

2016

Sarteneja Alliance for Conservation and Development (SACD)



Community Engagement Strategy, Stakeholders Map, and History of Projects in Corozal Bay Wildlife Sanctuary (CBWS)



Community Engagement Strategy

Contents

Acronyms	3
Introduction	4
Current Engagement of Communities by SACD.....	4
Principles of Community Engagement.....	5
Purpose of Community Engagement Strategy.....	6
Objectives of Engagement Strategy.....	6
Benefits of the Community Engagement Strategy	8
Possible Challenges to Community Engagement.....	9
Stakeholders Map	10
Conservation NGOs.....	10
Community groups.....	12
Educational Institutions	12
Funding agencies.....	12
Government departments	12
Local governments.....	13
Private enterprises.....	13
Corozal Bay Advisory Committee (CBAC).....	13
History of Projects in CBWS & CBWS Communities (2011-2016).....	13
Acknowledgements.....	23

Community Engagement Strategy

Acronyms

BAS	Belize Audubon Society
BELTRAIDE	Belize Trade and Investment Development Service
CBAC	Corozal Bay Advisory Committee
CBFA	Copper Bank Fishermen Association
CBWS	Corozal Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
CFA	Chunox Fishermen Association
ECOSUR	El Colegio de la Frontera Sur
FOCUS	Friends of Corozal United for Sustainability
MCCAP	Belize Marine Conservation and Climate Adaptation Project
PACT	Protected Area Conservation Trust
SACD	Sarteneja Alliance for Conservation and Development
SEA	Southern Environmental Association
SEMA	Secretaria de Ecologia y Medio Ambiente
SFA	Sarteneja Fishermen Association
SHP	Sarteneja Homestay Program
SIF	Social Investment Fund
SNR	Shipstern Nature Reserve
STGA	Sarteneja Tour guides Association
SULFA	Sarteneja United Local Fishermen Association
TASA	Turneffe Atoll Sustainability Association
UNDP	United Nations Development Program

Community Engagement Strategy

Introduction

Community engagement is defined as the process of working collaboratively with and through groups of people affiliated by geographic proximity, special interest, or similar situations to address issues affecting the people in the community. It is a powerful vehicle for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to bring about environmental and behavioural changes that will improve the community and its members. It often involves partnerships and coalitions that help mobilize resources and influence systems, change relationships among partners, and serve as catalysts for changing policies, programs, and practices.

Community engagement occurs on a continuum of increasing level of community involvement, impact, trust, and communication flow. At the “outreach” level there is some community involvement; communications flow in one direction as NGOs simply provide information to the communities. At the “consult” level there is more community involvement; communication flows to the community and feedback is asked for. At the “involve” level communications flows both ways; there is more participation from the community. At the “collaborate” level communication flow is bi-directional and partnerships are formed to carry out projects and identify solutions. At the highest level of engagement, i.e. “shared leadership”, strong bi-directional relationships exist, with strong partnerships, and decision making occurs at the community level.

Current Engagement of Communities by SACD

The northern communities of Sarteneja, Chunox, Copper Bank, Corozal Town, Consejo, and San Pedro (Ambergris Caye) are the main users of the resources of the Corozal Bay Wildlife Sanctuary (CBWS). Their activities in the CBWS include: fishing, travelling by water taxi, recreation, tourism, and waste disposal.



Community Engagement Strategy

SACD currently engages the northern communities in the following ways:

