



EcoLogic Development Fund

Annual Report 2020-2021



About EcoLogic



EcoLogic's mission is to empower rural and indigenous peoples to restore and protect tropical ecosystems in Central America and Mexico.

We believe it is essential that communities who live in close proximity to biodiverse ecosystems play a central role in preserving these areas for the sake of their own communities, and for the benefit of their children and future generations—both locally and on a global scale.

Together, we can create a world full of possibilities for rural communities.

From sustainable agriculture and beekeeping to watershed management and community ownership of forest resources.

We are deploying the tools necessary for sustainability to deliver profound and immediate impact in regions where it is needed the most.



Our supporters have enabled us to work directly with local organizations in **Guatemala, Honduras & Mexico** to ensure communities have access to knowledge, networks, incentives and tools to **take the lead** in conserving their environment



EcoLogic's Response to...

Covid-19

Just like most of the world, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico faced COVID-19 and its ongoing effects. Since March 2020, the population we serve was under varying curfew orders and following safety protocols

However, our work didn't stop over that time. Our technical staff adapted to restrictions, providing information and technical support to remote communities over cell phones. As restrictions eased, about June 2020, we were able to move forward with field activities.

We developed COVID-19 protocols to minimize any risk of infection, and are following all national health department guidelines.

Hurricane Eta & Iota

At the end of 2020, Central America was also hit by unprecedented back-to-back Category 4 hurricanes Eta and Iota. The region faced challenges due to the storms, primarily:

**Flooding and saturation of soils;
Lost or seriously affected crops –
and concern about the viability of
future crops; Impaired livelihoods;
and Contamination of water
sources.**

We are grateful that, despite the significant devastation caused in many regions, there was no loss of life in the communities where we work. Overall, our agroforestry, sustainable farming, and home garden work provided resilience and helped rural families navigate these particularly challenging times. The combination of the pandemic and hurricanes severely affected food security for hundreds of thousands of the region's most vulnerable people.

Our Impact is Your Impact

EcoLogic is implementing **eight active projects** in Guatemala, Mexico, and Honduras, along the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor--a system of protected areas and connecting wildlife habitat corridors that extend through the length of Central America and part of Mexico. Mesoamerica is classified as a biodiversity hotspot for conservation priority and has also been recently identified as a global restoration hotspot. Despite the challenging context, in 2020 EcoLogic and our partners worked to:

182,160 Trees

Produce **182,160** trees, contributing to the restoration & regeneration of previous degraded land.

328 Communities

Empower **328** rural & indigenous communities to restore & protect tropical ecosystems in Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico.

435,000 Acres

Protect **435,000** acres of forest under community management & conservation incentive programs

\$35,536

Generate **\$35,536** in new income for rural & Indigenous families who are engaged in sustainable practices and enterprises

**394 Stoves
60 Gardens**

Install **394** new fuel-efficient stoves and **60** home gardens & trained families in their use and ongoing maintenance

**50 Beekeepers
31,283 lbs.**

Train 50 new beekeepers and produce 31,283 lbs. of honey for sale

250 Acres

Provide technical support to farmers on 250 acres of diversified agroforestry systems, including cardamom, cacao, and fruits with basic grain production

EcoLogic's Approach

We work in partnership with rural and indigenous-led organizations and communities to provide access to:

