



Belize

Located in Central America, Belize is a Small Island Developing State endowed with many natural wonders. The Caribbean country is home to several forests, coral reefs, and endangered marine and terrestrial species.

The Climate Adaptation and Protected Areas (CAPA) Initiative will focus on implementing nature-based solutions (NbS) for adaptation that respond to climate change impacts in the country. It will work with women and men in local communities to address these challenges—with a focus on supporting the participation of women and underrepresented groups, including youth.

Key Climate Change Impacts



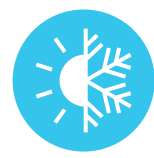
Sea level rise



Storms



Hurricanes



Extreme temperatures



Flooding



Wildfires



Drought

Key Biodiversity and Ecosystem Threats



Deforestation



Pollution from agriculture



Stoney coral tissue loss disease



Coral bleaching

Project Sites

Marine Protected Areas

Belize's Southern Barrier Reef Complex lies at the heart of the Mesoamerican Reef, the largest coral reef system in the Western Hemisphere. CAPA activities will focus on the Glover's Reef Marine Reserve and South Water Caye Marine Reserve.

FACT ▶ The 300-km Belize Barrier Reef System was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996.

Maya Forest Corridor (MFC)

The MFC is a haven and migratory corridor for many of the country's wildlife species. The wetlands and forests of the MFC also play an important role in national water management.

FACT ▶ The MFC links Belize's forests to the largest forested lands in Mesoamerica and hosts robust populations of several threatened species.

Key CAPA activities include

- planting trees to restore degraded watersheds and act as firebreaks;
- offering Climate Smart Agriculture training for terrestrial communities living near protected areas, prioritizing the participation of women and youth;
- producing radio dramas focused on driving social and behavioural change toward gender-responsive NbS for adaptation and climate change;
- improving the health of coral reefs by reducing environmental and social stressors on coastal and marine ecosystems, including developing climate-resilient diverse livelihood options for fishing communities; and
- hosting and supporting peer-to-peer learning and knowledge-sharing events among women's groups at the project sites to build women's capacity in conservation management and NbS activities.

Implementing partners

Wildlife Conservation Society Belize
Wildlife Conservation Society Central

Project partners



Funded by

