



Agroforsa, is a small development consulting firm devoted to conservation and management of lands and waters, and adaptation to climate change, throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. We help our clients to understand complex interrelated social, economic and environmental systems, building mutual trust, and creating policies, incentives systems and institutions to enable sustainable and scalable development. Our development model integrates economic growth, environmental sustainability, poverty reduction and social inclusion. Agroforsa opens up opportunities for people in rural communities to participate more effectively in the marketplace and in public decisions to manage forests, watersheds, wetlands and related land and water resources, for the benefit of both present and future generations.

Agroforsa's Team

Agroforsa's principals have worked together over the course of more than 15 years, each with extensive experience throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East:

- **Carlos Rivas Almonte** specializes in natural resource management; sustainable agroforestry and agricultural sector development including strengthening smallholder participation in value chains; capacity building including participatory involvement of indigenous groups; and program monitoring and evaluation. Agroforsa's founder in the Dominican Republic (DR), he has served as Chief of Party of sustainable agriculture and agroforestry activities with smallholders and communities in Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Nicaragua.
- **Brian Rudert** works with the private and public sectors to build and scale up private sector alliances that improve market opportunities for small farmers. He is adept at making scientific and technological knowledge relevant for potential users and at getting decision makers to use complex data in investment decisions. He has served as Chief of Party on projects in Colombia, Panama, the DR, and Afghanistan.
- **Evan Scott Thomas** specializes in reform of the enabling environment for sustainable and scalable development, as well as the design, monitoring, evaluation and adaptive management of international development programs. A PhD agricultural economist and natural resources specialist, he has worked in more than 45 developing countries, including Bolivia, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru; and has served as Chief of Party of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) platforms in several countries.
- **Allen Turner** specializes in helping local producers and institutions to apply sustainable development principles and practices that improve natural resource management and conserve biodiversity in the face of social and environmental change. He has served as Chief of Party for USAID natural resource management and livelihood programs in Central America, Nigeria, Liberia, and Nepal, as Senior Economic Development Advisor to USAID/Peru, and as Chief Technical Advisor for Nigeria's UN-REDD+ program.

Agroforsa collaborates with local partners to conduct studies, design and implement programs, communicate insights and good practices, and carry out monitoring, evaluation, research and learning (MERL). We accompany them; we don't replace them. We help local stakeholders to discover for themselves how to adapt good practices to local settings and resources in a changing world of nature and markets. Our experience in Latin America and the Caribbean and other regions around the world includes the following:

Forest, watersheds and wetlands conservation and management

Agroforsa's principals have led donor activities to conserve and manage forests, watersheds, and freshwater and coastal wetlands in numerous countries, including Colombia, the Dominican Republic (DR), all of Central America and Mexico, Nepal, and West Africa. In the DR, Agroforsa analyzed innovative practices, lessons learned, and adaptive management under the Sustainable Land Management project in the watersheds of the Sabana Yegua dam, for the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MENR), Global Environment

Alberto Larancuent #7, Ensanche Naco. Edificio Denisse, Suite 301. Santo Domingo, D.N., Dominican Republic
Tel. + 1 (809) 565 0382; +1 (829) 705-4168. Email: info@agrofora.com; crivas@agrofora.com



Facility (GEF) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Agroforsa assessed biomass and carbon content in non-forest land cover, for the MENR and World Bank, through CATIE (Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center) and carried out a mid-term evaluation of a forest management project to increase forest cover and restore connectivity in biological corridors for Barrick Gold.

Water resources management

An Agroforsa principal started up and led USAID's first project to strengthen Nepal's ability to manage water resources sustainably, conserve freshwater biodiversity, and strengthen community resilience through an integrated river basin approach in the three largest river basins of western Nepal, including activities in fisheries, community-based integrated water resource management, regulation and management of roads and mining, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable hydropower. Agroforsa's evaluation for Barrick Gold assessed protection of catchment areas in five river basins.

Sustainable agricultural and rural sector development

Agroforsa's principals have led donor activities focused on development of marketable opportunities that are sustainable and scalable for agricultural smallholders and rural communities, in the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Peru, Nigeria, and Liberia. Agroforsa completed a fruit and vegetable market study to improve access for Dominican products in New York and Florida, for the Export and Investment Center of the Dominican Republic (CEI-RD) and the National Association of Supermarkets (NSA) of the United States.

Engagement of rural communities and institutions in sustainable development

Agroforsa's principals have served as Chiefs of Party of donor activities designed to engage rural communities and institutions in sustainable development in numerous countries, including Colombia, Nicaragua, Nepal, Liberia, and Nigeria, through gender-aware and socially inclusive farmer field schools, citizen science, community land use planning, land rights, natural resource governance and infrastructure development. Agroforsa fomented community-based planning to contribute to the sustainability of infrastructure investments in drinking water and sanitation, for the Dominican Republic's National Institute for Drinking Water and Sewage (INAPA), with funding from the Inter-American Development Bank and Spanish Cooperation (AECID), in partnership with Mujeres en Desarrollo ("Women in Development") and Alianza ONG (a network of 31 non-profit organizations). An Agroforsa principal led a program in Liberia that strengthened community rights and capacity to manage forests sustainably and to negotiate effectively with a mining concession holder, Arcelor Mittal, and the Forest Development Authority.

Monitoring, evaluation, research and learning (MERL) for sustainable development

Agroforsa's principals have led MERL activities in support of improved sustainability and scalability in donor programming throughout Latin American and the Caribbean, for example in an evaluation of the success of Guatemalan forestry concessions as a model of natural areas protection in the Mayan biosphere and the linkages of forest conservation to the tourism industry in that country. Agroforsa carried out an analysis of community stakeholder knowledge and perceptions of resources, benefits, and resource use and management in six protected areas in five provinces of the Dominican Republic for The Nature Conservancy, applying a range of participatory tools and methodologies.