Tools and training to build skills, capacity, and awareness within

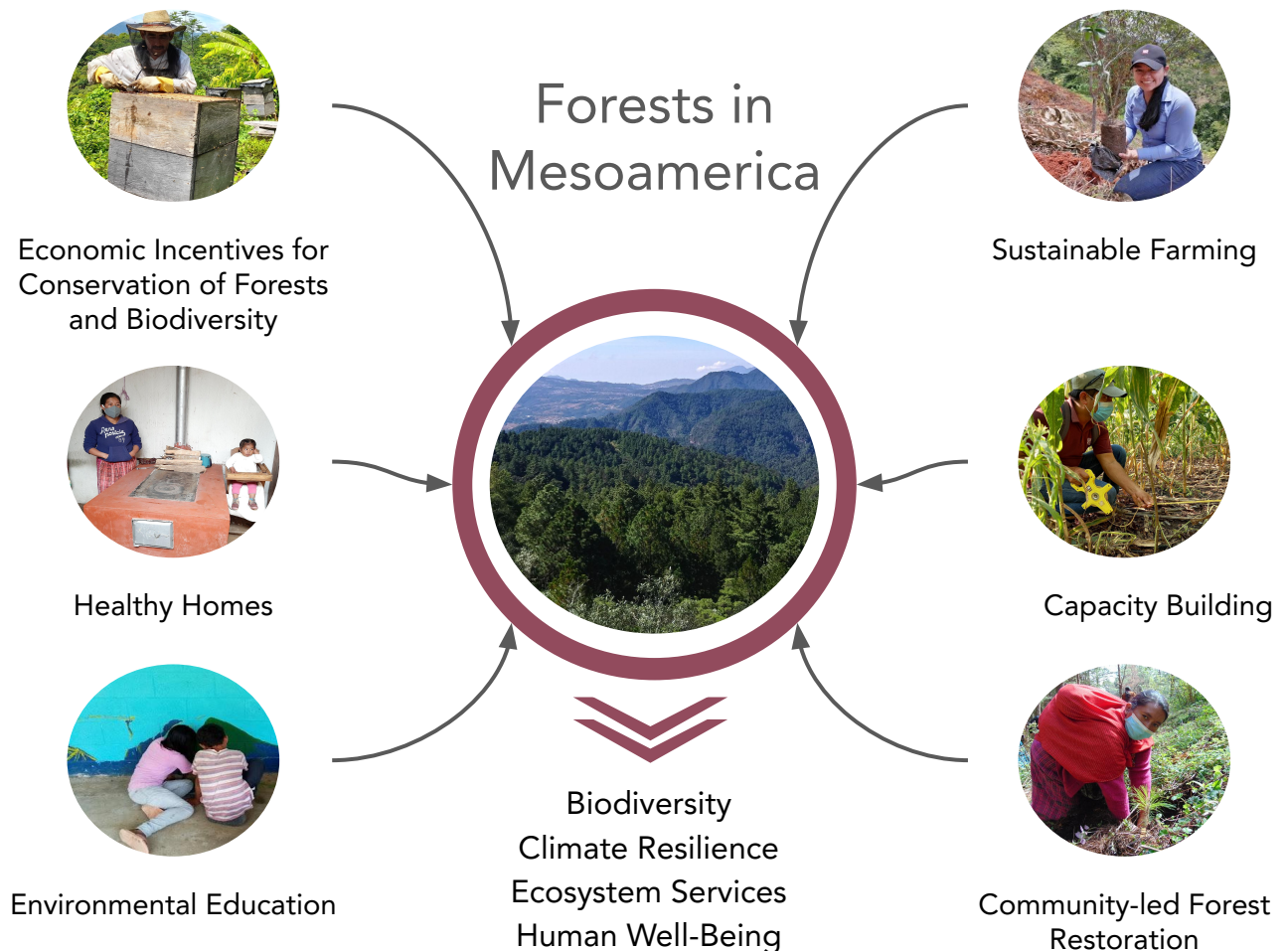
Incentives that catalyze the adoption of sustainable practices

Networks with local, regional, and international actors and initiatives

Action Areas & Tools

We conduct participatory planning with our local partner and community members that maps out a process to jointly implement strategies and tools to reach the communities' conservation and development goals.

EcoLogic offers a comprehensive package of integrated tools and services that help communities execute their plans and balance conservation with human needs, including:



Community-led Forest Conservation, Reforestation & Mitigation of Pressure on Forests

Totonicapan



During the first half of 2020, tree nursery specialists **César and Don Agustín** continued to tend to the seedlings growing in the greenhouses to keep them healthy and ready for the reforestation season. They also performed repairs to the irrigation system of some greenhouses that needed upgrades.

In early June, our partner, the **Natural Resource Council of the 48 Cantons of Totonicapán**, organized the campaign to distribute **150,000 seedlings** grown in the greenhouses to community and school groups to plant the trees that were ready to go.

The reforestation sites were prioritized based on the degree of degradation and importance to water source protection. **“A Healthy Planet for the Health of Humanity”** was this year’s slogan.



