



HUMANA
PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
BELIZE

PROGRESS REPORT

2018 to 2019

We empower and mobilize individuals, families and communities to reduce poverty and vulnerability; through local actions and capacity building



Email: info@humana-belize.org

Phone: (+501) 678 9943

Address: Monkey River Rd, Toledo District, Belize

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BELIZE AT A GLANCE

Belize is located off the coast of the Caribbean Sea and borders Mexico and Guatemala. Despite its relative smallness, it is well known for its lush landscapes, abundant biodiversity, beautiful beaches, and various archaeological sites.

The country gained its independence from Britain in 1981, and today it houses approximately 400,000 people. Ethnic groups present in the territory include Mestizos, Creoles, Mayas, Garinagu, East Indians, Mennonites, among others. Foreign-born inhabitants make up for 15% of the population and place Belize as the country with the highest immigration rates in Central America.

Over the years, coastal erosion, tropical storms, hurricanes, floods, droughts, and fires have caused considerable damage to infrastructure, housing, and agriculture. These recurrent events have

significantly eroded livelihoods, especially among the rural poor. Despite being an upper-middle-income country, 41% of the population lives below the poverty line. The unemployment rate is 9% and, the monthly minimum wage for 180 hours worked has been BZ\$594/US\$300 since 2012.

As the country continues to develop - *with intensified demands from its rapid population growth, a longstanding debt, limited public resources, and the increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events* - **public and private partnerships play a vital role in the country's social and economic growth.**



HPPBZ IN A NUTSHELL

Humana People to People Belize (HPPBZ) is a non-governmental organization, established in 2007. Its mission is to empower and mobilize individuals, families, and communities to reduce poverty and vulnerability, through local actions and capacity building.

The organization works shoulder-to-shoulder with vulnerable populations and traditionally marginalized groups from different ages and backgrounds in rural and hard-to-reach communities of Belize. The majority of our project participants are youth, women, and subsistence-farmer groups from indigenous groups (Maya and



Garinagu) as well as Creole and migrant populations from Central America. HPPBZ seeks to create development in the broadest sense - through the establishment and implementation of projects that transfer knowledge, skills, and capacity - so that individuals and groups facing poverty and dehumanized conditions become the drivers of their development and take direct action on issues that affect them. Accordingly, the organization's approach is based on open dialogue, active participation, and collaborative work between individuals, groups, local leaders, government bodies, and the private sector.



“Alone the world changes you, together we change the world”

-Unknown author

PRIORITIES

HPPBZ's projects align with the Sustainable Development Goals as well as national strategies and plans. Furthermore, they address one or more of the priorities defined in the organization's Strategic Plan:

PRIORITY	1	2	3	4	5
	Social & economic inclusion	Healthy lifestyles	Sustainable agriculture & environment	Disaster risk reduction & disaster management	Social entrepreneurship
PURPOSE	Promote the social and economic inclusion of vulnerable populations by raising awareness of human rights while enhancing literacy levels, proficiency of English as a second language, entrepreneurship skills, and financial education.	Improve the health of the overall population by increasing knowledge about infectious and non-communicable diseases, addictive behaviors, malnutrition, reproductive health, and hygiene while advancing access to food security and sanitation.	Increase agricultural productivity and income of subsistence-farmers and small-scale farmers through the adoption of climate-smart and environmentally friendly practices and infrastructure.	Support underserved communities to reduce risks and better respond to disasters through the provision of basic training, equipment, supplies, and infrastructure while increasing awareness and adaptation to climate change.	Increase the income of micro-entrepreneurs and raise funds for HPPBZ's community development projects via the implementation of social business models and the promotion of sustainable production and consumption practices.

PROJECT LIST

In 2018 and 2019, HPPBZ implemented 14 development projects and one fundraising project in collaboration with local and international partners and volunteers. During this period, HPPBZ worked with 45 communities.

#	PROJECT NAME	YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION		PRIORITY				
		2018	2019	Social & economic inclusion	Healthy lifestyles	Sustainable agriculture & environment	Disaster risk reduction & disaster management	Social entrepreneurship
1	Child Aid and Community Development	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
2	Humana Shops: Second-Hand Clothes and Shoes	x	x					x
3	Building Adaptive Capacity and Resilience to Climate Change in Toledo, Southern Belize	x	x			x	x	
4	Development of nutrition education programs at public schools and empowerment of women groups in marginalized communities in rural Belize		x	x	x			
5	Enhanced livelihoods for women groups in rural communities of southern Belize		x	x				
6	Girls' and Mothers' Clubs - Nutrition and Health (Phase 1)	x		x	x			
7	Girls' and Mothers' Clubs - Expansion and Enhancement (Phase 2)		x	x	x			
8	Improved Community Sanitation, Hygiene and Residue Disposal in Santa Rosa and San Roman, Belize	x			x			
9	Improving access for rural community members to proper sanitation facilities in Red Bank, Stann Creek District, Belize		x		x			
10	Improving Storage and Processing of Agricultural Products to Reduce Post-harvest Losses	x				x	x	
11	Increase farmers' capacity to reduce the effects of climate change on crops in Toledo District		x			x	x	
12	Promoting Accountability and Good Governance of Youth Development Programmes through CSO Engagement in Belize / PAGE Project		x	x	x			
13	Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Belize (Phase 1)		x	x	x			
14	Strengthen Emergency and Disaster Response in vulnerable communities by building capacities and improving collaboration and service delivery in southern Belize	x	x			x	x	
15	Strengthen, Empower, Enforce Human Rights / SeeHR Project	x	x	x	x			

