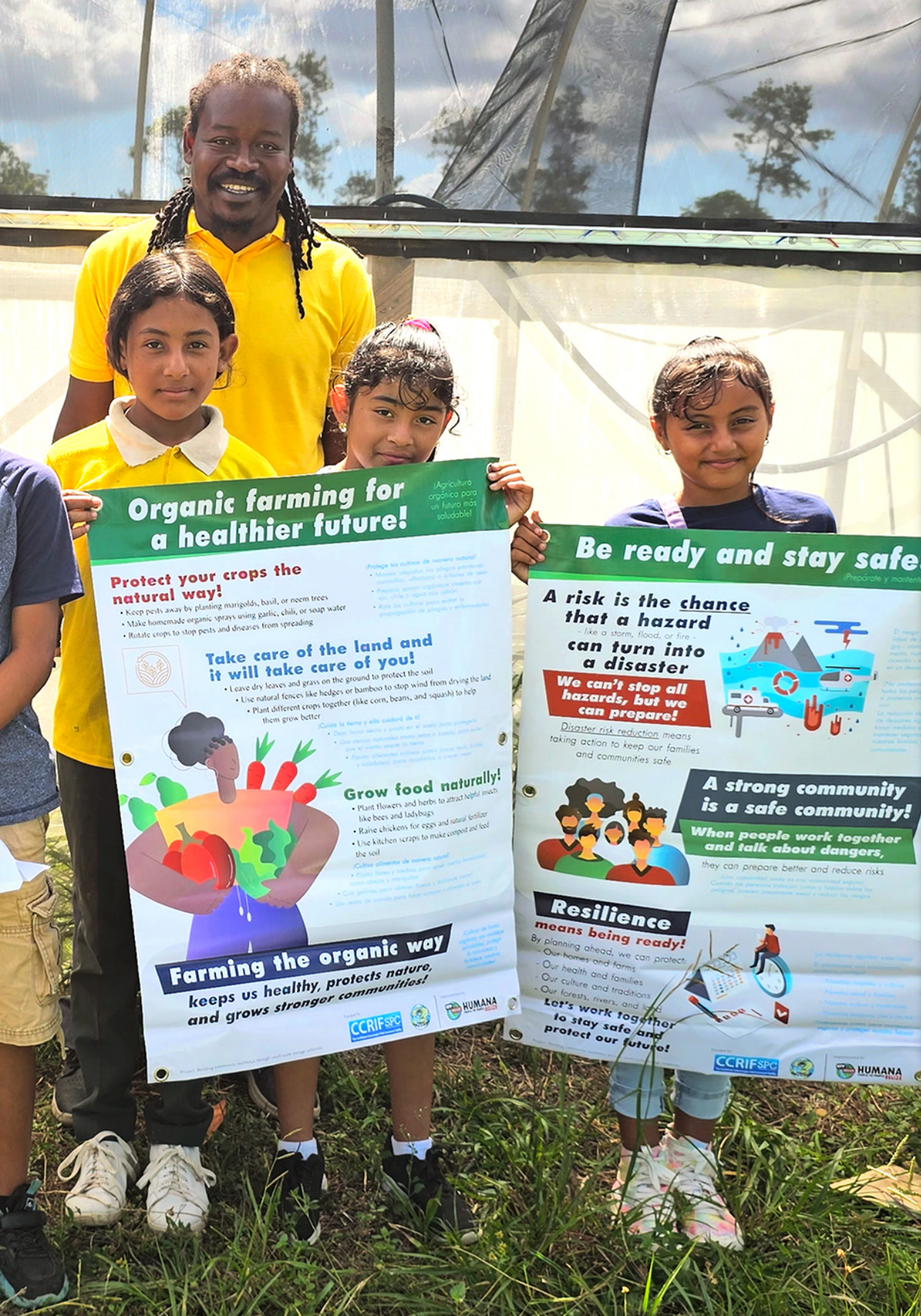




HUMANA
PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
BELIZE



2024

PROGRESS REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chairman’s address 3

