

Nature: our best ally in the fight against climate change in rural areas



Nature-based solutions (NbS) are a series of actions that manage ecosystems or emulate natural processes to address sustainability challenges in a cost-effective manner.

Almost **50 %** of the land in the Caribbean and Mesoamerica, and **18 %** of the land in South America are severely or very severely degraded.



1200

million tons of carbon could be stored in agricultural soils (crops and pasture) each year, through sustainable management and restoration.

CO₂



Man has domesticated **7000 species**, but today mankind depends on **4 crops** and a handful of animal species to supply **60 %** of the calories consumed.



Agrobiodiversity is key to new developments based on biological resources and climate change adaptation.

Pollination

affects the production of **75 %** of crops and its contribution to the global economy amounts **235 to 577** billions USD annually.



Close to **25 %** of river sections in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) are subject to biological contamination and **70 %** of waste water returns to waterways without being treated.



Agriculture uses **70 %** of the water consumed at the global level. Much of it returns to the system and is used by other sectors.



The agriculture sector absorbs **23 %** of the economic impact caused by disasters, mostly climate-related.

Nature can deliver **30 %** of solutions needed to tackle climate change.



Nature offers solutions in the following areas:

- Purification and safe reuse of water in agriculture.
- Replenishment of surface and underground water.
- Prevention of disasters, such as landslides and flooding.
- Carbon capture.
- Micro-scale climate regulation.
- Climate change adaptation through agrobiodiversity.
- Increased biodiversity in agricultural landscapes.
- Generation of alternative income through environmental services.
- Integrated management of pests and diseases.
- Recovery and remediation of contaminated soils.
- Restoration of degraded land and pastures.

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countries have incorporated ecosystem management into their nationally determined contributions for climate change.

NbS are gaining traction in IICA's cooperation agenda, due to their cost-effectiveness for climate action and as new options for rural development.

More Information: Laura Meza • laura.meza@iica.int • www.iica.int