1. **Outreach and Education.** This mostly occurs at the primary and secondary schools in the area. The Education and Outreach Coordinator, Abisai Verde, visits schools to make presentations about the CBWS. Annual activities include the: Schools Open Day, Sarteneja Community Day, Manatee Day, and the Summer Camp.
2. **Community Researcher Programme (CRP).** The Volunteer and Internship Program (VIP) component trains a cohort of community researchers to engage in ongoing research and monitoring activities. Activities of the VIP include: catch monitoring of the local fishery, water quality monitoring, mapping of benthic vegetation, mangroves and coastal vegetation, monitoring of Antillean manatees in CBWS, and bird surveys.
3. **Scholarship Programme.** SACD also supports education by providing tuition scholarships for high school to VIP participants that show the greatest motivation and conservation leadership.
4. **Corozal Bay Advisory Committee (CBAC).** SACD also engages the northern communities through the Corozal Bay Advisory Committee (CBAC).
5. **Alternative Livelihoods.** SACD assists community groups in identifying and establishing sustainable alternative livelihoods, for e.g. the Sarteneja Homestay Program.

As co-managers of the Corozal Bay Wildlife Sanctuary (CBWS), the Sarteneja Alliance for Conservation and Development (SACD) seeks to engage the northern communities of Sarteneja, Chunox, Copper Bank, Corozal Town, Consejo, and San Pedro (Ambergris Caye) to achieve its mission of promoting the sustainable use of the CBWS and improving the quality of life of its stakeholders. The challenge for SACD is to engage communities at a high level so that their efforts can be focused on research, monitoring, and project implementation rather than on enforcement.

Principles of Community Engagement

In the development of this Community Engagement Strategy, SACD has adopted the following nine (9) principles:

1. Be clear about the communities to be engaged and goals of the effort.
2. Know the communities including its norms, history and experience with engagement efforts.
3. Build trusts and relationships and get commitments from formal and informal leaders.
4. Collective self determination is the responsibility and right of all community members.
5. Partnering with the community is necessary to create change.
6. Recognize and respect community cultures and other factors affecting designing and implementing approaches

Community Engagement Strategy

7. Sustainability results from mobilizing community assets and developing capacities and resources.
8. Work towards the communities reaching self efficacy and be flexible to meet changing needs.
9. Community collaboration requires long term commitment.

Purpose of Community Engagement Strategy

In line with SACD’s mission in the management of the CBWS, the purpose of this strategy is to engage stakeholders in the northern communities to enhance and adapt the use of sustainable practices in the CBWS and surrounding buffer communities.

Objectives of Engagement Strategy

No	Objectives	Strategy	Activities
1	Expand the level of outreach, education, and communications.	1. Engage students at primary, secondary, and tertiary levels.	1. Determine the current level of engagement in schools. 2. Continue with annual summer camps in Sarteneja and extend invitation to other villages. 3. Conduct a search of active environmental and tourism clubs at schools and invite them to partake in activities in the CBWS. 4. Assess the sustainability of the scholarship program and identify new ways for funds to be made available to students.
2	Increase the level of awareness about the CBWS and SACD.	1. Increase publicity	1. Develop Facebook page and Website. 2. Signs demarcating the boundaries of the CBWS and large map of CBWS displayed publicly. 3. Public display of SACD’s mission and promotional materials. 4. Make a professional film

Community Engagement Strategy

		2. Branding of SACD	<p>documentary of the CBWS.</p> <p>1. Adopting the use of letterheads for correspondence and business cards.</p> <p>2. Publish a newsletter on a regular basis.</p>
3	Reach out to more fishermen working in the CBWS and continue to attempt to engage SFA and SULFA	<p>1. Implement a 'swap' program for illegal nets</p> <p>2. Have fishermen groups participate in the decision-making processes in the management of the CBWS.</p>	<p>1. Develop a formal registry of fishermen working in the CBWS.</p> <p>2. Inform fishermen as to what are considered "illegal nets" can give a grace period for such nets to be traded in for a legal alternative.</p> <p>1. Enlist representatives from fishermen groups to be a part of the CBAC.</p> <p>2. Hold annual fishermen forums to get fishermen to talk formally about issues concerning fishing practices in the CBWS.</p>
4	Support alternative livelihoods among retired fishermen and other community groups	<p>1. Identify sustainable alternative livelihoods for the northern communities</p> <p>2. Support and enhance current alternative livelihoods.</p> <p>3. Promote integrated agriculture as a viable alternative livelihood.</p>	<p>1. Hold focus group meetings with established community groups to identify alternative livelihoods.</p> <p>1. Hold capacity building workshops in areas of need for established community groups – i.e. management, marketing, decision-making, conflict resolution, etc.</p> <p>1. Identify and secure training for interested groups.</p> <p>2. Assist in identifying start up funding.</p>
5	Improve the long term	1. Develop tourism	1. Register SACD as a tour operator

