

The eco.business Fund provides dedicated financing of businesses and consumption practices that promote biodiversity conservation, support sustainable use of natural resources, and mitigate the effects of climate change. Read more in this newsletter to see the fund's most recent activities creating impact in its target regions.

Q1-2020

“De Mi Tierra”: Honduran smallholder producers learn about sustainable water usage techniques

The eco.business Fund's Development Facility has officially completed construction of two reservoirs as part of the “De Mi Tierra” project in Honduras, which feeds the drip irrigation system for smallholder farmers in rural areas, providing access to sustainable production which creates new opportunities to trade their products.

The “De Mi Tierra” project was created as a result of a strategic partnership between the Foundation for Business Development (FUNDER for its acronym in Spanish), Ficohsa Bank and La Colonia Supermarket.



The eco.business Fund is working with seven family farms in the Togopala and Malugara regions in Honduras in order to improve their access to water, reduce water scarcity during dry months, promote gender and socially inclusive business growth, and strengthen soil conservation practices to increase soil fertility.



Supporting Banco Hipotecario in El Salvador develop an impact framework

As part of the eco.business Fund's mission to promote sustainable business practices, the fund's Development Facility trained representatives from Banco Hipotecario in El Salvador to develop an impact framework, by providing tools, such as policy documents and procedures, to measure the environmental and social impact of their investments.

The workshop trained participants on the importance of climate change mitigation and promoting sustainable practices. This enabled Banco Hipotecario to understand the importance of an impact framework to comprehensively assess the overall impact of their activities, and mitigate risks.

First knowledge sharing event on sustainable cattle between Nicaragua and Panama

The eco.business Fund Development Facility sponsored the participation of Nicaraguan end-borrowers from Lafise Bancentro at an event titled, “Succeeding in the cattle-raising industry in difficult times,” in David, Panama from February 14 – 16.

Lucía Gaitán from the eco.business Fund's advisor Finance in Motion, who was leading the responsible cattle project with partner financial institutions in Nicaragua and Panama, shared her experience using technologies such as satellites and drones in cattle farming.



The conference allowed bank representatives and the Panamanian cattle sector to talk about their experiences and share their knowledge on sustainable cattle farming and the financial challenges associated with adopting sustainable practices.

Workshop on sustainable coffee practices for producers in El Salvador

In collaboration with Banco Hipotecario, the eco.business Fund Development Facility organized a set of workshops on sustainable practices for coffee producers in the Sonsonate region of El Salvador. During the workshops participants learned about new tools and technologies for soil analysis, the importance of implementing practices for water conservation, and the taste characteristics of high-quality coffee.



These trainings aimed to teach producers about sustainable coffee practices and integrate coffee farm workers into the whole production process, from the crop to the cup.



Investments



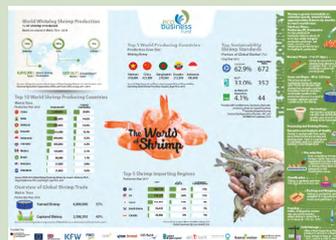
In February, the eco.business Fund provided **Banco Atlántida** Honduras with a loan of USD 20 million to increase access to finance for certified businesses. The facility will support the bank's agricultural and tourism lending program which targets companies that commit to best environmental and social practices.



New Publications



Theory of change (Spanish)



Aquaculture Profile - Shrimp (English and Spanish)



Impact Story, SiCafé (Spanish)

Funded By:



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