Learn more about EcoLogic’s collaboration with community journalist Leopoldo Batz.

We also worked with our community partners and local university students to **monitor and follow up** on the reforestation that took place mid-year to ensure successful growth of the trees and to georeference and map the areas that were reforested.

After the reforestation season, in October-December, we began to purchase and collect seeds, soil, mulch, and other materials to get the new seedlings ready and growing. In addition, one new greenhouse was constructed in 2020 in order to increase the capacity for tree production and reforestation.



Supporting Home & Community Gardens in the Face of a Pandemic

Covid-19's Impact

COVID-19 caused unprecedented need in the communities we work, given its interconnected effects on public health, nutrition, and food security within rural communities. Our local partner organizations prioritized working to establish home gardens and providing basic protection kits for rural families who are particularly vulnerable to the health impacts of the pandemic.



Hear from Cristobel, a community leader from Honduras.

EcoLogic's Impact

We established 60 home gardens in 2020. We are addressing the communities' needs, first and foremost, by providing food security and better nutrition at a critical time. We also emphasize sustainability by focusing on native species and incorporating perennial plants in our garden materials, in addition to chili peppers, leafy greens, vegetables, and tubers such as yucca.

Oaxaca, Mexico

In Oaxaca, Mexico, our field technician, **Severiana Domínguez**, delivered materials, carried out workshops, and visited the sites where **15 families** will establish their home garden and made specific technical recommendations for each place.

At each site, we decided where the best place would be and established the basic layouts to begin orchard management tasks.

The next step will be to prepare the substrate to establish the seed beds and finally planting the seeds.

Sustainable Agriculture

Over the year, we carried out 56 technical assistance visits to over 100 existing agroforestry parcels to ensure proper management of shade, pruning, and distancing of species.

Sarstun, Guatemala

EcoLogic had the opportunity to work with new smallholder farms to establish demonstrative diversified agroforestry parcels. Species' diversity includes:

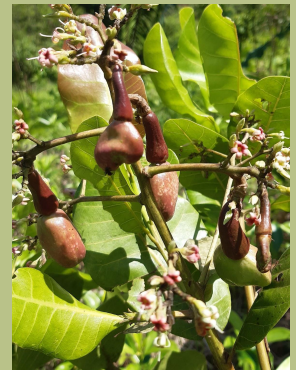
***Inga edulis*, cacao, plantain, pineapple & yucca.**

These producers can now generate a diversity of fruits and vegetables for their own consumption as well as improve land use and soil quality so that their parcels will be productive in the long-term.

In addition, we implemented a workshop on agroforestry systems with **40 volunteer promoters representing 12 communities** and two learning exchanges between communities.



Each parcel of agroforestry is 0.5 hectares in area and is carefully laid out ensuring specific distances between each type of plant to optimize the functioning of the system, eliminating the need for pesticides and weed killers.



Fuel-efficient Cookstoves

In total, we have supported the installation of **394** fuel-efficient stoves and secured materials to build an additional **200** stoves.



APROSARSTUN PARTNERSHIP

EcoLogic worked to deliver 55 new stoves to the remote communities of Nuevo Nacimiento Cáliz & El Rosario within the Sarstun Multiple Use Zone.

Through a consultation process, the ‘amas de casa’ or women heads of households chose to use the Chispa stove model*

EcoLogic in Honduras

Our main stove-building field technician, Meliza participated in a course from PROFOGONES in becoming a “Maestra Fogonera,” to leverage that experience to improve her knowledge and approach to responding to community needs with fuel-efficient stoves.

In October, we started the process of building 219 stoves for AJAASSPIB communities and secured materials to build an additional 200 in partnership with the Asociación Hondureña de Desarrollo Sostenible (AHDESA



*Chispa Stoves vent 99% of the smoke from inside the house, with a rocket-type combustion chamber to burn wood more efficiently.

Totonicapán

In Totonicapán, move forward with 85 households in the two communities of Chiyax and Chuixchimal.

In September, we started with the process of preparing socioeconomic baselines to identify which families would most benefit from new fuel-efficient stoves. Each one will contribute local materials as part of their in-kind investment (2 sacks of ground clay, 2 sacks of sand, and labor to help with construction).

