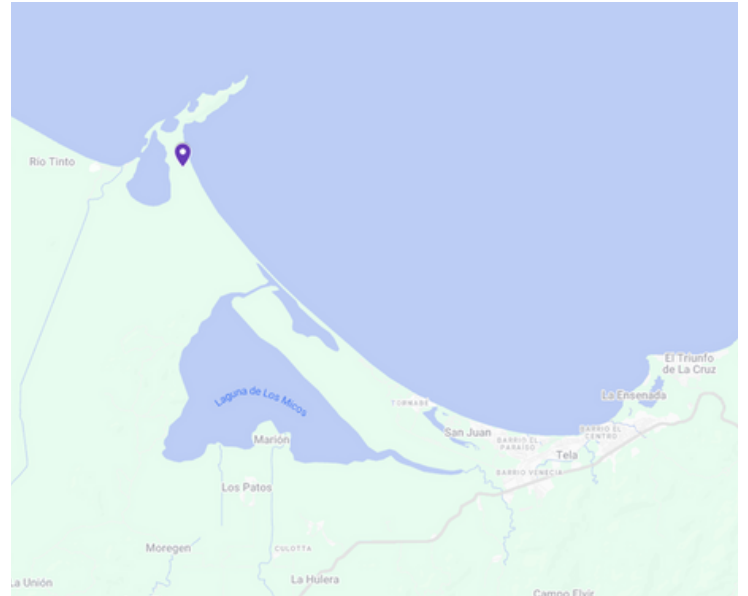


Empowerment and strengthening of local stakeholders, communities, and staff to promote the sustainable management of the protected areas Blanca Janeth Kawas Fernández National Park and Punta Izopo National Park



Location



Blanca Janeth Kawas Fernández National Park

Map Data © 2025 Google

COUNTRY

Honduras

COASTAL MARINE PROTECTED AREAS (CMPA)

- Blanca Janeth Kawas Fernández National Park (PNBJKF)* and
- Punta Izopo National Park (PNPI)*

CO MANAGER

Fundación para la Protección de Lancetilla, Punta Sal y Texiguat (PROLANSATE)

DURATION

agosto 2025 - junio 2028

* Acronyms refer to the names in Spanish

REACH

Protected area
102,124 hectares



Number of
beneficiaries
2,000



Photo: PROLANSATE

PROJECT SUMMARY:

The project aims to strengthen the management of the coastal marine protected areas (CMPAs) through training, equipment provision, and community participation, addressing threats such as overfishing, invasive species, agricultural expansion, and pollution. It is structured around four main components:

1) Institutional strengthening of co-managers through equipment provision and training in biological monitoring and data analysis;

2) Promotion of community participation to encourage sustainable practices in the use of natural resources;

3) Increasing knowledge of local stakeholders through the development and implementation of a communications plan; and 4) Sustainable fishery resources management by promoting alternative livelihoods to fishing.

KEY TOPICS AND ACTIVITIES

CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

- Train staff and co-managers of the CMPA in coral bleaching and disease monitoring, statistical data analysis, and geographic information systems.
- Conduct a mangrove cover study using drones.
- Develop a standardized protocol for the capture and handling of lionfish and train co-managers and artisanal fishers in its eradication.

SUSTAINABLE USE WITH LOCAL PARTICIPATION

- Develop and share community participation strategies for the PNBKJF and PNPI, together with co-managers and key stakeholders.
- Create two life plans for the Garífuna communities of La Ensenada and Río Tinto
- Train youth from various target groups in leadership, empowerment, and sustainable natural resource use practices.
- Train community members in the sustainable use of natural resources.
- Build a pilot aquaponics system and share the initiative with local communities.

STRENGTHENING AMONG KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND GOVERNANCE

- Improve the financial capacity of co-managing organizations through training in financial administration, development, management, and negotiation of proposals.
- Develop and socialize a gender policy for the co-managing organization.



Photo: PROLANSATE



The project "Protection of Maritime Resources in Central America III (Phase III)" represents a joint and ongoing effort to strengthen the effective management of marine and coastal protected areas of the Mesoamerican Reef System. With the financial support of the German Cooperation through KfW, and the active participation of local managers and implementers, this regional effort strengthens the protection of key ecosystems and the benefits they provide to communities. Learn more: