



CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY

For more than 50 years, DAI has been helping communities and governments conserve biodiversity, sustainably manage natural resources, and develop real-world solutions to address the challenge of global climate change. We work across diverse landscapes and seascapes, integrating community development with sustainable management activities, helping countries access finance to support their conservation programs, and protect wildlife and habitats. Our approach leverages DAI's deep technical, global and multidonor experience to seamlessly integrate sustainable natural resource management (NRM) with a full suite of development approaches, including economic growth, governance, food security and health. We operate at the interface of social, biological, and economic systems, which are in constant flux, and vital to growth and development. We also harness innovative finance and markets, engaging the private sector, governments, and communities to work together to maximize impact and deliver development transformations.



RECENT PROJECTS

Philippines Protect Wildlife Project (Protect)

Protect established a solid foundation for conservation in southern Palawan province through improved land use planning, payments for ecosystem services, and enforcement of wildlife and forest laws. Protect improved the conservation of more than 200,000 hectares of a landscape important for biodiversity and water supply through a payment for ecosystem services program for services valued at \$5.5 billion annually, revenue that is now reinvested in conservation and restoration directly benefiting 33 communities. This successful model is now being replicated in other high-value conservation areas in Palawan. Protect also supported the development of WildAlert, a mobile app that facilitates the monitoring of flora and fauna and the reporting of illicit activities, and the Biodiversity Resources Access Information Network, a program that automates the natural resource permitting system and supports law enforcement through digital information management, analysis, and sharing among jurisdictions.

Philippines 2016–2020

Client: USAID

**Our clients include:
the U.S. Agency
for International
Development
(USAID), the Foreign,
Commonwealth &
Development Office
(FCDO), European
Union (EU), World
Bank, the International
Finance Corporation,
and the private sector.**

Indonesia Adaptasi Perubahan Iklim dan Ketangguhan (APIK)

APIK supported the government of Indonesia in developing a national climate adaptation action plan that fed into the National Development Plan for Indonesia (2020–2024), keeping climate and disaster risk at the forefront of Indonesia's planning processes. When approved, the plan earmarked more than \$3 billion to four climate sensitive sectors—agriculture, water and sanitation, coastal and marine environments, and health. With support from APIK, and by leveraging national government resources, local administrations are now investing in coastal protection activities (seawalls and mangrove reforestation), flood early warning systems, improved mapping and use of drone technology, and training and disaster simulations. Under APIK, 174 institutions improved their capacity to address climate change risks. APIK strengthened communities and the private sector to address climate change risks and more than \$3.7 smillion in private investment was mobilized, demonstrating that businesses are willing to fund initiatives that improve local resilience when they also address business challenges.

Indonesia 2015–2020

Client: USAID



Tayar Nepal Improved Disaster Risk Management Project

Tayar, USAID's flagship disaster preparedness and response program for Nepal, is strengthening Nepal's disaster risk management and preparedness institutions. The project supports national agencies, including the newly created National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA), to conduct disaster simulations, improve disaster response technologies, and establish a National Disaster Training Academy. Locally, Tayar works with urban municipalities to develop risk-sensitive land use plans that increase disaster resilience, including slope stabilization, humanitarian open spaces, and building retrofitting. Tayar includes a rapid emergency response mechanism, which has been mobilized in USAID's COVID-19 pandemic response.

Nepal 2019–2022

Client: USAID

Nepal Program for Aquatic Natural Resources Improvement (Paani)

Paani plays a pivotal role in shaping Nepal's management of critical water resources, helping to reduce threats to freshwater biodiversity through river basin-level planning with a focus on the Mahakali, Karnali and Rapti Rivers in Western Nepal. Paani builds Nepal's scientific and technical capacity to monitor the health of species and aquatic ecosystems, and co-management approaches to promote sustainable capture fisheries. Through environmental governance activities, Paani supported development of 26 Aquatic Animal and Conservation Bills at the local level, with 20 more under development. Paani implemented co-management of river stretches through more than 80 Community Aquatic Animal Conservation Groups, inventoried more than 220 freshwater species, and identified around 120 freshwater policy champions across Nepal. Paani has increased opportunities for dialogue through international conferences and river summits across watershed and river basins, including the development of a free-flowing river framework for the Karnali River. Paani established the Karnali River Basin Conservation Fund to sustain the protection of freshwater water resources and aquatic biodiversity long after the Paani program ends. With grants from USAID, communities and people have been empowered to address the consequences of destructive fishing practices, and actively engaged in conservation of aquatic biodiversity.