HPPBZ started implementing community development projects in the Corozal, Orange Walk, Stann Creek, and Toledo districts in 2007. From 2012 until today, HPPBZ has centered its efforts in southern Belize in Toledo and Stann Creek. Both districts are characterized by poor access to services, low levels of educational attainment, insufficient infrastructure, and low resilience capacity.

The organization's headquarters are located in the Toledo District, and its Partnerships Office is situated in the capital, Belmopan.



FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

The NGO has two flagship projects that have been running continuously since 2007. The first is a wide-range community development project, 'Child Aid'.



The second is a fundraising project based on the sale of second-hand clothes, 'Humana Shops'.



CHILD AID

Timeframe: 2007 to present.

Participating communities in 2018 and 2019: Aguacate, Bella Vista, Cowpen, Golden Stream, Indian Creek, Jordan, Red Bank, San Isidro, San Pablo, San Roman, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, Santa Teresa, and Trio.

The project enhances children's wellbeing by improving the overall development of their family and village.

To ensure that children develop to their fullest potential in safe and protected environments, Child Aid addresses several community needs, and works with stakeholders across multiple sectors; to establish and strengthen an array of community-based structures. Accordingly, each interested party - child, family, and group - is mobilized to take an active role in the improvement of their living conditions.

Over the years, the project has worked with over 6,000 families (approximately 27,000 people) in 50 underserved villages in northern and southern Belize.



Project activities are aligned within ten project lines:

PROJECT LINE		PURPOSE
1	Strengthening the economy of the family	Train and provide resources that create/enhance family and group-based income-generating initiatives.
2	Health and hygiene	Raise awareness and carry-out collective actions to prevent malnutrition, infectious, lifestyle-related, and vector-borne diseases.
3	Preschool	Promote preschool enrolment and implement complementary education programs that encourage early childhood education.
4	Children as active in the political, social and economic sphere of society	Mobilize youth to lead and participate in community development actions and sports activities.
5	Children in difficult situations	Provide necessary support and goods for children and families facing extreme vulnerability to safeguard their access to education and basic needs.
6	Education	Offer skill-development workshops for youth and adults to boost job preparedness and qualifications.
7	District development	Make basic repairs to public roads, structures, spaces, and buildings to improve services and usability.
8	Environment and climate change	Promote grassroots actions that use natural resources more efficiently and aid ecosystem regeneration.
9	Culture and communication	Host and participate in community events that encourage social inclusion, learning, and healthy lifestyles.
10	Farmers' clubs	Train and assist farmers' clubs in the management of demonstration plots and the implementation of sustainable and eco-friendly practices. (The Farmers' Club Model is explained further on page 13).

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2018 AND 2019

To increase food security:

517 home gardens and 18 school gardens were established.



Families participated in 38 small animal husbandry pass-on-loan actions.



7,000+ Moringa and Fruit trees were planted at the project participants' homes and in public spaces.



To promote healthy lifestyles and overall safety:

100+ awareness-raising events were organized to help prevent diabetes, teenage pregnancy, Malaria, and Dengue. These events were implemented in collaboration with several partners.



1000+ families were trained on human rights, gender equality, childcare, road safety, climate change, and disaster response procedures.



45 community clean-up actions were implemented, and 400 donated trash bins were placed around the communities, to reduce littered garbage.



400+ people participated in English as a Second Language (ESL) courses to support their social inclusion and professional development.

11 Farmers' Clubs gained more experience in the implementation of sustainable agriculture and climate-smart practices at 11 demonstration plots established by the project and at their private lands.

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HUMANA SHOPS

Timeframe: 2008 to present.

Communities served in 2018 and 2019: Bella Vista, Belmopan, Dangriga, Mango Creek / Independence, Placencia, Punta Gorda, and Santa Cruz.