Our Work 4

 Projects in action 5

 Highlights and key numbers 6

 Creating lasting impact..... 7

 Strengthening social inclusion, health, and education.....8

 Promoting livelihoods, food security, and climate-resilient agriculture.....11

 Advancing environmental sustainability and plastic waste reduction13

 Key donors and partners 14

 Our team..... 15

Institutional information 16

 Legal framework 17

 Who governs us..... 17

 Our mission and strategy 18

 Financial overview 19

 Memberships 20

 Certifications 21

 Where to find us online 22



CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Dear Partners, Friends, and Community Members,

It is with great pride and gratitude that I present to you the 2024 Annual Progress Report of Humana People to People Belize. This report is more than a record of activities—it is a reflection of the strength, creativity, and determination of the people and communities we serve. It is also a testament to what can be achieved when grassroots leadership, partnerships, and purpose come together.

Throughout 2024, our country faced growing challenges - climate change, economic hardship, the rising cost of living, and the ongoing process of regularizing a large migrant and asylum seeker population through the National Amnesty Program. These issues are also felt in southern Belize, where rural communities often stand at the front lines of vulnerability. Yet, in the face of adversity, what we have witnessed this year is nothing short of inspiring. Across districts and villages, people are growing food, launching businesses, supporting their neighbors, and protecting their environments. They are not waiting for change—they are driving it.

At Humana People to People Belize, we have walked side by side with these communities: Helping farmers adapt to a changing climate, ensuring migrants and refugees can access the services they need, promoting health and education, and building a new generation of environmental stewards. Through partnerships with government departments, civil society, international donors, and community leaders, we have extended opportunity and strengthened inclusion across more than 30 communities.

Once again, we have seen the power of local action—whether it was a young person learning to design on Canva at one of our Community Hubs, a refugee mother launching a small business, or women farmers leading composting and backyard garden trainings in their villages. These actions matter. They show us that real development begins from the ground up, and that dignity, security, and self-reliance are possible when people have the right support and a fair chance.

To our donors, partners, volunteers, and staff - thank you for your unwavering commitment. To the communities - thank you for your trust, your energy, and your leadership. As we look ahead to 2025, we remain guided by the same principle that has defined our work from the start: that people themselves are the most powerful force for positive change.

With gratitude and solidarity,



Efren Anavisca
Chairman of the Board
Humana People to People Belize



OUR WORK

In 2024, Humana People to People Belize (HPP Belize) worked alongside communities in southern Belize to build stronger, more self-reliant, and resilient societies. Through targeted efforts in social inclusion, health, education, sustainable livelihoods, and environmental protection, the organization supported thousands of people in gaining access to vital services, reclaiming their rights, and strengthening their local economies. Across all project areas, a recurring and deeply relevant theme emerged: the power of local solutions. From cultivating backyard gardens to launching micro-businesses and repurposing plastic waste, individuals and families are reclaiming control over their wellbeing, their income, and their environment. In a region where imported goods, centralized services, and climate change often threaten livelihoods, these efforts promote dignity, food security, and community-driven development. As Belize continues to navigate social and environmental challenges, HPP Belize's approach — rooted in empowerment, inclusion, and practical action — remains a vital contributor to sustainable progress.

PROJECTS IN ACTION

In 2024, HPP Belize continued to expand its impact through strong international partnerships and strategic donor support. With a focus on community-driven development, we implemented a wide range of projects across southern Belize—supporting vulnerable populations, promoting local livelihoods, building climate resilience, and advancing inclusive access to services.