In October, the materials were delivered to each household and the construction process is ongoing.

“I wash clothes in order to make money & buy firewood”

Doña Hilda Socorro Xuruc Castro, a single mother who dreams that with her new stove, she can spend less on firewood.



Launch of Mangrove Conservation Initiative

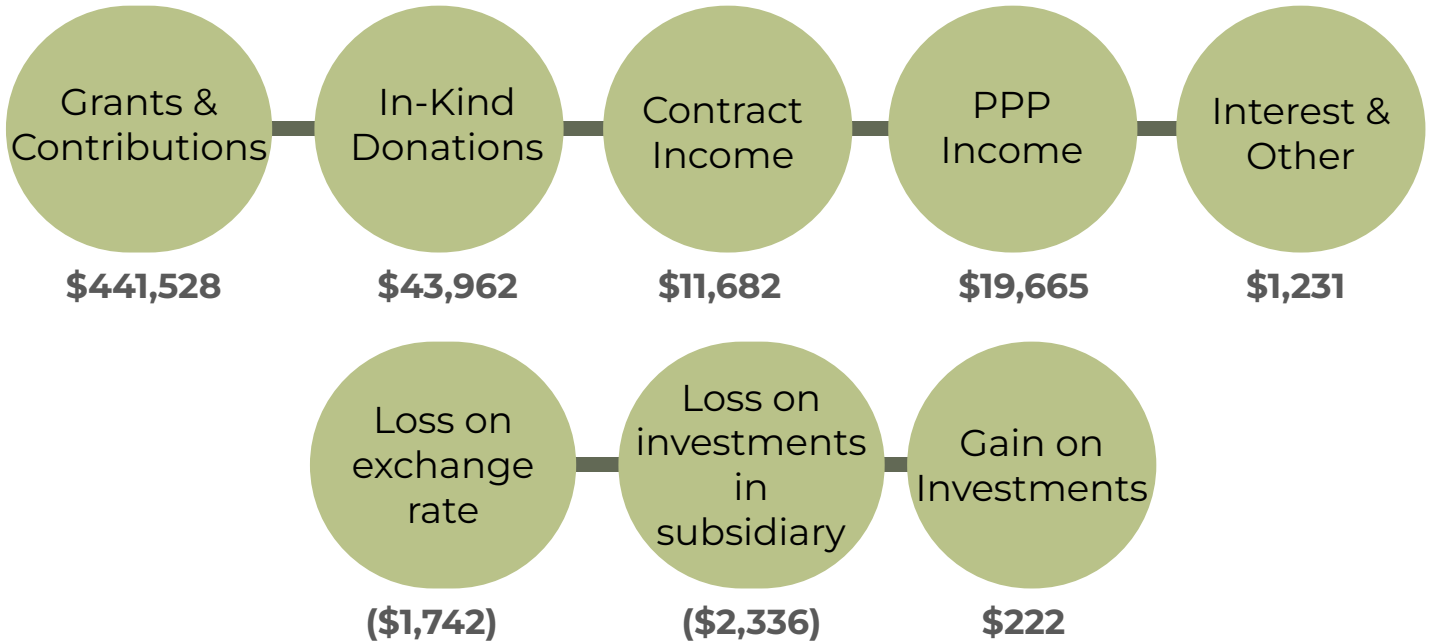
In the Sarstún region, with support from MAR Fund and MAR2R, we launched a new initiative to conserve and restore key coastal mangrove areas working directly with the communities of San Juan and Barra Sarstun.

To begin the process, a field visit was made to verify the areas to be restored in the two communities, as well as the production of mangrove seedlings which serve the restoration processes.



