



**Plan Trifinio**  
"Agua sin fronteras"  
El Salvador • Guatemala • Honduras



## STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF THE **TRIFINIO REGION**



# OVERVIEW



Plan Trifinio is a regional organization that is part of the Central American Integration System (SICA).



The Trifinio region is a special area of economic and social interest, as well as an indivisible ecological unit that seeks to develop a sustainable environmental and territorial management process.



It promotes the involvement of local communities leaders at the national and regional level which allows economic, social, environmental development and the preservation of water wealth and biodiversity of their ecosystems.



Sustainable human development in the Trifinio region in harmony with nature and within the framework of a participatory model.

# The Trifinio Region

The Region of Trifinio is a territory of 7,541 km<sup>2</sup> where the borders of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras meet.



45 municipalities: 8 of El Salvador, 15 of Guatemala y 22 of Honduras



Population over 932 thousand inhabitants where 50.2% are women and more than 60% live in the rural area



Important agricultural activity (vegetables, fruits, basic grains, coffee) tourism and crafts.



Natural, cultural and historical heritage.



52% of households rural are in poverty condition

50% of the population is mainly engaged in agricultural, which has been impacte by climate change

40% of the EAP do not receive income or are looking for work.

12% of households report at least one family member living in another country.

46% of households have food security problems



# The Trifinio Region:

Area of influence:



5 seaports



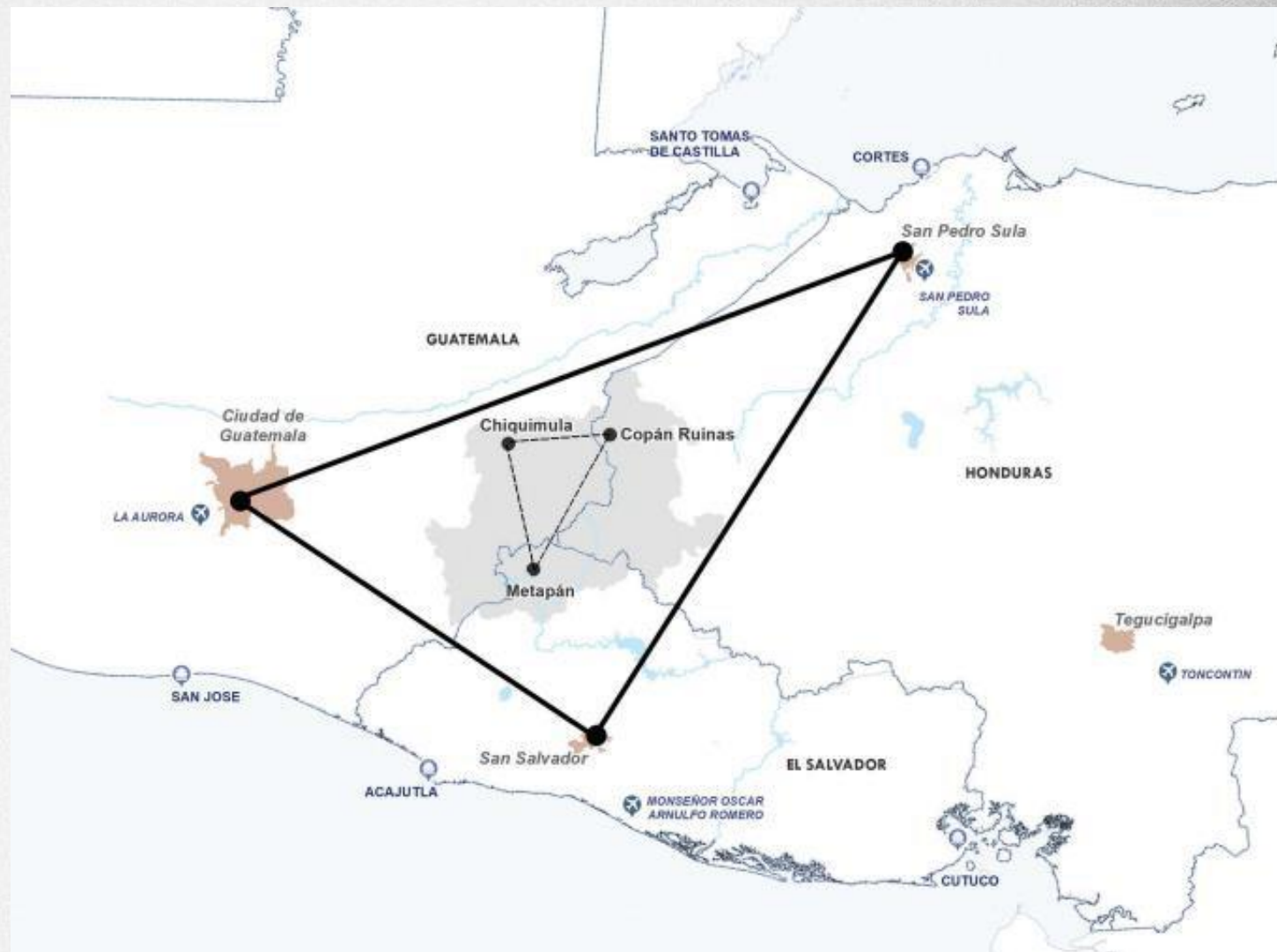
4 international airports



5 land borders and structured road system (logistic and custom corridors)



3 metropolises less than 200 km away







## Plan Trifinio

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### MISSION OF PLAN TRIFINIO

Build a territorial model of cross-border, participatory and transparent development of the Trifinio region, with the active involvement of communities, national and regional local actors, which allows economic, social and environmental development and the preservation of the water wealth and biodiversity of their ecosystems

### VISION OF PLAN TRIFINIO

The population of the Trifinio region, build their own development, living harmoniously with natural resources, considering the territory shared by El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras as an indivisible ecological unit, with sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits.

### OBJECTIVE

Contribute to sustainable human development in the Trifinio region in harmony with nature and within the framework of a participatory model of trinational integration between El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.



# ORIGIN OF THE PLAN TRIFINIO

On November 1986, the Vice-presidents of El Salvador and Guatemala, and the Presidential Commissioner from Honduras signed a Technical Cooperation Agreement to work towards the comprehensive development plan for the border region of these three countries, called Plan Trifinio.

The Trinational Commission of Plan Trifinio (CTPT) was established in 1997 with the signing of a Trinational Treaty.

- Countries involved in the Treaty: Republics of El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala.
- It is lead by the Vice Presidents of El Salvador and Guatemala and a Presidential Commissioner from Honduras.





