

Description of the Project Areas

The project area consists of the lagoons of Olomega and El Jocotal. These are natural lagoons located in the departments of La Unión, San Miguel and Usulután, in the east of the country. Both of the lagoons are registered as Ramsar site, namely internationally important wetland. In the area around the lagoons there are about 19,500 local inhabitants, who subsist mainly from fishing and cattle raising, which are an important source of income. The deterioration of its environment affects not only the local population, it may have a negative impact on the Jiquilisco Bay located downstream that constitutes the largest expanse of brackish water and salt forest in El Salvador.

Both lagoons are located in the watershed of the Rio Grande de San Miguel, which recently overflows every year. In the rainy season, rain drags the eroded soil, animal manure, agrochemicals, fertilizers into bodies of lagoon water, which cause severely degradation of water quality. The table below summarizes the characteristics of both lagoons.

Table: Characteristics of Olomega and El Jocotal Lagoons

Name of Ramsar sites/ Date of registration /Code	Registered area	Ecological features	Related municipalities
El Jocotal 01/22/99, No. 970	4,479 ha	It is a Lagoon located in the dry tropical zone. Water overflow occurs in the rainy season. It is a habitat of resident and migrant birds, and two species of crocodiles. The habitat has food and shelter for migratory birds. Specimens of freshwater mangrove (<i>Bravaisia integerrima</i>) are recorded.	El Tránsito San Miguel Chirilagua Jucuarán
Olomega Lagoon 02/02/10, No. 1899)	7,557 ha	It is a lagoon located in the dry tropical zone. Water overflow occurs in the rainy season. Resident and migratory birds and neotropical cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>) inhabit it. It is the only habitat for freshwater clams (<i>Mycetopoda subsinuata</i>). It is known for its freshwater mangrove (<i>Bravaisia integerrima</i>).	San Miguel Chirilagua El Carmen

Basic Project Information

Project Period Duration:

Five years starting in March 2016

Implementing institutions:

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Project Area:

Wetlands in the lagoons of Olomega and El Jocotal and surrounding areas.

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Project for the Integrated Management of the wetlands in Olomega and El Jocotal lagoons

Project Features

Background:

The government of the Republic of El Salvador has established wetland and environmental conservation as one of the priority sectors and through the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN) has developed the National Plan for the Improvement of Wetlands of El Salvador and the Strategies for the Olomega and El Jocotal lagoons and their action plan. However, the National Wetland Committee in charge of managing wetlands at the national level is not functioning effectively, and the local wetland management committees of the Olomega and El Jocotal lagoons are in the process of establishment. In this context, the Government of El Salvador has requested the Government of Japan to implement a technical cooperation project to promote the conservation and wise use of the wetlands.

JICA signed and exchanged the Record of Discussions in November 2015 for the Project for the Integral Management of the Wetlands in the lagoons of Olomega and El Jocotal.

Overall goal: The model approach developed based on experience sat Olomega and El Jocotal Lagoons is actually applied in practice in El Salvador.

Purpose of the project:

An institutional framework to ensure integrated management of Olomega and El Jocotal Lagoons is developed, as a model approach, to promote conservation and wise use of wetlands in El Salvador.

Expected results:

1. An institutionally cross-cutting wetland management mechanism with the Wetland Unit of MARN as the central coordination body is strengthened.
2. Wetland Management Plans including zoning with the local communities around Olomega and El Jocotal Lagoons are developed.
3. Pilot activities based on the characteristics of Olomega and El Jocotal Lagoons are implemented as partial implementation of the management plans.
4. Networking is enhanced with stakeholders concerning other wetlands in and outside of El Salvador through dissemination of knowledge and experience gained in the Project.

