



**"Protection of Natural Resources of the Natural Protected Area (NPA) of Colima, El Salvador"  
ALFALIT, El Salvador**

**The situation:** Population growth in the communities bordering the NPA of Colima causes strong pressure and consequently exploitation of natural resources: deforestation for fuel wood consumption, stone extraction for construction, introduction of cattle, reptile hunt and endangered species threatened with extinction, lack of sustainable alternatives to farmers, forest fires and lack of organization in the same community, are only examples of the great causes that provoke the serious deterioration of the Natural Resources in that country's ecosystem .

**Community managed natural resources:  
reducing risks and strengthening livelihoods**

**The solution:** ALFALIT, works in this territory, with the purpose of developing actions for the protection and improvement of infrastructure and ecosystems of the Natural Protected Area of Colima, through the Strengthening of Capacities of the inhabitants of the communities, the promotion of environmental education from the School Centers of the area, and training on recycling, school gardens, cleaning days; risk prevention training in communities and formation of risk committees; creation and demonstration of diversified plots for farmers; and support to promote eco-tourism. These actions contribute to the number one objective of the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction, referring to "Understanding Disaster Risk" and priority #3 "Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience"

**The Results:** The project is implemented in the Canton of Colima, municipality of Suchitoto, department of Cuscatlán. With 6,296 people from four communities and four schools benefited. ALFALIT has contributed to the process of organizing the communities and local organizations benefiting from the project, in order to articulate and strengthen the processes, thus achieving: Promotion of environmental education to 280 students of the schools around the Natural Protected Area NPA; annual cleaning days in the four communities; creation of intercommunal committee of the surrounding communities; protection of at least six species of endangered animals; structural improvements in four booths, three lookout points, one watch tower and promotion of ecotourism at a national level.



### **The Learnings:**

**José Ernesto Orellana**  
**ADESCO Member of Colima**

“The project is very good because reforestation has improved the climate in the community, and many slopes have been recovered with the protection of aquifers: The best thing is that there has been work for the population in different areas including promoting ecotourism. Also, there has been great participation in the work of planting trees and monitoring to avoid forest fires; so we can say that it has been a very excellent work recovering part of the beauty and natural wealth of Colima”

**Celso Henríquez**  
**Cantón El Tule Beneficiary**

“I was a beneficiary with reservoir and fruit trees. This helped me to open my eyes and learn the importance of water reserves, to manage my cattle; and I even drilled another reservoir. In addition, I made efforts to take care of the fruit trees plots in order to have more food alternatives in my house”.

**"Wetlands provide water and shelter for many species. PROTECT THEM! "**

"This project helped me to open my eyes and learn the importance of water reserves"  
Celso Henríquez, *Cantón El Tule*, El Salvador.

"It has been very excellent work to recover part of the beauty and natural wealth of Colima"  
José Ernesto Orellana, ADESCO Member of Canton Colima, El Salvador.