# CROSS-BORDER MANAGEMENT MODEL

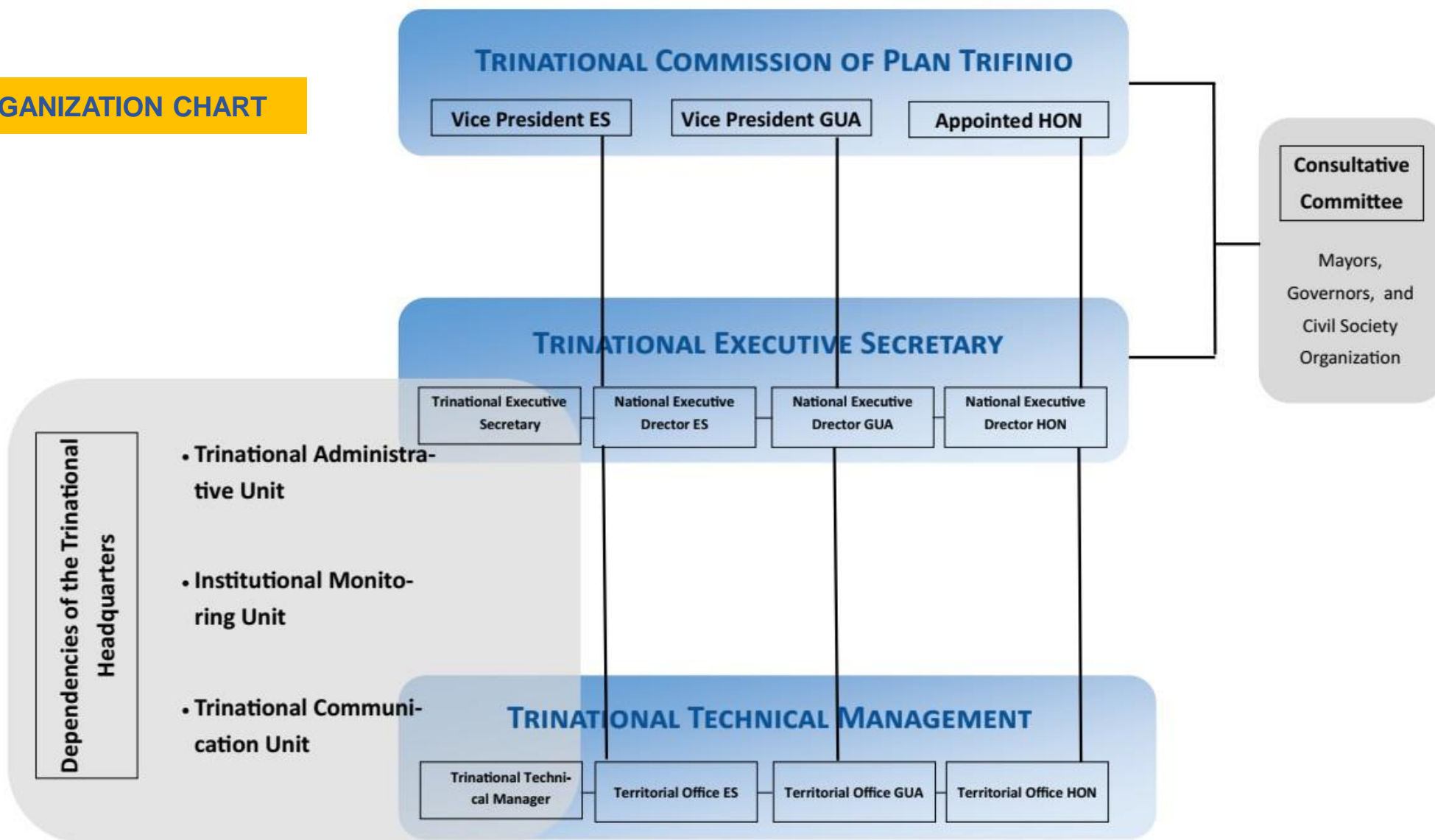


**The cross-border management model is based on an institutional legal framework (international treaty):**

- It promotes and provides stability to the transnational relations between the territories that form the Trifinio region composed of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.
- Encourages the active participation of local, governmental and cross-border actors.
- It promotes and applies different mechanisms of multilevel coordination and cooperation.
- It focuses on a superior objective: the systematic construction of objective conditions to achieve economic and social development, in balance with the comprehensive environmental management.



## INSTITUTIONAL ORGANIZATION CHART





# TRINATIONAL COMMISSION OF PLAN TRIFINIO



*Dr. Félix Ulloa hijo  
Vicepresident  
Republic of El Salvador*



*Lic. Guillermo Castillo Reyes  
Vicepresident  
Republic of Guatemala*



*Licda. Doris Gutiérrez  
Presidential Commissioner  
Republic of Honduras*

## SECRETARÍA EJECUTIVA TRINACIONAL

*Lic. Cristian André Acosta  
Trinational Executive Secretary*

*Lic. Jorge Urbina  
National Executive Director  
of El Salvador*

*Lic. Guillermo Díaz Hernández  
National Executive Director of  
Guatemala*

*Lic. Jorge Aguilar Paredes  
National Executive Director of  
Honduras*









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REGIONAL POTENTIAL

# TRIFINIO





# ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TRIFINIO REGION

**Biodiversity** comprises the diversity of species, genetics and ecosystems.

Its importance lies in **supporting the functioning of ecosystems and providing essential ecosystem services** for human well-being and productive activities.

