

CAFTA-DR ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION

Fact Sheet



CAFTA-DR Environmental Cooperation Program

THE CAFTA-DR ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION PROGRAM (THE PROGRAM) began in 2005, when five Central American countries, the Dominican Republic and the United States entered into an ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT, in concert with the DOMINICAN REPUBLIC-CENTRAL AMERICA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT, under which they agreed to cooperate to protect, conserve and improve the environment to advance their goal of sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations.

COUNTRIES

The CAFTA-DR Countries are Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and the United States.



AREAS OF EMPHASIS

The Program implements **Activities** under four major objectives or **THEMES**:

- A Building **institutional strength** to improve and enforce environmental laws, and to engage the public in decision-making
- B Preserving **biodiversity and habitat**
- C Promoting **market-based conservation**
- D Encouraging private business to adopt **environmentally sound practices**

STATISTICS

- **U.S.-CAFTA-DR Trade (2009)***
 - 14th largest U.S. goods export market. *Major Exports*—Mineral Fuel, Electrical Machinery, Machinery, Special Other and Cereals
 - 19th largest U.S. goods import supplier. *Major Imports*—Knit Apparel, Machinery, Edible Fruits and Nuts, Woven Apparel, and Optical and Medical instruments
- **U.S. Funding Allocated for Program Activities:** US\$76 million since 2004

*www.ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/cafta-dr-dominican-republic-central-america-fta

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

- **Training and capacity building** to improve institutional, professional and scientific skills
- **Assessments, studies and analyses** to develop frameworks, model laws and best practices
- **Seminars, conferences and other exchanges** to facilitate information exchange and joint action
- **Demonstrations, publications and linkages** for voluntary mechanisms and best practices
- **Outreach and education programs** to promote public participation