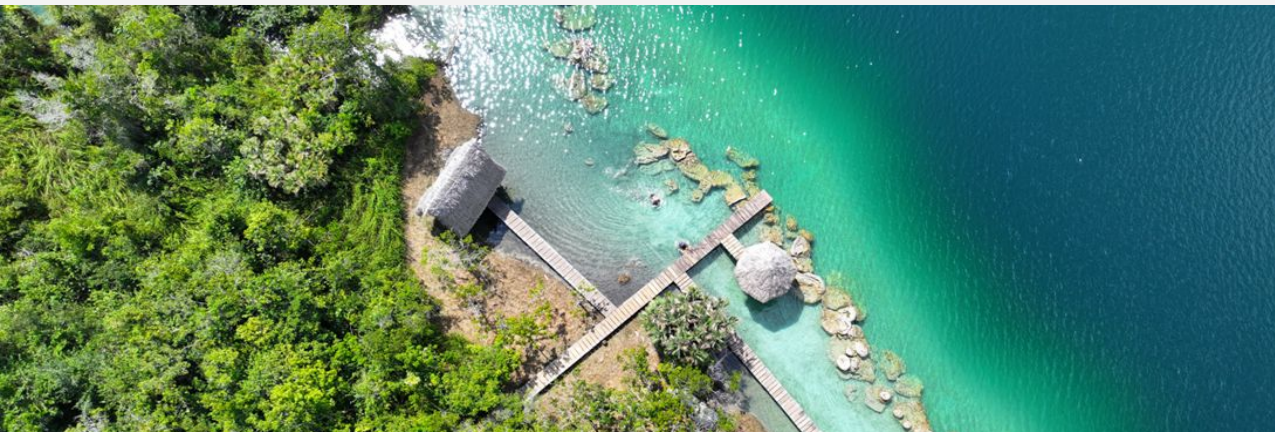




ECOLOGIC
DEVELOPMENT FUND



End Year Report 2024

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



ECOLOGIC
DEVELOPMENT FUND



Mid-Term Report for the Towards Sustainability Foundation

August 2025

Program Impact Snapshot

In 2024, EcoLogic worked hand-in-hand with local communities to protect and restore vital ecosystems, promote sustainable livelihoods, and build a future where people and nature thrive together. Every tree planted, every stove built, every seed sown was made possible because of you.

We're honored to share what we've accomplished together!

Community-Led Forest Conservation and Restoration

226,997 trees grown for reforestation in 176 hectares

187,073 hectares of critical forest landscapes protected

40,466 hectares directly monitored through community patrols and tech-based tools



Sustainable Agriculture

90,146 plants produced

176 hectares of new agroforestry systems established

356 farmers trained in sustainable practices



Healthy Homes

480 fuel-efficient stoves installed, reducing smoke and firewood use

232 home gardens established to improve food security

Financial Incentives

\$155,241 of income generated for rural families through conservation-linked livelihoods

Environmental Education

283 workshops delivered

7,008 youth and adults reached with conservation and climate education



Community-Led Forest Conservation & Restoration

EcoLogic partners with rural and Indigenous communities to restore and protect vital forests. Through training, tools, and resources, we empower local people to take the lead in stewarding their forests sustainably, for their futures and the planet we share.



Photo credit: Lucy Calderón



Community-Led Forest Conservation & Restoration

Thanks to our supporters, **in 2024**, we worked with communities to grow **226,997 trees** for reforestation across **176 hectares** and to protect **187,073 hectares** of critical forest landscapes. We also supported the direct monitoring of **40,466 hectares** to strengthen local conservation efforts.

Through hands-on training, practical tools, and sustained collaboration, we empowered local people to protect the rich biodiversity of Mesoamerican ecosystems, ensuring these forests continue to thrive for future generations.

Regional Snapshots:

26,353 hectares of forest protected in Tonicapán and Cobán, Guatemala.