With seven retail shops and wholesale services, the project raises funds to co-finance HPPBZ's development projects while:

1. **Providing quality clothing at affordable prices for the general public.** Each shop sells second-hand clothes, shoes, clothing accessories, and household linens that are collected and shipped from the United States and Spain. With 2-week and 4-week cycle systems, all item prices get gradually reduced on a weekly and daily basis so that - at the end of each cycle - clothing items cost as little as US\$0.50. This system is tailored to fit different customer needs while securing access to affordable clothing for low-income populations. Each shop receives an average of 5,800 visits per month.



- 2. Strengthening income-generating activities.** The project sells clothes-bales to micro-entrepreneurs across the country, creating jobs and enhancing livelihoods, indirectly. In 2018 and 2019, 40 business owners purchased bales and re-sold second-hand items at their stores.



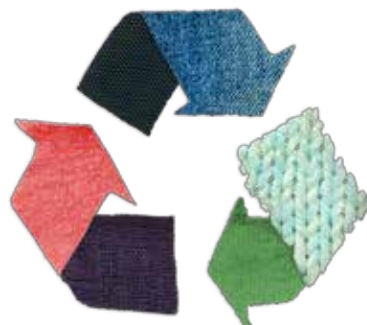
- 3. Donating clothing to vulnerable families and groups.** At the end of each cycle, unsold items are distributed - as donations - to individuals and groups participating in HPPBZ's community development projects. Donated clothes provide vulnerable families with free clothing and boost sewing and other income-generation initiatives that are usually led by women groups.



- 4. Creating job opportunities for women.** The venture operates as a social business model that employs three women per shop.



- 5. Protecting the environment.** The sale of second-hand clothing reduces the production of new textiles and diverts several tons of used clothing from landfills, providing a pathway for a more sustainable environment and market.



HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2018 AND 2019

The project sold 135 tons of used clothing and donated 23 tons to vulnerable families and groups.

Humana Shops

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ONGOING PROJECTS IN 2018 AND 2019

With the support of several funding and technical partners, HPPBZ implemented 13 additional projects during the reporting period.



BUILDING ADAPTIVE CAPACITY AND RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN TOLEDO, SOUTHERN BELIZE

Timeframe: 2017 to 2019 / 31 months.

Participating communities: Bella Vista, Bladen, Blue Creek, Corazon Creek, Golden Stream, Indian Creek, Jordan, San Benito Poite, Santa Anna, Santa Teresa, and Trio.

Belize is located in the second most natural-hazard-prone region in the world.

The country's geographic setting - with extensive low-lying coastal plains - leaves the population and landscapes highly exposed to river and coastal flooding as well as to wind and other hydro-meteorological hazards. Furthermore, high poverty rates, unstable livelihoods, and limited disaster management capacity in the Toledo District leaves the communities vulnerable to the effects of extreme weather events.

The project that concluded in December 2019 focused on improving:

- Physical infrastructure and early warning systems to reduce natural-hazard-related risks.
- Public education and awareness on disaster risk reduction, climate change, climate-smart agriculture, gender sensitivity, and solid-waste management.
- Agricultural farming systems that are more resilient to climate change impacts and use the Farmers' Club Model.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2018 AND 2019

11 Village Emergency Committees (VECs) were trained in collaboration with the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO). 77 VEC members received training on how to foster community safety as well as to implement early-warning and first-respondent procedures.



4 river gauges were installed, and river keepers and river gauge readers were trained to secure timely flood-warning-information for their communities.



2 earthen drains were created to prevent flooding during heavy rains. The systems protect 200 households from flooding and decrease mosquito populations with the reduction of stagnant water.



2 emergency shelters were retrofitted to ensure the safety of 800 inhabitants during disaster events. The works were done by students from the Independence High School, as part of their vocational training program.



5 two-way radio communication systems with antenna and solar-powered repeater were handed over to NEMO, and residents from each beneficiary village were trained on their operation and maintenance.



11 communities discussed and take action on solid waste management, climate change, climate-smart agriculture, gender sensitivity, and disaster risk reduction.

In collaboration with local partners, several community members raised knowledge and awareness on the mentioned topics with poster competitions, sign production sessions, cleaning actions, presentations, and movie nights.



9 farmers' clubs continued to be fully operational and got legally registered.

During 2018 and 2019, the project's demonstration plots installed a drip irrigation system, a water well, and a watch guard post in addition to the greenhouse, chicken coop, pigpen, and open field established in 2017. Each club completed several production cycles at its respective plot. The sales of vegetables and animal by-products render an economy to each club and allow them to upkeep and expand their production.



Building adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change in Toledo, Southern Belize

FUNDED BY

Community Disaster Risk Reduction Fund

Canada



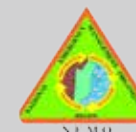
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FARMERS' CLUBS MODEL (FCM)

The model provides farmers with the knowledge, tools, and resources needed to improve agricultural productivity in a sustainable manner.