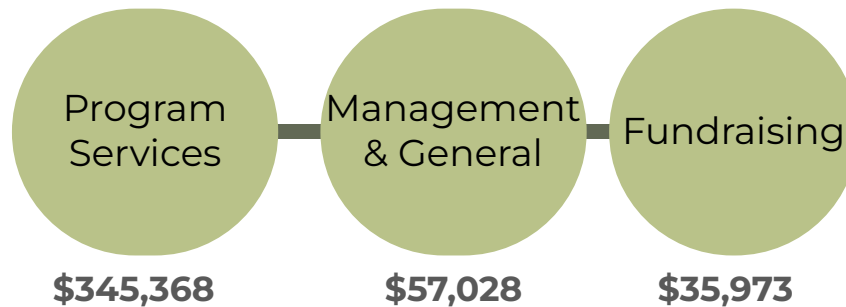
2020 Financials

Support & Revenue



Total Support & Revenue: \$514,212

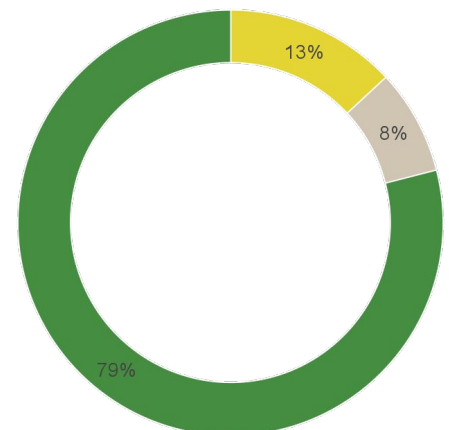
Expenses



Total Expenses: \$438,369

In 2020, **79%** of EcoLogic's expenditures went directly to implementing programs in Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico.

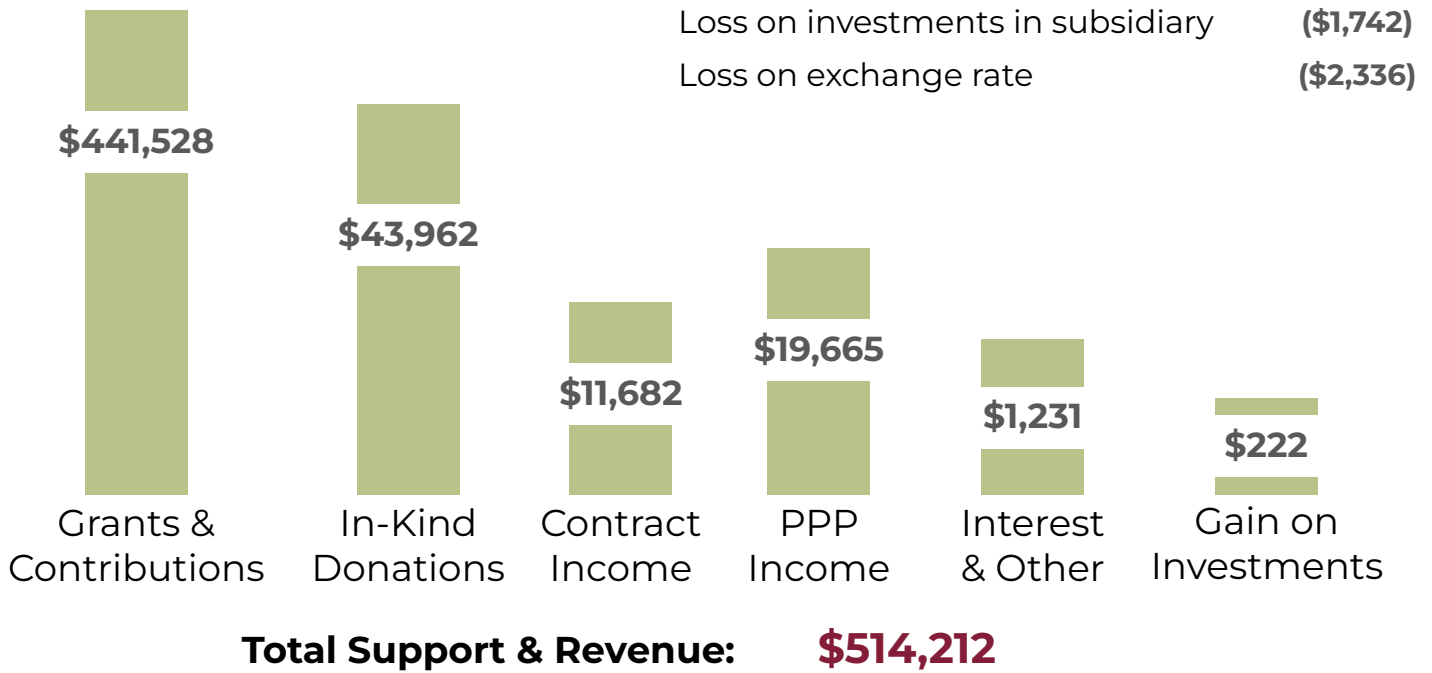
Crucial to our success on the ground is the fact that the amount of direct investment by EcoLogic is only a small piece of the overall support generated by our funding.



