



Convention on
Biological Diversity



Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Country Dossier: HONDURAS

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GLOSSARY

AZEs	Alliance for Zero Extinction sites
CEPF	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
EBSA	Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Area
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GD-PAME	Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IBA	Important Bird and Biodiversity Area
ICCAs	Indigenous and Community Conserved Area Area (may also be referred to as territories and areas conserved by Indigenous peoples and local communities or “territories of life”)
IPLC	Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
MEOW	Marine Ecosystems of the World
MPA	Marine Protected Area
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
OECD	Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures
PA	Protected Area
PAME	Protected Area Management Effectiveness
PPA	Privately Protected Area
PPOW	Pelagic Provinces of the World
ProtConn	Protected Connected land indicator
SOC	Soil Organic Carbon
TEOW	Terrestrial Ecosystems of the World
WDPA	World Database on Protected Areas
WD-OECD	World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures



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Disclaimer

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This country dossier is compiled by the UNDP and SCBD from publicly available information. It is prepared, within the overall work of the Global Partnership on Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, for the purpose of attracting the attention of the Party concerned and other national stakeholders to facilitate the verification, correcting, and updating of country data. The statistics might differ from those reported officially by the country due to differences in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory. Furthermore, the suggestions from the UNDP and SCBD are based on analyses of global datasets, which may not necessarily be representative of national policy or criteria used at the national level. The analyses are also subject to the limits inherent in global indicators (precision, reliability, underlying assumptions, etc.). Therefore, they provide useful information but cannot replace analyses at a national level nor constitute a future benchmark for national policy or decision-making.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document provides information on the coverage of protected areas (PAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), as currently reported in global databases (the World Database on Protected Areas ([WDPA](#)) and World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures ([WD-OECM](#))). It also includes details on the status of the other qualifying elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 based on this data. These statistics might differ from those reported officially by countries due to difference in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage, differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory, or if global datasets differ from the criteria and indicators used at the national level. Where available, data from national statistics for the elements of Target 11 are included alongside records from these global databases. This dossier also provides a summary of commitments made under Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, and a summary of potential opportunities regarding elements of the target for future planning.

The dossier has been developed in consultation with the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), which manages the WDPA, WD-OECM and Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness ([GD-PAME](#)). Parties to the CBD are requested to contact protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org with any updates to the information in these databases.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Elements: Current status and opportunities for action

Coverage - Terrestrial & Marine

- **Status:** as of May 2021, terrestrial coverage in Honduras is 26,567.5 km² (23.5%) and marine coverage is 10,070.1 km² (4.6%).
- **Opportunities for action:** opportunities for the near-term include updating the WDPA with any unreported PAs, and the recognizing and reporting OECMs to the WD-OECM. In the future, focus on relatively intact areas, while addressing the elements in the following sections, could be considered when planning new PAs or OECMs.

Ecological Representativeness— Terrestrial & Marine

- **Status:** Honduras contains 8 terrestrial ecoregions, 3 marine ecoregions, and 1 pelagic province: the mean coverage by reported PAs and OECMs is 27.6% (terrestrial), 21.8% (marine), and 2.9% (pelagic); 1 terrestrial ecoregion and 1 marine ecoregion have no coverage by reported PAs and OECMs.
- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity for Honduras to increase protection in terrestrial and marine ecoregions and pelagic provinces that have lower levels of coverage by PAs or OECMs. Ecoregions which currently have no coverage by PAs or OECMs are key areas for action.



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Areas Important for Biodiversity

- **Status:** Honduras has 31 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs): the mean protected coverage of KBAs by reported PAs and OECMs is 73.7%, while 3 KBAs have no coverage by reported PAs and OECMs.
- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity for Honduras to increase protection of KBAs that have lower levels of coverage by PAs and OECMs; priority could be given to those with no current coverage.

Areas Important for Ecosystem Services

- **Status:** coverage of areas important for ecosystem services: In Honduras, 36.3% of aboveground biomass carbon, 33.6% of belowground biomass carbon, 27.4% of soil organic carbon, 5.8% of carbon stored in marine sediments is covered by PAs and OECMs.
- **Opportunities for action:** for carbon, there is opportunity for Honduras to increase PA and OECM coverage in both marine and terrestrial areas with high carbon stocks. Protecting areas with high carbon stocks secures the benefits of carbon sequestration in the area.
- For water, there is opportunity to increase the area of the water catchment under protection by PAs and OECMs, or in cases where there is high levels of protection, focus on effective management for these areas. Protecting the current area of forested land and potentially reforesting would have benefits for improving water security.

Connectivity and Integration

- **Status:** coverage of protected-connected lands is 14.1%. Currently there are 7 initiatives in the process of being recognized as biological corridors.
- **Opportunities for action:** there is opportunity continue with the implementation of initiatives on biological corridors. There is also opportunity to focus on PA and OECM management, and the effective management of biological corridors, for enhancing and maintaining connectivity. Improving connectivity increases the effectiveness of PAs and OECMs and reduces the impacts of fragmentation.
- As well, a range of suggested steps for enhancing and supporting integration are included in the voluntary guidance on the integration of PAs and OECMs into the wider land- and seascapes and mainstreaming across sectors to contribute, inter alia, to the SDGs (Annex I of COP Decision 14/8)

Governance Diversity

- **Status:** the most common governance type(s) for reported PAs in Honduras is: 70.6% under Government (Federal or national ministry or agency).
- **Opportunities for action:** explore opportunities for governance types that have lower representation, for Honduras this could relate to shared governance and governance by Indigenous Peoples and/or local communities (IPLC).



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- There is also opportunity for Honduras to complete governance and equity assessments, to establish baselines and identify relevant actions for improvement. As well, a range of suggested actions are included in the voluntary guidance on effective governance models for management of protected areas, including equity (Annex II of COP Decision 14/8).

Protected Area Management Effectiveness

- **Status:** 67.2% of terrestrial PAs and 5.0% of marine PAs have completed Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME) assessments reported.
- **Opportunities for action:** the 60% target for completed management effectiveness assessments (per COP Decision X/31) **has** been met for terrestrial PAs and **has not** been met for marine PAs. Therefore, there is opportunity to increase protected area management effectiveness (PAME) evaluations for marine PAs to achieve the target.
- There is also opportunity to implement the results of completed PAME evaluations, to improve the quality of management for existing PAs and OECMs (e.g., through adaptive management and information sharing, increasing the number of sites reporting 'sound management') and to increase reporting of biodiversity outcomes in PAs and OECMs.



INTRODUCTION

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 was adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan from 18-29 October 2010. The vision of the Strategic Plan is one of “Living in harmony with nature” where *“By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people”* (CBD, 2010). In addition to this vision, the Strategic Plan is composed of 20 targets, under five strategic goals. Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 states that *“By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.”*

With the conclusion of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in 2020, Target 11 on area-based conservation has seen success in the expansion of the global network of protected areas (PA) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs). The negotiation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and its future targets provide an essential opportunity to further improve the coverage of PAs and OECMs, to improve other aspects of area-based conservation, to accelerate progress on biodiversity conservation more broadly, while also addressing climate change, and the Sustainable Development Goals. This next set of global biodiversity targets are to be adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. These new targets must aim to build upon lessons learned from the last decade of progress to deliver transformative change for the benefit of nature and people, to realize the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity have developed the Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 Country Dossiers, which provide countries with an overview of the status of Target 11 elements, opportunities for action, and a summary of commitments made by Parties over the last decade. Each dossier can support countries in assessing their progress on key elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and identifying opportunities to prioritize new protected areas and OECMs.

This dossier provides an overview of area-based conservation in Honduras. Section I of the dossier presents data on the current status of Honduras’s PAs and OECMs. The data presented in Section I relates to each element of Target 11. Section I also presents the PA and OECM coverage for two critical ecosystem services: water security and carbon stocks. In addition, the dossier presents potential opportunities for action for Honduras, in relation to each Target 11 element. The analyses present options for improving Honduras’s area-based conservation network to achieve enhanced protection and benefits for livelihoods and climate change. Section II presents details on Honduras’s existing PA and OECM commitments as a summary of existing efforts towards achieving Target 11. This gives focus not only to national policy and actions but also voluntary commitments to the UN.

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Furthermore, where data is available, this dossier provides information on potential OECMs, Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs; also, often referred to as territories and areas conserved by Indigenous peoples and local communities or “territories of life”) and Privately Protected Areas (PPAs) and the potential contribution they will have in achieving the post-2020 targets.

The information on PAs and OECMs presented here is derived from the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) and World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (WD-OECM). These databases are joint products of UNEP and IUCN, managed by UNEP-WCMC, and can be viewed and downloaded at www.protectedplanet.net. Parties are encouraged to provide data on their PAs and OECMs to UNEP-WCMC for incorporation into the databases (see e.g., Decisions 10/31 and 14/8). The significant efforts of Parties in updating their data in the build up to the publication of the Protected Planet Report 2020 (UNEP-WCMC and IUCN, 2021) were greatly appreciated. UNEP-WCMC welcomes further updates, following the data standards described here (www.wcmc.io/WDPA_Manual), and these should be directed to protectedareas@unep-wcmc.org. The statistics presented in this dossier are derived from the May 2021 WDPA and WD-OECM releases, unless explicitly stated otherwise. Readers should consult www.protectedplanet.net for the latest coverage statistics (updated monthly).

Some data from the WDPA and WD-OECM are not made publicly available at the request of the data-provider. This affects some statistics, maps, and figures presented in this dossier. Statistics provided by UNEP-WCMC (terrestrial and marine coverage) are based upon the full dataset, including restricted data. All other statistics, maps, and figures are based upon the subset of the data that is publicly available.

Where data is less readily available, such as for potential OECMs, ICCAs and PPAs, data has also been compiled from published reports and scientific literature to provide greater awareness of these less commonly recorded aspects. These data are provided to highlight the need for comprehensive reporting on these areas to the WDPA and/or WD-OECM. Parties are invited to work with indigenous peoples, local communities and private actors to submit data under the governance of these actors, with their consent, to the WDPA and/or WD-OECM.

Overall, PAs and OECMs are essential instruments for biodiversity conservation and to sustain essential ecosystem services that support human well-being and sustainable development, including food, medicine, and water security, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation and disaster risk reduction. The data in this dossier, therefore, aims to celebrate the current contributions of PAs and OECMs, whilst the gaps presented hope to encourage greater progress, not just for the benefit of biodiversity and the post-2020 GBF, but also to recognize the essential role of PAs and OECMs to the Sustainable Development Goals and for addressing the climate crisis.



SECTION I: CURRENT STATUS

Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 refers to both protected areas (PAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs). This section provides the current status for all elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 where indicators with global data are available. Statistics for all elements are presented using data on both PAs and OECMs (where this data is available and reported in global databases like the WDPA and WD-OECM). It is recognized that statistics reported in the WPDA and WD-OECM might differ from those reported officially by countries due to differences in methodologies and datasets used to assess protected area coverage and differences in the base maps used to measure terrestrial and marine area of a country or territory. Details on UNEP-WCMC's methods for calculating PA and OECM coverage area available [here](#). The global indicators adopted here for presenting the status of other elements of Target 11 may also differ from those in use nationally. Where available, results from national reporting are also included.