407.2 hectares of mangroves in Sarstun, Guatemala conserved to preserve ecosystem resilience.

24 forest monitoring visits conducted in Oaxaca, Mexico to prevent activities, such as illegal cutting, and conserve an additional 500 hectares.

21 community brigade members trained and equipped to combat wildfires in Honduras.



Impact Story: A Leader in the Forest

A Leader in the Forest: Doña Catarina's Journey to Empower Her Community

Totonicapán, Guatemala

In the highlands of Totonicapán, Guatemala, where the air is crisp and the pine trees stretch toward the sky, Doña Catarina Osorio Cac walks through the rows of her family garden, inspecting the chard, onions, and fava beans that now grow beside her traditional corn.

*A single mother from the village of Casa Blanca in the 48 Cantones region, Doña Catarina is a respected leader, a speaker of K'iche', and a woman who has dedicated more than 15 years to organizing her community. This year, with support from EcoLogic and the Junta Directiva de Bienes y Recursos Naturales de los 48 Cantones, her leadership helped bring **agroforestry systems, fuel-efficient stoves, and food security solutions** to families in her village.*



"I've always believed that women have the power to care for the land and lead their communities," she says. "With each project, we grow stronger."

In 2024, Doña Catarina helped implement family gardens using native crops, promoted the adoption of Justa Chapina fuel-efficient stoves to reduce firewood use and smoke inhalation, and encouraged other women to participate in agroforestry systems that now blend traditional crops like corn and fava with trees like alder, apple, and peach.

She also played a key role in strengthening women's economic autonomy through local microenterprises and supported younger women in learning to lead. Her ability to weave together tradition, innovation, and community vision exemplifies EcoLogic's mission: conservation that is led by — and for — the people who depend on the land.

Sustainable Agriculture

EcoLogic promotes sustainable agriculture practices that strengthen livelihoods and protect the environment. We train farmers in agroforestry, soil conservation, and other techniques that boost productivity, restore degraded land, and reduce pressure on surrounding forests.



Sustainable Agriculture

In 2024, we worked with communities to grow **90,146 plants** to establish **115 hectares** of new agroforestry systems and provided training to **356 farmers**.

EcoLogic supported farmers in adopting sustainable agricultural practices that enhance food security while protecting the environment.

Regional Snapshots:

356 agroforestry systems established in Totonicapán, Guatemala, combining staple crops like corn and beans with fruit and timber trees.

40,000 plants produced for agroforestry in Oaxaca, Mexico.

135 new agroforestry plots established in Ixcán, Guatemala.

11 hectares of new agroforestry parcels in Honduras, including 81 technical assistance visits.