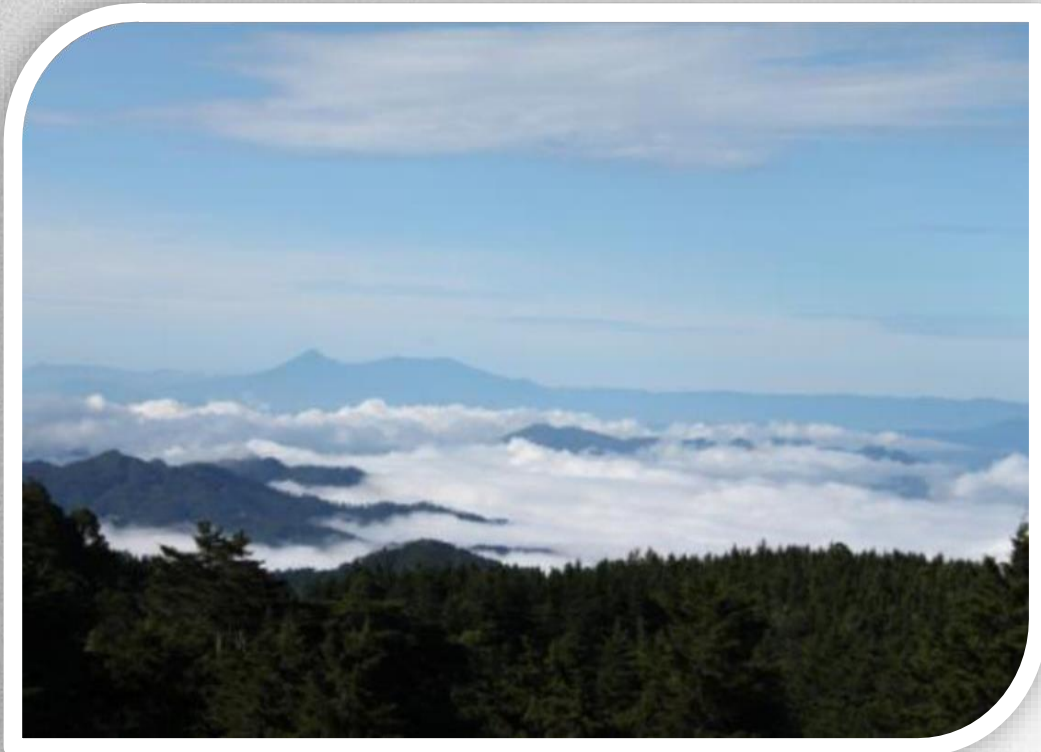
**The landscape** is the broadest level for the approach to biodiversity. Information at this scale is consolidated with the use of different thematic maps (vegetation, soils, uses, among others), which are integrated into a geographic information system (GIS).

This type of organization allows planners to model processes or functions and develop maps of **patch** types (vegetation, agroecosystems, urban areas and others).





# ECOSYSTEM SERVICES OF THE TRIFINIO REGION



**Supply services:**  
food, fibers, wood,  
firewood, genetic  
resources,  
medicines and water.

Regulatory services: air  
quality and flood control,  
waste treatment,  
biological control of  
diseases and pests.

**Ecosystem Services**  
are the benefits that  
people obtain from  
ecosystems. These  
benefits include:

**Basic services:**  
maintenance of  
conditions for life on  
earth including, soil  
formation, recycling of  
nutrients and production  
of raw materials.

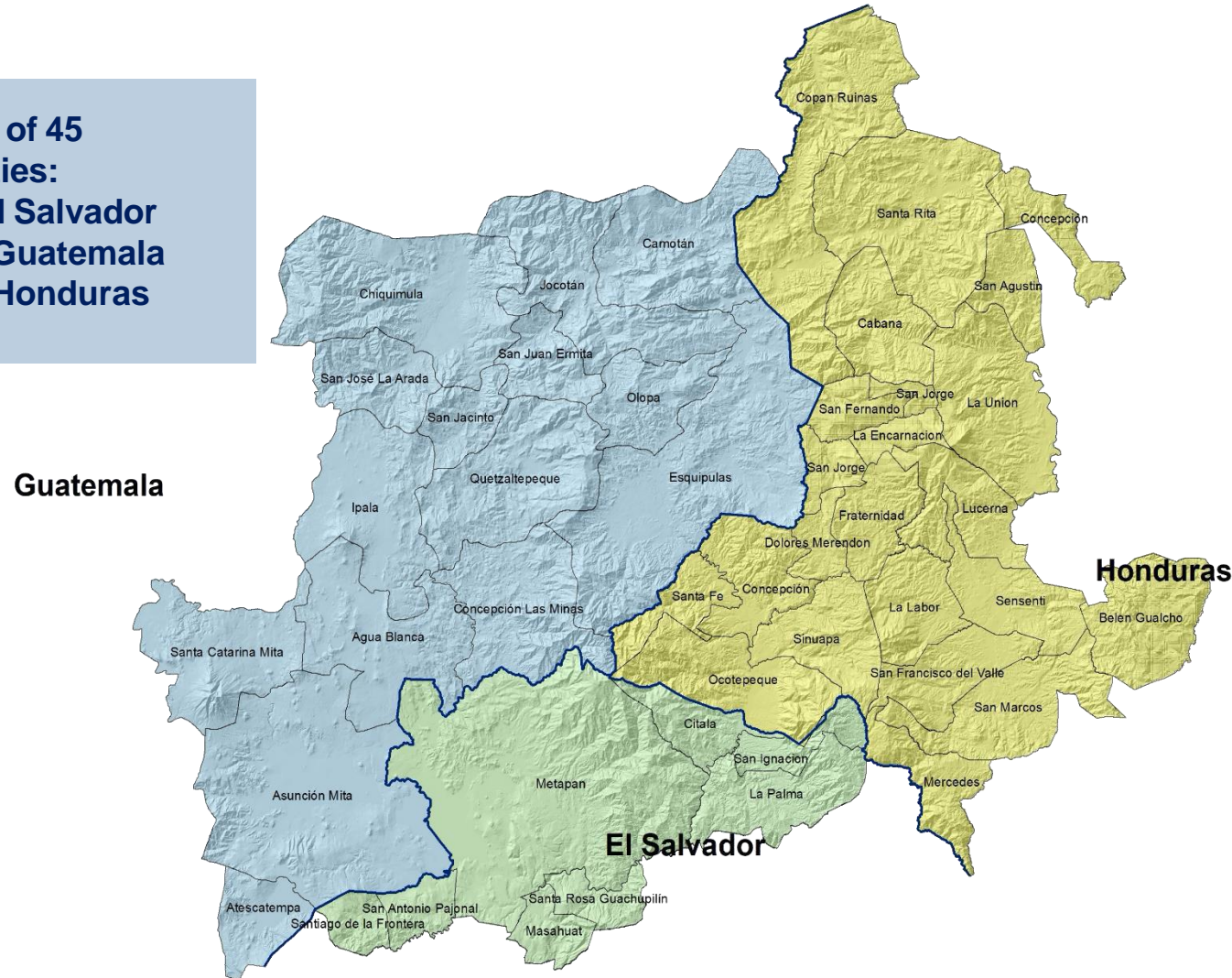
**Cultural services:**  
spiritual and religious  
values, educational and  
aesthetic values and other  
intangible benefits such as  
recreation and ecotourism.



# POLITICAL POTENTIAL

Composed of 45 municipalities:

- 8 - El Salvador
- 15 - Guatemala
- 22 - Honduras



Diversity of political views articulated around the same goal

Decentralization and municipal autonomy

Trinational territorial platforms as part of the governance process



## Strengthened social fabric



Maya Chortí population in Chiquimula, Guatemala.