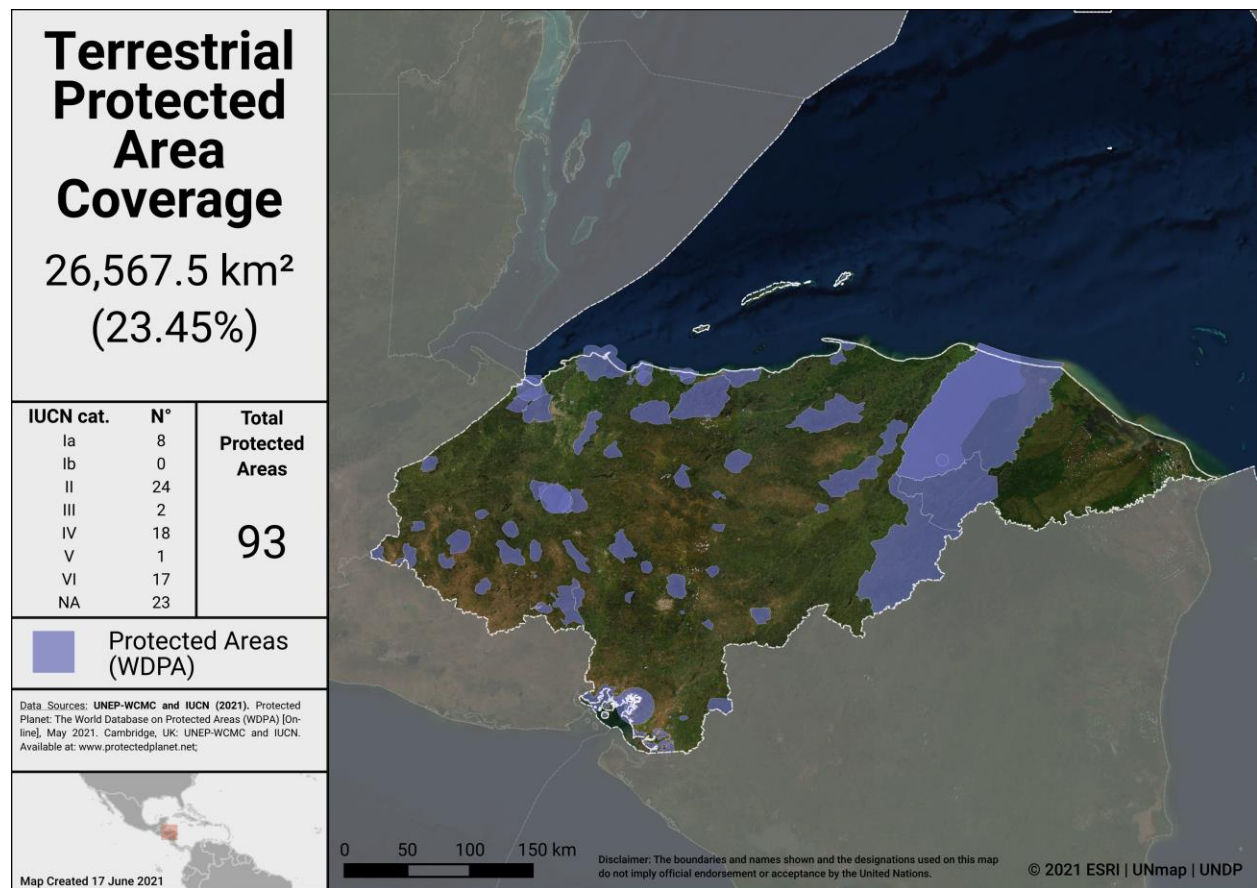
COVERAGE - TERRESTRIAL & MARINE

As of May 2021, Honduras has **118** protected areas reported in the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA). 17 proposed PAs, and a further 3 UNESCO-MAB Biosphere Reserves, are not included in the following statistics (see details on UNWP-WCMC's methods for calculating PA and OECM coverage [here](#)).

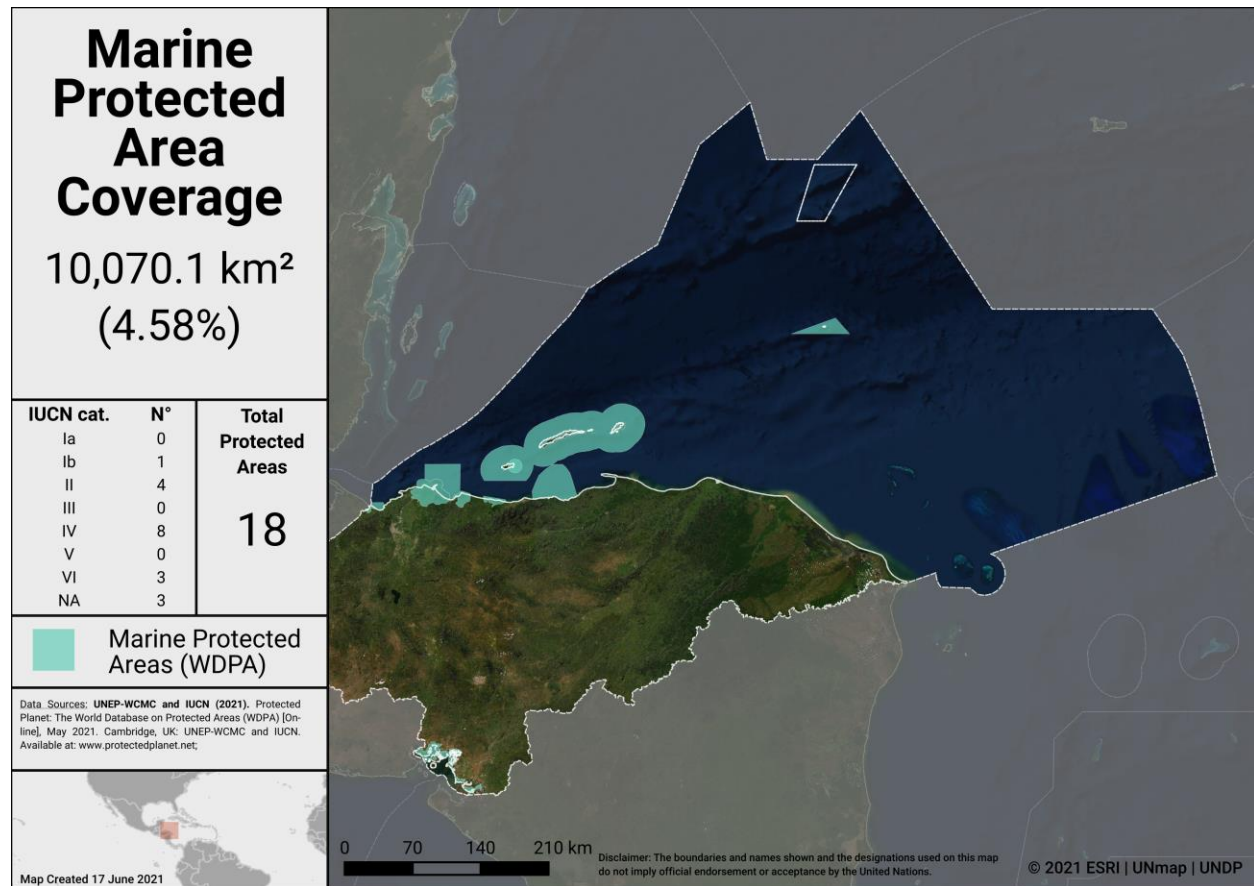
As of May 2021, Honduras has **0** OECMs reported in the world database on OECMs (WD-OECM).

Current coverage for Honduras:

- 23.5% terrestrial (93 protected areas, 26,567.5 km²)
- 4.6% marine (18 protected areas, 10,070.1 km²)



Terrestrial Protected Areas in Honduras



Marine Protected Areas in Honduras

Potential OECMs

Some potential examples of OECMs in Honduras could include:

- Biological corridors (*Corredores biológicos*)
- Private reserves (*Reservas privadas*)
- Important sites for wildlife (*Sitios de importancia para la vida silvestre*)

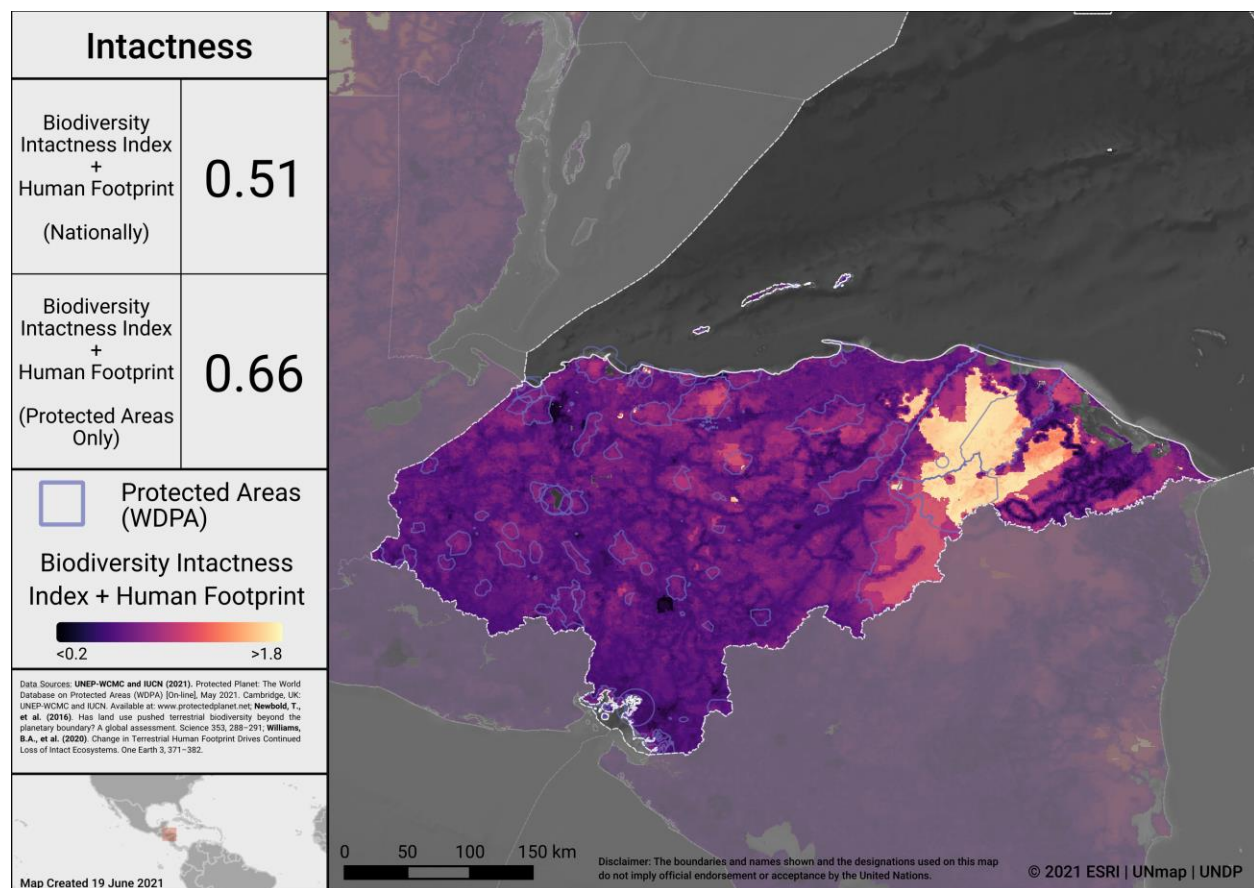
Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs), proposed by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) are contributions that may be important to achieve the objectives contained in Aichi Target 11. At the national level, both MiAmbiente and the ICF have promoted initiatives that promote the conservation of biodiversity, that are not considered within the SINAPH (*Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas en Honduras*; National System of Protected Areas of Honduras), among these are biological corridors, private reserves and sites of importance for wildlife. However, these aforementioned spaces have not been defined as OECMs. In this sense, at the level of authorities related to the issue, it is necessary to develop a process of identification and quantification of these spaces, in

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addition to this, it must be established if there are sufficient technical capacities for monitoring, surveillance, evaluation and planning of the possible OECMs defined to Honduras.