Through joint learning and the promotion of locally appropriate farming methods, technologies, and crops, the FCM supports farmers' clubs of 8 to 20 members, their families, and their communities to improve livelihoods and overall resilience capacity. The model promotes the exchange of knowledge between key stakeholders, fosters the expansion of social networks, and encourages farmers to replicate best practices and lessons learned at their private gardens and farms.

Via training sessions and practical actions implemented in 1-to-2-acre demonstration plots established by HPPBZ, the FMC helps farmers to:

- View agricultural production holistically from the preparation and sowing of plots, their care during the growth, harvest, and post-harvest phases to the storage, management, processing, and sales of crops.
- Access and use climate-smart agriculture infrastructure, including but not limited to covered structures, animal pens, solar dryers, and irrigation systems.
- Prepare for and respond to variations in rainfall patterns and the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme events.
- Protect water, soil, ecosystem services, and biodiversity with preventive and regenerative practices.



DEVELOPMENT OF NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN GROUPS IN MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES IN RURAL BELIZE

Timeframe: 2019 / 9 months.

Participating communities: Red Bank, Cowpen, and Indian Creek.

In Belize, the promotion of healthy lifestyle habits - centered on nutrition, food security, hygiene, and sports - is limited.

The project helped to improve the health and wellbeing of students, teachers, and parents in three public primary schools and within six women groups and their families.



Project activities focused on:

- Improving nutrition and food security education programs at primary schools.
- Enhancing awareness and knowledge of nutrition, food security, and related issues for teacher, parent, student, and women groups.
- Increasing access and capacity to establish and maintain food security and income-generating infrastructure for women groups.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2019

109 students participated in summer and extra-curricular programs to learn about health and nutrition, to produce vegetables in greenhouses established by the project, and to participate in sports sessions.



28 teachers attended nutrition workshops, and 15 of them actively lead project activities related to lessons, sports activities, and actions at the greenhouses.



700 students participated in a Sports Day organized at each school.



58,000+ people were reached with educational and project information posts in social media, at the national level.



28 group members gained access and experience to collectively produce in greenhouses and flower/tree nurseries while learning about health and nutrition via education sessions.



Development of nutrition education programs at public schools and empowerment of women groups in marginalized communities in rural Belize

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ENHANCED LIVELIHOODS FOR WOMEN GROUPS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES OF SOUTHERN BELIZE

Timeframe: 2019 / 7 months.

Participating communities: Red Bank, Cowpen, and San Isidro.

In 2016, the Belize Gender Assessment reported high levels of gender inequality in the country.

The project aimed to improve the health, income, and overall wellbeing of women and their families by increasing women's knowledge and capacity to:

- Produce food.
- Cook more nutritious meals.
- Understand human development and reproductive health.
- Run income-generating initiatives.



HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2019

91 women were trained in entrepreneurship related workshops. 9 workshops were offered by the project and included: financial and business literacy; artisan production of shoes and accessories; creation of flower arrangements with reused plastic; soap, scrub and face mask production; and wood carving techniques.



55 women and their families increased food security with the creation/expansion of their fruit and vegetable backyard gardens. Each group also gained access to one of the six hen coops built by the project.



6 women groups learned about nutrition by participating in health-related lessons and by learning how to prepare more nutritious meals in cooking sessions.



32,000+ people were reached with education and project information posts in social media, at the national level.



6 firewood-saving stoves were built by the project to facilitate the implementation of cooking sessions and to demonstrate to the groups the benefits and construction requirements.



Enhanced livelihoods for women groups in rural communities of Southern Belize

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DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



Embassy of the Czech Republic
in Mexico



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GIRLS' AND MOTHERS' CLUBS

NUTRITION AND HEALTH (PHASE 1)

Timeframe: 2017 to 2018 / 12 months.

Participating communities: Indian Creek, Jordan, Santa Teresa, and Aguacate.

In the Toledo District, children under five years of age have the highest rates of stunting/impaired growth and development; when compared to other regions in the country.

The project improved the nutrition and health knowledge and habits of vulnerable females in four Mayan communities in the Toledo District. Project participants were organized into four girls and four mothers' clubs of 10 members each.



HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2018

Group members continued to improve their health and nutrition. During the first quarter of 2018, the clubs finalized the project's education lessons, cooking demonstrations, and sports sessions.



Groups kept managing their greenhouses and hen coops after project conclusion.



GIRLS' AND MOTHERS' CLUBS EXPANSION AND ENHANCEMENT (PHASE 2)

Timeframe: 2018 to 2020 / 24 months.

Participating communities: Bella Vista, San Roman, Santa Cruz, and Santa Rosa.