Community Engagement Strategy

	commitment to the development of tourism	through SACD to ensure success.	to provide tours of the CBWS. 2. Hire and train tour guides in specialty areas such as fly-fishing.
6	Collaborate with other NGOs (BAS, Blue Ventures, WildTracks, FOCUS).	1. Coordinate with other NGOs to maximize effect of community engagement efforts.	1. Establish consensus with other NGOs about community engagement approaches. 2. Carry out joint workshops in the communities. 2. Provide financing for projects carried out by other NGOs for the benefit of the CBWS.

Benefits of the Community Engagement Strategy

Effective community engagement provides clarity about the role and activities of a co-management NGO such as SACD. It helps to remove misconceptions and antagonistic attitudes that may have been developed about the NGO because of past experiences. The possible benefits of community engagement can be described as follows:

- **The general public** – The general public is likely to be more receptive to activities of SACD in the CBWS.
- **Agenda** – Engagement will help SACD implement its agenda of outreach and education, research and monitoring, and surveillance and enforcement in the CBWS.
- **Design and delivery** – Engagement leads to improvements to project designs, tools and interventions, representation/participation, data collection and analysis, communication, and dissemination of information can be implemented. New projects can be identified through the community’s knowledge of local circumstances. The speed and efficiency of projects can be enhanced by engaging communities.
- **Implementation and change** – Improvements can be made in the way SACD brings about change to the communities (e.g., through new or improved services, policy or funding changes, or transformation of professional practices), and capacity for change and the maintenance of long-term partnerships can be expanded.
- **Ethics** – Engagement creates opportunities to improve the consent process, identify ethical pitfalls, and create processes for resolving ethical problems when they arise.

Community Engagement Strategy

- **The public involved in projects** – The knowledge and skills of the communities can greatly enhance projects. Their contributions can be recognized (possibly through financial rewards). These efforts foster goodwill and help lay the groundwork for subsequent collaborations.
- **Community organizations** – These organizations can gain enhanced knowledge, a higher profile in the community, more linkages with other community members and entities, and new organizational capacity. These benefits can create goodwill and help lay the groundwork for subsequent collaborations.
- **Academic partners** – Academic partnerships with research focused NGOs, local (University of Belize and Corozal Junior College) and international (ECOSUR) academic institutions, and individual researchers can be enhanced. Community involvement in research sometimes results in direct career benefits. The findings of academic studies can provide insights into benefits that be gained by the communities.

Possible Challenges to Community Engagement

Any effort that seeks to engage a population with diversity in age, education level, socio-economic status, and cultural values is bound to meet some level of resistance. This is even greater if the effort is targeted at producing changes in attitudes and practices amongst the community members. Possible challenges to engaging communities are listed below:

1. **Maintaining community involvement** – As with other projects, there is always an initial euphoria and high level of involvement. As time passes people take on an approach of apathy and perhaps even annoyance at NGOs. The northern communities of Sarteneja, Chunox, and Copper Bank have experienced this phenomenon in past projects. Several projects in the area have failed to reach sustainability after the initial funding has been exhausted. This can be attributed to lack of commitment by participants, lack of leadership skills, poor conflict resolution skills, and low levels of business management skills.
2. **Overcoming differences between and among the NGO and the community** – Communities have traditional ways of doing things. In many cases the practices and processes used by communities are not very efficient and do not require accountability, two important conditions under which NGOs operate. A simple example is inviting fishermen to a meeting to discuss important issues only to have poor attendance and those who attend arrive late. There is also possible conflict in the way things are done; SACD may prescribe integrated agriculture but the community prefers “milpa” style farming.