Opportunities for action

Opportunities for the near-term include updating the WDPA with any unreported PAs, and the recognizing and reporting OECMs to the WD-OECM. In the future, as Honduras considers where to add new PAs and OECMs, the map below identifies areas in Honduras where intact areas are not currently protected. Focus on relatively intact areas, while addressing the elements in the following sections, could be considered when planning new PAs or OECMs.



Intactness in Honduras

To explore more on intactness, visit the UN Biodiversity Lab: map.unbiodiversitylab.org.

ECOLOGICAL REPRESENTATIVENESS – TERRESTRIAL & MARINE

Ecological representativeness is assessed based on the PAs and OECMs coverage of broad-scale biogeographic units. Globally, ecoregions have been described for terrestrial areas (Dinerstein et al, 2017), marine coastal and shelf ecosystems (to a depth of 200m; Spalding et al 2007) and surface pelagic waters (Spalding et al 2012).

Honduras has 7 **terrestrial** ecoregions (1 other ecoregion has <3km² within Honduras. Out of these 7 ecoregions:

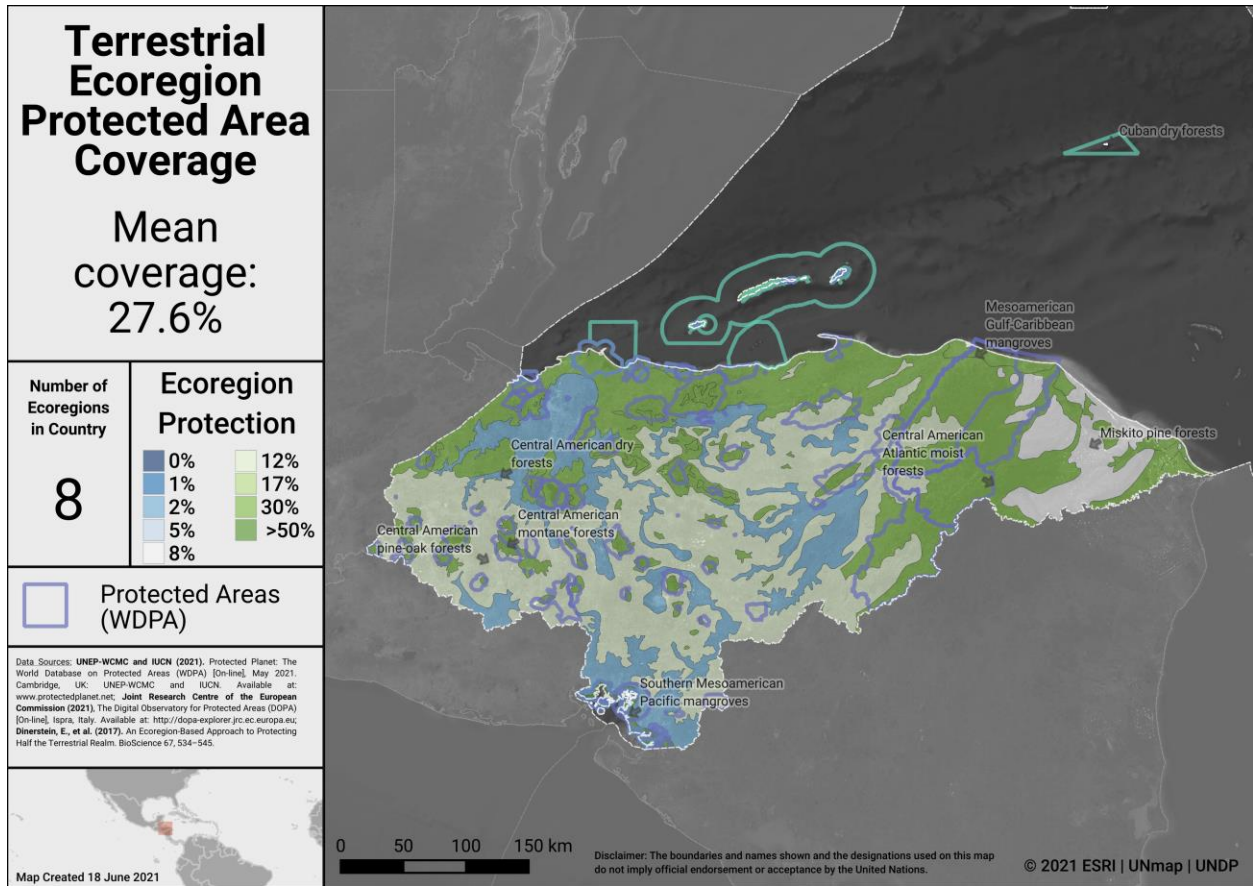
- All 7 ecoregions have at least some coverage from PAs and OECMs.
- 4 ecoregions have at least 17% protected within the country.
- The average terrestrial coverage of ecoregions is 27.6%.

Honduras has 3 **marine** ecoregions and 1 **pelagic provinces**. Out of these:

- 2 marine ecoregions and 1 pelagic provinces have at least some coverage from reported PAs and OECMs.
- 2 marine ecoregions and 0 pelagic provinces have at least 10% protected within Honduras's exclusive economic zone (EEZ).
- The average protected area coverage of marine ecoregions is 21.8% and the average protected area coverage of Pelagic Provinces is 2.9%.

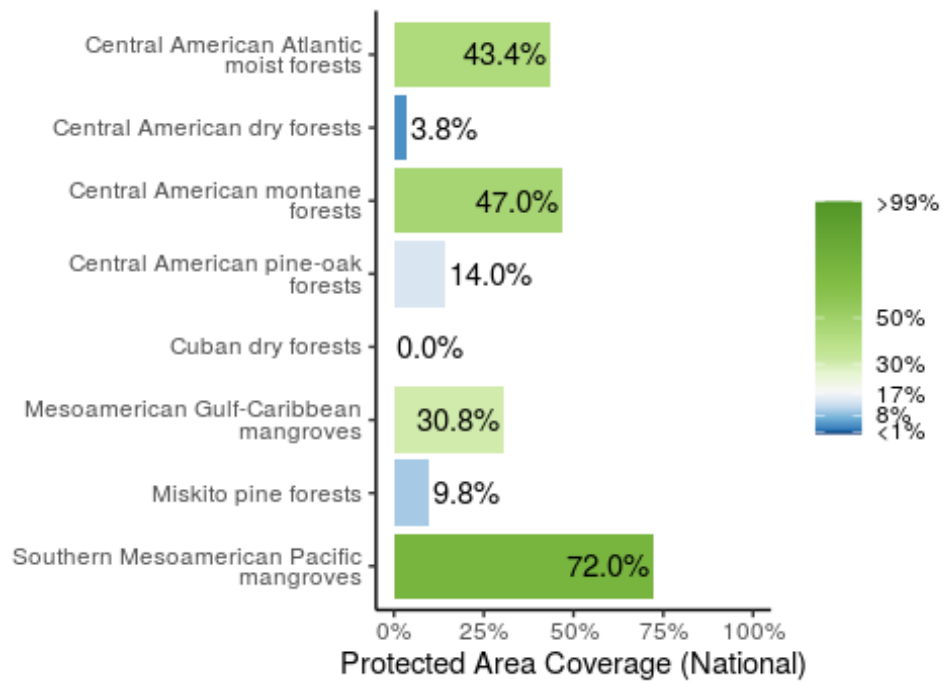
A full list of terrestrial ecoregions in Honduras is available in Annex I.





