



CENTRAL AMERICA AND MEXICO REGIONAL PROGRAM FACT SHEET

Over the last 20 years, Central American countries have made social and economic advances, including improved literacy rates, reduced infant and maternal mortality, increased trade, and generally, a succession of free and fair elections and peaceful government transitions. Despite these gains, challenges that hinder economic and social development remain and drive irregular migration to the United States.

Through its Central America and Mexico (CAM) Regional Program, USAID works with the governments of the region, the private sector, and local organizations to address regional challenges to justice, human rights and security, economic prosperity, the environment, democracy and governance, health, and to provide humanitarian assistance.

JUSTICE, RIGHTS, AND SECURITY

USAID programming increases regional coordination and collaboration on effective citizen security strategies through data dissemination and sharing of information and best approaches between governments. Activities strengthen protection of human rights by working with civil society and media to support legal analysis and awareness campaigns and coordinated responses to human rights violations. Regional programming fosters collaboration between entities working on anti-corruption.

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

USAID works with the private sector and governments to expand regional trade to create jobs and economic opportunities. Activities help businesses to formally comply with international best

practices to increase productivity, livelihoods and jobs. Programs improve regional value chain networks by linking complementary production, distribution, and marketing capacities. Programs promote regional integration and trade facilitation by reducing time and cost of trading across borders to achieve greater trade competitiveness in the region.

ENVIRONMENT

USAID develops regional climate data systems to combat the effects of climate change. Initiatives include regional and country-based plans to mitigate and adapt to climate change. At the local level, USAID provides climate data, analyses, and tools to government officials, agricultural and fishing cooperatives, and civil society groups. Activities help improve natural resource management, including water security and biodiversity conservation and promote legal, environmentally friendly livelihoods.

DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

Regional programming fosters collaboration between entities working on anti-corruption and improving democratic governance. USAID assists returned migrants with immediate needs and for safe and dignified reintegration and works closely with border authorities to improve the reception processes. Programs in Belize, Costa Rica, and Panama provide support to help those countries with the challenges of providing services and integrating migrants from other countries. USAID activities to help integrate persons who have migrated to other countries in the region and to reintegrate returned migrants in their home country also contributes to economic opportunities in communities through job and entrepreneurship training.

HEALTH

In health, USAID strengthens the surveillance, coordination, and response of governments to prevent, prepare for, and respond to pandemics in the region. USAID supports testing, prevention, and treatment for HIV/AIDS.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

USAID addresses humanitarian needs both in disaster response and in disaster preparedness. USAID provides psychosocial support, learning and recreational opportunities, and case management and referral services for women, children, and other groups facing heightened risk of exploitation, gender-based violence, and other forms of abuse across Northern Central America. Programs also focus on child protection activities, including coordination, advocacy, and response efforts. In early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience activities, USAID funds activities to strengthen community and national preparedness and response capacity (disaster risk reduction) for natural disasters across the region.

For more information on USAID El Salvador and USAID Central America Regional Programs, please call: (503) 2501-3411; 3344; 3432 or visit www.usaid.gov/el-salvador