Community Engagement Strategy

3. **Overcoming competing priorities** – NGOs do not possess unlimited resources and are inevitably almost always engaged in a balancing act. The main task for SACD is the management of the CBWS for the sustainable use of its resources. Community engagement may require so much effort that less attention is paid to research, monitoring, and surveillance activities.
4. **Institutional differences** – institutions such as local government, political parties, religious denominations, educational institutions, community based organizations (CBOs) and other NGOs might have a difference of opinion as to how the resources of the CBWS are to be used. Their philosophy and principles may be at odds to those of SACD. NGOs find themselves having to make compromises at the expense of diluting the effect of their intended outcomes.

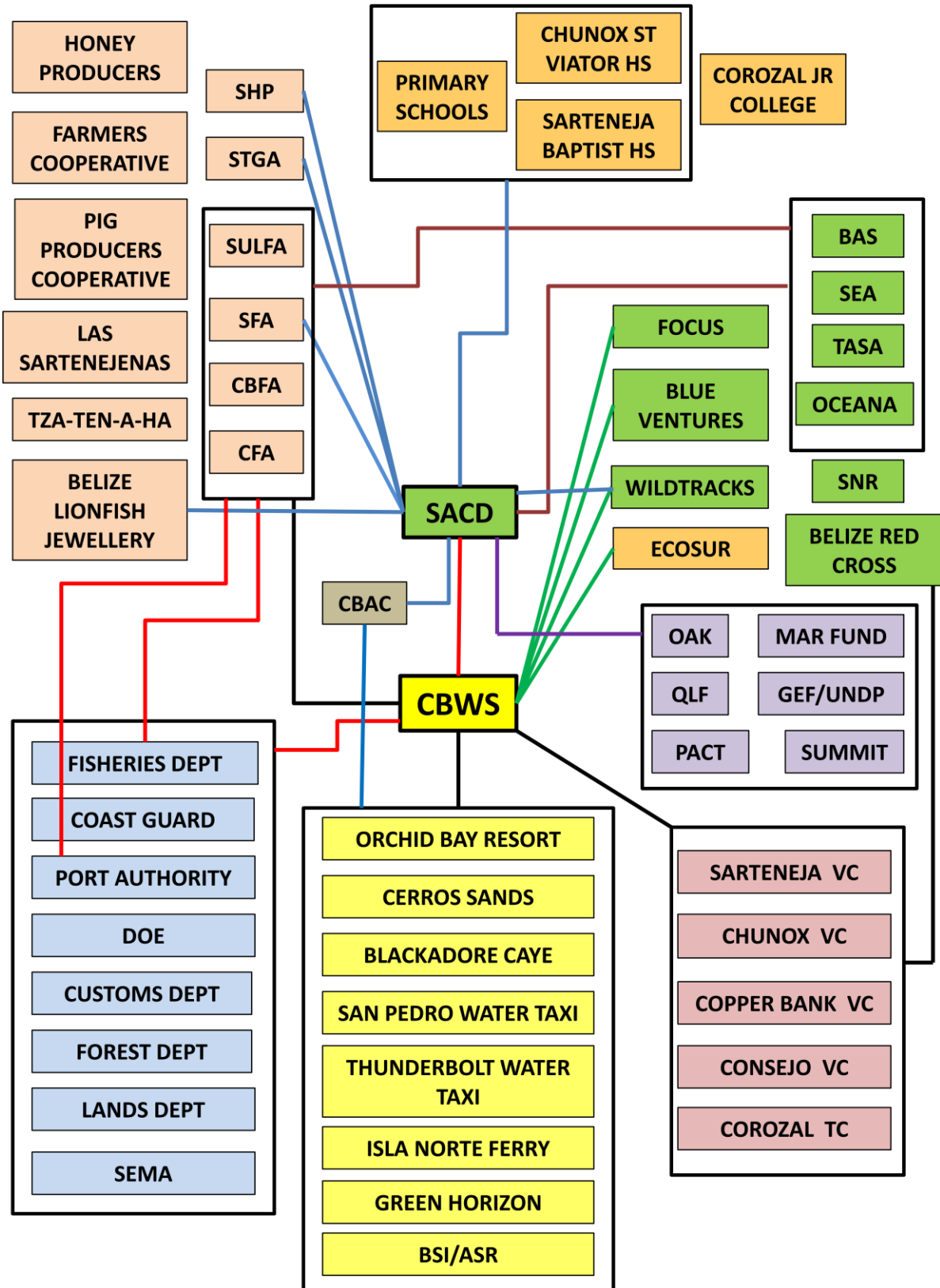
Stakeholders Map

The stakeholders of the CBWS can be categorized into the following groups: (1) conservation NGOs operating in the CBWS and CBWS communities, (2) community based groups and associations, (3) educational institutions, (4) funding agencies, (5) government departments, (6) local governments, and (7) private enterprises operating in and around the CBWS.

Conservation NGOs

Conservation NGOs can be subdivided into those that engage in activities in the CBWS and those that do mainly outreach in the communities. As the co-manager of the CBWS, SACD is the most important NGO stakeholder. SACD's activities include research and monitoring, outreach and education, and surveillance and enforcement. WildTracks engages in a manatee and monkey rescue and rehabilitation project. WildTracks also provides technical support to SACD in the area grant proposal writing. Blue Ventures engages reef species research in the CBWS and also provides research support to SACD. Based in Corozal Town, Friends of Corozal United for Sustainability (FOCUS) is a recently formed NGO that engages in activities that promote activities that safeguard the natural environment in the Corozal District. The Belize Audubon Society (BAS) engages in outreach with fishermen that fish in the Lighthouse