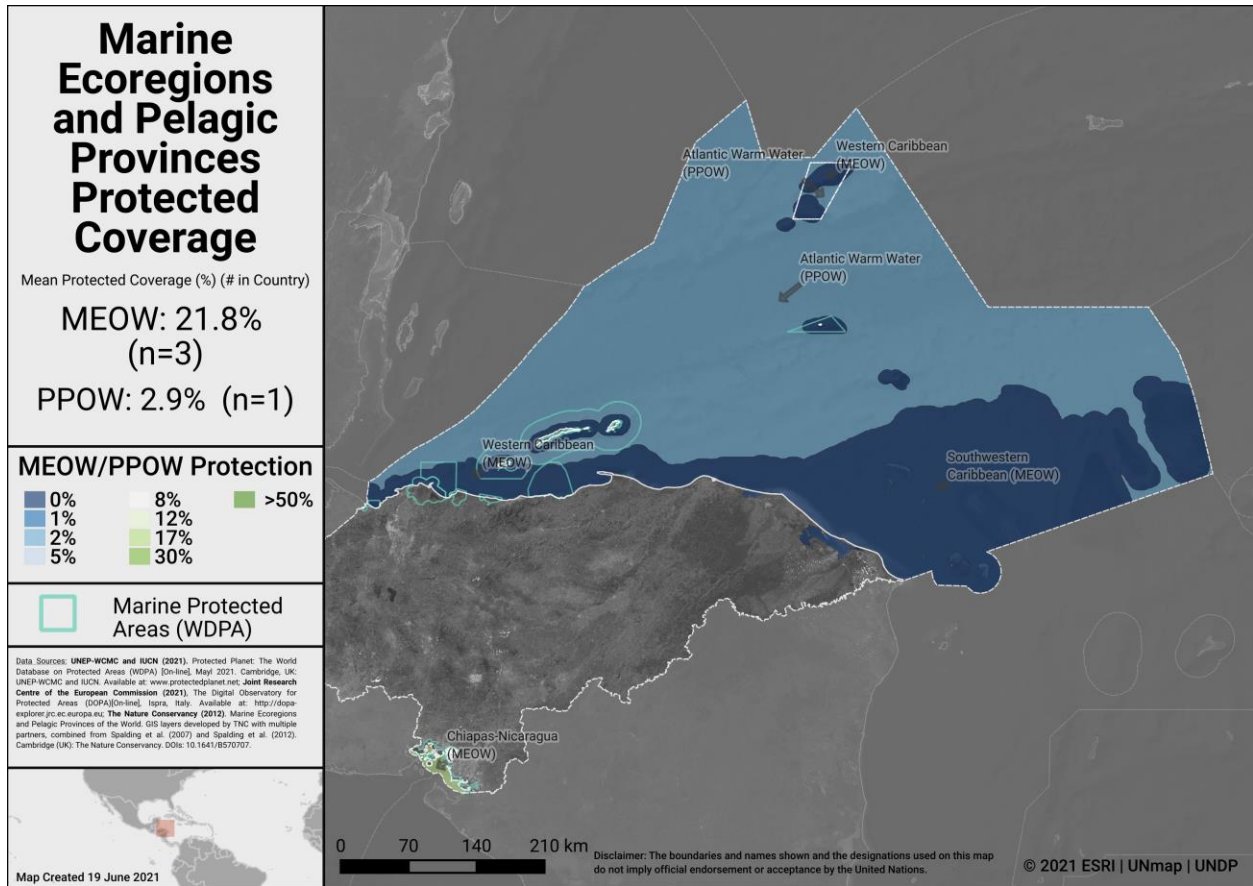
Terrestrial ecoregions in Honduras



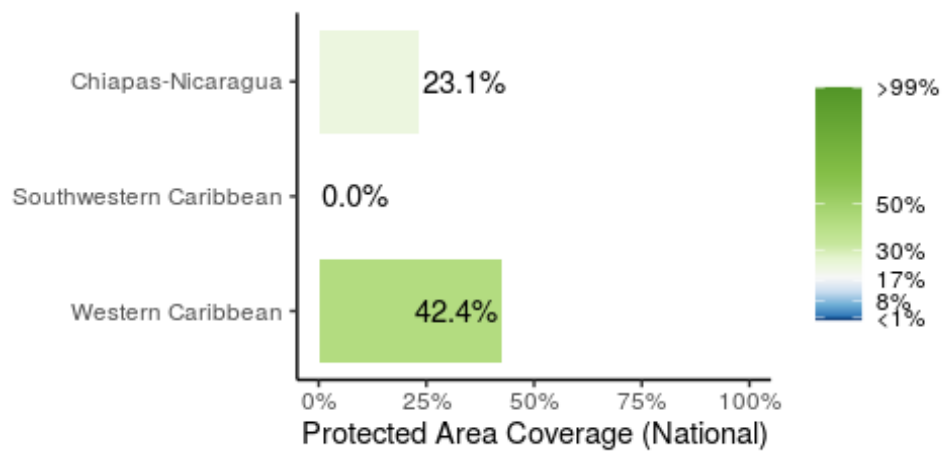


Terrestrial ecoregions of the World (TEOW) in Honduras



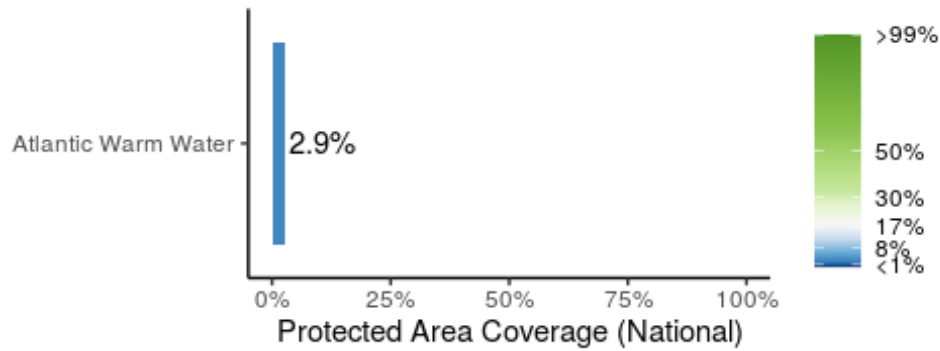


Marine ecoregions and pelagic provinces



Marine Ecoregions of the World (MEOW) in Honduras:





Pelagic Provinces of the World (PPOW) in Honduras:

Opportunities for action

There is opportunity for Honduras to increase protection in terrestrial and marine ecoregions and pelagic provinces that have lower levels of coverage by PAs or OECMs. Ecoregions which currently have no coverage by PAs or OECMs are key areas for action.

AREAS IMPORTANT FOR BIODIVERSITY

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)

Protected area and OECM coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) provide one proxy for assessing the conservation of areas important for biodiversity at national, regional and global scales. KBAs are sites that make significant contributions to the global persistence of biodiversity (IUCN, 2016). The KBA concept builds on four decades of efforts to identify important sites for biodiversity, including Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas, Alliance for Zero Extinction sites, and KBAs identified through Hotspot ecosystem profiles supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. Incorporating these sites, the dataset of internationally significant KBAs includes Global KBAs (sites shown to meet one or more of 11 criteria in the Global Standard for the Identification of KBAs, clustered into five categories: threatened biodiversity; geographically restricted biodiversity; ecological integrity; biological processes; and irreplaceability), Regional KBAs (sites identified using pre-existing criteria and thresholds, that do not meet the Global KBA criteria based on existing information), and KBAs whose Global/Regional status is Not yet determined, but which will be assessed against the global KBA criteria within 8-12 years. Regional KBAs are often of critical international policy relevance (e.g., in EU legislation and under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands), and many are likely to qualify as Global KBAs in future once assessed for their biodiversity importance for other taxonomic groups and ecosystems. To date, nearly 16,000 KBAs have identified globally, and information on each of these is presented in the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas: www.keybiodiversityareas.org.

Honduras has **31** Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs).

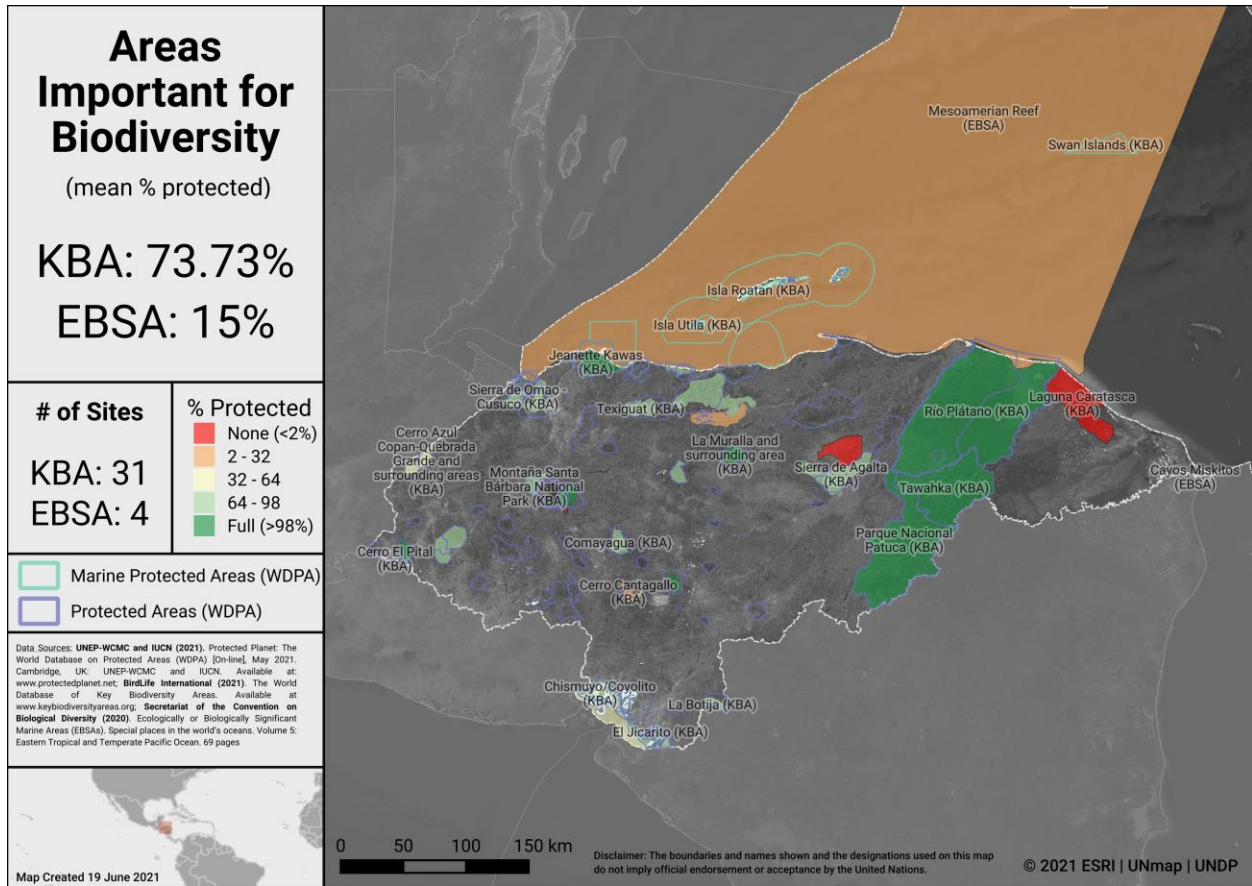
- Mean percent coverage of all KBAs by PAs and OECMs in Honduras is **73.7%**.
- **9** KBAs have full (>98%) coverage by PAs and OECMs.
- **19** KBAs have partial coverage by PAs and OECMs.
- **3** KBAs have no (<2%) coverage by PAs and OECMs.

Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs)

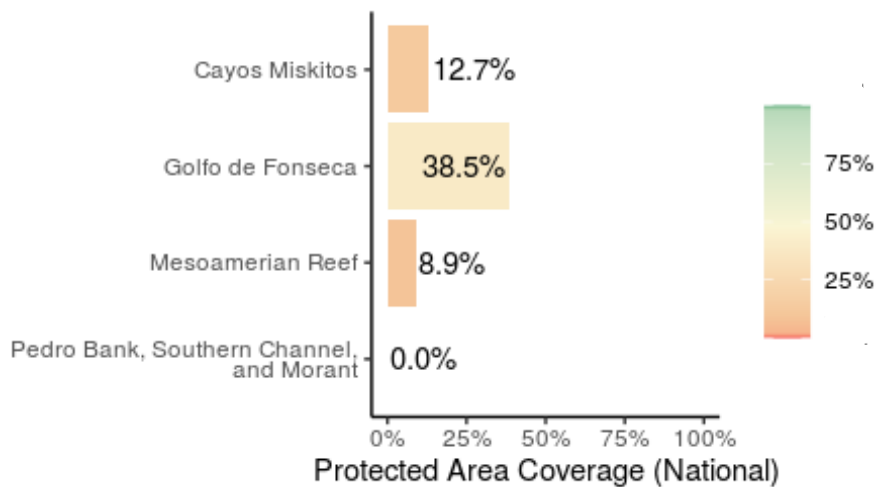
Other important areas for biodiversity may also include Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs), which were identified following the scientific criteria adopted at COP-9 (Decision IX/20; see more at: <https://www.cbd.int/ebsa/>). Sites that meet the EBSA criteria may require enhanced conservation and management measures; this could be achieved through means including MPAs, OECMs, marine spatial planning, and impact assessment.

There are 4 EBSAs with some portion of their extent within Honduras's EEZ, of which 1 EBSA has no coverage from PAs and OECMs.