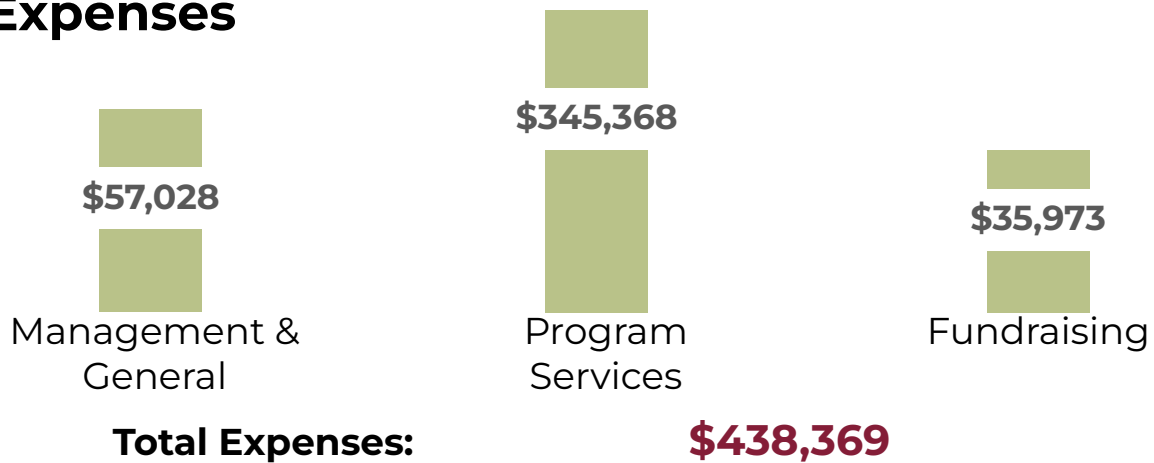
● Management & General ● Fundraising ● Program Services

2020 Financials

Support & Revenue

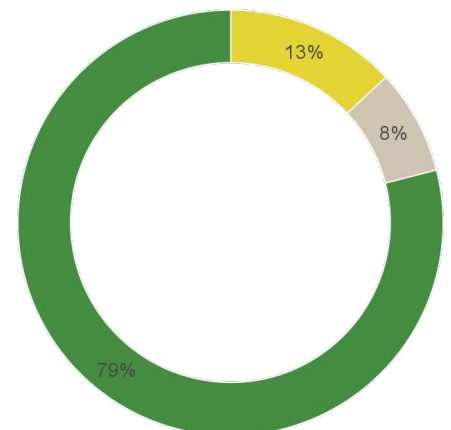


Expenses



In 2020, **79%** of EcoLogic's expenditures went directly to implementing programs in Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico.

Crucial to our success on the ground is the fact that the amount of direct investment by EcoLogic is only a small piece of the overall support generated by our funding.



2020 Financials

Support & Revenue

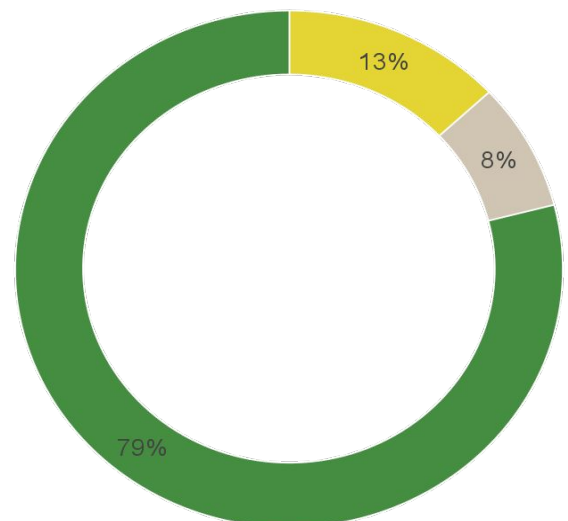
Grants & Contributions	\$441,528
In-Kind Donations	\$43,962
Contract Income	\$11,682
PPP Income	\$19,665
Interest & Other	\$1,231
Gain on Investments	\$222
Loss on investments in subsidiary	(\$1,742)
Loss on exchange rate	(\$2,336)
Total Support & Revenue:	\$514,212