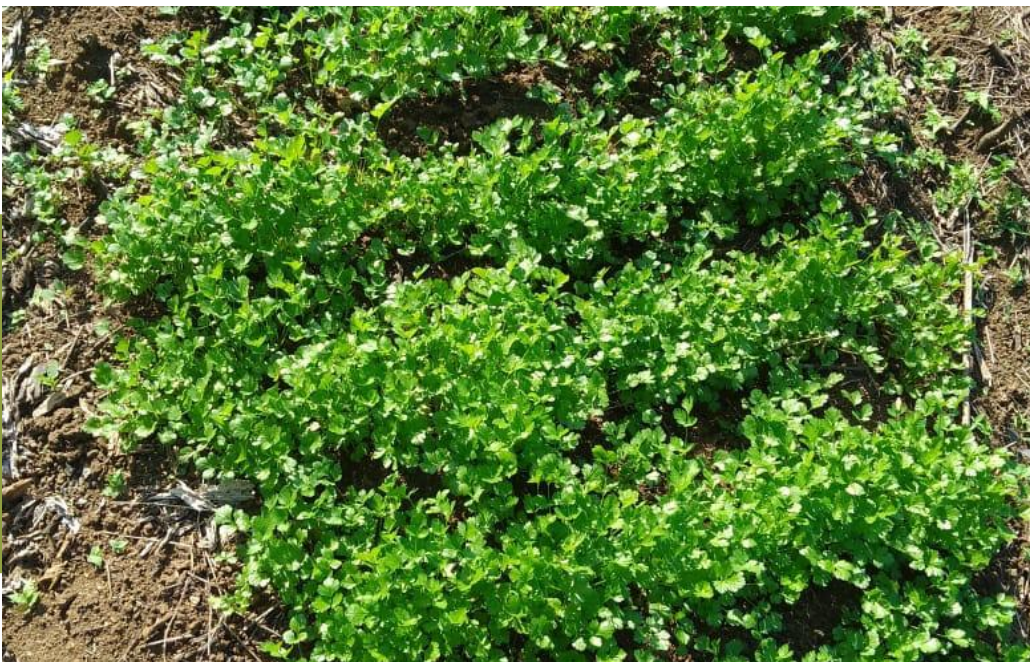
Photo credit: Lucy Calderón

Healthy Homes

EcoLogic works with families to create healthier homes and stronger communities. We install fuel-efficient stoves that reduce harmful smoke and conserve firewood, while supporting the establishment of home gardens that provide fresh, nutritious food and enhance household food security.



Photo credit: Lucy Calderón



Healthy Homes

By the end of **2024**, we installed **480 fuel-efficient stoves** and helped establish **232 home gardens**.

Our work helped families improve their living conditions while protecting natural resources.

Regional Snapshots:

186 family gardens established in Totoncapán, Guatemala and Honduras, enhancing nutrition and food security.

310 fuel-efficient stoves installed, reducing deforestation and harmful indoor air pollution in Totoncapán and Sarstún, Guatemala and Mexico.

30 new home gardens were established in Mexico, with a very abundant radish crop — enriching diets, preserving local traditions.

Strengthened our partnership with Stove Team International to enhance fuel-efficient stove design and increase production.



Financial Incentives

EcoLogic supports innovative programs that provide financial benefits to communities for protecting their natural resources. These programs create sustainable livelihoods that are linked to conservation outcomes.



Financial Incentives

Thanks to our donors, in 2024, we helped communities generate **\$155,241** through participation in Payment for Environmental Services (PES) initiatives, the sale of honey, and the establishment of small enterprises.

We have implemented locally rooted solutions that provide financial benefits to communities while preserving natural resources.

Regional Snapshots:



\$27,500 generated through beekeeping initiatives in Ixcán, Guatemala.

10 Indigenous women entrepreneurs in Totonicapán, Guatemala, supported to run food businesses rooted in traditional recipes and homegrown ingredients.



\$80,972 in income generated through PES programs in Mexico.

\$22,500 generated through mangrove conservation under the PROBOSQUE program in Sarstun, Guatemala.

Impact Story: Sweet Success

Sweet Success in Santa María Tzejá

In the remote community of Santa María Tzejá, Guatemala, the gentle hum of bees is more than just background noise — it's the sound of resilience and opportunity.



Bertha Ralios, a beekeeper and caretaker of her family's apiary, harvested honey in April and May. Thanks to equipment provided by EcoLogic (including a pavilion canopy and a four-frame extractor) Bertha and her fellow beekeepers no longer have to rent costly machinery from outside the community. "Before, the cost of renting an extractor and paying for labor made honey production feel impossible," she shares. "Now that we have the equipment, it's not only easier, but we're motivated to grow."

With her husband in poor health due to diabetes, Bertha has taken over full responsibility for the apiary. The honey she harvests not only brings much-needed income but also serves as a natural remedy for her husband's skin wounds. "The bees are helping us survive," she says with quiet pride.

With EcoLogic's support, more local beekeepers have been inspired to join the group. Beyond access to shared tools, they are now benefiting from technical assistance and training, building skills, strengthening community ties, and creating sustainable livelihoods through conservation. Bertha's journey reflects EcoLogic's mission in action: when rural people have the tools and trust to lead, they create powerful change — for their families, their forests, and their future.