### SECTORAL PLATFORMS:

Tri-national Coffee Committee  
Tri-national Chamber of sustainable tourism

National economic councils

### ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES:

Community Development Associations  
Water seals

Women and youth networks

Tri-national Biosphere Management Group

Risk management

Advisory Committee of the Territorial Cross-Border Economic Development Agency



# ECONOMICAL POTENTIAL

## Agricultura production



87% of the population of the region is dedicated to agricultural production.

MASTER PLAN PLAN TRIFINIO (Phase 1)

Coffee growing: more than 1.2 million quintals a year produced in more than 36,145 hectares, with 19,884 producers. Generating 50% of the jobs in the region.

MASTER PLAN PLAN TRIFINIO (Phase 1)

## Craft activity



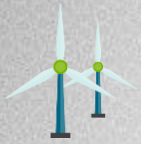
## Tourism



The region receives more than 1.7 million tourists a year.

BID - PROTUR



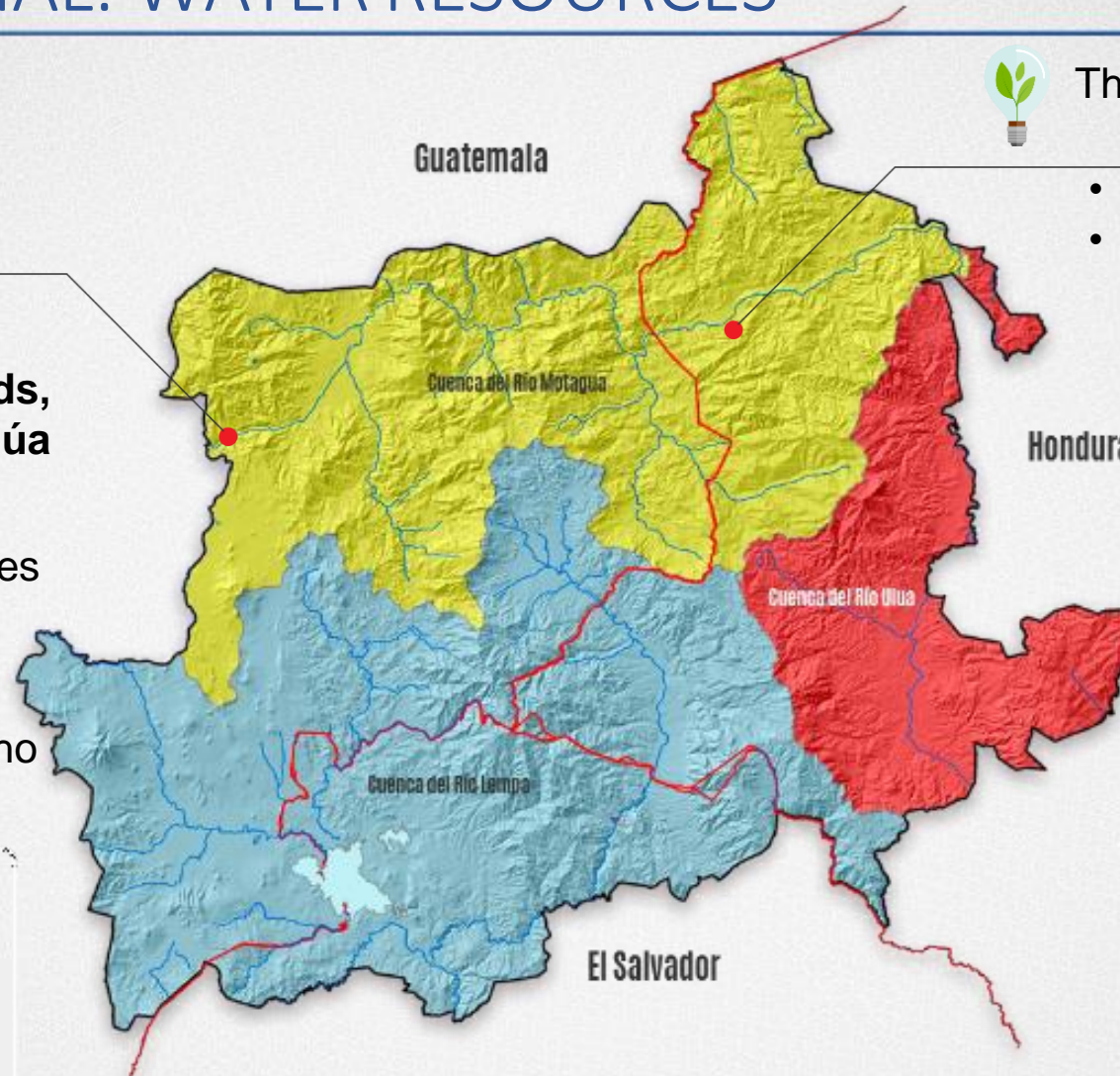


## Trifinio Region:

- Home to 3 large watersheds, Lempa, Motagua and Ulúa rivers.
- The Trifinio region generates 4,346 million cubic meters of water per year.
- Provide vital systemic ecosystem services to all 3 countries.

### SYMBOLOLOGY

- Country Limit
- Trifinio Region
- Lempa River Basin
- Motagua River Basin
- Ulúa River Basin



## The Lempa River Basin:

- Extension of 17,919 km<sup>2</sup>.
- It crosses the three countries, from where it starts to where it ends in the Pacific Ocean



Water supply for human consumption



Produce renewable energy



Resource for economic development (agriculture, industry and tourism)