Nepal 2016–2020

Client: USAID

Strengthening Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change in Kenya Plus (StARCK+)

In Kenya, StARCK+ contributed to transformational change in climate resilience through national climate policy development and investments in climate-smart agriculture. Through the Finance for Innovation and Climate Change Fund component, DAI mobilized £5.35 million for climate relevant private sector initiatives. Demonstrating the success that is available in new and untapped value chains, DAI developed and de-risked microfinancing solutions through insurance and guarantee instruments, advancing climate-smart agriculture in 18 counties, and mobilized an additional £2.7 million in private sector financing and helped to make nearly 50,000 farmers climate-resilient.

Kenya 2013–2018

Client: FCDO

The
equivalent of
40,000^t
of carbon
dioxide saved





Coastal Community Adaptation Project (C-CAP)

C-CAP worked with 12 Pacific island nations to synchronize national policies with community implementation and upgraded the disaster risk management strategies of vulnerable communities to mitigate climate risks. C-CAP developed the Infrastructure Prioritization Index to help communities to analyze assets and vulnerabilities and prioritize actions. C-CAP doubled the awareness of climate adaptation strategies available. In nine USAID partner countries, 77 communities adopted this participatory approach to climate adaptation and 34 climate-resilient infrastructure projects were undertaken affecting more than 20,000 at-risk people.

Pacific Islands 2012–2017

Client: USAID

Biodiversity Results and Integrated Development Gains Enhanced (BRIDGE)

The USAID Biodiversity Policy and Environmental and Natural Resource Management (ENRM) Framework ensures sound stewardship of natural resources through biodiversity programming and programming across sectors. BRIDGE identified entry points in the program cycle for integrating biodiversity conservation considerations with other development outcomes using the rubric “Conservation is Development,” establishing a body of knowledge on tools, approaches, and evidence that support cross-sectoral collaboration that achieves shared development goals. BRIDGE knowledge products and tools include:

- Guidance for ecosystem valuation in cost-benefit analysis
- Updated and improved best practices guidance for conducting and using tropical forest and biodiversity analyses
- Incorporation of political economy analysis into conservation programming
- Nature-based approaches to climate resilience

BRIDGE used trainings, seminars, and webinars to highlight the use of ecosystem-based adaptation to address climate vulnerability. It also published research, including a piece in *Science Advances* on the intersection of forest cover conservation and human health, on successful biodiversity integration to be used by USAID staff in program design.

Global 2015–2020

Client: USAID

Peru PREVENT



PREVENT supports the Government of Peru and civil society to reduce environmental crimes through a comprehensive, multisectoral approach including strengthening the justice system, leveraging science and technology, monitoring and protecting flora and fauna, defining economic costs and incentives and bringing miners into the formal sector. Focusing on building capacity of local actors, PREVENT enlists catalyzers, conveners, enforcers, and innovators to generate locally driven solutions to entrenched environmental crime. Project activities focus on establishing and formalizing a national framework on environmental crime, improving institutional development of Peru’s judicial system, increasing monitoring and reporting capabilities for illegal activities, and building partnerships to mobilize resources to prevent environmental crime.

Peru 2019–2024

Client: USAID

Vietnam Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)

SFM supports the Government of Vietnam in its efforts to reduce carbon emissions associated with forest degradation, deforestation, and poor plantation management. DAI's 'green prosperity' approach strengthens local communities' ability to protect the natural resource base and reduce carbon emissions, while building a strong foundation for sustainable livelihoods and equitable economic growth. SFM strengthens community co-management, increases the application of sustainable practices in production forests, mobilizes domestic resources via Vietnam's national carbon payment for forest environmental services program, improves law enforcement functionality to combat forest-related crimes and supports conservation friendly enterprises through business support services.

Vietnam 2020–2025

Client: USAID



Mekong Adaption and Resilience to Climate Change (ARCC)



ARCC completed a cutting-edge basinwide downscaling of climate impact models of the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB), which not only revealed the predicted climate shifts in the future, but also the impacts those shifts will have on livelihoods for the LMB. This integrated vulnerability assessment and adaptation decision-making framework, which connected downscaled climate science to decision making, merged local knowledge with scientific information to improve community-led adaptation planning processes. By piloting the framework in five highly vulnerable provinces across four Mekong countries, the project developed and applied adaptation strategies, tools, and technologies to improve communities' understanding of climate impacts and application of adaptation strategies to their livelihoods. The project scaled the techniques, lessons, and experiences of pilot sites and investments in incorporating climate science into subnational planning processes.

