

Strengthening cultural roots, livelihoods, food security, and access to water through housing

CONTEXT

The Central American Dry Corridor (CADC) is a 1,600 km long (≈1,000 miles) region that extends from southern Mexico (Chiapas) to Costa Rica (Guanacaste). Populated by approximately 22.5 million people, 80% of its territory encompasses the Pacific Coast of Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, referred to collectively as the Northern Triangle of Central America.

This area is characterized by strong precipitation variability and intense droughts due to the El Niño–Southern Oscillation phenomena and climate change. Its population faces periods of severe drought that alternate with times of torrential rains and flooding, affecting crop cycles and farming strategies for more than one million families living in the CADC who depend on subsistence agriculture of basic grains.



Employment deficit that excludes the workforce in the three countries:

- Drains productive capacity.
- Impacts the economy.
- Returning migrants have worse socioeconomic conditions than when they left.
- Efforts to reinsert them will require a GDP growth rate of up to 1%.

Land tenure:

- Significant inequalities between housing and productive uses.
- Typically male, so women experience gender disparity.
- Approximately 5 million indigenous people suffer from inequalities in land tenure and protection of their right to collective property.





OUR PROPOSAL

We design **projects** to address some of the primary issues in the area, such as **habitability, access to basic services, affordability, and secure tenure**. We want to significantly increase the scale and impact of interventions carried out in collaboration with partners and allies in the Central American region.

COMPONENTS

1 Strengthening livelihoods and access to water

- **Strengthen livelihoods and employability** by improving housing for productive activities and encouraging the use of sustainable building materials and technologies that meet technical requirements without neglecting cultural essence.
- Provide **access to community infrastructure** and basic **water and sanitation** services, focusing on sustainable housing.
- Strengthen **microenterprise development** capacities and **financial skills**.
- **Strengthen community capacity to self-manage infrastructure**, identify **disaster risks**, and develop participatory **mitigation strategies**.
- Contribute to **reducing water pollution-related diseases and improving sanitation**.
- Contribute to **reducing the migration** of people who leave the territory searching for new livelihoods.

2 Promote affordable financing mechanisms

- **Facilitate partnerships** with cooperatives, microfinance banks, and local governments to **develop or strengthen the financing for productive housing** and water and sanitation-related microenterprises.
- **Promote** public and private **investment in productive housing, water, and sanitation**.

3 Advocacy for public policies

- **Promote inclusion of productive housing and access to community water and sanitation infrastructure** in municipal territorial plans.
- Influence local governments to develop **municipal action plans with a territorial risk approach**.



TARGET AUDIENCE

Residents of the most populous municipalities of the CADC in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. Mainly:

- Young adults (age 45 and younger) who comprise the demographic dividend.
- Women heads of household.
- Older adults.
- Indigenous populations.

The project will indirectly benefit children under the age of 14, who represent 33% of the CADC population in Guatemala, 31% in Honduras, 27% in El Salvador, and 29% in Nicaragua.