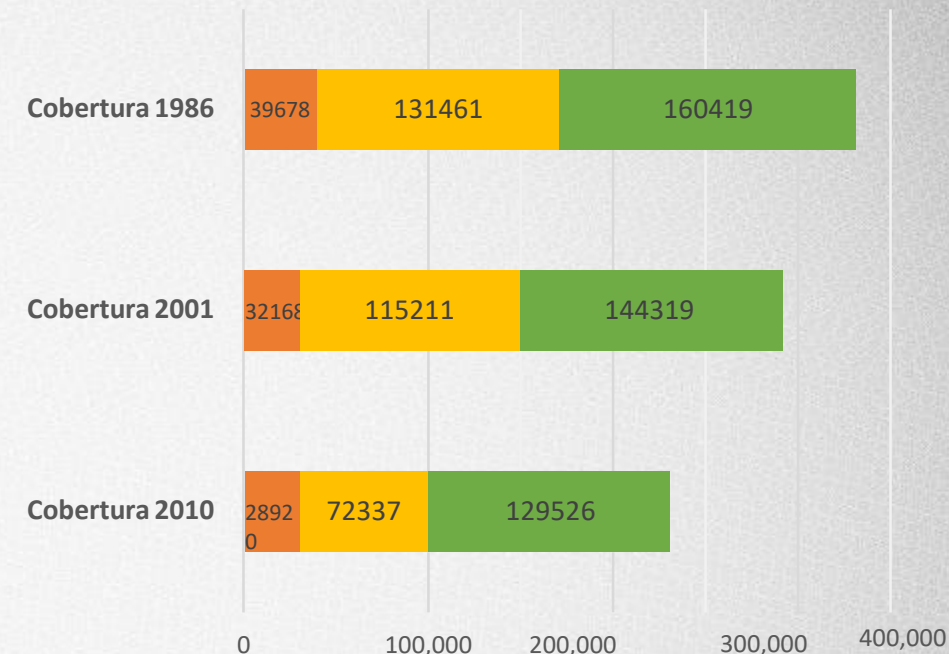
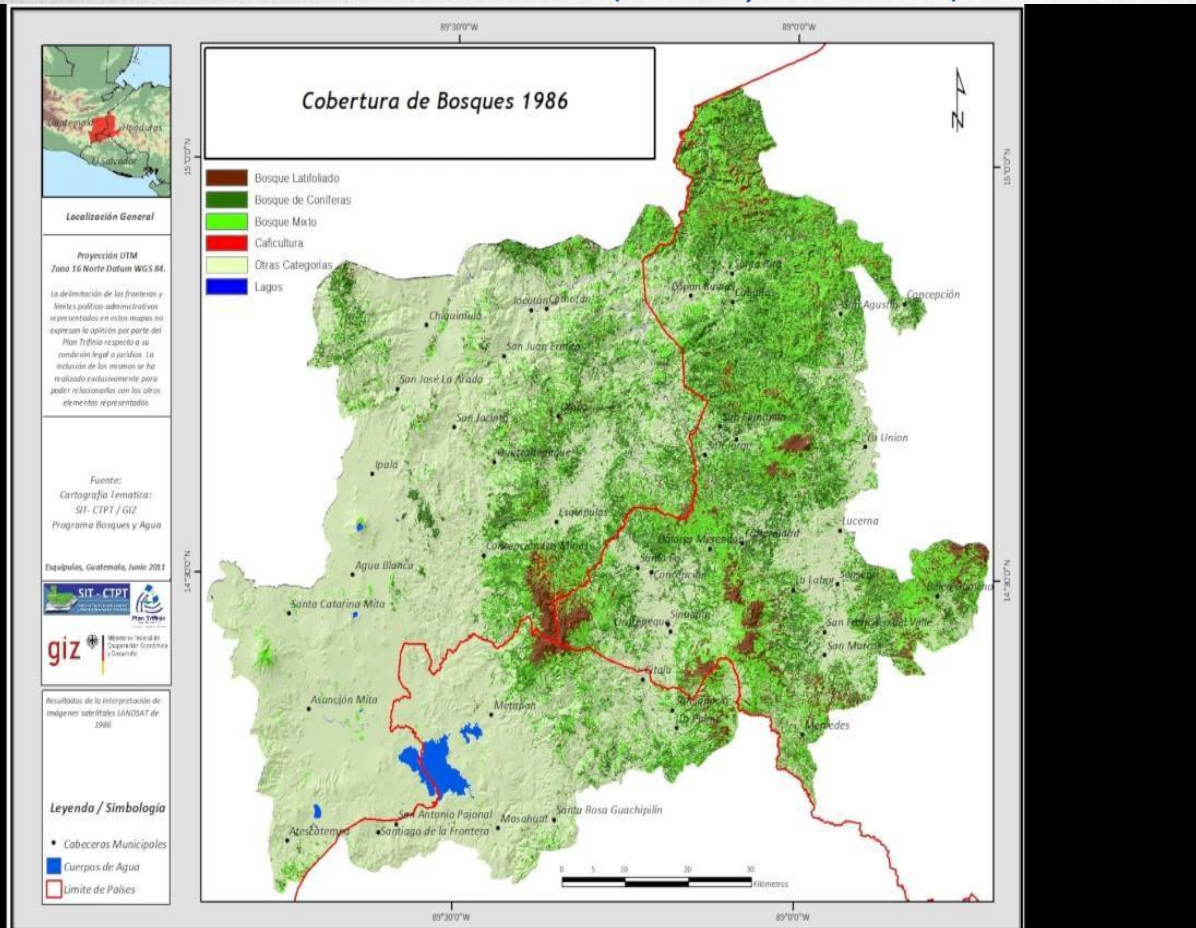
Font: Estado de la Región Trifinio, 2010.



# ECOSYSTEMIC POTENTIAL: FORESTS (HA)

(DE 1986, 2001 Y 2010)

Latifoliadas Coníferas Bosque Mixto



The greatest losses are:  
Conifer Forest (45%)  
and Latifoliate Forest (-27%)

Font: State of the Trifinio Region 2010

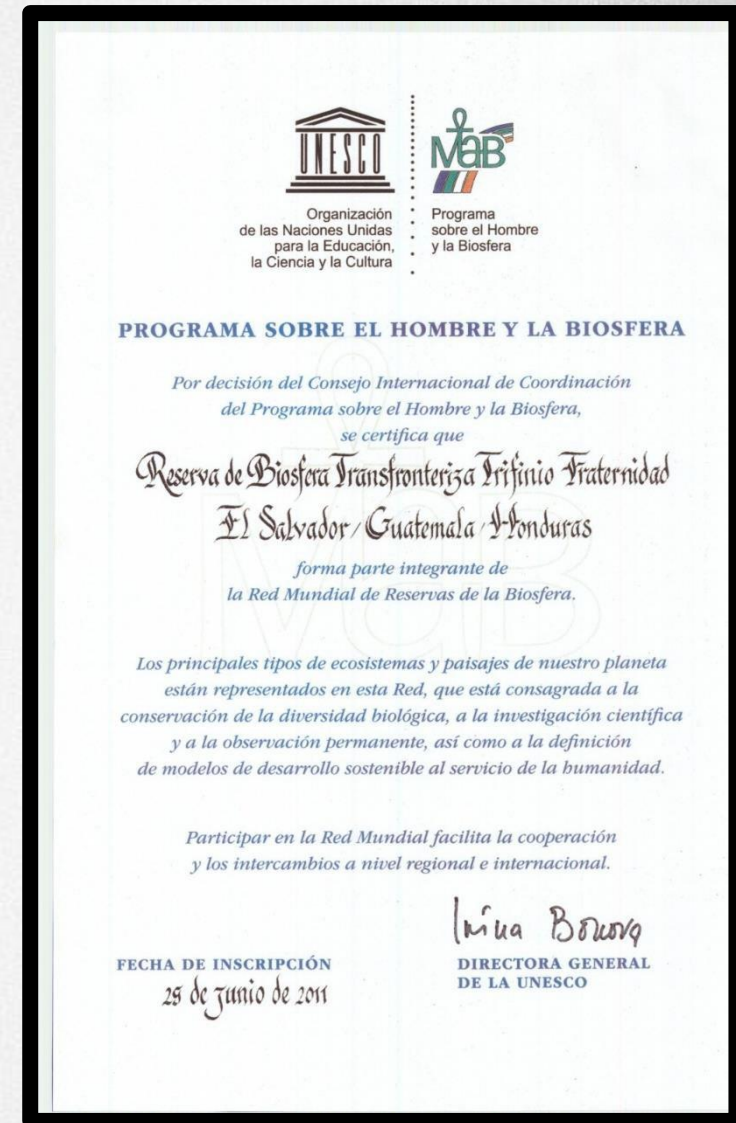
One of the **urgent** demands of the territory is to update this information



