



EcoLogic Development Fund

2022 Year End Report

A look into how
your support
positively impacts
communities and
ecosystems.



Community-led Forest Restoration

EcoLogic undertakes reforestation by growing and planting native seedlings and saplings in places where forests have been lost or degraded.

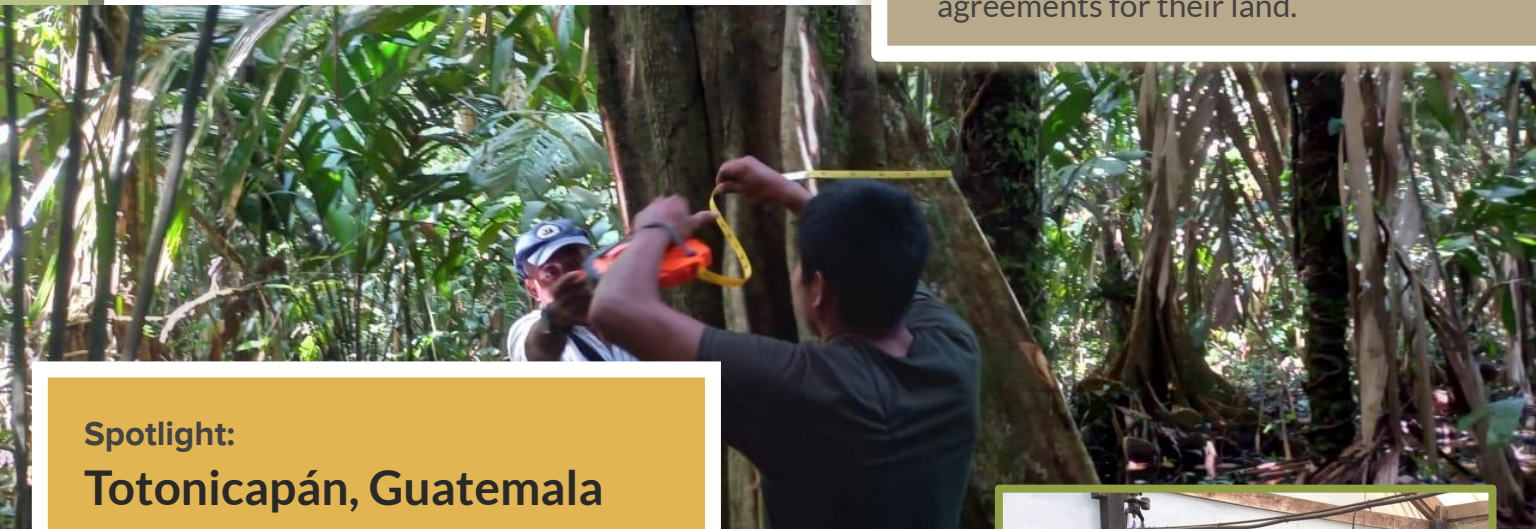


In 2022, EcoLogic and community partners worked to reforest and regenerate **1,173** hectares and grow **290,127** trees for reforestation.

Spotlight:

Sarstún, Guatemala

In our work in the Caribbean of Guatemala, we worked with our partner APROSARSTUN to secure the protection of **22.5 hectares** of mangroves by working with communities in Sarstún, Guatemala to develop a management plan and help them secure long-term lease agreements for their land.



Spotlight:

Tonicapán, Guatemala

We supported our local partner to produce 198,000 trees in the 13 greenhouses of the 48 Cantones' nursery over the last year. Of these, 115,000 trees were planted by community volunteers and associations. The rest continue growing in the greenhouses until they are viable for planting.

Hear from community volunteers who offer insight into the importance of reforestation and how the process plays out!



Sustainable Agriculture

EcoLogic trains subsistence farmers in sustainable farming techniques to **reduce slash-and-burn agriculture** and **improve food security**.



EcoLogic and community partners established **62.58** new hectares on **108** agroforestry parcels and produced **40,451** plants for agroforestry.



Spotlight:

Ixcán, Guatemala

We worked with farmers to help them establish **38** diversified parcels covering **18.48** new hectares. We produced **16,882** plants including *Inga edulis*, cardamom, cacao, and mahogany, so that farmers can plant these along with their traditional corn and beans.



The mahogany trees are a long-term investment strategy that can act as a “retirement account” and yield financial benefits over a **20-year time horizon**. In addition, the pruning of the *Inga edulis* trees provides firewood, further reducing deforestation.

