Learning Alliances in Northern Nicaragua

Following up on its successful experience with the regional learning alliance of Central America, CIAT has established territorial learning alliances at the Nicanorte action site in northern Nicaragua.

CIAT will work through these alliances to lead the Central American and Caribbean Flagship Project of the CGIAR Research Program on Integrated Systems for the Humid Tropics.

Formed by organizations working on coffee, cacao, and mixed farming systems, the alliances are dynamic and inclusive spaces that strengthen local innovation systems, promote sustainable intensification of farms, and improve rural family incomes.

The alliances carry out research for territorial development, using tools and experience from international research. Current themes include decision-making for farms, developing practices for multiple certification in coffee production systems, analyzing public policies and their impact on rural women, regenerating soil fertility, building territorial information systems to enhance resilience, and scaling up agrobiodiversity use to improve the food security, nutrition, and income of rural women.

Participating organizations have joined forces with international centers to strengthen the region’s main products and their potential for commercialization, addressing such issues as value chains, requirements for accessing specific markets, and risk mitigation.

Through its work across the alliances, CIAT seeks to generate a vision for the future of farming as a means to safeguard natural resources, generate innovations for reducing vulnerability, and building equity within communities.