The "Trifinio - Fraternidad" Cross-Border Biosphere Reserve is the first tri-national biosphere reserve in the Americas.

To date it is the only tri-national reserve in the American Continent and the Caribbean, recognized by UNESCO

It was declared a Biosphere Reserve in June 2011 by UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme (MAB) and is considered an example of tri-national cooperation



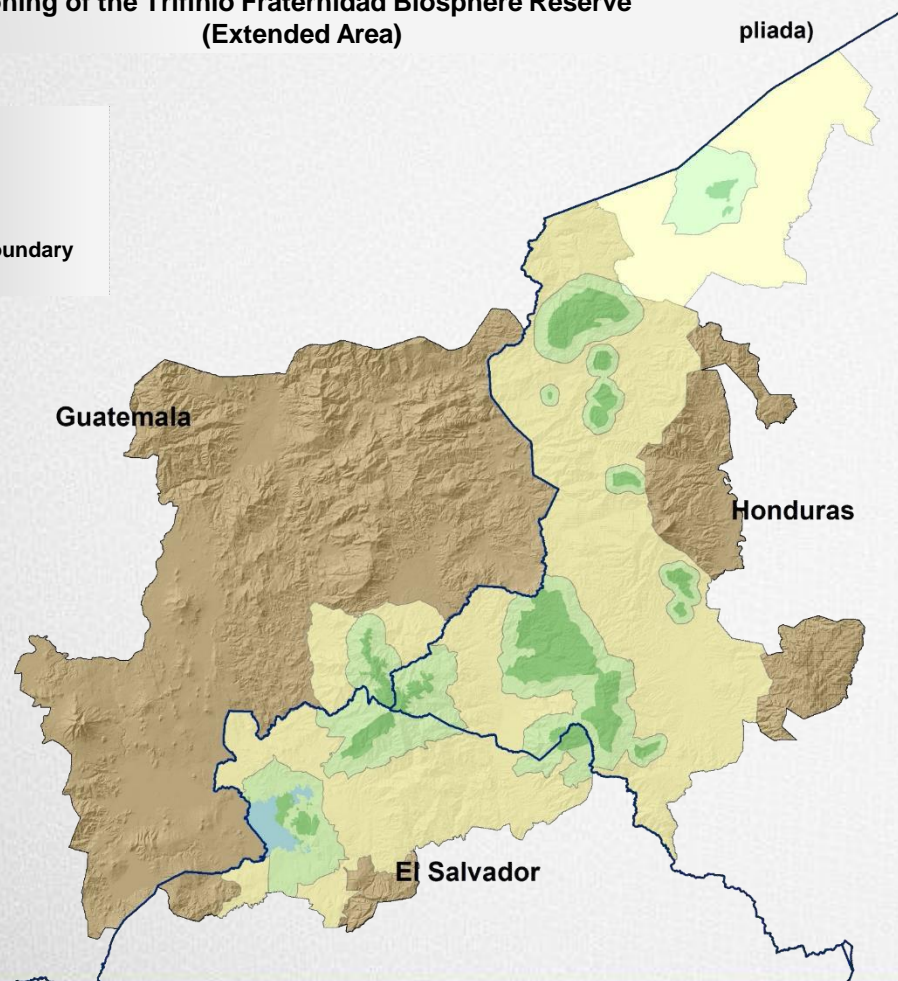


# ECOSYSTEMIC POTENTIAL: TRIFINIO FRATERNITY TRANSBOUNDARY BIOSPHERE RESERVE AND OTHER PROTECTED AREAS IN THE TRIFINIO REGION

Zoning of the Trifinio Fraternidad Biosphere Reserve  
(Extended Area)

**Simbology**

- Transition
- Buffer Zone
- Earth core
- Lake core
- Trifinio Region boundary
- Country limit





# CROSS-BORDER BIOSPHERE RESERVE "TRIFINIO-FRATERNIDAD"

Montecristo National Park is part of tri-national protected areas.

The park includes more than 3000 species of plants, 280 species of birds, 98 species of mammals and 50 different species of reptiles and amphibians.

Considering how small the park is (<12,000 ha), the number of diversity is extremely species is high. (Many of these species are considered endangered worldwide).

Water insect species have been documented, which is an indicators of the water quality.

Natural Protected Areas:

Cloud Forest, Dry Stationary Subtropical Forest, Pine Forest- Oak, Wetland of the Laguna Güija complex.





# CROSS-BORDER BIOSPHERE RESERVE "TRIFINIO-FRATERNIDAD"

## PRESENT RISKS



Persistent deforestation practices that break the reproductive cycles of ecosystems



Effect on water regulation and availability



Systematic loss of soil fertility, especially due to excessive use of chemical inputs



Higher levels of poverty and inequality

## PROTECTIVE MEASURES



Reforestation actions and fight against erosion and desertification



Actions for treatment, recovery and sustainable use of water resources



Practices to regulate productive activities



Actions to fight poverty and generate more resilience





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# THE PARTICIPATORY MASTER PLAN OF THE **TRIFINIO REGION**







## A PLAN FOR ALL

### JOINT DECLARATION OF THE CTPT:

“Carry out a process of building a Participatpy Master Development Plan for the Trifinio Region, which fosters the construction of a cross- border territorial management model for sustainable development”.

Build a plan with:

- **A common vision**
  - **A shared dream**
- For a brighter future



# MASTER PLAN OF THE TRIFINIO REGION



-Strategic instrument for multi-year planning, which contributes towards a shared visión and actions to improve the quality of life of the region's inhabitants.

