

# TOGETHER TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES



ANNEMARIEKE VAN DEN BROEK

## WHY TAKE A LANDSCAPE APPROACH? TO DRIVE COORDINATED ACTION FOR CHANGE THAT MATTERS

### Our landscape vision

Solidaridad builds partnerships and knowledge for inclusive development in sustainable landscapes, where people thrive and natural values are protected, maintained and restored. We believe stakeholders connected to the landscape are best placed to make their own values explicit and to prioritize actions. This process of building partnerships, defining commitments and overall coordination of action on the ground is the core of our landscape approach.



## JOIN US

Together we can move towards sustainable landscapes. If your organization is interested in joining us, please get in touch with our landscape team by contacting:

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More information:  
[www.solidaridadnetwork.org](http://www.solidaridadnetwork.org)

## Solidaridad



Solidaridad is a not for profit network organization operating from eight regional offices on five continents. We envision a world in which all we produce, and all we consume, can sustain us all while respecting the planet, each other and the next generations. We bring together producers, civil society, private and public sector, and engage them in innovative solutions to improve production, ensuring the transition to a sustainable and inclusive economy that maximizes the benefit for all.

For information about Solidaridad and the Solidaridad office in your region: [www.solidaridadnetwork.org](http://www.solidaridadnetwork.org)

## What we do

- We work in commodity production landscapes in partnership with local communities, private and public sector.
- We aim to enhance the multi-functionality of the natural and productive landscape for all stakeholders.
- We create space for dialogue to enhance mutual understanding and build a shared knowledge base about the landscape to inform decision making and action on the ground.
- We work towards an inclusive and sustainable economy which fits the landscape.

Solidaridad's partners



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands



PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency

**SOLIDARIDAD  
LANDSCAPE INNOVATION  
PORTFOLIO**

# Solidaridad

## CENTRAL AMERICA

### Honduras

In the Zona Litoral del Norte, rapid expansion of oil palm plantations threatens the future of remaining forests and other fragile natural ecosystems as well as the food security of communities. Solidaridad has identified a unique opportunity to orient the entire palm oil sector towards the implementation of sustainability measures as the sector expands. This sector-oriented approach has grown into the landscape initiative Paisajes Sostenibles, thus bringing together a broad range of stakeholders including cocoa and ecotourism companies; indigenous peoples' and community-based organizations; farmer organizations and cooperatives; municipal governments; research institutes and universities; community water associations, and non-profits. All respective actors have a specific role in the uptake of identified landscape solutions; such as introducing cocoa-agroforestry production and restoration of biodiversity corridors in areas recovered from unsustainable oil palm expansion.

### Nicaragua

In the South Caribbean Coast Autonomous Region, unregulated expansion of livestock and oil palm production systems are resulting in deforestation and land degradation with encroachment into the remaining patches of rainforest around Rama and Kukra Hill. Solidaridad is working to improve the livelihoods of producers of oil palm, cocoa and livestock, increasing their resilience to climate change and enhancing food security through crop diversification and sustainable land management. A National Palm Oil platform has been established, representing 100% of the sector stakeholders. Livestock and cocoa platforms are currently under development. These are directly linked to the landscape-level initiative Paisajes Sostenibles to leverage supply chain and sector partnerships for the implementation of good agricultural practices and responsible land use planning.



HONDURAS  
NICARAGUA

## SOUTH AMERICA

### Paraguay

Solidaridad seeks to turn the Paraguayan Chaco into a sustainable and inclusive landscape, balanced between social, environmental and producer objectives. In the Irala Fernandez District, Solidaridad is working together with the municipality, agricultural ministry, research institute, two major dairy cooperatives, and the indigenous communities to improve production of food crops, enhance land management through silvopastoral grazing schemes, and increase the communities' climate resilience. The latter is important due to the communities currently dealing with prolonged periods of droughts as well as flooding.