Reef Atoll, like wise Turneffe Atoll Sustainability Association (TASA) and Southern Environmental Association (SEA) engage in outreach with fishermen that work in the vicinity of their protected areas. BAS also collaborates with SACD in community engagement efforts. Oceana engages in outreach with fishermen to promote responsible fishing practices. Shipstern Nature Reserve (SNR) is a stakeholder as it provides employment to people from the community. The Belize Red Cross is charged with disaster preparedness and response in the country and has conducted workshops in the northern communities and provided equipment for this purpose.

COROZAL BAY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY (CBWS) STAKEHOLDERS MAP



Community Engagement Strategy

Community groups

The primary stakeholders from the communities are the fishermen. The majority of fishermen belong to associations, namely Sarteneja Fishermen Association (SFA), Sarteneja United Local Fishermen Association (SULFA), Chunox Fishermen Association (CFA), and Copper Bank Fishermen Association. Fishing activities are primarily catching scale fish using nets and traps. SACD engages fishermen from fishing in the CBWS to adopt sustainable fishing practices and assists with identifying and developing alternative livelihoods. SACD also provides supports community based groups such as the Sarteneja Homestay Program, Sarteneja Tour Guides Association (STGA), and Belize Lionfish Jewellery primarily with capacity building. SACD has been looking at ways to support other community groups to enhance alternative livelihoods.

Educational Institutions

SACD engages in outreach and education with primary and high schools in the area. This is done via presentations made at schools upon request, the annual summer camp, and the community researcher program. SACD supports education through its high school tuition scholarship program. SACD is seeking to engage tertiary institutions in particular the Corozal Junior College. ECOSUR is a post-graduate institution with a branch in Chetumal, Q Roo. ECOSUR engages in transboundary conservation research in the Chetumal Bay whose waters are contiguous with the CBWS.

