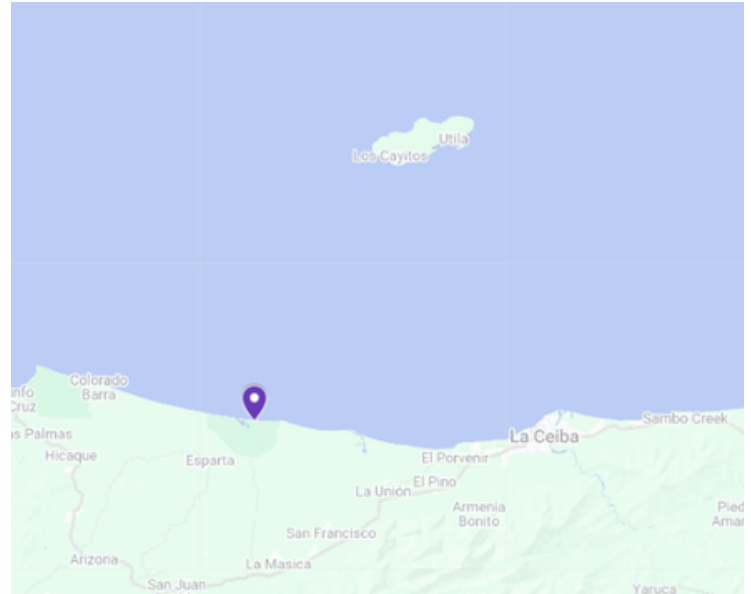


PROTECTION OF MARITIME RESOURCES IN CENTRAL AMERICA III (PHASE III)

The Phase III project represents a joint effort to strengthen the effective management of coastal and marine protected areas of the Mesoamerican Reef System. With financial contribution from the German Cooperation through the KfW, and the active participation of managers and co-managers of the CMPAs, this regional initiative enhances the protection of strategic ecosystems and contributes to sustaining the benefits they provide to local communities.



Location of Barras de Cuero y Salado Wildlife Refuge



Barras de Cuero y Salado Wildlife Refuge

Map Data © 2026 Google

IMPROVEMENT OF THE ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY OF THE CUERO Y SALADO WILDLIFE REFUGE WITH A FOCUS ON BIOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL CONNECTIVITY

Country	Honduras
Coastal Marine Protected Area (CMPA)	Barras de Cuero y Salado Wildlife Refuge
Comanager	Fundación Cuero y Salado (FUCSA)*
Duration	June 2024 - June 2027
Reach	13,225 hectares of protected area and 125 beneficiaries

* Acronyms refer to the names in Spanish



Foto: Roberto Perdomo

PROJECT SUMMARY

The project aims to establish effective mechanisms for the integrated management of the CMPA, addressing threats to mangroves, wetlands, river systems, and reefs.

Studies will be conducted to understand the loss of river flow, a proposal will be designed to establish Fish Replenishment Zones (FRZs), and patrols will be improved through the use of innovative technology. In addition, livelihoods will be diversified through sustainable fisheries and tourism, community emergency response capacity will be strengthened, and financial and social resilience will be promoted.



Photo: FUCSA

KEY TOPICS AND ACTIVITIES



CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

- Prioritize strategic sites, establish nurseries for plant production, and build platforms for the propagation of propagules and permanent plots, degraded areas reforestation with mangroves and other native species.
- Validate, characterize, and monitor marine habitats, as well as identify spawning areas and fishing grounds, using technologies such as visual census, telemetry, and stable isotope studies.
- Develop a proposal for the creation of Fish Replenishment Zones (FRZs) between the Cayos Cochinos Marine Archipelago Natural Monument, the Barras de Cuero y Salado Wildlife Refuge, and the Bahia de Tela Marine Wildlife Refuge.
- Develop protocols to strengthen control and surveillance mechanisms.



SUSTAINABLE USE WITH LOCAL PARTICIPATION

- Develop fisheries assessments in the communities to formulate a fisheries management plan that enables responsible use of resources.
- Facilitate an exchange of experiences among fishers to diversify and promote the commercialization of products such as dried fish.
- Implement community-based productive projects and strengthen the tourism and fishing value chain.
- Update and support the work agenda of the CMPA Fishers' Association, which promotes the principles of responsible artisanal fishing.



STRENGTHENING AMONG KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND GOVERNANCE

- Habilitate the dock in the Salado Barra community to support conservation and tourism activities.
- Train young Environmental Protectors as community scientists and certified guides.
- Develop strategic planning tools aimed at strengthening institutional capacity and organizational resilience.
- Implement a capacity-building program for management through practical workshops on environmental and social management measures, diving, maritime safety, occupational safety protocols, contingency protocols, first aid, safe fuel handling protocols, and exchanges between organizations.

Visit the QR code to learn more:

