

**GCF Observer Network of Civil Society, Indigenous Peoples, and Local Communities**

Intervention on

## **SAP035: Building the Adaptive Capacity of Sugarcane Farmers in Northern Belize (BaC-SuF)**

Access the document: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/gcf-b38-02-add02>

---

We acknowledge the project's importance in enhancing the adaptation and resilience of Belize's sugarcane production sector in the face of increasing climate change impacts. While the project focus on sugarcane is understandable, given its economic importance in Belize, it is imperative to acknowledge the potential adverse effect of monocultures, including sugarcane, on biodiversity and climate resilience. We emphasize the necessity of considering broader agricultural diversification strategies that take into account related environmental and social considerations. By diversifying agricultural activities, Belize can not only mitigate these negative impacts but also create a more sustainable and resilient agricultural sector.

Expanding the scope of the project to encompass diverse agriculture and non-agricultural activities, as advised in the iTAP assessment, holds promise in fortifying the sector's resilience to climate change while augmenting farmers' income streams. Incorporating practices such as agroforestry, which integrates trees and shrubs into agricultural landscapes, not only fosters biodiversity and soil health but also offers diversified products and revenue streams for farmers. Therefore, we strongly recommend this FP integrates such practices to ensure a more sustainable and resilient agriculture sector in Belize.

###