Funding agencies

These agencies provide vital funding for projects that SACD implements in the CBWS. SACD submits grant proposals to funding agencies and provides progress and financial reports on funds received. International donors include OAK Foundation, the MAR Fund, GEF small grants program from UNDP, QLF, and SUMMIT. Funds are accessed locally from the Protected Areas Conservation Trust (PACT).

Government departments

The Fisheries Department is charged with issuing fishermen's licenses. The Fisheries Department is currently engaged in implementing the Belize Marine Conservation and Climate Adaptation Project (MCCAP). The Port Authority registers and licenses fishing vessels as well as issues boat captain's licenses. The Coast Guard patrols the waters of the CBWS and the Customs Department enforces laws related to the importation of goods. The Department of the Environment deals with coastal development and threats to the CBWS. The Lands Department demarcates the official location of sites and issues ownership of land around the CBWS. The Secretaria de Ecología y Medio Ambiente (SEMA) from Mexico is engaged in transboundary monitoring activities that may affect ecosystems, natural resources, and climate change.

Community Engagement Strategy

Local governments

Village councils, town councils, and their communities enjoy the use of the resources of the CBWS. Village councils organize recreational events that make use of the CBWS, for e.g. the Easter Regatta in Sarteneja. SACD is seeking to engage local governments to address the issue of runoff and garbage dumping into coastal waters.

Private enterprises

Guests of coastal resorts, namely Orchid Bay, Cerros Sands, and the privately owned Blackadore Caye, enjoy the waters of the CBWS for swimming, sailing, fishing, snorkelling and diving. Water taxi service providers use channels in the CBWS to transport people and goods between Corozal Town, Sarteneja, and San Pedro. The ASR Group/BSI sugar barges also use the waters of CBWS en route to the transport ships for export. The recently formed Green Horizon tour operator offers fly-fishing tours in the CBWS.

Corozal Bay Advisory Committee (CBAC)

The CBAC is comprised of members from the CBWS stakeholders and it serves to advise SACD on decision making, project planning, and policy development. The Corozal Bay Advisory Committee (CBAC) has been established as a way to ensure community participation for assisting with decisions related to the use of natural resources of the Wildlife Sanctuary. The membership of CBAC is composed of the following sectors: fishing sector, tourism sector, conservation sector, development sector, and community representatives from the five stakeholder communities (Consejo, Corozal, Chunox, Copper Bank and Sarteneja), and representatives from SACD, Fisheries Department and Forest Department.

History of Projects in CBWS & CBWS Communities (2009-2016)

NGOs continuously engaged in projects that directly impact the CBWS by way of research and conservation. Projects that indirectly impact the CBWS are targeted at the communities by way of introducing alternative livelihoods, capacity building, and providing financial support. The table below summarizes projects that have been implemented in the CBWS and northern communities from 2009 to 2016. It describes: who implemented the project, who were the participants, source of funds for the project, and the level of success of the project.

No	Project	Date	Organization	Participants	Source of Funds	Level of Success
1	Chunox Fishermen Association Office & Resource	Sep 2014 to Jan 2016	Chunox Fishermen Association (CFA)	Members of CFA	COMPACT	Building completed and furnished

Community Engagement Strategy

	Center					
2	Support for Community Empowerment through Alternative Livelihoods for Conservation of the Belize World Heritage Site	July 2009 To July 2010	Belize Audubon Society (BAS)	Community stakeholders from Chunox, Copper Bank and Sarteneja	Friends Of World Heritage (FOWH)	<p>Participants trained in organizational, leadership, recordkeeping, financing and marketing skills.</p> <p>Establishment of Community Credit Enterprises (CCEs) in Copper Bank, Sarteneja, and Chunox</p>
3	Empowerment of Northern Communities through Sustainable Livelihoods for the Conservation of the BBRs-WHS	July 2012 to June 2013	Belize Audubon Society (BAS)	30 members of managing committees of Community Credit Enterprises from Copper Bank and Sarteneja. Chunox CCE did not come into existence due to organization issues.	COMPACT	<p>Training for participants in business management, accounts, marketing and record-keeping.</p> <p>CCEs of Copper Bank and Sarteneja legally registered and provided with seed capital of \$15,000.00</p> <p>Microloans of \$400-\$2000 disbursed to CCE members for agriculture, poultry production and small businesses.</p>
4	Implementing Capacity building in the Mesoamerican	2013 to 2014	Belize Audubon Society (BAS)	6 community stakeholders from Chunox, Copper Bank	GCFI/NOAA	Small grants program whereby participants received \$1,400 for sustainable