-Seeks to contribute to the comprehensive, sustainable and inclusive human development of the Trifinio region with a cross-border approach for the next 30 years (2021-2051)

-It is proposed as an instrument that allows to detonate the productive potential and the attraction of investments in the region within the framework of the "fourth industrial revolution" and with an environmental sustainability approach.

-Dynamizing instrument of the "Comprehensive Development Plan" (PDI) of ECLAC.









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STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE

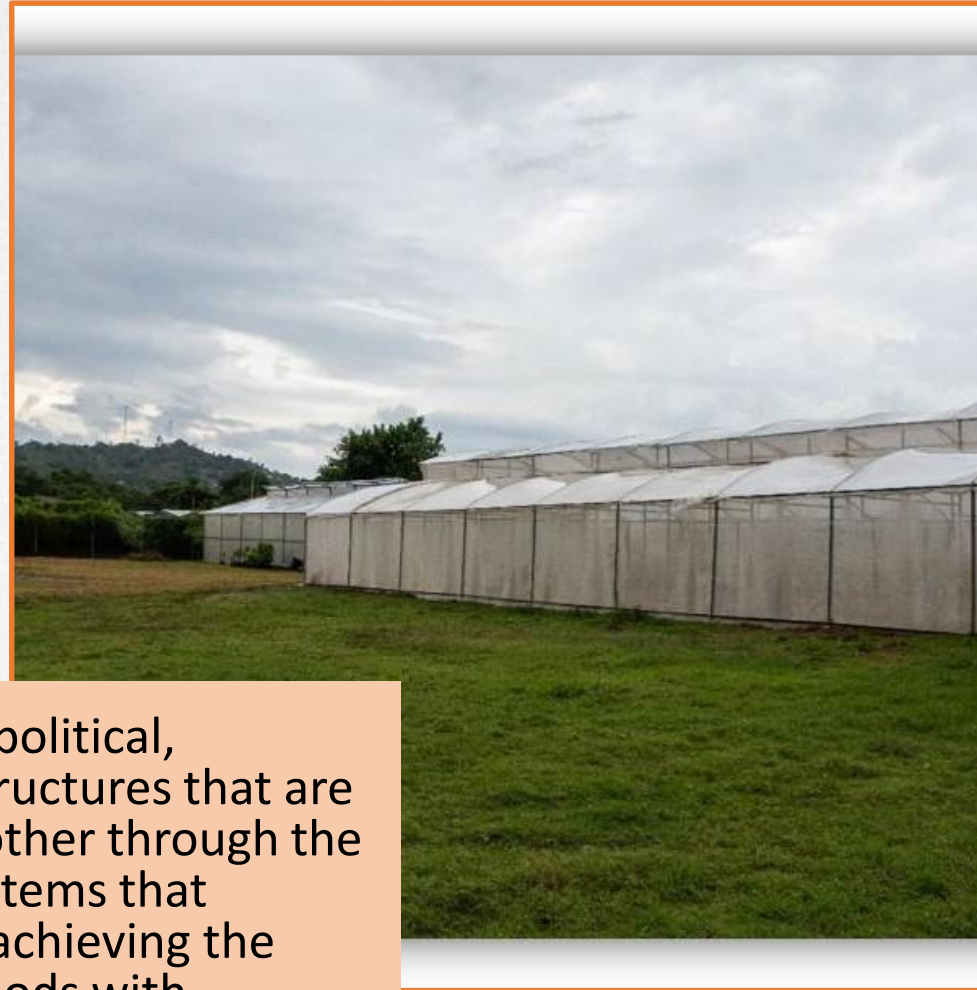
# AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEM (SISTAGRO)





## AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEM (SISTAGRO)

Set of economic, technical, political, institutional and cultural structures that are interconnected with each other through the connection with the subsystems that comprise it and that allow achieving the production of productive goods with ecosystem sustainability.





# INSTALLATIONS OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEM OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION (SISTAGRO)

They operate in the facilities of the NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE OF THE PLAN TRIFINIO EL SALVADOR (DEN-ES), one in the municipality of San Ignacio, department of Chalatenango, and the other in the municipality of Metapán, in the department of Santa Ana.



**SISTAGRO**

Sistema Tecnológico de Producción Agropecuario

**Plan Trifinio**



## PURPOSE OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEM OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

SISTAGRO seeks to model the agricultural development of the Trifinio region and make it a benchmark for efficient and effective agroecological production, capable of generating added value to sustainable and environmentally sustainable production chains.





## SISTAGRO: STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR ITS OPERATION



Controlled  
Production  
System



Integral  
System of  
Home  
Gardens



Skills Training  
Centers and  
technology  
transfer



Packing  
Centers



Market  
Intelligence  
Centers





# STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF SISTAGRO: CONTROLLED PRODUCTION SYSTEM

Installation of experimental type greenhouses used for applied research in different types of crops.

Activation of mineralized organic fertilizer plant and the use of nanotechnology.

Installation of seedlings for the production of seedlings of different crops that will be used in the greenhouses to supply the Home and Community Garden Program.





## STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF SISTAGRO: COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF HOME AND COMMUNITY GARDENS

Recovery of the food and nutritional security conditions of family groups in the Trifinio El Salvador region, mainly of the groups with greater vulnerability and lower income, with emphasis on women heads of household.

Development and diversification of food production, of the generation of capacities and knowledge for the domestic production of crops, the improvement of food consumption patterns and the promotion of ties of solidarity and association between inhabitants and communities.





## STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF SISTAGRO: CAPACITY TRAINING CENTERS

Installation of a Training and Technology Transfer Center to strengthen the capacities of producers in the Trifinio region.

Training areas: Soil management, comprehensive management of water resources, agroecological techniques, management of agricultural inputs, business administration, accounting, marketing, marketing strategies, etc.







## STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF SISTAGRO: PACKAGING CENTERS

Installation of comprehensive Packing Centers that includes a warehouse and cold room that will be used to support producers who do not have these facilities so that they can process and pack agricultural production in order to penetrate market niches that require quality standards subject to compliance with phytosanitary measures.









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STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE

# SUSTAINABLE TOURISM STRATEGY





At the same time, it is contemplated to develop a tourism promotion strategy at the national, regional and international level based on the existing offer and new potentialities, which allows to reactivate the Trinational Tourist Route of the Trifinio Region.



Promote, through a virtual platform, the different tourist attractions of the Trifinio region, linked to the National Tourism Strategy.