Southeast Asia 2011–2016

Client: USAID



Honduras ProParque

ProParque realigned the country's economic and social development trajectory with sound management of its natural resource base. ProParque produced innovative, practical, and replicable strategies that helped reduce extreme poverty for vulnerable populations in western Honduras. ProParque consolidated the system of protected areas through work in biodiversity and natural resource management, rural enterprises such as tourism and forestry, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and clean energy development. Through ProParque, five private reserves were created, 28 payment-for-ecosystem-services mechanisms were established in 21 watersheds, a system for high-quality tourism facilities was established, and a tourist guide certification was restructured. ProParque improved biodiversity, created new jobs, strengthened capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change, improved watershed management, and bolstered niche tourism industries—i.e. bird-watching—that have become revenue for conservation.

Honduras 2011–2016

Client: USAID





Iraq Marshland Restoration Project

The Mesopotamian Marshes were once the largest wetland ecosystem of western Eurasia and home to a thriving community, the Ma'dān. Progressive drainage of marshes for development culminated in massive drainage, accelerated by civil conflict after the 1991 uprising. Drainage removed the ecosystem service provided by filtering waters into the Persian Gulf, as well as a significant decline in biodiversity. At its lowest level, only seven percent of the original marshland remained. DAI was selected by USAID to restore the marshland. The program trained provincial government employees in the fundamentals of marsh restoration and wetland management; identified committee provincial government employees to carry forward agricultural and livestock efforts; and a cadre of veterinary graduates, previously unemployed, who worked with livestock directly in marsh villages; and created ownership by the Marsh Arab tribes. The American Anthropological Association awarded DAI's project leader and his project team its prestigious Lourdes Arizpe Award for their work on the project.

Iraq 2003–2005

Client: USAID

Regional Climate Change Program Central America

This activity helped the countries and territories of Central America and the Dominican Republic to respond to the effects of climate change. As a subcontractor, DAI had three main deliverables: a regional clearinghouse (Climate Services Portal) based on user-centered design requirements; a Global Development Alliance related to the sustainability of the Climate Services Portal; and decision-support tools related to climate change adaptation, biodiversity, and water. To tackle a coffee rust plague, DAI worked with the consortium to help people linked with the coffee value chain make better decisions about their farms and businesses by providing live climate data collected from the region. In Guatemala, DAI opted to create a new tool—Coffee Cloud—using a fully human-centered design approach. Coffee Cloud enables coffee growers to run offline crop tests in the field, based on methods approved by the regional agriculture ministries, and receive immediate recommendations on how to combat the rust based on the level of contagion and current weather conditions. The app tracks the levels of the disease in the crop and shows behavioral graphs. Using that data, the analysts send regional recommendations and specific interventions to avoid nationwide spread of the rust, which remains a constant threat. Coffee Cloud was adopted by the Guatemalan and Costa Rican National Coffee Institutes. It currently has more than 1,200 users in Guatemala and around 800 in Costa Rica.

Central America 2013–2018

Client: USAID

Decentralization and Renewable Natural Resources

A small country situated between India and China. Bhutan's rugged terrain makes infrastructure development prohibitively costly. Effective management of its natural resources is essential to its well-being. The overall objective of the Decentralization and Renewable Natural Resources project is to assist Bhutan in achieving the reforms laid out in its 11th and 12th Five Year Plans in two sectors; 1) Renewable Natural Resources including Climate Change Response and 2) Local Governments and Decentralization. The project provides technical assistance and studies in support of sound implementation of the EU-bilateral development cooperation strategy in Bhutan. The project is achieving results in capacity building for sector reform and in facilitating dialogue between the EU and the Royal Government of Bhutan through workshops, training, and research. The project is conducting policy assessments for those sectors receiving budget support from the EU in renewable natural resources management and climate change, as well as local governance and decentralization.