Environmental Education

EcoLogic inspires the next generation of environmental leaders through engaging educational programs. We work with schools and communities to teach children and adults about the importance of nature and how to protect it.



Environmental Education

In **2024**, we held **283 workshops**, reaching **7,008 youth and adults** through our environmental education programs.

Through our environmental education initiatives, we inspired action and awareness.



1,213 youth engaged through workshops, trainings, and learning exchanges in Honduras.



25 workshops and training sessions conducted for young bird watchers in Mexico.

Regional Snapshots:

1,875 students engaged in hands-on conservation learning experiences in Tonicapán, Guatemala

75 teachers trained to incorporate environmental education into their classrooms in Tonicapán, Guatemala



Impact Story: Technology in Action

Technology in Action – Defending Laguna Lachuá’s Forests

In 2024, deep in the heart of Guatemala’s Laguna Lachuá National Park, forest rangers and EcoLogic staff responded to a series of escalating threats: wildfires and unauthorized forest clearings within the protected area.

What made a critical difference this year?

Technology.

Equipped with two-way radios, drones, and the Global Forest Watcher app, local rangers were able to detect and respond quickly to emergencies, even in areas with no cell signal or direct access.

“The radios were essential,” shared a member of the ranger team. “There’s no phone signal in the park. During the fire, we relied on radios to coordinate safely between teams.”



Meanwhile, drone technology provided eyes in the sky, offering aerial views of fire paths, guiding ranger movement, and identifying hot spots in otherwise inaccessible terrain. The drone was also used to document potential forest clearings, enabling rangers to assess the situation before entering, reducing risks and avoiding unnecessary conflict.

In parallel, Global Forest Watcher provided real-time alerts of fire activity and deforestation hotspots. This allowed EcoLogic and the park management to prioritize action, saving time, forest, and resources.

“With these tools, we not only acted faster — we acted smarter,” one ranger emphasized. “It changed how we protect this forest.”

This story from Laguna Lachuá shows how community-based forest monitoring, when paired with the right tools, can enhance conservation impact. It’s not just about having the equipment, it’s about putting it in the hands of the people who are already deeply committed to protecting the land they live and depend on.

Organizational Updates

Beyond our programs, EcoLogic is proud to report on some of our accomplishments throughout 2024 and the enduring impacts that we and our partners are having on conservation practices.



Photo credit: Lucy Calderón

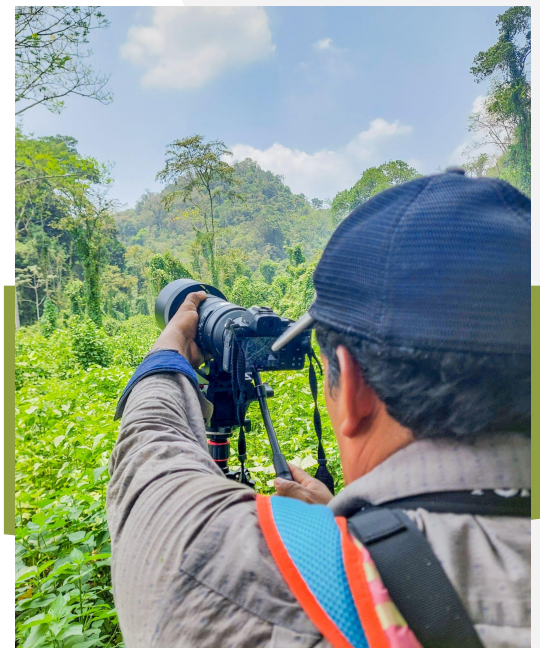
EcoLogic Selected as Featured Partner

We are honored to be selected as a featured partner by 1% for the Planet, a global network of businesses that donate 1% of their annual sales to environmental causes. This partnership will help us expand our impact and reach even more communities.