1. Building Community Resilience through Small-Scale Solutions
2. Migrant Hub
3. Farmers Clubs
4. Refugees & Asylum Seeker Project
5. Providing Opportunities for Women to increase Education and Economic Empowerment and build Resilience (POWER)
6. Community Hubs
7. Economic Inclusion
8. STORM (Disaster Risk Management Initiative)
9. Full Circle Belize (Plastic Waste Recycling and Biodiversity Protection)
10. Humana Shops (Social Business – Secondhand Clothes Project)

These initiatives reflect our continued commitment to working with and within communities, - strengthening their capacity to adapt, grow, and lead change from the ground up.



HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY NUMBERS



50,000+

people reached through
virtual info sessions on
rights and services



1,000+

migrants received legal
aid and immigration
support



900+

students trained in
digital literacy



600+

students reached
through environmental
education



160+

residents accessed mobile
health clinics through
community hubs



77

refugees supported
with literacy, legal aid,
and entrepreneurship



60

women trained in
backyard gardening and
climate-smart farming



40

youth leaders in
the Biodiversity
Guardians Network



15

plastic collection
bins installed across
10 communities



7

Community Hubs
delivering essential
services in rural areas



5

Farmers Clubs
supported with business
training and tools



2.2 tons

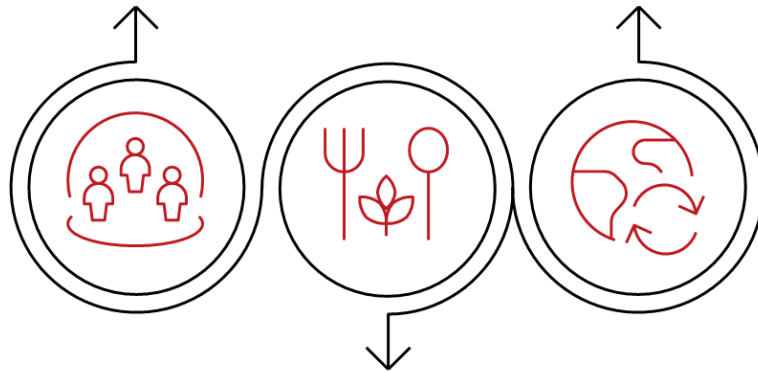
plastic waste recovered
and diverted from the
environment

CREATING LASTING IMPACT

All of Humana People to People Belize's work is strategically aligned with the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and Belize's national development strategies. Our programs respond directly to the needs of rural and underserved communities, with a practical, people-centered approach that contributes to one or more of the following priority pathways:

Strengthening social
inclusion, health, and
education

Advancing environmental
sustainability and plastic
waste reduction



Promoting livelihoods,
food security, and climate-
resilient agriculture





STRENGTHENING SOCIAL INCLUSION, HEALTH, AND EDUCATION

Belize's rural and underserved communities continue to face persistent barriers in accessing essential services such as legal aid, healthcare, education, and civil documentation. Migrants, refugees, and vulnerable youth and women often struggle to navigate public systems due to limited information, lack of transportation, low literacy levels, and fear of discrimination or deportation. This lack of access deepens social exclusion and perpetuates poverty.

In southern Belize, where many people live in remote, multilingual, and under-resourced villages, public offices are hours away and often perceived as unwelcoming or inaccessible, especially to non-citizens or individuals with limited English skills. Women and young people are at greater risk of being left out of development and health systems.

In these settings, encouraging practical livelihoods like food preparation, backyard production, and small-scale vending helps restore dignity and inclusion. It also allows women and youth to generate income locally and reduce household reliance on expensive imported food items—fostering greater self-reliance in a way that aligns with both cultural knowledge and economic realities.

In response, HPP Belize provided targeted support through the **Migrant Hub**, assisting over 1,000 migrants in 2024 with immigration procedures and legal guidance, and reaching over 50,000 people through live virtual sessions. Community booths, school-based awareness events, and social media outreach addressed migration rights, access to services, and human trafficking prevention.