Project Design

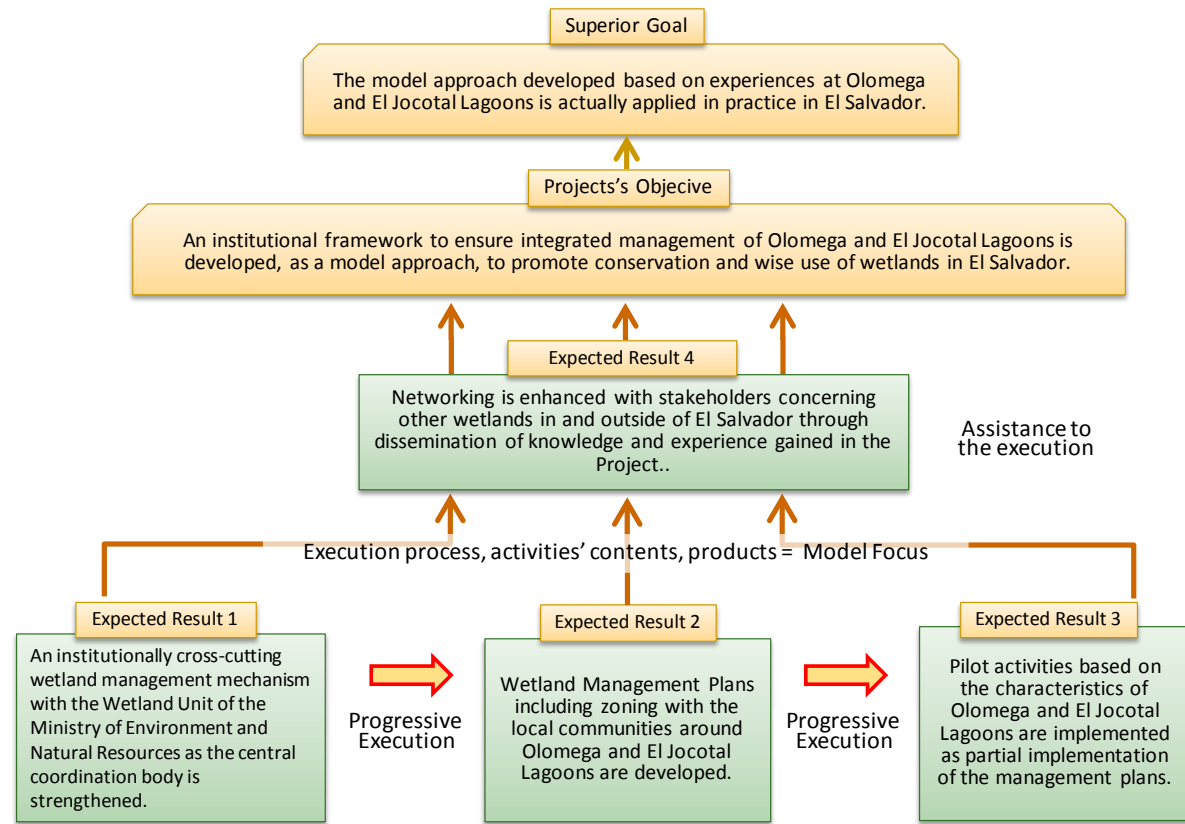
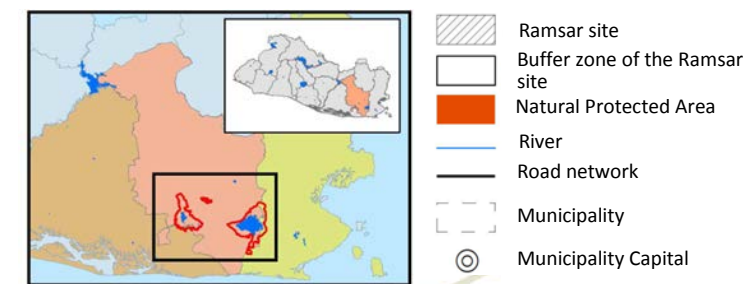
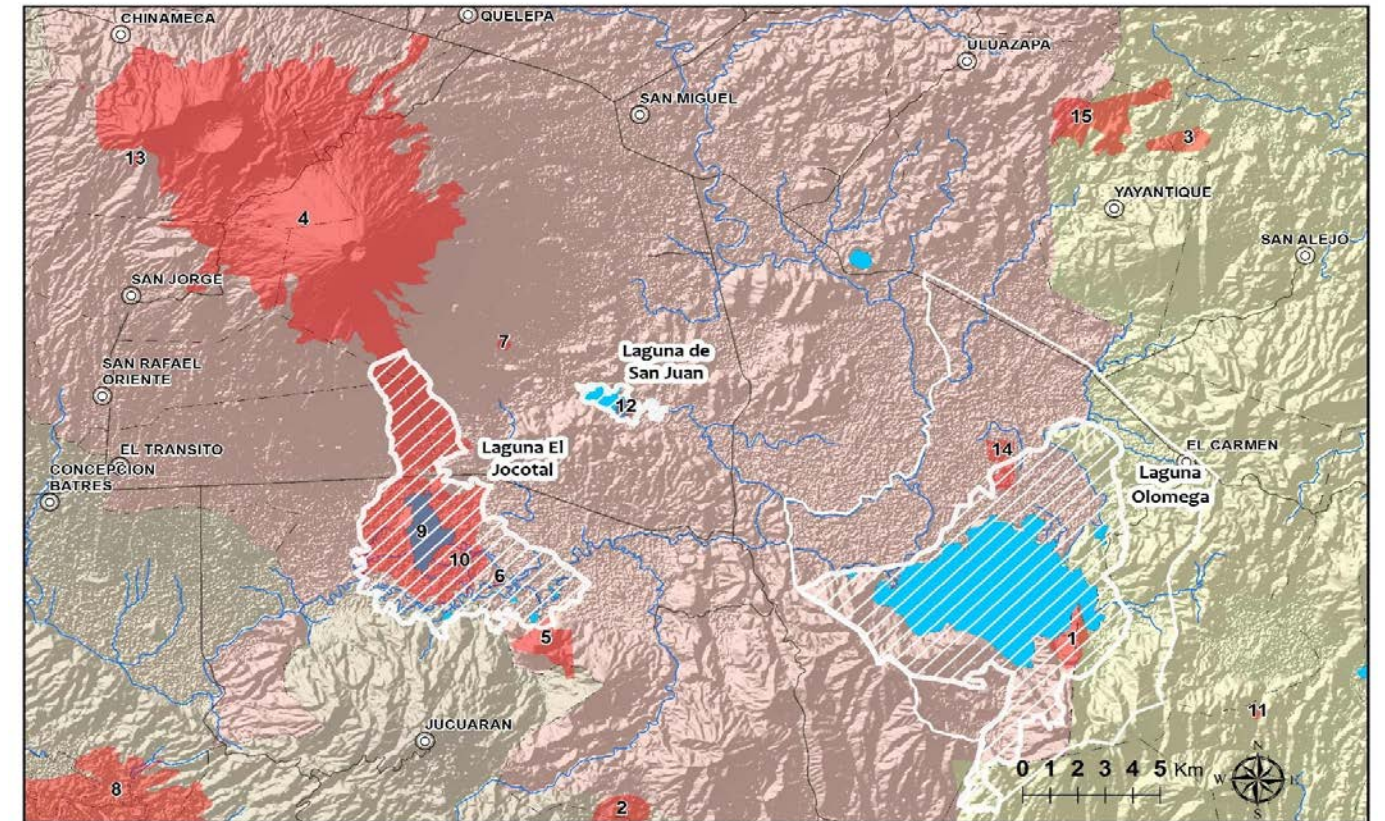