Migratory Bird Conservation Webinar

In October, EcoLogic Development Fund hosted a powerful webinar addressing the pressing issue of migratory bird conservation. The event gathered a panel of experts who shared insights into the complex issues impacting these remarkable creatures and how we can support their survival.

[Watch the webinar here.](#)



EcoLogic at the Nature for Life Hub 2024

EcoLogic proudly [participated in the Nature for Life Hub](#) for the second year in a row, spotlighting our work alongside global leaders in conservation. During the event, Marco Acevedo, our Mexico Program Officer, presented how EcoLogic integrates technology with community-led forest conservation in Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras. Drawing on insights from a past project supported by Global Forest Watch, Marco highlighted our use of satellite data, drones, and the Forest Watcher app to help local brigades monitor and respond to deforestation threats more efficiently. The session reinforced the power of combining traditional knowledge with innovative tools and underscored the value of global collaboration in empowering communities to protect natural resources.

Looking Ahead

This impact reflects the power of community, driven by your support, strengthened by our partners, and led by the communities at the heart of it all. As we look ahead, we remain focused on scaling our impact, forging new collaborations, and empowering more communities to lead in conservation. Through our ongoing strategic planning efforts, we are also exploring bold new ways to grow our organization and deepen our reach.

Key Goals for 2025 Include:

Scaling up reforestation to restore 400 hectares of degraded land, protecting biodiversity and supporting resilient ecosystems.

Increasing the number of fuel-efficient stoves installed to 650 to further reduce deforestation and indoor air pollution.

Strengthening financial incentives for conservation, aiming to generate \$180,000 in income for sustainable livelihoods.

Equipping 450 additional farmers with the knowledge and tools to adopt sustainable agriculture practices that benefit both their families and the environment.

Growing participation in environmental education programs, reaching 8,000 more community members, including children and adults.



To Our Supporters **¡GRACIAS!**

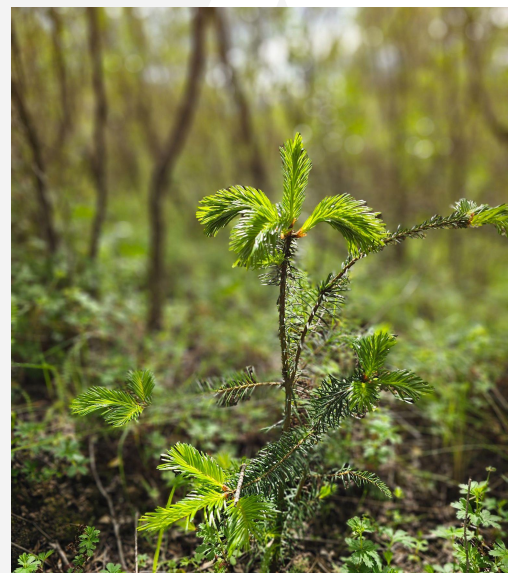
Your generosity is the driving force behind our impact. Together, we are empowering rural and Indigenous peoples to become the stewards of their environment, ensuring a healthier planet for generations to come.

Your support has a ripple effect, extending beyond EcoLogic's immediate projects and creating a lasting impact. It strengthens communities, restores ecosystems, and contributes to the broader fight against climate change. You are not just investing in trees and soil — you are investing in people, their aspirations, and a more resilient future for all.

We are incredibly grateful for your partnership in building a more sustainable future for all. Your belief in our mission makes our work possible. Thank you for being a champion for our planet and its people.



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





ECOLOGIC
DEVELOPMENT FUND



Contact Us

US Office - 617-441-6300

P.O. Box 381571
Cambridge, MA 02238

Regional Office - (+502) 7725-7776

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

Our Ratings!

info@ecologic.org

www.ecologic.org

Platinum
Transparency
2024

Candid.

Charity
Navigator



✦ FOUR-STAR ✦

TOP-RANKED
ORGANIZATION

GlobalGiving
2024

EFFECTIVE
ORGANIZATION

GlobalGiving
2024