



## **Annual Report November 2017**

### **Summary of the original presented at the Annual Members Meeting (November 1, 2017)**

Biodiversity Partnership Mesoamerica (BPM) was founded in 2012, a result of a public-private partnership of the companies Chiquita, REWE, the Costa Rican banana growers' association CORBANA, and the German government's development corporation GIZ, which provided valuable experience concerning Business and Biodiversity.

BPM is a recognized multi-sector association with the purpose of conserving the outstanding biodiversity of Central America and the Dominican Republic, by supporting the integration of biodiversity-related measures in the business practices of the region. We provide knowledge management, capacity building, as well as the exchange of experience and best business practices regarding the sustainable use and conservation of natural resources.

With our members, we build business and biodiversity partnerships and projects which contribute to the sustainable development of the region. We also enable access to financing mechanisms and develop quality criteria aligned with international standards.

#### **The purpose of BPM**

To promote public-private investments in the conservation of Biodiversity, supporting the development of sustainable production systems, protecting the biodiversity of the Mesoamerican region (Central America & Dominican Republic), and contributing to the economic well-being of rural communities and businesses.



## Members





## New Members 2017

- ✓ **Macaw Lodge, Costa Rica**
- ✓ **La Tigra Lodge, Costa Rica**

## Individual Members

### **Alicia Pitty:**

- ▶ Founding member, Panama

### **Miguel Gómez:**

- ▶ Founding member, Nicaragua

### **George Jaksch**

- ▶ Chair of BoD, Germany

### **Oscar Brenes**

- ▶ Founding member, Costa Rica, Dir. Cocoa program, Min. Agriculture

### **Amanda Wendt, PhD**

- ▶ Board member, Costa Rica

## BPM's strategic partner



## International Participation



**Convention on  
Biological Diversity**



**Global Partnership**  

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**for Business and Biodiversity**

## 2017 Events

### Biological Corridor Workshops (2)

Biological corridors as a tool for BD conservation in agricultural landscapes: Good practice examples, impacts and lessons learned.

Presentations by ECOM (Nicaragua), Chiquita, Dole, Fundecor, GIZ Biocorridor Program, Rios Tropicales, Upala Agricola, Dr. Wendt (OTS).

Follow-up workshop to explore collaboration with Costa Rican Ministry of the Environment (Dept. SINAC)

### Webinar

Biodiversity and Tourism in Mesoamerica: Dependency, Impacts, Opportunities:

Presentation by member Global Nature Fund

### CONABIO conference

BPM was contracted by member CONABIO (National Commission “Biodiversity Knowledge and Use”, Mexican environment ministry) to organize the international workshop

“Developing markets and trade for biodiversity-friendly goods and services: Challenges and Opportunities in Mesoamerica” in San José, Costa Rica (September 27-29).

The event was supported by UNEP, GIZ’s DABío program (Costa Rica) and GIZ Mexico.

The event included keynote speeches, panel and group discussions, best practice presentations, and a field trip.

Participants included government officials, international organization representatives, NGOs, producer organizations, companies, academics and experts in BD & Business: 61 participants from 10 countries.

### Business, Biodiversity & Science

Seminar jointly organized by BPM & member FUNDECOR (November).

Side-event of the XXI Congress of the Mesoamerican Society for Biology & Conservation

### Global Partnership for Business & Biodiversity (GP)

GP is a global network of 22 national Business & Biodiversity initiatives. BPM was elected to chair the GP executive board during the 2018-2019 period, at the annual GP members meeting in Paris on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mauricio Blandino (manager), George Jaksch (board chair) and Starlina Guerrero (GIZ, Dominican Republic) participated on behalf of BPM.

George Jaksch presented (virtual) to the CBD meeting in Montreal, on December 11<sup>th</sup>, on ‘Business & Biodiversity for Manufacturing and Processing’.

### Visits and Participations

Too numerous to mention here, activities included many visits to members and to events organized by related organizations (for details see the Spanish language original)

## BD & B Tools

- Biodiversity Check for Tourism training seminars in Honduras and Dominican Republic
- BPM is to become the service hub for the regional BD & Tourism program (in coordination with Global Nature Fund and DABío/GIZ)
- Biodiversity for Agriculture Kit: Joint BPM- DABío commission formed to develop & test.
- New BPM **Members Pledge** (based on CBD Biodiversity Pledge and BD in Good Company's pledge), approved by BoD
- New BPM **The Extra Mile** award for businesses performing outstanding BD&B work; procedures developed and approved by BoD.

## Collaboration with DABío/GIZ

Consistent with our BPM-GIZ collaboration agreement, BPM has received very valuable support from the DABío team, such as:

- Approval of IKI (International Climate Initiative) funding (€5MM) for projects with the pineapple and banana sectors (for 2018 implementation start)
- EU project funding for Biodiversity projects with the tourism sector.
- Regional Fund for Triangular Cooperation in Latin America & Caribbean: Funding for Coral Reef Restoration in Dominican Republic, with Germany and Costa Rica.
- Knowledge Management Portal
- DeveloPPP (Germany) funds for business & biodiversity projects: Glatfelder, La Tigra/Travel to Nature, ECOM (Nicaragua), Dole (Costa Rica).
- Office space and local subsidy.

## Board 2017-2018

George Jaksch, Chair  
Bernal Herrera PhD, Vice-Chair  
Amanda Wendt PhD, Secretary  
María José Canales, Treasurer  
Rafael Gallo, Vocal I  
Beatriz Cassá, Vocal II  
Rudy Amador, Vocal III  
Oscar Chavarría, Fiscal

## Staff & Location

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George Jaksch  
Chair, BoD

Mauricio Blandino  
Manager

December 2017