Expenses

Management & General	\$57,028
Program Services	\$345,368
Contract Income	\$35,973
Total Expenses:	\$438,369

In 2020, **79%** of EcoLogic's expenditures went directly to implementing programs in Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico.

Crucial to our success on the ground is the fact that the amount of direct investment by EcoLogic is only a small piece of the overall support generated by our funding.





Our People

Staff (US & Regional)

<u>Marco Aurelio Acevedo</u> Program Officer, Mexico	<u>Mario Ardany de León Benítez</u> Program Officer, Guatemala	<u>Jacobo Ricardo Gramajo Escobar</u> Regional Finance Officer	<u>Carlos Duarte Euraque</u> Program Officer, Honduras
<u>Adán Juárez Cop</u> Regional Finance Associate	<u>Ernesto Frias</u> Sr. Finance Officer	<u>Barbara Vallarino</u> Executive Director	<u>Alessandra Granelli</u> Social Media and Outreach Coordinator

Board of Directors

<u>Mark Spranca,</u> Chair	<u>Nicholas Shufro,</u> Vice-Chair	<u>Bill Green,</u> Treasurer	<u>Patricia Goudvis,</u> Secretary	
<u>Dr. David Barton Bray</u>	<u>Dr. Robin L. Chazdon</u>	<u>Kendra Ferraro</u>	<u>Eva Gurria</u>	<u>Dan Tunstall</u>

Our Partners

Field Technicians

Eliazar
Bo

APROSARSTUN

Antonio Reyes
Montejo Caba

Mancomunidad
de Municipios
Frontera del
Norte

Elmer Urizar
Reyes

Mancomunidad
de Municipios
Frontera del
Norte

Fernando
Recancoj

Junta de Bienes
y Recursos
Naturales de los
48 Cantones

Roberto
Valerio

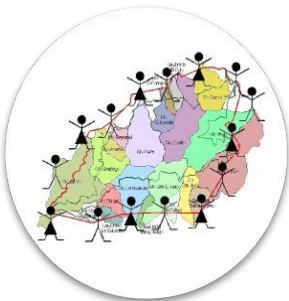
MACO

Daniel
Escobar

MAMUCA

Severiana
Dominguez

FARCO



Our Supporters

We are deeply grateful to the many loyal donors who supported our work with gifts up to \$1,000.

Special recognition is provided in this Annual Report to the following individuals and organizations who contributed \$1,000 or more.

Amy Thornton	MAR Fund
Berro Family Foundation	Monica Molina Austin
Bill Green	New England Biolabs
Blossom Fund	Foundation
Clif Bar Family Foundation	Patricia Goudvis
CPPS Heritage Mission	Pathfinder Fund
Fund	Suzanne Powell
Dudley Dougherty Fund	Sweetgrass Foundation
Eaglemere Foundation	Towards Sustainability
Lakeshore Foundation	Foundation
Leiter Foundation	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-
The Sustainability Group	NMBCA
	Zimmer Family Foundation

Pro Bono Services

Interns & Volunteers

Goulston & Storrs
Westwind Coach

Jade Austin
Warren Darrell
Caitlin Lupton
Dr. Marc Mayes
Seren Ozkan
Cindia Wong

Contact Us

US Office



P.O. Box 381571
Cambridge, MA
02238



info@ecologic.org



617-441-6300



www.ecologic.org

Regional Office



14 Avenida "A" 6-53 zona 3, Edificio Santiago, Apto. 14
Quetzaltenango, Quetzaltenango 09001
Guatemala



(+502) 7725-7776