Figure: Relation between expected results, Project objective and main

The Project has four expected results. The Figure shows how these expected results contribute to the achievement of the Project objective. Local wetland committees will be created and strengthened through the expected result 1. The wetland management plans will be developed through the expected result 2 through a consultation process; In addition, the expected result 3 is to implement the actions outlined in the respective wetland management plan to select pilot actions in coordination with the wetlands committee. Therefore, the order of execution will be: expected results 1 → 2 → 3. Each of these activities will contribute to the achievement of the project objective. Finally, the expected result 4 constitutes lateral and inter-institutional assistance for the effective execution of the expected results 1 to 3. It is proposed to achieve the project objective before it is completed, taking into account the relationship and the synergistic effect between each of these expected results, providing assistance to the actions stipulated in the Project Design Matrix (PDM) and transferring the technology required.

Target Project Areas



Natural Protected Area

No	Nombre	No	Nombre
1	Tierra Blanca	9	Laguna El Jocotal
2	Buena Esperanza	10	Casamota y La Pezota
3	El Socorro II	11	El Cipres
4	Volcan de San Miguel	12	San Juan Mercedes Silva
5	Chilanguera	13	La Ortega
6	El Paso Las Iguanas	14	San Antonio Silva
7	San Antonio La Pupusa	15	El Socorro
8	Manglar Bahía de Jiquilisco		