Community Engagement Strategy

	Reef MPA Community (GCFI Phase I project)			& Sarteneja		alternative livelihoods – equipment for outboard engine repairs shop, buy and sell of vehicles & motorcycles, pastry and cake shop, snack shop, expansion of pig-rearing.
5	Building MPA Management Capacity and Coral Reef Resilience in the Caribbean’s Mesoamerican Reef Region (GCFI Phase 2 Project)	Dec 2014 to Nov 2016	Belize Audubon Society (BAS)	73 community stakeholders from Chunox, Copper Bank & Sarteneja	GCFI/NOAA	Capacity building in entrepreneurial development. Grants from \$2000 to \$5000 for – Sewing & embroidery women’s group, Belize Lionfish Jewellery, Honey producers, farming, poultry and agro-processing.
6	Enhancing the Conservation and Sustainability of LHRA- Promoting Income Diversification Opportunities	January to June 2016	Belize Audubon Society (BAS) & BELTRAIDE	10 Community stakeholders from Copper Bank and Chunox	GEF/SGP & OAK	Training in business model and investment plan. Top 10 performers received small grants/loans for: snack shops, stationery shop, raising small ruminants, meat shops, table & chairs rentals, restaurant, and increasing agricultural production

Community Engagement Strategy

7	Micro and Small Enterprise (MSE) Development	Up to June 2011	La Inmaculada Credit Union -SSEDAT I	10 MSE's of which 3 were from the CBWS area – Sarteneja Honey Producers Association (SHPA), Sarteneja Aquaculture Development Association (SADA), Chunox St. Viator Vocational High School (CHVVHS)	European Union (EU)	<p>SHPA received \$19,640 - even though membership decreased; the group has been successfully producing honey under the “Pura Miel” brand for local markets.</p> <p>SADA received \$16,442. Funds were also obtained from JAICA and SICA. The materials and equipment for the ponds were obtained but never achieved full capacity and the project has been terminated and the equipment sold.</p> <p>CHVVHS received \$16,333 for Tilapia aquaculture. To date, Tilapia is being produced for the school cafeteria as well as local markets.</p>
8	Sarteneja Homestay Program	Started in 2010	SACD	Women from Sarteneja. Originally 20 but now down to 12.	Have received support from St. Mary's University, SACD, CARD, and SIF	Provide lodging mostly to interns from Blue Ventures. Also accept walk-ins. Group exists but has not grown in capacity.

Community Engagement Strategy

9	Sarteneja Tour Guides Association (STGA) – Sarteneja Adventure Tours (SAT)	Started in 2007	SACD	Fishermen from Sarteneja	COMPACT	Members received tour guide training, refurbished boat and purchased engine, built offices and in Sarteneja. Office for STGA remains open but SAT is not operating.
10	Las Sartenejeñas	2013 to present	SACD	Originally 10 members, but some have left and formed their own group (Tza-ten-a-ha)	Members paid for own training at ABTEC.	Remaining members currently sew bags, school uniforms and do embroidery. They own their machines and tables.
11	Pig Production Facility	2007 to	Sarteneja Fishermen Association (SFA)	40 members of SFA	COMPACT	Central Pig facility is no longer in use. Some satellite pens built in private yards remain functional but not as part of SFA. These pig farmers have reorganized into a new association.
12	Rehabilitation and relocation of endangered species	Ongoing	WildTracks	WildTracks personnel and interns	OAK Foundation, COMPACT, PACT	Since 2008, 18 Antillean Manatees have entered the rehab program, 5 have been successfully released and 6 are in care. In the last 5 years, 96 primates have