The **Refugee and Asylum Seekers** project, complemented by the **POWER** project, supported 77 individuals with English, literacy, and numeracy training, entrepreneurship coaching, and legal aid for the amnesty program. Life skills and psychosocial support were delivered to over 80 women and youth, along with financial assistance for medical care and school fees. Together, these two projects expanded access to livelihood opportunities, strengthened community-based support, and reinforced protection for vulnerable persons—particularly women and young people striving for greater self-reliance.

"I Want to Live"

Javier's flight from gang violence

At just 19, Javier fled Santa Barbara, Honduras, after receiving threats from criminal gangs demanding he join them—or face death. Targeted over a past family connection, Javier arrived in Belize seeking refuge. At the HPP Belize Resource Center, he found safety, psychosocial support, and guidance through the asylum process. With renewed hope, he now begins the journey of rebuilding his life, determined to live free from fear.



"A Next Chance"

Mirna's story of deferred dreams

As the eldest child in her undocumented Guatemalan family, Mirna gave up her education so her younger siblings could go to school. Years later, the opportunity to participate in HPP Belize activities became her second chance. Now 25, a mother, and a resident of Bella Vista, Mirna is thriving—learning new skills, growing her confidence, and proving that it's never too late to rise.

Through the seven **Community Hubs**, services from 9 government departments and 10 CSOs were brought directly to rural communities, facilitating legal document preparation, digital literacy training, resume development, health screenings, and business start-up support. Over 900 students improved their computer literacy and elderly participants learned essential digital skills, and many residents secured jobs or launched businesses.

Digital inclusion, rights awareness, and improved access to social protection mechanisms have significantly enhanced self-reliance and dignity among refugees, migrants, women, youth, and the elderly in southern communities of Belize.

Securing a child's identity

A single mother in southern Belize had long struggled to register her child's birth, due to missing documents and costs. Through the Community Hub and Humana's support clinics, she received help compiling the necessary paperwork. Her child now has a birth certificate, unlocking access to education, healthcare, and a better future.



Bridging the digital divide

Empowering rural communities through technology

In the remote districts of Stann Creek and Toledo, access to technology has long been a challenge. Through the Community Hubs project, more than 880 individuals - mainly youth, job seekers, and older adults—have been trained in digital literacy, gaining practical skills in programs like Canva and Microsoft Office.



“Technology helps me in my education. It gives me the chance to be successful in life.”

— Karen Choc, Bella Vista

“The Canva training helped me make invitations and PowerPoint presentations.

I now support my community too.” — Marvin Chen, San Pedro Columbia



Bringing health care closer

A lifeline for a rural community

In Silk Grass Village, the absence of a permanent health post left residents with few affordable options for medical care. In partnership with the Ministry of Health and Wellness, the Community Hub began hosting bi-monthly mobile clinics. Over 160 residents have now received free healthcare at the hub.

“If the clinic wasn’t here, I’d have to spend at least \$50 to go to Dangriga.” — Ana Sosa, Silk Grass Village

Leaving everything behind

One woman’s escape from gang violence

Ingrid Martinez fled Honduras after her brother was violently attacked by gang members. With nowhere safe left in her country, she arrived in Belize seeking asylum. HPP Belize supported her through the Refugees & Asylum Seekers Project—providing therapy, legal assistance, and entrepreneurship support.

“Belize has given me a chance to live without fear.”

— Ingrid Martinez



PROMOTING LIVELIHOODS, FOOD SECURITY, AND CLIMATE-RESILIENT AGRICULTURE

Southern Belize continues to face high levels of rural vulnerability, particularly among women and smallholder farmers. Climate change, erratic rainfall, and degraded soils make farming more unpredictable, while access to agricultural extension services, financing, and markets remains limited. Some families struggle to meet daily food needs or generate sufficient income from farming alone. Women's opportunities to earn and lead remain severely constrained.

