



## INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL CONTEXT

CARE International in Honduras is implementing the project "Improving community resilience in the dry corridor of Honduras and thanks to a donation from the ICDF of Taiwan.

The **duration** of the project is **12 months**.

Department: **Disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change.**

The general objective of the project is to strengthen the resilience of the communities through participatory and inclusive processes, integrating an analysis of adaptation to climate change and a community-based approach to disaster risk management. Improve the resilience of the community in the face of a multi-threat scenario. This will be achieved by accomplishing three results: (1) **1350** local population with increased knowledge and skills to manage risk related to climate variability; (2) **15 CODELs** with increased availability of information related to climate variability. (3) At least **15 small-scale infrastructure** implemented in the target communities.

The project implementation is in the municipalities of San José and San Isidro, Department of Choluteca and San Francisco de Coray, Department of Valle; all municipalities located in the dry corridor of Honduras and are among the most vulnerable in the region. These municipalities were selected based on poverty and information on the food security index that has been generated for this specific area. Studies show that both Valle and Choluteca are in Phase 1 of Food Insecurity (CIF data from October 2016), mainly caused by recurrent droughts, limited access to water resources, degradation of natural resources and lack of knowledge of practices sustainable agriculture and early warning systems. A study carried out by WFP at the end of 2016, support this affirmation, applying the VAM-m that considers indicators related to: productivity and livelihoods of families, data on planting and harvesting, situation of crops, household grain reserves, prices of basic grains at the farm level and consumer prices of the six main products of the basic food basket. In addition, to assess access to food, indicators related to the main sources of employment and income at the household level were included. The data obtained to June 2017 show an increase of 65% in the number of families that do not have food reserves, which represents a significant increase compared to the 37% shown by the same study during April of the same year. Within households that lack food reserves, the percentage of families headed by women is higher. This means that only 11.4% of households could satisfy their food security during the next harvest season.

Another factor that affects families within these municipalities is the increase in the prices of basket basic food products (from December 2016 to June 2017), due to low production and scarce reserves, which increases the vulnerability of the local population. In addition, the socioeconomic factors that are worth highlighting are low coverage of basic services such as education that results in an illiteracy rate of 29-35%; mortality rate of 0.5 - 0.4; households without access to water: 23 - 48%. Based on the above, it is necessary to implement programs focused on prevention and preparation, mainly on climate variability at the community level.

## **DESCRIPTION AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WORK**

In the dry corridor, the droughts produced by climate change/variability is disturbing the ecosystems and its services, especially the availability of water resources for human consumption and agricultural uses. To face with this situation, CARE Honduras has designed the strategy BLUE-GREEN WATER, which seeks to maintain / increase water sources productivity, promote an efficient use of water (blue water) and reduce humidity losses in the soil (green water).

To reduce humidity losses in the soil, sustainable and water-smart agricultural practices will be promoted among the producers, such as:

- Plant spacing: to ensure adequate population density of plants to increase production.
- Adequate fertilization: in order to increase yield by providing the right amount of nutrients to the plant.
- Integrated pest management: preventing pests from affecting crop quality and yield.
- No burning: with the aim of protecting soil fertility and preventing erosion.
- Elaboration of beds: removing the soil and grouping it in beds helps to a greater development of roots of the crops.
- Micro-irrigation: to reduce the water losses by irrigation and ensure the adequate amount of water per plant.

CARE International in Honduras is looking for a volunteer with the following experience:

An agricultural volunteer with knowledge in the implementation of community Climate Change Adaptation strategies, as well as sustainable and water-smart agricultural practices supporting the project's personnel in the establishment of "Farmers Field Schools".

## **REQUIRED REQUIREMENTS**

- Bachelor's degree in agricultural related subjects
- At least two years of experience in subjects related to Sustainable Agricultural Practices under contexts of droughts and climate change or variability.
- With the ability to train field technicians and community leaders and experience in community capacity building process.
- Be willing to travel to the project area and other areas if necessary.
- Have knowledge of spoken Spanish (Communicable level).
- Have two years of experience in field research process could be a plus.

## **DELIVERABLE**

Preparation of a work plan. Analysis and recommendations of best-fit water smart agricultural practices adapted to the dry corridor. Documentation on hydric demands per type of crop. Report of the work developed presenting the results. Methodological designs of training processes.

## **LIFE CONDITIONS AND TIME LIMITS**

- She or he will stay in the municipality of Nacaome and the accommodation will be provided by CARE Honduras.

- Travel daily to the work areas, coordinating with the project staff.
- The allowance will be covered by the Taiwan ICDF.
- Will join the mission for three months. (ideal start date August 2018).