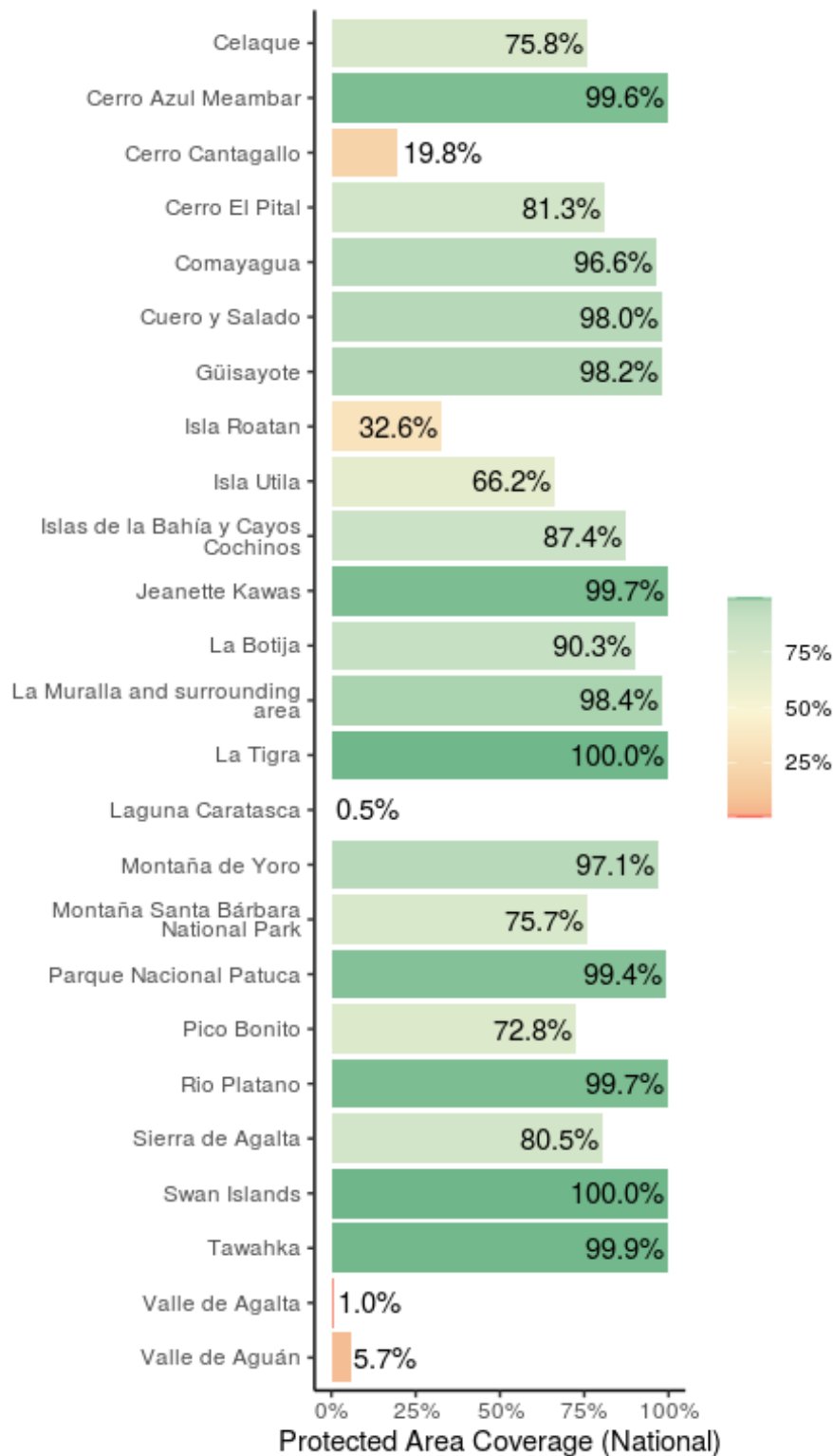


Areas Important for Biodiversity in Honduras



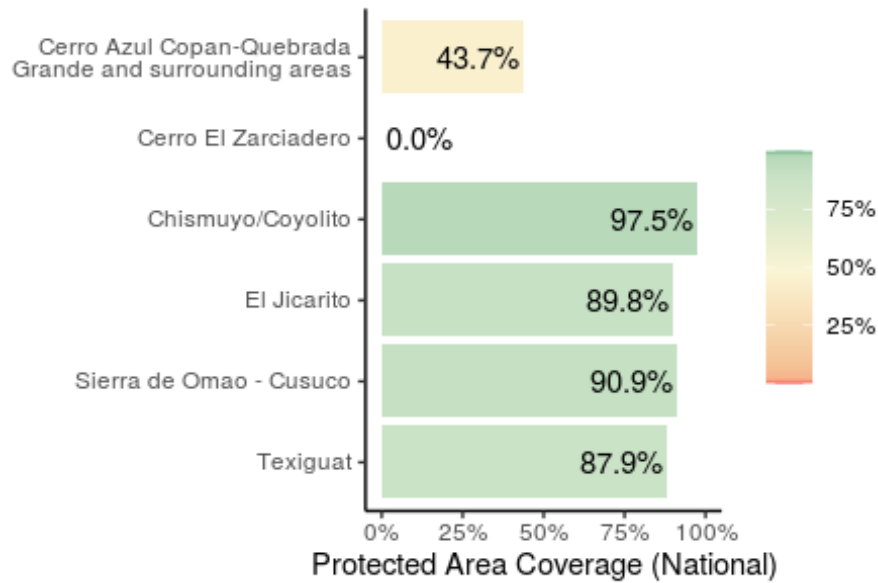
Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) in Honduras





Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Honduras





Key Biodiversity Area Coverage (KBA) in Honduras

Opportunities for action

There is opportunity for Honduras to increase protection of KBAs that have lower levels of coverage by PAs and OECMs; priority could be given to those with no current coverage



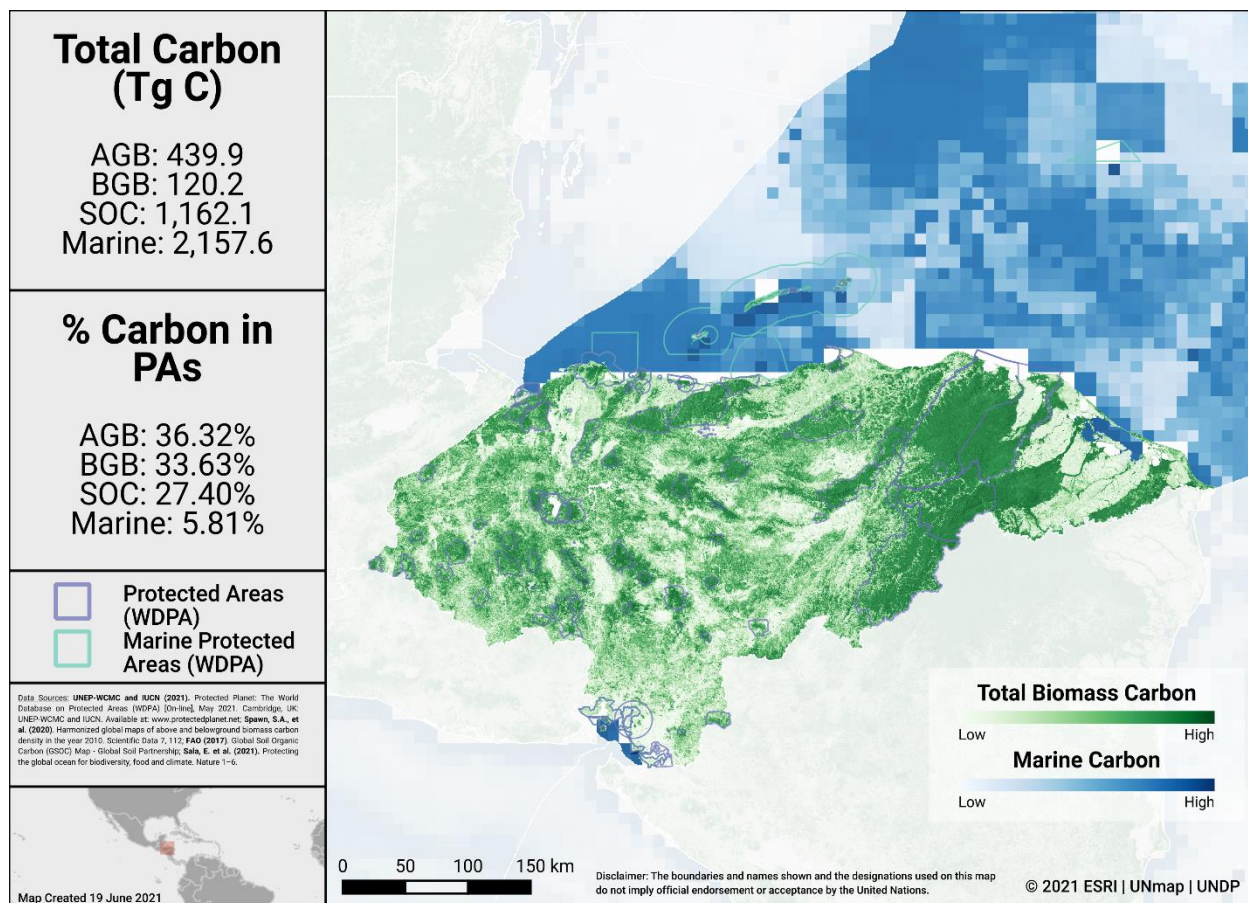
AREAS IMPORTANT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

There is no single indicator identified for assessing the conservation of areas important for ecosystem services. For simplicity, two services with available global datasets are assessed here (carbon and water). In future, other critical ecosystem services could be explored.

Carbon

Data for biomass carbon comes from temporally consistent and harmonized global maps of aboveground biomass and belowground biomass carbon density (at a 300-m spatial resolution); the maps integrate land-cover specific, remotely sensed data, and land-cover specific empirical models (see Spawn et al., 2020 for details on methodology). The Global Soil Organic Carbon Map present an estimation of SOC stock from 0 to 30 cm (see FAO, 2017). Data is also presented from global maps of marine sedimentary carbon stocks, standardized to a 1-meter depth (see Sala et al., 2021, and Atwood et al., 2020).

The map below presents the total carbon stocks in Honduras and the percent of carbon in protected areas. The total carbon stocks is 439.9 Tg C from aboveground biomass (AGB), with 36.3% in protected areas; 120.2 Tg C from below ground biomass (BGB), with 33.6% in protected areas; 1,162.1 Tg C from soil organic carbon (SOC), with 27.4% in protected areas; and 2,157.6 Tg C from marine sediment carbon, with 5.8% in protected areas.



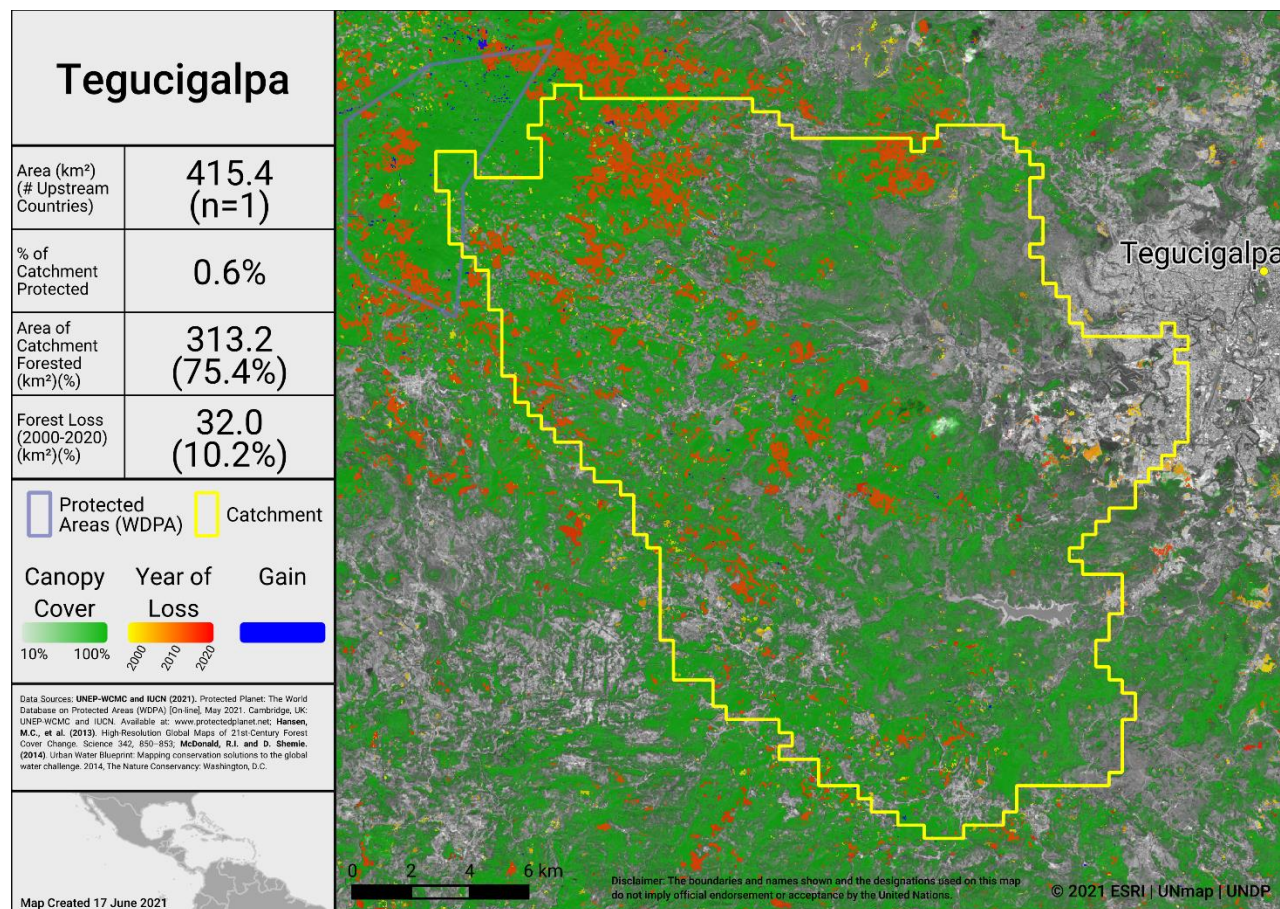
Carbon Stocks in Honduras

Water

Information on the water sources for 534 cities is available via the City Water Map (CWM) and provides details on the catchment area of the watershed that supplies these cities (see McDonald et al., 2014 for details on methodology).