In Toledo and Stann Creek districts, many households rely on traditional farming methods passed down over generations. But without training in climate-smart techniques or access to tools and infrastructure, their productivity is often declining. Women are often responsible for feeding their families but lack capital, new knowledge or structures in which they can learn and produce while minding the children and the household. At the same time, there is growing dependence on imported food and supermarkets, even in rural villages, which undermines food sovereignty and increases household vulnerability. Revitalizing local food production - through backyard gardening, small livestock rearing, and community farming - not only improves nutrition and income but also builds real food security and resilience against rising prices and supply chain disruptions.

HPP Belize continued its work with **Farmers Clubs**, supporting five active groups with resources and training. Two clubs launched corn milling businesses, one expanded its “mom-and-pop” shop into catering, and another restarted poultry rearing and greenhouse production. Members received training in First Aid, accounting, and business planning. One club successfully sustained a solar-powered meat shop with diversified goods.



Under the **Building Resilient Communities** initiative, 60 women were trained in organic backyard gardening, harvesting vegetables like eggplant, peppers, and cucumbers. They also installed water silos and taught others to make compost, and thereby further spreading skills. The women engaged in 8 entrepreneurship and food safety training sessions and participated in clean-up campaigns in Bella Vista and Red Bank.

In San Lucas, Dolores, and Otoxha, through the **Storm** project, climate-resilient infrastructure was implemented: a community water system and two rehabilitated multi-purpose buildings now house local emergency response teams and health workers. Residents participated in slash-and-burn alternatives and wildfire prevention training, while students learned about climate change and showcased their knowledge through poster competitions.

Through these efforts, HPP Belize strengthened food systems, promoted economic empowerment, and built local resilience to the increasing impacts of climate change.

Feeding the soil, nourishing lives

Maricela's garden of resilience

As an asylum seeker and single mother, Maricela struggled to provide for her daughters. Through the Building Community Resilience through Small-Scale Solutions project, she received training in composting and climate-smart agriculture. Today, she is growing her own vegetables for home use and dreams of selling her produce soon. Her story exemplifies how food security and dignity can grow from the soil upward.





ADVANCING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND PLASTIC WASTE REDUCTION

Belize is home to diverse and ecologically significant ecosystems—including watersheds, mangrove-lined coastlines, and coral reef zones—but these environments are under growing threat from plastic pollution and unsustainable waste disposal. Burning plastic waste is a common practice in villages and towns without proper garbage collection, releasing harmful toxins into the air and contributing to long-term health risks. Meanwhile, discarded plastics are increasingly clogging streams, littering roadsides, and threatening marine life.

Communities in rural Cayo, Stann Creek, and Toledo have limited waste management infrastructure. Schools, businesses, and households often have no access to recycling systems, and awareness about plastic's long-term environmental impact is still emerging. Without locally led solutions that combine education, behavior change, and practical waste systems, environmental degradation will continue to erode health, biodiversity, and livelihoods.

Through the **Full Circle Belize** project, HPP Belize addressed plastic pollution by installing 15 new plastic collection bins across 10 communities, resulting in the recovery of 2.2 tons of plastic waste. Strategic partnerships with businesses and NGOs supported the growing supply chain for recycled plastics.

Educational campaigns and school outreach reached over 600 students with messages on plastic waste, marine protection, and recycling. Nine community campaigns and two social media efforts further raised awareness and promoted sustainable practices. The project also launched a Biodiversity Guardians Network of 40 young leaders to champion local environmental action.

Full Circle Belize's work directly contributes to multiple Sustainable Development Goals, including responsible consumption, marine and terrestrial protection, and climate action. The initiative is sparking behavior change, reducing environmental harm, and laying the foundation for a circular economy in Belize.

KEY DONORS AND PARTNERS

Together with these valued partners, Humana People to People Belize remains committed to building sustainable, inclusive, and resilient communities across Belize.



INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION
EMPOWERED COMMUNITIES, SUSTAINABLE RESULTS



European Union



Belize Fund For A Sustainable Future



SGP The GEF Small Grants Programme
BELIZE 30 YEARS



IOM
UN MIGRATION



THE PUBLIC ESTABLISHMENT
HUMANA PEOPLE TO PEOPLE BALTIC



HUMANA
Fundación Pueblo para Pueblo

OUR TEAM

The staff of HPP Belize are the heart of the organization. From field coordinators and hub hosts to shop managers and project leaders, our team is made up of dedicated individuals who bring local knowledge, professional commitment, and a shared passion for community development. Many of our staff members come from the very communities we serve, and their firsthand understanding of local needs, cultures, and challenges makes our work truly grounded and impactful. The majority have worked with HPP Belize for several years and continue to grow through regular trainings, experience sharing, and cross-project collaboration. Whether supporting rural farmers, mentoring youth, managing shop operations, or facilitating access to services for migrants and refugees, the HPP Belize team brings consistency, compassion, and purpose to every activity. Their day-to-day efforts are what turn our vision into reality and ensure that our work remains people-centered and results-driven.





**INSTITUTIONAL
INFORMATION**

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Humana People to People Belize (HPP Belize) is officially registered as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with the Belize Companies & Corporate Affairs Registry, bearing registration number CERT-REG-23/94005, since June 14, 2007. Additionally, the organization holds a Good Standing Certificate issued by the same entity.

HPP Belize became registered in the Department of General Sales Tax (GST) in 2014 with the Tax Identification Number (TIN) 140427.



WHO GOVERNS US

The governing body of HPP Belize is its General Assembly, comprised of 20 active members. Annually, the General Assembly elects three of its members to serve on the Board of Directors, which is responsible for overseeing the organization's governance. The Board of Directors appoints and empowers the Country Director, Susanne Jensen, to lead and manage the organization's daily operations.

* Detailed information regarding members, the Board of Directors, and audited financial statements can be provided upon request. We are committed to transparency and accountability in our governance practices.

OUR MISSION AND STRATEGY

Humana People to People Belize is a non-governmental organization established in 2007. Its mandate 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 of different ages and backgrounds in rural and hard-to-reach communities of Belize. Most of our project participants are children, youth, women, and subsistence-farmer groups from Maya and Garinagu groups and Creole and migrant populations from Central America.

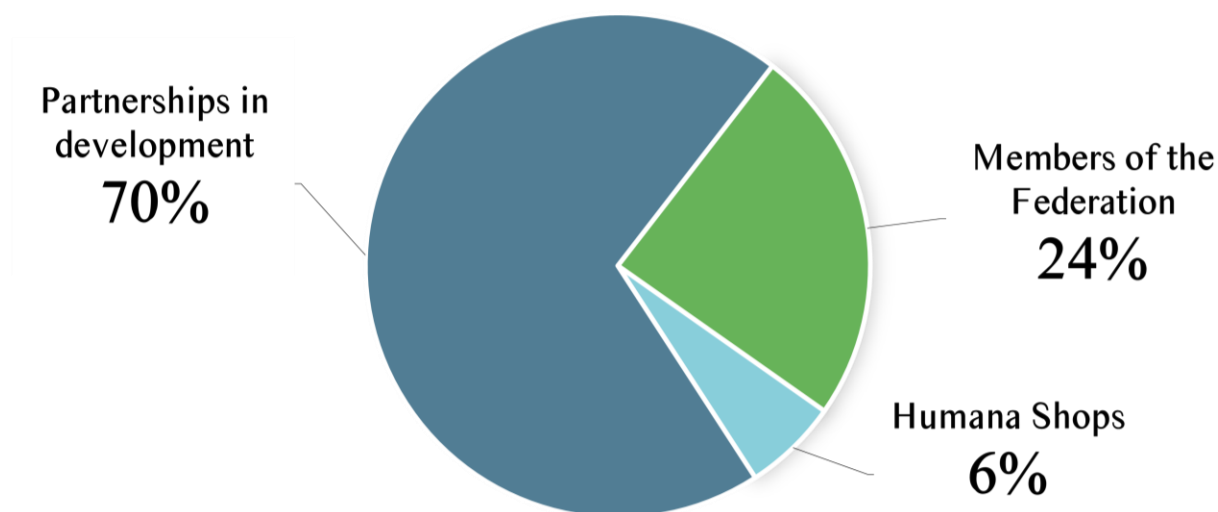
HPP Belize seeks to create development in the broadest sense - through the establishment and implementation of projects that transfer knowledge, skills, and capacity - so that individuals and groups facing poverty and dehumanized conditions become the drivers of their development and take direct action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