Strengthen the business organizational fabric of the tourism chain in the Trifinio region.

Promote articulation in the matter of tourism with the institutional framework of the each central government in country, with local governments and other actors in the territory.











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STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE

# CROSS-BORDER TRINATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (ADETT)









## MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE ADETT



**Economic  
Animation**



**Promotion and  
improvement  
of the  
productive  
infrastructure**



**Research and  
development  
for innovation,  
sustainability  
and structural  
improvements**



**Promotion of  
local, national  
and  
international  
investments**



**Promotion of the  
Trifinio region in  
international  
forums and fairs**







## INSTITUTIONALITY OF THE CROSS-BORDER TRINATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (ADETT)

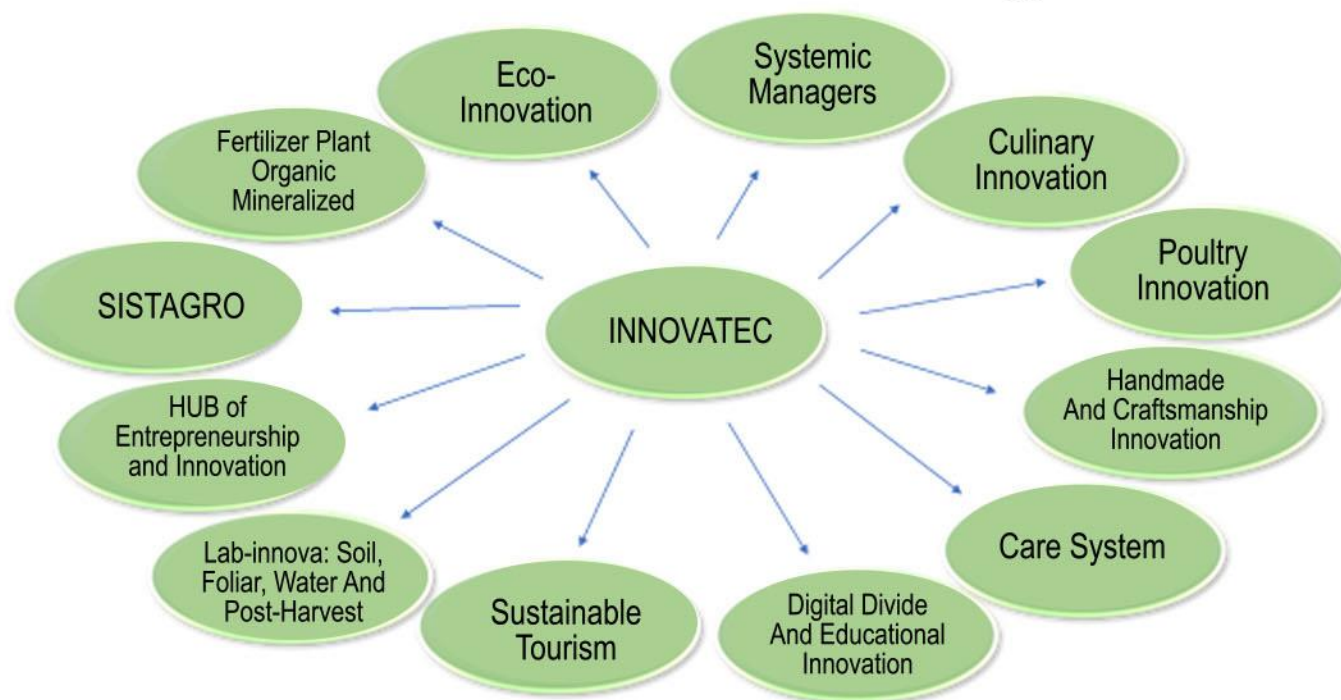
- The Trinational Commission of the Trifinio Plan agrees to create the Cross-Border Trinational Economic Development Agency (ADETT).
- The ADETT will be part of the functions of the Trinational Executive Secretariat (SET).
- The SET will promote the creation of the National ADETs in order to promote the Master Plan in its economic and social nature.



# INNOVATEC entrepreneurship

**ADET**

**Center for Innovation and Green Technology Transfer**



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK ➔ FEASIBILITY 2 PHASES

## INNOVATEC IN ITS SECOND PHASE (subject to feasibility study):

The second phase provides for the development of the TRIFINIO EL SALVADOR SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY PARK (Pillar 3 of the Strategy for Economic and Social Dynamization of the Trifinio region 2021-2023), which aims to substantially increase the social and private profitability of the Trifinio region of El Salvador through the enhancement of strategic and specific scientific, technological and investigative capacities (basic, applied and/or technological) as well as the provision of specialized services in these areas, encouraging cooperation between the academic, business, government and professional.









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CONCLUSIONS AND CHALLENGES OF

# TRIFINIO REGION





## CONCLUSIONS:

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Strengthening of the Technological System of Agricultural Production \_SISTAGRO- which has ensured controlled production in greenhouses and mesh houses, the promotion of the use of mineralized organic fertilizer and nanotechnology, the support for Food and Nutritional Security through the promotion of home and community gardens, the training and technology transfer to the producers of the different productive chains and the visibility of the sustainable tourism chain.

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The Trifinio Plan works systematically on the sustainability of ecosystems, contributing to the conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity, which guarantees the population to have constant access to ecosystem services, necessary to improve the quality of life.

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There is a Master Plan that guides the economic and social dynamization of the Trifinio region, through the operation of the Territorial Cross- Border Economic Development Agency, which aims to strengthen the capacities of economic actors and optimize the potential of the productive chains.

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Strengthening of civil society organizations, business fabric, academic and research centers, as well as municipal governments and associations of municipalities, ensuring the implementation of governance mechanisms.

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## CHALLENGES:

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Contribute to the conservation of ecosystems and transboundary biodiversity in balance with the economic and social development of the Trifinio region, which allows further progress in regional integration, increasing the capacities to adapt to climate change.

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Promote in the cross-border region the inclusive trilateral integration process in the economic, social, cultural and environmental spheres, achieving systematic progress in the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals, with the participation of all actors.

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The protection of the basins and sub-basins so that the management of hydrological environmental services guarantees sustainable human development and the conservation of the Trifinio Fraternity Transboundary Biosphere Reserve, minimizing the threat of community and territorial conflicts over access to it. resource.

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Ensure that Plan Trifinio as an intergovernmental body has the resources and institutional capacities that allow it to lead processes of innovation and technology transfer, as well as the management of cross-border regional development within the framework of the Master Plan.

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# TRIFINIO REGION

**Thank you**

[www.plantrifinio.int](http://www.plantrifinio.int)

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