



Follow-up to the Strategic Planning of the Selegua River Basin for Sustainable Management in the Department of Huehuetenango.

The Selegua River basin is located in the department of Huehuetenango, born in the Sierra de Los Cuchumatanes; municipality of Chiantla. Its length is 102 km in Guatemala, a territory in which the basin has an area of 1529.93 km² distributed in the municipalities of Huehuetenango, Chiantla, Malacatancito, Cuilco, San Pedro Necta, Jacaltenango, San Idelfonso Ixtahuacán, Santa Bárbara, La Libertad, La Democracia, Todos Santos Cuchumatán, San Juan Atitán, Colotenango, San Sebastián, Concepción Huista, San Antonio Huista, San Rafael Petzal, San Gaspar Ixchil, Santiago Chimaltenango, Santa Ana Huista and Unión Cantinil.

A basin of great importance, given the percentage of the territory of the department of Huehuetenango, and its total population of 400,498 people who share this territory, together with their livelihoods. The current situation of the basin reflects the poor management of waste and solid waste; lack of agroclimatic risk/disaster management; uncontrolled wastewater discharges, water scarcity especially for human consumption; loss of soil due to water erosion and lack of forest culture. A problem where social, environmental and economic factors converge, negatively impacting the basin, contributing to ensure its quality, availability and efficient use.

Within the framework of the Project for the Integrated and Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the Naranjo River, Lake Atitlan and Selegua River basins, the process of characterization and diagnosis of the Selegua River basin was carried out; however, it was not concluded with a proposal for actions that contribute to improving the conditions of this basin, being necessary to conclude with the preparation of the Plan for the Protection and Conservation of the Selegua River Basin (PPCC-RS); where the actors with influence within the territory join forces so that in the near future they can implement actions on the ground, which have a positive impact on this basin.

The preparation of the Plan for the Protection and Conservation of the Selegua River Basin (PPCC-RS) requires:

- Baseline for the preparation of the management plan.
- Territorial planning and/or basin zoning.
- Development of a monitoring and evaluation tool for the management plan of the Selegua River basin.
- Strengthening of the technical committee of the Selegua River basin.
- Implementation of actions to promote the protection and conservation of the territory of the Selegua River basin.

General Objective

To promote the conservation, protection and integrated and sustainable management of the Selegua River basin.

To achieve this objective, actions will be carried out according to government agreement 19-2021 to promote the Protection and Conservation of the Watersheds of Guatemala in coordination with the MARN and the Watershed Directorate of the Vice Ministry of Water. One of these actions is the development of the management and conservation plan for the Selegua River basin, which will be prepared within the framework of the technical table of the Selegua River basin, contributing to governance for the strategic management of the territory, sustainability and adaptation to climate change.

Specific Objective

Implement capacities for the protection and conservation of the Selegua River basin in a participatory manner for the sustainable management of natural resources and adaptation to climate change.

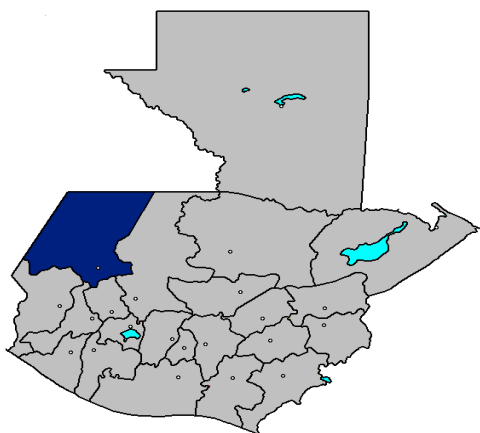
The plan is prepared based on the diagnosis, bio-physical and socio-economic characterization; taking into account the guidelines established by the MARN, in the respective guide; baseline, planning proposal, territorial zoning, basin protection and conservation plan, until reaching the proposal for a monitoring and evaluation system of the PPCC-RS.

Result

Management capacities and planning instruments developed for the protection and conservation of the Selegua River basin. An instrument that is built within the framework of the technical table, as a space for the governance of basins and other actors.

It will contain the strategies, programs and projects and monitoring and evaluation system to respond to the problems identified within the territory and thus contribute to the sustainable management of natural resources.

Geographical Area



EUROCLIMA

Website: www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/guatemala_es

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Fast Facts

Geographical Location:

21 municipalities located in the Selegua River Basin in the department of Huehuetenango

Phase and duration: Single phase, 6 months

Start Date: July 21, 2025

End Date: December 12, 2025

Phase Budget: € 134,352.06

Entities Involved:

1. Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN)
2. National Institute of Forests (INAB)
3. National Council of Protected Areas (CONAP)
4. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA)
5. Ministry of Public Finance (MINFIN)
6. Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Presidency (SEGEPLAN)
7. Municipal Development Institute (INFOM) - INFOM Program - AECID IDB
8. Municipal Councils (Municipalities) (21) of the Selegua River basins.
9. Technical Board of the Selegua River.
10. Community Development Councils (COCODES)

Donors:

- Euroclima Programme, co-financed by the European Union (EU) and German Cooperation; and implemented and administered in Guatemala by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation -AECID.
- HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation.
- Strategic partners and local partners.



HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation

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