### Brazil

In the 'Inclusive and Sustainable Territories in the Amazon' initiative, Solidaridad is working with cocoa and livestock producers in the region of Pará. Major challenges in this area are illegal logging, inefficiency in land regulation, and land speculation. The rate of deforestation, changes in land use, changes in livestock management, soil conditions and the characteristics of the cocoa systems were key variables used to develop a viable low carbon model for family agriculture. This initiative aims to improve livelihoods of producers and contribute to the restoration of soils and forest cover. The promoted low carbon alternatives include cocoa-agroforestry and improved livestock management. In addition, we are collaborating to improve public and sector policies for low carbon agriculture.



PARAGUAY

BRAZIL

## KNOWLEDGE PARTNERSHIPS FOR LANDSCAPE INNOVATION

### Netherlands

In partnership with the Dutch Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL), Solidaridad has tested a land use scenario modelling tool in the PASOS landscape initiative in Honduras. The model integrates socio-economic, cultural, biophysical and multi-level planning dynamics of the landscape. The scenario building exercise was informed by input and feedback from local stakeholders through workshops, discussions and field visits. This process has generated insight in future land use trends and associated impacts. Stakeholders have identified necessary technical, market and institutional interventions to meet several SDGs including 'Zero Hunger', 'Clean Water and Sanitation', 'Climate Action', and 'Life on Land'.

### Global

Solidaridad is co-organizer of the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature Initiative (LPFN), an international collaborative network to enhance knowledge sharing, dialogue and action to support integrated landscape management. This network aims to achieve three simultaneous goals: improved food production, ecosystem conservation, and sustainable livelihoods.

NETHERLANDS

## ASIA

### India

Ground water extraction for agricultural purposes, combined with severe pollution by industry, jointly pose a major threat for quantity and quality of water in the Ganga basin. Solidaridad aims to transform the sugarcane and leather industry towards environmentally sound and socially just economic development. The area of work in the Mid Gangeatic plain in Uttar Pradesh includes major sugar production areas as well as clusters of leather tanneries, which are the point source of pollution. Solidaridad advocates for policy reform to deal with current bottlenecks in municipal waste water management, builds capacity with stakeholder groups and promotes good practices for water use efficiency and waste water disposal.

### Indonesia

In the landscape around the Merapi volcano in Central Java, Solidaridad supports the coordination and implementation of district-level policies and programmes for responsible and eco-friendly landscape management, especially with regard to food production. The aim is to address deforestation and food scarcity caused by unregulated soy expansion. Solidaridad is working towards this through improving productivity of principal (soy) and secondary (food) crops, and identifying and testing the most optimal (inter)cropping and agroforestry systems.



INDIA

INDONESIA

## AFRICA

### Tanzania

Over the years, the Kilimanjaro landscape has been under threat of increased human activities and unsustainable land use practices, resulting in loss of biodiversity and massive land degradation which are affecting water and soil. Solidaridad aims to shift land use policies so that they become complementary and supportive of sustainable agricultural, forestry and natural resource management. We work with coffee, banana and livestock producers on and around Kilimanjaro Mountain. Policy advisory groups have been formed to review national and regional land use policies. Through local and district-level dialogues, grassroots issues are now part of the national policy agenda. In addition, direct support is provided to implement existing policies, such as the design of village-level plans for land use.

### Zambia

In Mazabuka district, part of the lower Kafue Sub Basin, Solidaridad raises awareness on the risks of land degradation. It also advocates for a change in land and water management by the public and private sector as well as communities located in the Magoye and Kaleya catchment areas. Poor agricultural practices, overgrazing of grassland and degradation of river banks have damaged the quality of soil as well as the ecosystem health of the basin. This has resulted in the loss of biodiversity and loss of healthy habitat for fish to spawn and grow. Solidaridad supports river bank protection and promotes planting of trees through working with community natural resource management committees in all catchment areas. Other solutions being implemented are, among others, an investment in hatchery facility for fish producers. This is part of an aquaculture pilot to address overfishing.



ZAMBIA

TANZANIA