The project enhances and scales up Phase 1 of the Girls' and Mothers' Clubs project by:

- Increasing the project's geographic reach with the expansion into 4 new communities.
- Diversifying the project's food security initiatives by adding the construction and management of pigpens and backyard gardens.
- Further developing the project's training manuals through the creation of new topics.
- Increasing project visibility through the promotion of key messages on nutrition and food security via social media and community events.
- Training of two project officers to upscale the project.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2019

Members form 10 new groups started improving knowledge and habits about nutrition and health by participating in lessons and sport sessions.



All group members created or expanded their vegetable gardens at home to increase food security. For the same purpose, 720 Moringa and fruit trees were planted in the members' backyards and around their communities.



5 women groups built and started managing a hen coop each to enhance protein intake while creating revenue through the sales of eggs and cooked meals.



Women groups built pigpens that will begin production in 2020.



Project participants carried out 10 clean-up actions to reduce garbage and standing water around their communities.



Group members assessed their health status at the beginning of the project by measuring their weight and by doing blood works and other health tests.



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IMPROVED COMMUNITY SANITATION, HYGIENE AND RESIDUE DISPOSAL IN SANTA ROSA AND SAN ROMAN, BELIZE

Timeframe: 2018 / 7 months.

Participating communities: Santa Rosa and San Roman.

In 2010, the Statistical Institute of Belize identified 12,351 households with unimproved sanitation.

The project increased access to improved sanitation and adequate hygiene and residue disposal practices through the construction of dry-double-chamber-composting toilets and public education at the local and national levels.

Dry-toilets do not use water nor flush; they are built 100% above ground; and uses two chambers to store and decompose urine and feces and create compost/fertilizer from decomposed matter.



HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2018

12 dry-toilets were built. 10 women and their 54 relatives improved the toilet facilities at their homes, and 2,915 residents gained access to a dry-toilet installed at the community center in each village.



145 students and 10 teachers were reached with education sessions about personal hygiene, with the aid of a poster on proper hand-washing habits, created by the project.



15.000+ people were reached with educational and project information posts in social media, at the national level.



A guideline for the construction, use, and maintenance of dry-toilets was compiled and made available at www.humana-belize.org.



Improved community sanitation, hygiene and residue disposal in Santa Rosa and San Roman, Belize

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IMPROVING ACCESS FOR RURAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO PROPER SANITATION FACILITIES IN RED BANK, STANN CREEK DISTRICT, BELIZE

Timeframe: 2019 / 8 months.

Participating communities: Red Bank.

Red Bank suffers from severe health, hygiene, and sanitation issues.



The project built upon the components of the “Improved community sanitation, hygiene and residue disposal project” and further developed its implementation methodology by:

- Adding hand washing stations to the dry-toilet design.
- Retrofitting existing sanitation facilities at the village’s primary school and health post.
- Creating more educational materials.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2019

8 dry-toilets with handwashing stations were built. A toilet was constructed at the home of seven members of HPPBZ’s women group and one at the village’s community center.



The women, their relatives, and other community members received complimentary training on the construction, use, and maintenance of the toilets.

One flush toilet and one pit latrine were repaired. The flush toilet at the local health post and the pit latrine at Red Bank’s primary school were upgraded by the project.



Education sessions on waste management, hygiene, and sanitation were implemented.

7 women, 375 students, and 71 community members learned about the connection between health, water, sanitation, and hygiene via group meetings and in a community event.



6 more educational posters and lesson guidelines were developed to facilitate the implementation of training sessions.



Improving access for rural community members to proper sanitation facilities in Red Bank, Stann Creek District, Belize

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Confédération suisse
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IMPROVING STORAGE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS TO REDUCE POSTHARVEST LOSSES IN STANN CREEK DISTRICT, BELIZE

Timeframe: 2018 / 8 months.

Participating communities: Cowpen, Red Bank, Santa Rosa, and San Roman.

In Belize, the impacts of climate change are expected to worsen with increased frequency and intensity of extreme events.

The project improved the postharvest storage and processing capacity of small-farmers' by working with 4 women groups.



Due to lack of storage facilities, most subsistence farmers lose their seeds and a substantial part of their harvested crops to pests and humidity - caused by rain and flooding - or are forced to sell them rapidly and cheaply - to avoid future losses - perpetuating the vicious cycle of poverty and food insecurity among farmers and their families.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2018

40 grain and seed silos were distributed to 40 women and their families who learned to use and maintain them via training and practical actions. A silo is a structure used for storing bulk materials.



Group members participated in complementary training sessions centered on food production, small business management, nutrition, health, hygiene, sanitation, and other topics.



Improving storage of agricultural products to reduce postharvest losses in Stann Creek District, Belize

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INCREASE FARMERS' CAPACITY TO REDUCE THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON CROPS IN TOLEDO DISTRICT

Timeframe: 2019 to 2020 / 18 months.