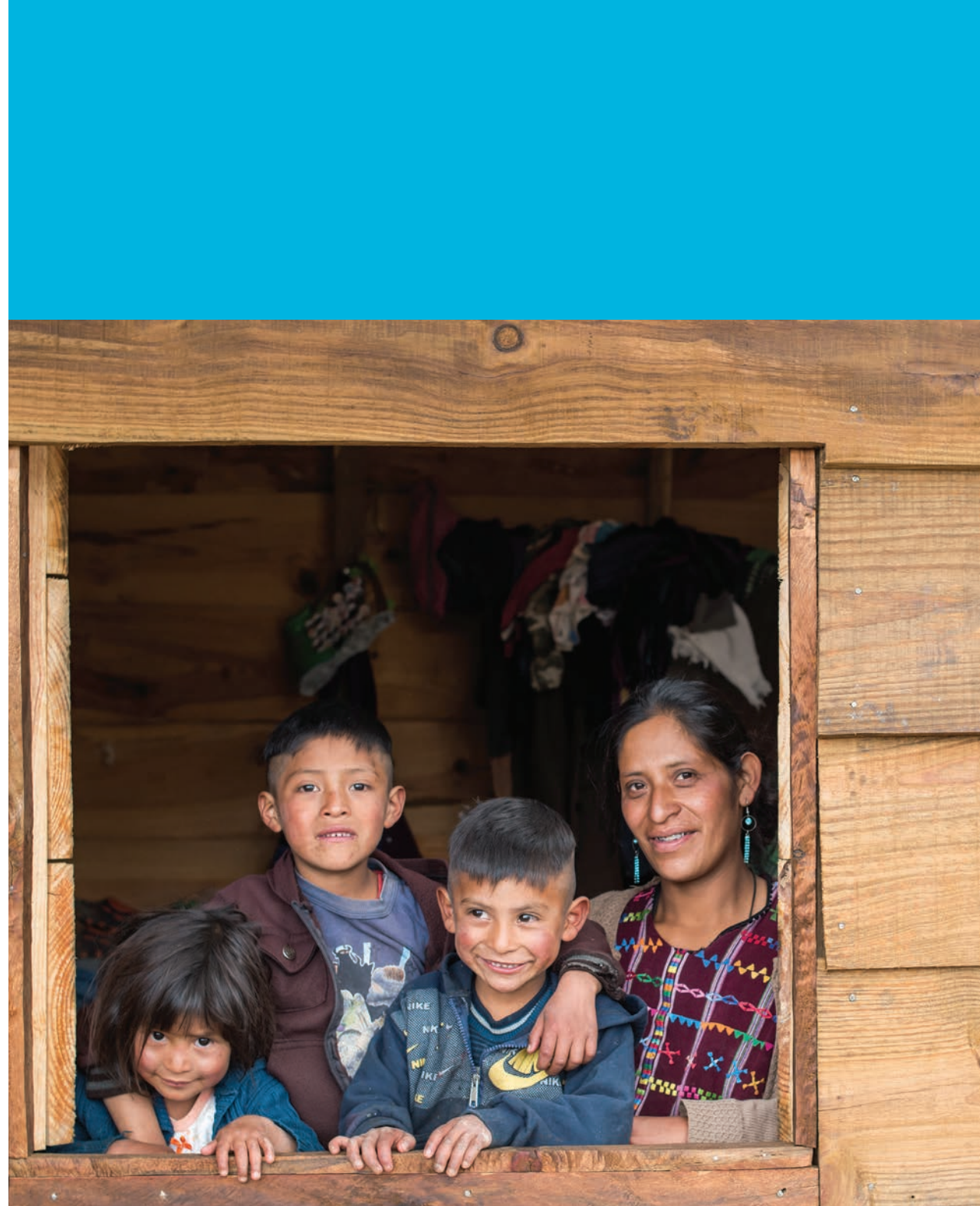
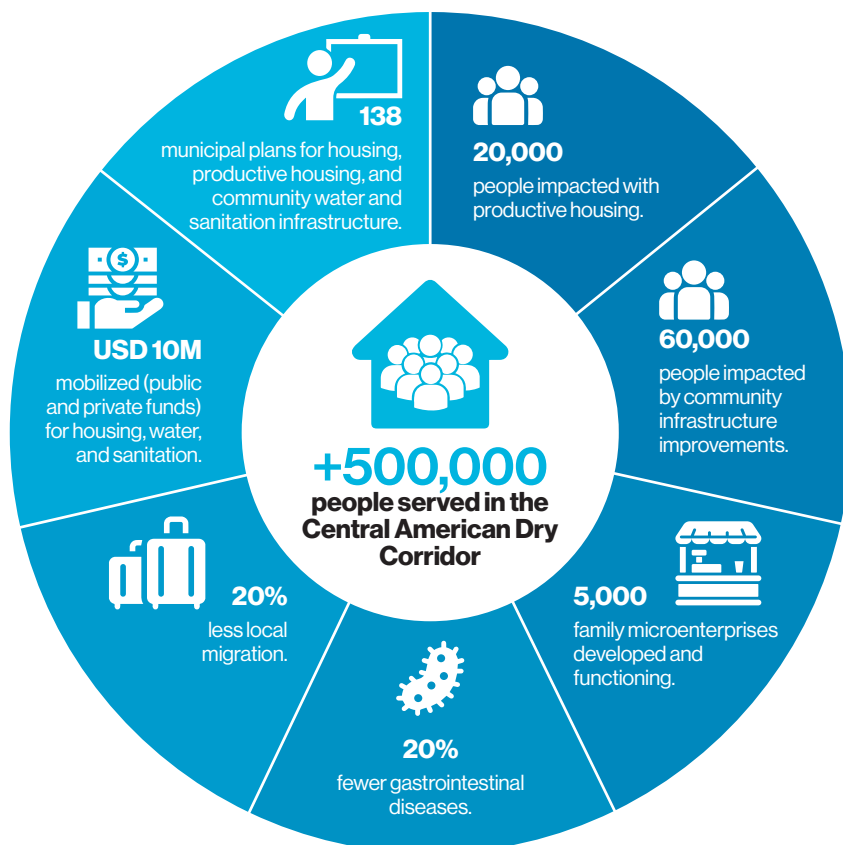
PROJECT DURATION

- Short-term actions: 1 to 2 years (2022 to 2023).
- Medium-term actions: 2 to 4 years (by 2025).

BUDGET BY COUNTRY

COUNTRY	COST
Guatemala	USD \$3,828,084
Honduras	USD \$4,136,219
El Salvador	USD \$6,603,314
Nicaragua	USD \$5,949,713
Total	USD \$20,517,331

EXPECTED RESULTS



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