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



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

In 2024, HPP Belize had an annual budget of US\$ 1,2 million from three income sources.



The Humana Shops - Second-hand clothes project



The Humana Shops project plays a vital role in generating income for HPP Belize's community development work while making quality, affordable second-hand clothing available to people across southern Belize. From January to December 2024, five retail shops operated under a structured 5-week sales cycle, providing clothing, shoes, and accessories to local communities in Bella Vista, Santa Cruz, Placencia, Mango Creek, and Dangriga.

In 2024, the Humana Shops sold 38 tons of second-hand clothing.

Around 80% of the stock is sold during each cycle, while the remaining 20% is donated to community projects, women's groups, sewing programs, and families in need. The project benefits low-income households and small-scale entrepreneurs who buy wholesale bales to build family-run businesses.

Environmentally, the project contributes to sustainable consumption and climate change mitigation by promoting reuse and recycling. Reusing clothing avoids the carbon footprint generated by new textile production.

MEMBERSHIPS

HPP Belize is part of two international networks and one local network.

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



HPP Belize is a proud member of the Federation for Associations connected to the International Humana People to People Movement. As one of 29 independent national associations working across Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas, HPP Belize contributes to a global mission of promoting solidarity, community-driven development, and sustainable solutions to hardship and inequality.

HPP Belize has been an active member of the Federation since 2007.

REGIONAL DIALOGUE MECHANISM OF THE REGIONAL INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK FOR PROTECTION AND SOLUTIONS (MIRPS)

MIRPS seeks to improve refugee self-sufficiency, alleviate pressures on host countries, support existing conditions in countries of origin, and expand access to solutions involving third countries. The network operates in Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and Panama.



HPP Belize has been an active member of MIRPS since 2021.

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 good governance to achieve sustainable human development.

HPP Belize has actively participated in BNN initiatives since 2016.



CERTIFICATIONS

Humana People to People Belize has had an NGO Benchmarking certification since 2021, with SGS certificate no: 213/NGO/19.12.2021



VERIFIED
NGO Benchmarking
 A voluntary system measuring
 Accountability to Stakeholders
 and Compliance with Best Practices
www.sgs.com/ngo

The certification was done by SGS - the world's leading testing, inspection, and certification company. SGS is recognized as the global benchmark for quality and integrity.

In this process, HPP Belize has demonstrated compliance with Best Practices requirements related to the following 12 dimensions:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Governance Framework | 9. Operations and Service Provision (Planning) |
| 2. Governing Body | 10. Operations and Service Provision (Implementation) |
| 3. Strategic Framework | 11. Outcomes' Measurement and Evaluation |
| 4. Integrity Management | 12. Continuous Improvement |
| 5. Communication Advocacy and Public Image | |
| 6. Human Resources | |
| 7. Resources Generation and Allocation | |
| 8. Financial Controls | |

WHERE TO FIND US ONLINE

HPP Belize actively engages with our online community through our website and various social media platforms:



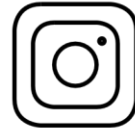
Website

www.humana-belize.org



Facebook

www.facebook.com/humanabelize



Instagram

www.instagram.com/humanabelize



LinkedIn

www.linkedin.com/company/hppbz



YouTube

www.youtube.com/@hppbz

We invite you to connect with us and become a part of our journey as we continue to create positive change in Belize!



2024



HUMANA **PEOPLE TO PEOPLE** **BELIZE**

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