Participating communities: Bella Vista, Trio, Indian Creek, Corazon, Blue Creek, Jordan, and Santa Teresa.

The project works with the 9 farmer's clubs established by the 'Building adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change project'.

And, focuses on improving the economy of farmers' by increasing their:

- Productivity.
- Market competitiveness.
- Capacity to reduce the effects of climate change on their crops.



HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2019

9 farmers' clubs continued learning about climate change adaptation, sustainable agriculture, and economic empowerment.



All clubs received more farming tools to facilitate their vegetable production and small-animal husbandry activities.



Increase farmers' capacity to reduce the effects of climate change on crops in Toledo District

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PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES THROUGH CSO ENGAGEMENT IN BELIZE / PAGE PROJECT

Timeframe: 2019 to 2021 / 12 months.

Participating communities: Bella Vista, Cowpen, Georgetown, Independence, Red Bank, San Juan, San Roman, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, and Trio.

Youths represent 70% of the population and remain a vastly underrepresented and under-targeted segment.

The project strengthens the institutional and organizational capacity of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to deliver relevant and inclusive social services by:

- Increasing the participation and integration of youth in decision-making processes.
- Strengthening cooperation between local authorities and CSOs during the delivery and monitoring of youth-sensitive programmes.
- Enhancing the capacity of youth service providers district-wide to lead multi-agency coordination and improve knowledge management.

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HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2019

22 organizations took part in participatory mapping, and 900+ residents responded to a baseline survey to assess the availability, accessibility, and impact of existing youth programmes.



The project's working groups will meet during the first quarter of 2020 to discuss the findings gathered, as well as to continue sharing knowledge and lessons learned while avoiding the duplication of efforts.

Coordination activities were facilitated to:

- Develop key partnerships with local agencies that provide services to youths, including government agencies and two public high schools in the Stann Creek District.
- Create an organized youth development organization and recognized youth-led advisory bodies.



Activities to identify and organize 100 youths to spearhead Youth Associations were initiated.

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IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER

Protecting Through Education



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REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN BELIZE (PHASE 1)

*Timeframe: 2019 / 5 months.
Participating communities: Bella Vista.*

There are over 6,000 refugees in Belize; however, only 28 of them are officially recognized.

The project worked toward building the resilience, inclusion, and integration of Persons of Concern (PoCs) - refugees, returnees, stateless people, the internally displaced and asylum-seekers - in Belize by:

- Raising knowledge and awareness about PoCs' rights, services, and opportunities.
- Increasing the academic and professional capacity of PoCs.
- Enhancing the capacity of youth service providers - at the district level - to lead multi-agency coordination and improve knowledge management.



HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2019

A Resource Center was adapted to provide educational and informative activities. The project offered 3 vocational and skill-building workshops; one basic course on English as a Second Language (ESL); two sensitization sessions on refugee-related topics; afterschool, mentorship, and summer programmes; among others.



A playground was built outside the Resource Center to allow children to interact and have fun safely.



The village's primary school was equipped with musical instruments, and 45 students started music classes to develop their creativity and self-expression.



2 knowledge-exchange sessions with local authorities and groups were organized to share information about the project, the current legal system, and the living conditions and needs of PoCs while creating synergies and avoiding the replication of efforts.

2,000+ people attended 2 community events to celebrate the World Refugee Day and the International Human Rights Day during 2019. The events offered information booths, cultural activities, displays of products created at the project's workshops, competitions, and sports activities.



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STRENGTHEN EMERGENCY AND DISASTER RESPONSE IN VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES BY BUILDING CAPACITIES AND IMPROVING COLLABORATION AND SERVICE DELIVERY IN SOUTHERN BELIZE

Timeframe: 2018 to 2020 / 24 months.

Participating communities: Aguacate, Barranco, Bladen, Blue Creek, Corazon Creek, Cowpen/San Juan, Crique Sarco, Dangriga, Gales Point, Graham Creek, Hope Creek, Hopkins, Jordan, Mabil Ha, Machakil Ha, Monkey River, Mullins River, Placencia, Punta Gorda, Punta Negra, Red Bank, San Benito Poite, San Jose, San Lucas, Santa Anna, Santa Teresa, Sarawee, Seine Bight / Maya Beach, Sittee River, and Trio.

Rapid changes in weather patterns and limited access to communication, electricity, and transportation services reduce the effectiveness of the adaptive capacity of rural communities in Belize.

The project addresses these issues by:

- Providing communities with the supplies and materials needed for disaster risk reduction and during disaster response.
- Strengthening community-based governance and response systems concerning natural disasters.
- Improving the Government's accountability on disaster response by upgrading its Hurricane Plan into a Multi-Hazard Operation Plan.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2018 AND 2019

Initial and mid-term assessments were implemented in 30 communities to measure the inhabitants' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors towards disaster risk reduction and disaster response.