Forests support stormwater management and clean water availability, especially for large urban populations. Research that has examined the role of forests for city drinking water supplies shows that of the world’s 105 largest cities, more than 30% (33 cities) rely heavily on the local protected forests, which provide ecosystem services that underpin local drinking water availability and quality (Dudley & Stolton, 2003)

Drinking water supplies for cities in Honduras may similarly depend on protected forest areas within and around water catchments. The map below shows the percentage forest and PA cover and the forest loss from 2000-2020 in the most heavily populated water catchment of Honduras. Intact catchments can support more consistent water supply and improved water quality.



Water supply area for the city of Tegucigalpa

Opportunities for action

For carbon, there is opportunity for Honduras to increase PA and OECM coverage in both marine and terrestrial areas with high carbon stocks, as identified in the map above. Protecting areas with high carbon stocks secures the benefits of carbon sequestration in the area.

For water, there is opportunity to increase the area of the water catchment under protection by PAs and OECMs, or in cases where there is high levels of protection, focus on effective management for these areas. Protecting the current area of forested land and potentially reforesting would have benefits for improving water security.



CONNECTIVITY & INTEGRATION

Two global indicators, the Protected Connected land indicator (ProtConn; EC-JRC, 2021; Saura et al., 2018) and the PARC-Connectedness indicator (CSIRO, 2019), have been proposed for assessing the terrestrial connectivity of PA and OECM networks. To date there is no global indicator for assessing marine connectivity, though some recent developments include proposed guidance for the treatment of connectivity in the planning and management of MPAs (see Lausche et al., 2021).

Protected Connected Land Indicator (Prot-Conn)

As of January 2021, as reported in the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission's Digital Observatory for Protected Areas (DOPA) (JRC, 2021), the coverage of protected-connected lands (a measure of the connectivity of terrestrial protected area networks, assessed using the ProtConn indicator) in Honduras was 14.1%.

PARC-Connectedness Index

In 2019, as assessed using the PARC-Connectedness Index (values ranging from 0-1, indicating low to high connectivity), connectivity in Honduras is 0.55. This represents no significant change since 2010.

Corridor case studies

Details from a case study (see Hilty et al 2020) on corridors and connectivity in Honduras:

Case study title	Type of study region	Greatest threat to connectivity	Approaches to conserving ecological corridors
The Jaguar Corridor Initiative: A rangewide species conservation strategy	terrestrial, rural	human land-use changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • modelled ecological corridors • prioritised populations and ecological corridors • validated modelled corridors using a rapid assessment interview-based methodology • varied implementation action at local level

Honduras is also in the process of establishing **biological corridors** as a method of land use planning, including protected areas and interconnection zones with natural or modified habitats. Currently there are **7 initiatives** in the process of being recognized as biological corridors, through the approval of CONACOBH as a national inter-institutional coordination body. One management experience in this area is the La Unión Biological Corridor, which has benefited the communities that comprise it, which are contributing to be a model for the conservation and connectivity of existing ecosystems between the areas included within the biological corridor, allowing the conservation of native and nationally important species, as well as the different cultures

Opportunities for action

There is opportunity continue with the implementation of initiatives on biological corridors. There is also opportunity to focus on PA and OECM management, and the effective management of biological corridors, for enhancing and maintaining connectivity. Improving connectivity increases the effectiveness of PAs and OECMs and reduces the impacts of fragmentation.

As well, a range of suggested steps for enhancing and supporting integration are included in the voluntary guidance on the integration of PAs and OECMs into the wider land- and seascapes and mainstreaming across sectors to contribute, inter alia, to the SDGs (Annex I of COP Decision 14/8)



GOVERNANCE DIVERSITY

There is a lack of comprehensive global data on governance quality and equity in PAs and OECMs. Here, we provide data on the diversity of governance types for reported PAs and OECMs.

As of May 2021, PAs in Honduras reported in the WDPA have the following governance types:

- 70.6% are governed by **governments** (by federal or national ministry or agency)
- 0.0% are under **shared** governance
- 10.9% are under **private** governance (by individual landowners)
- 7.6% are under **IPLC** governance (by Indigenous Peoples)
- 10.9% **do not** report a governance type
 - (All of which are international designations)

OECMs

As of May 2021, there are **0** OECMs in Honduras reported in the WD-OECM, therefore there is no data available on OECM governance types.

Privately Protected Areas (PPAs)

According to Honduras' PoWPA focal point (as reported in Stolton et al 2014):

- There are 82 Privately Protected Areas (PPAs) in Honduras (**640 km²**)

Territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities (ICCAs)

There is currently no data available on ICCAs for Honduras (see Kothari et al., 2012 and the [ICCA Registry](#) for further details).

Other Indigenous lands

Lands managed and/or controlled by Indigenous Peoples cover an area of 36,291 km², of which 21,5354 km² falls outside of formal protected areas. Indigenous lands with a human footprint less than 4 (considered as 'natural landscapes') cover an area of 14,249 km² (for details on analysis see Garnett et al., 2018).

For Honduras, evidence for the presence of Indigenous Peoples comes from: Minority Rights Group International. World Directory of minorities and Indigenous Peoples: Honduras – Lenca, Miskitu, Tawahka, Pech, Maya, Chortis and Xicaque (Minorities Rights Group International, 2008)

Boundaries of the lands Indigenous Peoples manage or have tenure rights over come from: International Union for Conservation of Nature. Map of Indigenous Peoples, protected areas and natural ecosystems of Central America.

<http://www.burness.com/pressrooms/iucn-map-briefing/> (2015)

Opportunities for action

Explore opportunities for governance types that have lower representation, for Honduras this could relate to shared governance and governance by Indigenous Peoples and/or local communities (IPLC).

There is also opportunity for Honduras to complete governance and equity assessments, to establish baselines and identify relevant actions for improvement. Examples of existing tools and methodologies include: Governance Assessment for Protected and Conserved Areas (Franks & Brooker, 2018), Social Assessment of Protected Areas (Franks et al 2018), and Site-level assessment of governance and equity (IIED, 2020). As well, a range of suggested actions are included in the voluntary guidance on effective governance models for management of protected areas, including equity (Annex II of COP Decision 14/8).

Equator Prize Projects

The Equator Initiative brings together the United Nations, governments, civil society, businesses and grassroots organizations to recognize and advance local sustainable development solutions for people, nature and resilient communities.

The Equator Prize projects provide examples of unique and locally based governance of natural resources. Honduras has the following Equator Prize winners that showcase examples of local, sustainable community action:

Organization	Year	Project Description
Federacion Tribus Pech de Honduras (FETRIPH)	2017	Federación Tribus Pech de Honduras (FETRIPH) unites 12 Pech communities in northeastern Honduras to fight for the protection of their forests against illegal occupation by settlers and to promote alternative livelihoods in a unique Access and Benefit Sharing scheme. The group has founded a cooperative to sell liquidambar, an ingredient important in the fragrance and flavor industry, and has set production standards that ensure sustainability while addressing scarcity concerns in the international market, as well as guaranteeing a fair income for producers and the protection of Pech traditional knowledge. Sixty percent of revenues directly benefit producers, providing a stable income for 60 families; the remaining 40 percent of revenues are directed to a community social fund that promotes education and public health. FETRIPH successfully opposed the creation of a 'people free' national park, which would have stripped the Pech from the right to sustainably use liquidambar trees. Through FETRIPH's efforts, the government has instead signed an agreement with FETRIPH for co-management of the 34,000-hectare Anthropological and Forest Reserve 'Montaña del Carbón', which provides the community with stewardship over their forest.



Organization	Year	Project Description
Muskitia Asla Takanka (MASTA)	2015	<p>An Indigenous federation that represents the Miskitus of the Honduran Mosquitia, MASTA works to protect Indigenous territorial rights and culture, strengthen local governance and natural resource management, and improve regional health and education systems. The group protects a large part of the remaining intact rainforest in Honduras, approximately 1.2 million hectares or 7 percent of the national territory. MASTA represents all 60,000 Miskitus people in Honduras and has used social mobilization, skillful negotiation, creative communications strategies and alliance building to secure titles for Miskitus territories. MASTA is the first Indigenous organization in Central America to develop their own 'bio-cultural protocol' as a mechanism to defend the collective right of the Miskitus to free, prior, and informed consent on proposed development projects in their territories. The federation has helped the Miskitu defend their territories from ranchers, drug traffickers, and palm oil and petroleum companies. Through land titling, the group has significantly decreased rates of deforestation and helped create sustainable livelihood options in the areas of forest management, small-scale fisheries, and organic agriculture.</p>
Comité para la Defensa y Desarrollo de la Flora y Fauna del Golfo de Fonseca (CODDEFFAGOLF)	2015	<p>In a coastal region of Honduras that has some of the highest rates of poverty in Latin America and that is facing severe environmental threats from the shrimp farming, sugar cane, and commercial fishing industries, Comité para la Defensa y Desarrollo de la Flora y Fauna del Golfo de Fonseca (CODDEFFAGOLF) has been a force for positive change over the last 20 years. With a focus on protecting and restoring dwindling mangroves and coastal biodiversity, the group has constructed artificial coral reefs as fish aggregation sites and used direct seeding to replant and regenerate the coastal forests. Fish populations have increased by 36 percent in installed reef sites and more than 1,200 hectares of mangroves have been reforested, improving local fishing livelihoods and benefiting over 7,000 families along the Gulf. Restored mangroves serve as 'green infrastructure' and buffer the coastal communities from climate-related storm surges and floods. Radio programming has helped the organization raise awareness about climate change, ecosystem health, and the power of community action. The group has successfully campaigned for the established of nine protected areas, the declaration of a 69,711 hectare Ramsar site, and the creation of a vibrant, citizen-driven environmental monitoring network.</p>

Organization	Year	Project Description
Mosquitia Pawisa Agency for the Development of the Honduran Mosquitia (MOPAWI)	2002	For more than twenty-five years, the Agencia para el Desarrollo de la Mosquitia (MOPAWI, Agency for the Development of the Mosquitia) has worked to engage local and Indigenous communities in the integrated management of the Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve and other protected areas in northeastern Honduras. Located within the Mosquitia area, the reserve contains the largest intact rainforest north of the Amazon and was classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1982 in recognition of its natural and cultural heritage values. The organization has collaborated with Indigenous groups in Honduras to create a forest guard program that develops ecological guidelines and zoning for the Mesoamerican corridor, including rules for hunting, fishing, forestry and agriculture. As well as community forestry, the group's activities include sustainable agriculture, micro-enterprise development, ecotourism, and advocacy for Indigenous land rights.
La Asociación de Juntas Administradoras de Agua del Sector Sur de Pico Bonito (AJAASSPIB, Association of Water Committees of the Southern Sector of Pico Bonito National Park)	2012	This association of 27 village water committees located in the southern buffer zone of Honduras' Pico Bonito National Park oversees the management of micro-watersheds and trains the local community in reforestation, conservation and the application of environmentally friendly technologies. A primary focus is ensuring local access to potable water in a region prone to shortages. The association made the connection between declining freshwater supply and deforestation, unsustainable agricultural practices, ranching and firewood collection taking place in local watersheds. The association links water committees who are responsible for maintaining water delivery systems, protecting water 'recharge' zones, and both collecting and regulating water-use fees. The association has reforested more than 120 hectares of land with native tree species. It has grown from 4 to 27 water committees and served as a learning model for more than 80 across the north coast of the country. The association has also provided its constituent communities with access to 'eco-stoves'.





PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS

This section provides information on the coverage of PAs and OECMs with completed protected area management effectiveness (PAME) assessments as reported in the global database (GD-PAME). The proportion of terrestrial and marine PAs with completed PAME assessments is also calculated and compared with the 60% target agreed to in COP-10 Decision X/31. Information is also included regarding changes in forest cover nationally within PAs and OECMs.

Protected area management effectiveness (PAME) assessments

As of May 2021, Honduras has 118 PAs reported in the WDPA; of these PAs, 26 (21.8%) have management effectiveness evaluations reported in the global database on protected area management effectiveness (GD-PAME).

- 15.8% (17,846 km²) of the terrestrial area of the country is covered by PAs with completed management effectiveness evaluations.
 - 67.2% of the area of terrestrial PAs have completed evaluations.
- 0.2% (505 km²) of the marine area of the country is covered by PAs with completed management effectiveness evaluations.
 - 5.0% of the area of marine PAs have completed evaluations.

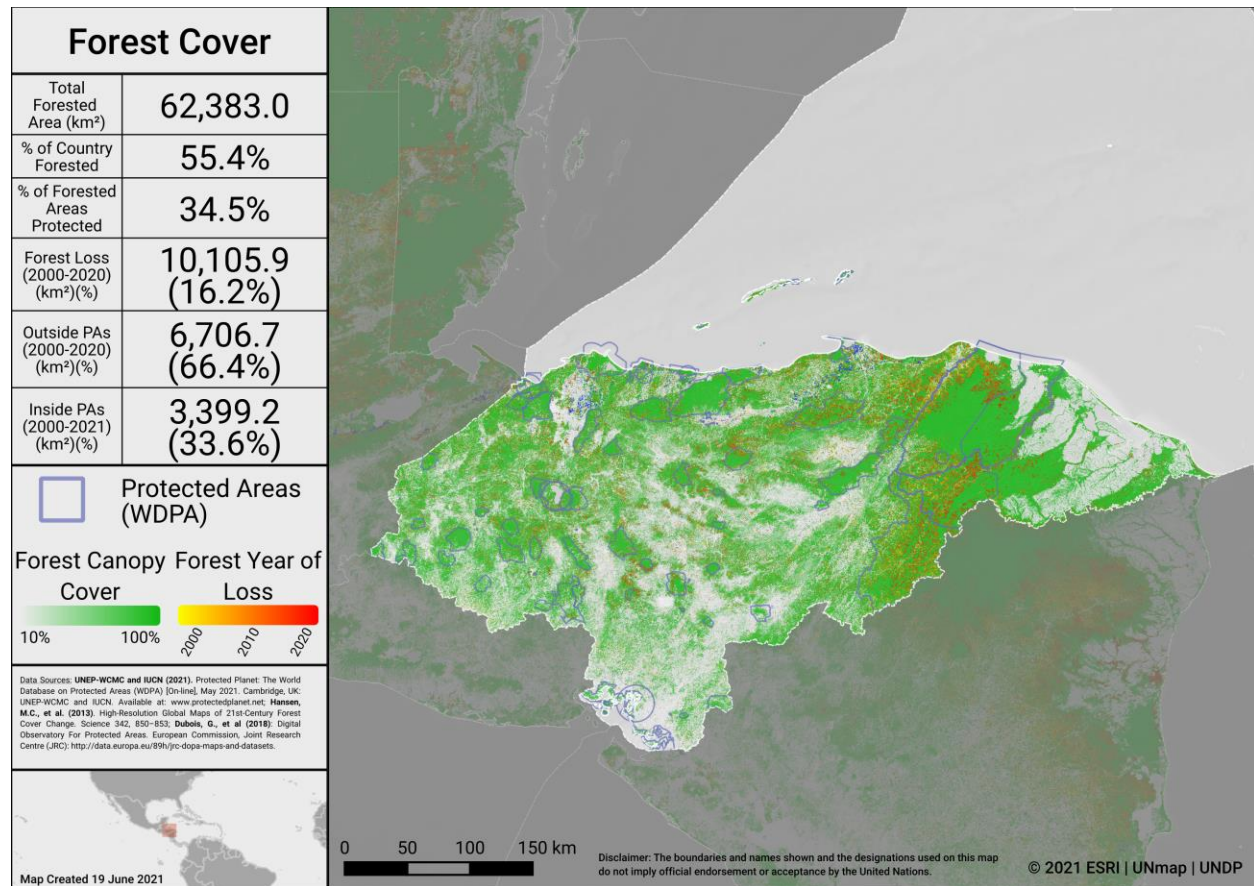
The 60% target for completed management effectiveness assessments (per COP Decision X/31) **has** been met for terrestrial PAs and **has not** been met for marine PAs.

As of May 2021, there are 0 OECMs in Honduras reported in the WD-OECM and no information available on the management effectiveness of potential OECMs.

Changes in forest cover in protected areas and OECMs

Forested areas in Honduras cover approximately 55.4% of the country, an area of 62,383.0 km². Approximately 34.5% (21,534.5 km²) of this is within the protected area estate of Honduras. Over the period 2000-2020 loss of forest cover amounted to over 10,105.9 km², or 9.0% of the country (16.2% of forest area), of which 3,399.2 km² (33.6% of forest loss) occurred within protected areas. The map below shows how forest cover has changed in Honduras from 2000-2020 both inside and outside of PAs. This can indicate how effective PAs are in reducing forest cover loss





Forest Cover and Forest Loss in Honduras

Opportunities for action

The 60% target for completed management effectiveness assessments (per COP Decision X/31) **has** been met for terrestrial PAs and **has not** been met for marine PAs. Therefore, there is opportunity to increase protected area management effectiveness (PAME) evaluations for marine PAs to achieve the target.

There is also opportunity to implement the results of completed PAME evaluations, to improve the quality of management for existing PAs and OECMs (e.g. through adaptive management and information sharing, increasing the number of sites reporting 'sound management') and to increase reporting of biodiversity outcomes in PAs and OECMs.

SECTION II: EXISTING PROTECTED AREA AND OECM COMMITMENTS

PRIORITY ACTIONS FROM 2015-2016 REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

National priority actions for Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 were provided by Parties following a series of regional workshops in 2015 and 2016. The Capacity-building workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean on achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets 11 and 12 took place 28 September - 1 October 2015 in Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil. Progress towards the quantitative targets for marine and terrestrial coverage has been assessed based on data reported in the WDPA and WD-OECM as of 2021. For more information, see the workshop report at: <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/>

The following actions were identified during the workshops:

Terrestrial coverage:

- 1) By 2020 3 PA will be created [No area provided]
- 2) By 2020 declared PAs have effective management model and highly participatory
- 3) financial mechanisms have been established in one pilot area in 2020 and has been replicated in 3 protected areas
- 4) By 2020 there is a strengthening and diversification of funding sources to consolidate the Protected Areas and Wildlife Fund (FAPVS: “Fondo de Areas Protegidas y vida Silvestre”).

Marine coverage: By 2020 3 PA will be created [No area provided].

Ecological representation:

- 1) By 2020 - achieve protection of dry forest ecosystems and other unrepresented ecosystems in the SINAPH - By establishing Sites of Importance for Wildlife and land titling to the State
- 2) By 2020 classification of marine zones completed
- 3) In order to protect priority ecosystems identified in the gap analysis, new biological corridors are established, and private nature reserves are certified in order to strengthen the SINAPH.

Areas Important for biodiversity and ecosystem services:

- 1) By 2020 legal basis and institutional authority by the central or local government is granted



- 2) By 2020 joint development of agro-economic standards and conservation in order to achieve sustainable use of the resources
- 3) In 2020 new-financial uptake mechanisms and management for effective management of areas of interest for biodiversity are implemented.
- 4) implement and promote alternative development in local areas of interest, in order to minimize the negative impacts caused by anthropogenic activities unsustainably in the areas.
- 5) By 2020 has implemented Public Use Plans in the areas of interest for biodiversity
- 6) By 2020 implement management plans and regularize activity 'cammaricultura' under the new legislation
- 7) Regularize south side shrimp farms
- 8) Legislative Decree No.335-2013, Law Strengthening shrimp farming
- 9) Executive Agreement No. 768-2014, Regulations of the Law for Strengthening the canaricultura
- 10) zoning and rules of use of protected areas Protected Areas Subsystem of the South zone
- 11) Fully implemented the National Strategy Goods and services nationwide.
- 12) Consolidation of experiences of payment for environmental services to be replicated in other parts of the country.

Connectivity:

- 1) Creation of 4 new biological corridors
- 2) Implementation of the Regulation of Biological Corridors nationwide.

Management effectiveness: Effectively manage the finance and implementation of 15 new management plans.

Governance and Equity: No actions were identified for this element of Target 11.

Integration: Integration of the Department of Protected Areas with GEF programs and projects to achieve the integration of marine ecosystems to SINAPH (National System of Protected Areas and Wildlife of Honduras).

OECS: Certify 10 new private natural reserves.



NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLANS (NBSAPs)

Honduras has submitted an NBSAP during the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (most recent NBSAP is available at: <https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/search/>).

National Goal 4 National efforts for in situ conservation of biodiversity are consolidated by strengthening the networks of protected areas in the country and other sites of interest for conservation

Actions from the NBSAP will also address other elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11:

NBSAP Action number	Action (original language from NBSAP)	Action (English translation)
1.2	Se complementan los marcos jurídicos e institucionales armonizados e incluyentes que garanticen criterios de conservación y uso sostenible de la biodiversidad en políticas sectoriales	Harmonized and inclusive legal and institutional frameworks that guarantee criteria for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in sectoral policies are complemented.
1.3	Se aumenta los esfuerzos para la conservación y el manejo integral del ecosistema marino-costero e insular, mediante la generación y fortalecimiento de mecanismos e instrumentos nacionales	Increased efforts for the conservation and integrated management of the marine-coastal and insular ecosystem, through the generation and strengthening of national mechanisms and instruments.
8.11	Se respetan los derechos de las comunidades locales, pueblos indígenas y afrohondureños en su inclusión y participación en los procesos de gestión de la biodiversidad.	The rights of local communities, Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Hondurans are respected in their inclusion and participation in biodiversity management processes.

APPROVED GEF-5, GEF-6, & GCF PROTECTED AREA PROJECTS

Approved GEF-5 and GEF-6 PA-related biodiversity projects

This includes biodiversity projects from the fifth and sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-5 and GEF-6) with a clear impact of the quantity or quality of PAs; also including some projects occurring within the wider landscapes/seascapes around PAs. Only those with a status of 'project approved' or 'concept approved' as of June 2019 were considered. The qualifying elements likely benefiting from each GEF project is assessed based on a keyword search of Project Identification Forms (PIF). Where spatial data for the proposed PAs was available, further details (based on an analysis by UNDP) regarding their impacts for ecological representation, coverage of KBAs, and coverage of areas important for carbon storage is included.