Spotlight:

Sarstún, Guatemala

We delivered the materials to establish **30** parcels with families who expressed interest in diversifying their income. We provide materials and training and follow up with technical assistance visits. The species include Madre cacao, ginger, and *Inga edulis*.

Healthy Homes

EcoLogic works at the household level to respond to families' needs that intersect with natural resources.



Spotlight:

Oaxaca, México | FARCO

We are partnering with students from the **Universidad del Pueblo de San José Chiltepec** to bring food and economic security to the communities surrounding the conservation areas. We have started with **10 pilot home gardens** that have generated excellent results, largely due to the work and dedication that the students put into their maintenance and care.



Spotlight:

Totonicapán, Guatemala

We are piloting **10 stoves** of the Justa Chapina model with the communities we work with in Totonicapán, Guatemala. Freddy, one of our community project stove-builders, was trained and certified on how to build the Justa Chapina model, with special attention to the combustion chamber to ensure optimum fuel efficiency. In August, we moved forward with the construction of the stoves to positive reviews. We're in the process of conducting a more formal evaluation of the users' satisfaction and the efficiency achieved in real-world conditions.

EcoLogic and community partners installed **303** fuel-efficient stoves in rural homes and established **52** diversified home gardens.



Meet **Olga**, an *ama de casa* from Honduras who is enjoying the benefits of her fuel-efficient stove



Environmental Education

EcoLogic develops and supports environmental education activities to promote knowledge, understanding, and action on the part of adults and children alike.



EcoLogic and community partners have trained **280** youth, and conducted **60** workshops.

Spotlight:

Northern Honduras

In collaboration with our partner AJAASSPIB and the National Autonomous University of Honduras, we helped organize a day of recycling called Recicla+ to foster greater environmental awareness and encourage youth to become champions of their local ecosystem. Over **14,000 lbs** of recycling were collected on that day.



Spotlight:

Totonicapán, Guatemala

We carried out four workshops to train 20 teachers and 30 young people in creative advocacy using an arts-based methodology to generate solutions to environmental problems within the territory of Totonicapán. Read more [here](#).



SPOTLIGHT: Conservation & Participatory Mapping

In early November, three of our field technicians participated in a Conservation and Participatory Mapping hands-on, interactive workshop in Antigua, Guatemala. This is the result of a collaboration with the New England Biolabs Foundation and Salem State University, and is part of our commitment to offering ongoing opportunities for strengthening our team's capacity.



Financial Incentives for Conservation

Culturally appropriate market-linked approaches, such as beekeeping and agroforestry production of cash crops like cardamom and cacao, also promote conservation behaviors by shifting the cost-benefit ratio of engaging in activities that result in net conservation benefits.

To date, there has been **\$132,601** generated for communities through the sale of honey, small enterprises, and their participation in incentive initiatives.

Spotlight:

Ixcán, Guatemala

We have been working to train and equip new beekeepers.



By the end of 2022, we established **120 new beehives**, trained **30 novice beekeepers** and continued to work with a total of **83**; produced **19,468 pounds** of honey generating **\$25,308 in additional income** for families; and conducted **18 workshops** for beekeepers and **56 technical assistance visits** to increase the dissemination of knowledge and skills

See this [interview with Moises Perez](#) to find out more!



Guatemala

APROSARSTUN Partnership

We have recently supported the establishment of a small revolving fund for the Fisherfolk Association of San Juan to be able to obtain low-interest loans on favorable terms to acquire sustainable fishing gear.

Communities who make their living from fishing in this region are often susceptible to loan sharks who offer exorbitant interest rates of 35-40%. With our support, the community prepared the credit regulation which was then approved by the assembly of the community of San Juan and we delivered the **seed capital of \$6,000**.

To date, the community has made decisions to approve the first round of credits at an interest rate of **1.5%**, during which **12 loans were granted to buy sustainable fishing equipment**.

A SPECIAL ¡GRACIAS!

With your support, EcoLogic is able to work directly with rural and Indigenous communities in Central America and Mexico to support their work in protecting natural resources, expanding agroforestry, and building resilience and capacity.

You stepped up to be a vital partner in protecting and sustaining some of Earth's most threatened ecosystems and the communities they support.

On behalf of all of us at EcoLogic, **thank you** for your generous support of our organization. **It is because of your donation that lasting, positive impacts are possible.**



EcoLogic works to empower rural and Indigenous Peoples to restore and protect tropical ecosystems in Central America and Mexico.

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