30 people were trained in river keeping procedures to strengthen river monitoring, flood management, and early warning actions in the communities.



6 two-way radio communication systems with antenna and solar-powered repeaters were installed, and 60 community members were trained on their use and maintenance.



30 early warning equipment sets were delivered, and 60 people were trained on their use and maintenance.

20 community members were trained in search-and-rescue procedures, and 7 sets of equipment and gear were provided.



39 people from all participating communities were trained in first aid procedures and received first-aid kits.



Training sessions and information dissemination actions were implemented to inform the public on how to reduce risks and better respond to hurricanes, floods, tsunamis, fires, and earthquakes. Training sessions also included simulation activities.



Clean-up actions were implemented in all participating communities.



Strengthen emergency and disaster response in vulnerable communities by building capacities and improving collaboration and service delivery in Southern Belize

FUNDED BY



Funding provided by U.S. Embassy Belmopan

TECHNICAL PARTNERS



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YOUTH, SPORTS & CULTURE

WORKING TOWARDS SDGs



STRENGTHEN, EMPOWER, ENFORCE HUMAN RIGHTS

SEEHR PROJECT

Timeframe: 2017 to 2020 / 36 months

Participating communities: Bella Vista, Bladen, Cowpen, Golden Stream, Indian Creek, Medina Bank, San Isidro, San Miguel, Silver Creek, Trio.

Only a small percentage of human rights violations get reported in Belize. *Most reports get dispensed as neglectful or biased investigations, cases of illegal immigrants, sexual harassment, sexual orientation based discrimination, among others.*

The project enhances the knowledge, awareness, and protection of human rights so that:

- Human rights vulnerabilities and current gaps in public services and resources are identified.
- The capacity-building needs of duty-bearers and rights-holders are assessed.
- Stakeholders and community groups strengthen their knowledge and capacity to address human rights violations, vulnerabilities, and gaps in services provision.
- Community members are empowered to demand the enforcement of rights and increase their access to information and services.
- All human rights violations get reported, and ultimately, the number of infringements is reduced.

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HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2018 AND 2019

10 support groups were created, and their members were trained on how to become Human Rights activists in their communities. Via training sessions, the group members learned how to educate residents about their rights and to guide them through violation-reporting mechanisms.



270 children from 9 schools were reached with education activities. They learned about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the achievements of national and international heroes, friendship, among other topics.



Information about Human Rights was spread in information booths installed in several health fairs and community events.



10 education road signs were placed along the main road of each participating village; to raise awareness to the broader public. The signs read the slogan: Human Rights for all.



The International Human Rights Day was celebrated by group participants in 2018 with a peaceful walk around Bella Vista Village.



A participatory needs assessment and a capacity mapping were carried-out with 340 respondents. Key findings included that 52% of respondents did not know about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; 50% of them knew victims of gender-based violence or human trafficking; 30 % of them had not reported abuse done to them or others, among others.



SeeHR Project

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IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS



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VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

International and local volunteers play a vital role in the implementation of HPPBZ's projects.

DEVELOPMENT INSTRUCTORS (DIs)

DIs are men and women, from all over the world, enrolled in the Fighting with the Poor program.



In 2010, HPPBZ partnered with Richmond Vale Academy (RVA) to host DIs for 6 months, while doing their volunteer service period. Since then, every year, two groups of 2 to 6 international volunteers immerse themselves in Belizean communities and put into practice the knowledge and skills acquired at the academy: by actively collaborating in HPPBZ's projects.

Fighting with the Poor is a 10-month long action-based program, centered in mobilizing students to create positive change through humanitarian work.

RVA is a registered non-profit research and training institution that was established in 2002 and is located in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, in the Caribbean.



HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2018 AND 2019

5 groups of volunteers collaborated in the implementation of activities from the Child Aid and the SeeHR projects. A total of 12 international volunteers joined forces with HPPBZ, 9 women and 3 men from 8 countries in Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

LOCAL VOLUNTEERS

During the reporting period, 15 out of 16 projects involved the participation of local volunteers.

Every year, HPPBZ collaborates with residents who are highly driven and are passionate about community development. Local volunteers participate in the creation of vegetable gardens, construction of latrines and animal pens, implementation of community assessments and project evaluation surveys, provision of literacy, and ESL classes, among others.



INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

AFFILIATIONS

HPPBZ is part of an international and a local network.

FEDERATION FOR ASSOCIATIONS OF THE HUMANA PEOPLE TO PEOPLE MOVEMENT (FEDERATION)

The Federation is a network of 30 member associations engaged in international solidarity, cooperation, and development in Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe.