Bhutan 2019–2021

Client: European Union



Climate Change Vulnerability Analysis of Coastal Zones

DAI and local partner Fundación Plenitud are developing a state-of-the-art assessment of the vulnerability and potential impacts of climate change on the coastal systems of the Dominican Republic. Using geographic information system (GIS) technology and engagement from key stakeholders, coastal zones are being prioritized according to risk. Complementary adaptation measures and concept notes are being formulated that support the objectives of sustainable and environmentally friendly tourism. This will support the strategy and investments of the Dominican State in the coastal tourism sector in the coming years. Other activities involve the evaluation of current and past adaptation policies and promoting public awareness of the costs of inaction.

Dominican Republic 2019–2021

Client: Agence Française de Développement

Clima-Med



Clima-Med works to improve climate change governance and support mainstreaming climate action. The target beneficiaries are governmental, local authorities, and nonstate actors in nations of the southern Mediterranean representing 15 million people. It focuses on support for sustainable climate and energy policies, technical assistance for Sustainable Energy Access and Climate Action Plans (SEACAPs) in line with the Global Covenant of Mayors Principles, identification of concrete pilot actions, and the facilitation of climate investments and finance mechanisms at national and local levels in support of these goals. Key accomplishments include:

- The production of policy recommendations for assessing the impacts of climate change on the agriculture sector in the southern Mediterranean.
- A synthesis report on nonstate climate action.
- A review of local climate action in the Arab region including lessons learned.
- 28 municipal sustainable energy action plans (SEAPs) in Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Israel, Tunisia, Palestine, and Algeria, and five SEACAPs. 94 additional cities are engaged in the preparation of SEAPs and SEACAPs.
- Financing strategy analysis for the region and the European Investment Bank Group.

Clima-Med has facilitated the commitment of 62 cities in the region to the Covenant of Mayors, with 250 more in the process of joining. Participation provides a comparative advantage to local governments through peer-to-peer learning exchange and support for actions tailored to local conditions and hot spots.

Mediterranean 2018–2022

Client: EU

Clima-East

Clima-East provided targeted and demand-driven expertise in a range of national policy processes, worked to bring climate change into the mainstream of policy making, and supported the collaboration between the European Union and the Eastern Partnership region. Working in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine, Clima-East collaborated with more than 40 national governmental bodies and more than 50 organizations to instate climate policies like the National Adaptation Plan in Armenia and the Low Emission Development Strategy in Georgia. Through support from the program, countries developed submissions for the Paris Agreement and collaborated across the region to address immediate climate challenges.

Eastern Europe 2012–2017

Client: European Union



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OUR NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

DAI improves the welfare of communities and the health of ecosystems using innovative approaches calibrated to local systems and cultures. Our range of services include:

- Ecosystem management at the scale of landscapes and seascapes, including ecosystem-based adaptation, payments for ecosystem services, and transboundary conservation
- Environmental governance, including equitable access and benefit sharing
- Biodiversity conservation, focused on drivers of biodiversity loss and sustainable management systems, including protected areas and community co-management
- Sustainable forest management
- Combating wildlife trafficking and environmental crime
- Low emissions development, including greenhouse gas emissions mitigation
- Environmental policy and enabling environments for effective natural resources management
- Sustainable enterprise development, livelihoods, and conservation finance



CROSS-CUTTING NRM ACTIVITIES

Across our global portfolio of Economic Growth and Governance projects, DAI implements activities that cut across technical scopes and address climate change mitigation, forest management, land governance, energy alternatives, and community engagement in said activities. In **Mozambique**, the **Supporting the Policy Environment for Economic Development+** program has advanced reforms in agriculture, trade and investment, energy, water, and biodiversity conservation, while improving government transparency and public-private partnerships. In implementing the **Liberia FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement**, DAI has supported the production of detailed forest resource maps that have been used to monitor and prevent illegal logging. Working alongside the **Liberia Accountability and Voice Initiative**, the two programs have built the capacity of local nongovernmental groups and NRM coalitions to advocate for funding from the central and regional governments to address natural resources issues in Liberia. In **Guatemala**, the **Nexos Locales** project has developed municipal plans for local economic development, climate change adaptation, and strategic investment in water in 29 municipalities as well as a strategy to strengthen the Commission for Economic Development, Tourism, Environment, and Natural Resources (COFETARN)'s climate change adaption plans. As a result of Nexos' support, COFETARN has reforested over 390 acres of land, conducted awareness campaigns on the importance of protecting forests and water, and provided support for the establishment of forestry and environmental offices.