



## Coffee and Cocoa Promote Sustainable Landscapes and Adaptation to Changing Climates

### RESULTS

- Over 1,700 coffee and cocoa farmers implemented sustainable agroforestry practices that **promote reforestation and adaptation to climate change on 2,099 hectares**, 80% of the total productive land of farmers in the program, including shade-grown coffee, intercropping, live barriers, wind breaks, nurseries etc.
- **26 farmer cooperatives certified** as complying with **sustainable standards** under Fair Trade, organic (Bio Latina), Rainforest Alliance, Smithsonian Bird Friendly, or UTZ Certification.
- **500 farmers decreased their use of wood by 21-28%** thanks to the construction and use of household-level biodigesters that are connected to cook stoves that burn methane rather than firewood.
- Production of a farmer-friendly cocoa toolkit **to increase coffee farmers' resilience and adaptation to climate change** by helping them transition to cocoa, a crop better suited to warmer temperatures than coffee. This transition from coffee to cocoa is essential, given increasing temperatures in the target areas.

### SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES & ADAPTATION

- LWR significantly contributed to **low carbon economic growth** since 2007 and sales of sustainably produced cocoa and coffee are now over \$19 million.
- LWR invested in **agricultural land use practices that slow CO<sub>2</sub> emissions** from deforestation and degradation of forests by promoting agroforestry practices.
- LWR made strategic investments in **reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions** through the construction of biodigesters, each of which reduces on avg. 2.4 MT of CO<sub>2e</sub> (CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent) per year and prevents 1.8 MT of CO<sub>2e</sub> emissions due to decreased use of firewood.
- LWR helped farmers in over 200 communities from nearly 20 municipalities across 5 departments of Nicaragua to be more **climate resilient** by gathering and sharing **information**, and promoting **natural resource management and adaptation strategies** with cooperatives and local governments. An example is LWR funded research that predicts that coffee production in the region will be less viable in 30- 50 years due to climate change.



### QUICK FACTS

Under the five-year ACORDAR project, LWR received USAID funding to work with coffee and cocoa farmers, which promoted sustainable landscapes and adapt to changing climates by:

- Increasing sustainable agroforestry practices
- Promoting cooperative-level sustainable certification
- Promoting carbon-reducing technologies
- Increasing resilience to climate change impacts

*LWR has worked in Central America since 1972 to promote sustainable livelihoods for rural farmers. Since 2007, LWR's regional profile has exceeded \$6 million, including projects ranging from agricultural value chains to disaster risk reduction & WASH.*

*Globally LWR is a leader in developing adaptation and mitigation programs at the community level. LWR's USAID-funded CADRE project is empowering communities to plant one million mangroves that will increase carbon sequestration and resilience of coastal communities in 4 districts in Indonesia. In El Salvador, 15,000 residents of high-risk communities are being trained in risk-reduction and response to climate-induced disasters (including early warning systems) through the USAID-funded Building Resilience project.*

**PROJECT NAME:** ACORDAR (Alliance to Create Opportunities for Rural Development through Agro-Enterprise Relationships)

**PROJECT PERIOD:** September 2007 – September 2012

**TOTAL FUNDING:** \$4,608,711, including \$2,599,656 from USAID