Community Engagement Strategy

						<p>entered the program. 40 Yucatan Black Howler Monkeys have been released. 20 Geoffrey's Spider Monkeys have entered and releases were planned for 2016.</p>
13	<p>Technical support for organizations operating in and near the CBWS</p>	Ongoing	WildTracks	WildTracks personnel		<p>SACD Research & Monitoring Plan.</p> <p>Management Plan for CBWS</p> <p>Management Plan for Shipstern Conservation & Management Area (SCMA)</p> <p>Community development of the Sarteneja Tourism development Plan (2009)</p> <p>Development of framework for socio-economic assessment for coastal communities (2009 and 2014)</p> <p>Development of framework for water quality monitoring for CBWS</p>

Community Engagement Strategy

						Partnering with SCMA for establishment of the North East Corridor, part of Belize’s nationally identified biological corridor network (ongoing)
14	MCCAP – Belize Marine Conservation and Climate Adaptation Project	Ongoing	Belize Fisheries Department	Fishers and communities (Consejo, Corozal Town, Sarteneja, Copper Bank, and Chunox)		<p>To date the focus has been on climate change awareness – students, teachers and parents from St Viator HS and Agriculture and Natural Resources Institute attended a 5 day workshop at Calabash Key (UB-ERI) to learn about climate change effects on the marine environment. Each school was required to form an environmental club which would be mentored by MCCAP.</p> <p>MCCAP also seeks to: (1) Increase the CBWS and realign protected zones, (2) Support capital investment in livelihoods for those affected, (3) Expansion of agriculture</p>

Community Engagement Strategy

						program at St Viator High School, (4) Business skills training programs for participants, (5) Scholarships for trainees attending Corozal ITVET
15	Belize Lionfish Jewellery	Sep 2014 to present	Blue Ventures	18 members (6 from Sarteneja, 2 from Chunox, 2 from Copper Bank)	Support has been given by Blue Ventures, BELTRAIDE, BAS, BEST	Women received training in jewellery making, small business, planning & advertisement, and money management. To date, the group continues to operate and produce jewellery. Group is registered as an association.
16	Lionfish Outreach	2011	Blue Ventures	Fishermen from Sarteneja, Chunox, and Copper Bank. And General Public		<p>Safe handling of lionfish workshops.</p> <p>Informative booths and tasting events at National Agriculture and Trade Show, Placencia Lobster-fest, National Reef Week (Belize City & San Pedro), Sarteneja Community Day</p> <p>Visits to primary schools in the north and south of Belize.</p>

Community Engagement Strategy

						Program, Sarteneja Fishermen Association, etc.
18	Partner support	2011 - present	Blue Ventures	SACD and Blue Ventures		<p>Assisted with data collection in Fish Trap Monitoring program (2011)</p> <p>Water quality monitoring program - assisted with establishment of monitoring sites, methodology, data collection, data management, data analysis and reporting (2011-2014). Data collection now done on request.</p> <p>Assist with bird and manatee data collection (2011 – present)</p>
19	Disaster Risk Reduction Project	2009	Belize Red Cross Society	Approx. 16 members from each of the communities of Sarteneja, Chunox, and Copper Bank	GEF/SGP	Formation of Community Disaster Response Teams, training of teams in disaster preparedness and response, provision of basic equipment (tools, raincoats, ropes, headlamps, first aid kits, etc.), carrying out vulnerabilities and capacities assessments, and the formulation of

Community Engagement Strategy

						<p>community disaster and contingency plans</p> <p>Micro projects for each community: construction of extra bathrooms at the Chunox School (hurricane shelter), culverts at Copper Bank, and a well with submersible pump and water reservoir on a tower for the school at Sarteneja (also a hurricane shelter).</p>
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Acknowledgements

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