The Federation was formed in 1996, and its headquarters are located in Zimbabwe, Africa. Members of the Federation are independent national associations who base their projects on the needs and potential of the communities they serve. The Federation is a platform that accumulates best practices, delivers technical services, encourages South-to-South learning, and provides mutual support between its members. To date, the members have implemented over 1,000 development projects across 45 countries and reach over 9 million people per year.

HPPBZ has been an active member of the Federation since 2007.

BELIZE NETWORK OF NGOS (BNN)

The Belize Network of NGOs (BNN) was formed in 2016 and seeks to be the unified voice of Non-Governmental Organizations in Belize advocating for good governance to achieve sustainable human development.

HPPBZ has been an active member of BNN since 2016.



LEGAL STATUS

HPPBZ is registered as a:

- Non-governmental Organization in the Ministry of Human Development in Belize, with certificate number 84/07 and registration date July 19, 2007.
- Non-Financial Business & Profession in the Financial Intelligence Unit with registration number F0000-14259.

Further, due to its fundraising project, HPPBZ became registered in the Department of General Sales Tax (GST) in 2014 and holds the certificate number 6364.

GOVERNING BODY

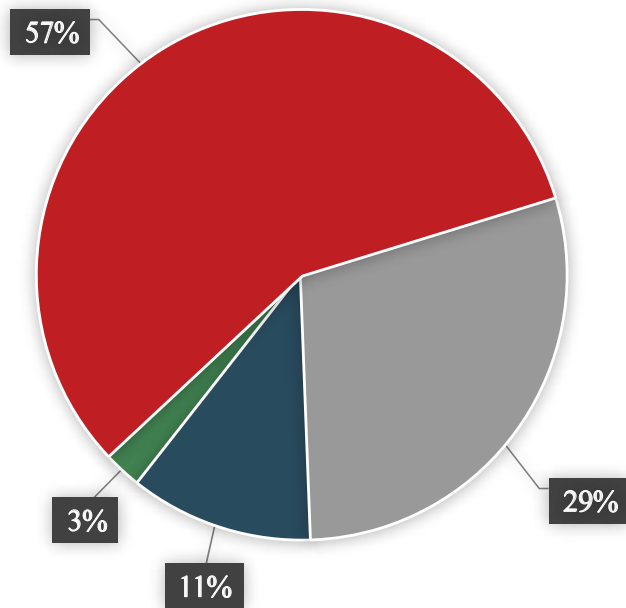
HPPBZ is governed by a three-member Board of Directors, which has the overall responsibility for the management of the organization.

The board has appointed and given authority to the Country Director - Susanne Jensen - to lead and coordinate the NGO's day-to-day affairs.

BUDGET

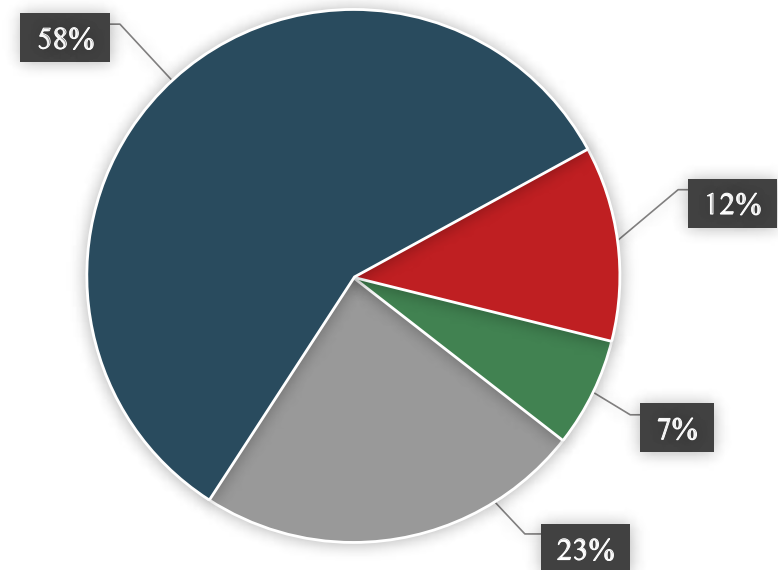
In 2018 and 2019, 12 local and international funding partners supported the implementation of the reported community development projects.

SOURCE OF FUNDS



- External funding partners
- Other members of the Federation
- HPPBZ's fundraising project
- Donations

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS*



- Team 1: Building adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change project / Strengthen emergency and disaster response project / Increase farmers' capacity to reduce the effects of climate change project
- Team 2: SeeHR project
- Team 3: Refugees and asylum seekers project
- Team 4: Child Aid project / PAGE project / All remaining projects

** Based on the project managers leading the assigned projects.*





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