GEF ID	PA increase?	Area to be added (km ²)	Type of new protected area	Qualitative elements potentially benefitting (based on keyword search of PIFs)
4708	Yes	217	Terrestrial	All except Ecosystem services and Connectivity
4708	Yes	556	Marine	All except Ecosystem services and Connectivity
9262	No	N/A	N/A	All except Ecologically representative

Based on spatial data available for GEF project 4708, benefits will arise for several elements of Target 11:

Coverage of Terrestrial and Marine Ecoregions:

- 2 Terrestrial Ecoregions will have improved coverage (Central American Atlantic moist forests; Mesoamerican Gulf-Caribbean mangroves).
 - The average increase in coverage of Terrestrial Ecoregions will be 7.67%.
- 1 Marine Ecoregion will have improved coverage (Western Caribbean).
 - The increase in coverage of Marine Ecoregions will be 7.21%.

Coverage of KBAs:

- Coverage will improve for 3 KBAs.

Ecosystem services:

- 0.15 % increase in the PA coverage of aboveground biomass.
- 0.17 % increase in the PA coverage of important aboveground biomass areas.
- 0.21 % increase in the PA coverage of soil organic carbon (SOC).
- 0.33 % increase in the PA coverage of areas important for SOC.



Approved Green Climate Fund (GCF) Protected Area-related biodiversity projects

The Green Climate Fund's investments listed as approved projects as of May 2021 were considered. The GCF supports paradigm shifts in both climate change mitigation and adaptation that may impact quality of PAs or contribute to better integration within the wider land- and seascapes around PAs. Only projects with result areas for either or both *Forest and Land Use and Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services result areas* were included.

GCF ID	Project theme	Result area	Target 11 element
FP111	Cross-cutting	Forest and land use	Integration; Effectively managed



UN OCEAN CONFERENCE VOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS

Voluntary commitments for the UN Ocean Conference are initiatives voluntarily undertaken by governments, the UN system, non-governmental organizations, among other actors—individually or in partnership—that aim to contribute to the implementation of SDG 14 (here we focus in particular on SDG 14.5). The registry of commitments was opened in February 2017, in the lead up to the first UN Ocean Conference (5 to 9 June 2017).

Ocean Actions improving MPA or OECM coverage:

#OceanAction16178: Protecting 1 million sq kms through the \$15 million WCS Marine Protected Area Fund by Wildlife Conservation Society (Non-governmental organization (NGO)).

- Area to be added: **10,000 km²**.
- Notes on area added: aims to assist in the completion of two MPAs in the Caribbean waters of Honduras, see country profile from WCS MPA project: <https://mpafund.wcs.org/>.
- Progress report: Yes (2019), status=On Track.
- Further details available at: <https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=16178>.

#OceanAction17989: 3 reas Marinas Protegidas del caribe de Honduras disponen de instrumentos de manejo, by Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo PNUD Honduras (UNDP) (UN entity).

- Area to be added: **Area not given**.
- Progress report: No progress report submitted (as of March 2021).
- Further details available at: <https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=17989>.

#OceanAction17992: 3 areas Marinas Protegidas del caribe de Honduras cuentan con instrumentos que permiten la sostenibilidad financiera de las acciones de manejo, by Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo PNUD Honduras (UNDP) (UN entity).

- Area to be added: **Area not given**.
- Progress report: No progress report submitted (as of March 2021).
- Further details available at: <https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=17992>.

#OceanAction17854: Declaration of fisheries recovery areas, by General Directorate of the Merchant Marine (Government).

- Area to be added: **Area not given**.
- Progress report: No progress report submitted (as of March 2021).
- Further details available at: <https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/?id=17854>.



OTHER ACTIONS/COMMITMENTS

Leaders' Pledge for Nature

Honduras **has** signed onto the Leaders' Pledge for Nature.

Political leaders participating in the United Nations Summit on Biodiversity in September 2020, representing 84 countries from all regions and the European Union, have committed to reversing biodiversity loss by 2030. By doing so, these leaders are sending a united signal to step up global ambition and encourage others to match their collective ambition for nature, climate, and people with the scale of the crisis at hand.

Global Ocean Alliance

Honduras **has** joined the Global Ocean Alliance: 30by30 initiative.

The Global Ocean Alliance 30by30 is a UK led initiative [currently containing 53 countries as signatories]. Its aim is to protect at least 30% of the global ocean as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) by 2030.

Other commitments addressing improved coverage of PAs or OECMs

Completing the designation of all PAs in SINAPH (National System of Protected Areas of Honduras) that are proposed/not yet legally declared (as described in Honduras' 6th National Report to the CBD), would increase coverage of terrestrial areas by **5895 km²** [removing the area covered by GEF #4708].

Other relevant commitments and policies

Public policies on Biodiversity, Wetlands and coastal marine spaces:

- Honduras currently has the Biodiversity, Wetlands and Coastal Marine Spaces Policy, documents that are intended to be a guiding instrument for the population in conservation, preservation and sustainable use of the biological and marine resources that the country has

Biological Corridors

- Honduras is in the process of establishing biological corridors as a method of land use planning, including protected areas and interconnection zones with natural or modified habitats. Currently there are 7 initiatives in the process of being recognized as biological corridors, through the approval of CONACOBH as a national inter-institutional coordination body. One management experience in this area is the La Unión Biological Corridor, which has benefited the communities that



comprise it, which are contributing to be a model for the conservation and connectivity of existing ecosystems between the areas included within the biological corridor, allowing the conservation of native and nationally important species, as well as the different cultures

Report on the state of Biodiversity in Honduras

- Report that provides data on actions or activities developed by the country over time in relation to biodiversity, guided by the provisions established by the CBD. Honduras presented the Sixth National Report to the CBD convention in 2018.

Red lists report in Honduras

- As an inventory, it allows to warn about the state of biodiversity in the country; Its applications at the national level allow decision makers to consider the best options for the conservation of the species. In this, Honduras is working on the draft of the document in order to have an approximate of the species of national importance and an indicator of the risk of extinction in the species that are part of the biodiversity in the Country."

Commitments for PAs and OECMs from Other National Policies

Policy document	Ecosystem	Policy text
Nationally Determined Contribution	Forest ecosystems	Provide estimations of emissions and sinks of the LULUCF sector in the third national communication
Nationally Determined Contribution	Coastal ecosystems	Implement strategies that promote / achieve maintain the integrity and functioning of marine-coastal ecosystems
National Adaptation Plan	Forest ecosystems	Promote financial mechanisms to compensate for environmental services, including municipal fees for the payment and conservation of environmental services
Water forest and soil master plan	Forest ecosystems	Conduct an assessment of the Cost / Benefit and Externalities of conservation and restoration measures for forests, soils and water in the immediate term. (CROSS-CUTTING for protection and restoration in forest ecosystems and wetlands)
National Strategy on Climate Change	Forest ecosystems	Facilitate initiatives aimed at removing carbon dioxide (CO ₂) from the atmosphere, through actions to strengthen absorption sinks in the LULUCF sector

Policy document	Ecosystem	Policy text
National Adaptation Plan	Wetland ecosystems	Ensure plant cover in the upper and middle part of the basins to guarantee water production, and in the lower part, to reduce the risk of disasters and improve water quality
National Strategy on Climate Change	Coastal ecosystems	Preserve the structure and dynamics of marine-coastal ecosystems considering climate change effects by (1) establishing mechanisms to prevent and control the loss of beaches, and protect the infrastructure they house, through an analysis of coastal dynamics under climate change conditions; (2) supporting national initiatives for conservation and restoration of mangroves in bays, estuaries and islands; (3) establishing action frameworks to prevent and reduce reef ecosystem disorders; and (4) strengthening the socio-economic sustainability of populations that live and depend on coastal marine ecosystems
Water forest and soil master plan	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	Pilot a plan for soil conservation with 25 Municipal Governments (provision of tools, supplies, manual, Capacity Building, etc.) in the short term
National Development Plan	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	Promote the conservation of plant species (suitable for agricultural crops and commercial plantations) in drought resilient regions and areas that can withstand soil water saturation
National Strategy on Climate Change	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	Implement soil conservation practices in forest and agricultural systems, to reduce erosion, and flushing of channels and reservoirs
National Strategy on Climate Change	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	Promote the reduction of methane emissions (CH ₄) from waste and agricultural sectors and its use for energy initiatives
National Strategy on Climate Change	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	Promote the reduction of nitrous oxide (N ₂ O) emissions from the agriculture sector.
National Strategy on Climate Change	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	Facilitate farmers' adaptation to climate change by promoting the adoption of: (1) crops more tolerant to climate changes already observed and projected; (2) systems, technologies and good practices of sustainable agriculture, incorporating improved productivity and efficiency in agriculture; (3) and implementation of sustainable and integrated practices of pest, disease and weed management practices in agricultural systems

Policy document	Ecosystem	Policy text
Protected Area Plan	Forest ecosystems	By 2020, 3 PAs will be created
National Policy on Forest, Protected Areas, and Wildlife	Forest ecosystems	Protect, conserve and recognize the value of ecosystems and biodiversity in terms of providing present and future socio-economic value for inhabitants living on the periphery and within forests
National Policy on Forest, Protected Areas, and Wildlife	Forest ecosystems	Demarcate protected natural areas core zones and buffer zones, prioritizing the publication of executive decrees and agreements where limits and management categories are redefined for protected areas. (Cross-cutting to wetlands and coastal ecosystems that have also protected areas)
National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan	Wetland ecosystems	Create protected areas of wetlands and establish areas of high environmental value, including priority sites
National Wetlands Policy	Wetland ecosystems	Incorporate wetlands within the network of Protected Areas; implement conservation actions through the expansion of the areas, Conservation, and declaration of new protected areas, and the establishment of biological corridors; designation of wetlands of International Importance not yet declared such as the Moskitia Wetland System; integrate into management instruments (Management Plan, Public Use Plan, among others) of protected areas that have wetland ecosystems; establishment of incentive programs on cost studies economic, social and environmental benefit with a medium and long-term vision, for the protection of water resources in protected areas, zones of wetlands and mangroves as indicated in the Water Law – Article 89
National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan	Coastal ecosystems	Efforts are increased for the conservation and integral management of the marine-coastal and insular ecosystem, through the generation and strengthening of national mechanisms and instruments
National Policy on Forest, Protected Areas, and Wildlife	Coastal ecosystems	Develop conservation programs for marine, coastal, forest and endemic threatened species
National Wetlands Policy	Grasslands & Agricultural systems	Formulate, finance, and implement permanent programs for integrated management of hydrographic basins, as well as Integrated Management of Marine and Coastal Spaces

ANNEX I

FULL LIST OF TERRESTRIAL ECOREGIONS

Ecoregion Name	Area (km ²)	% of Global Ecoregion in Country	% of Country in Ecoregion	Area Protected (km ²)	% Protected in Country
Central American Atlantic moist forests	33,759.2	37.7	30.0	14,664.7	43.4
Central American dry forests	18,995.2	28.0	16.9	714.3	3.8
Central American montane forests	5,420.8	40.9	4.8	2,546.6	47.0
Central American pine-oak forests	44,421.8	40.0	39.4	6,216.4	14.0
Cuban dry forests	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mesoamerican Gulf-Caribbean mangroves	2,248.5	8.4	2.0	692.9	30.8
Miskito pine forests	6,856.5	36.4	6.1	674.6	9.8
Southern Mesoamerican Pacific mangroves	850.0	10.9	0.8	612.3	72.0



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