local authorities for improved watershed management and to foster greater usability and accessibility of climate data for coordination and decision-making.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Plant 1 million trees through reforestation through nature-based solutions across Dajabón.
- Facilitate \$20 million in supplemental financing—from public and private resources—for green growth opportunities to women, youth, other civil society, and private sector.
- Install water above and below ground storage infrastructure.
- Support over 15,000 people to adapt to the effects of climate change.
- Train over 3,500 people in climate change adaptation.
- Encourage 2,500 people to use climate information or implement risk-reducing actions to improve resilience to climate change.
- Support up to 60 institutions to improve capacity to assess or address climate change risks.
- Engage up to 40 private sector enterprises to support climate adaptation efforts.

Duration: February 2024 – February 2029

Budget: \$10 million

Implementing Partner: Counterpart International

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