Belize is ranked as one of the most vulnerable and disaster-prone countries in the world. Climate change and increasingly extreme weather events threaten rural livelihoods, especially in low-lying, coastal regions. The rapid expansion of chemical-dependent sugarcane exacerbates these trends and accelerates rates of deforestation. Belize’s dominant agricultural industry is an imminent threat to biodiversity and climate resilience.

The Scaling Positive Agriculture (SPA) project forges strategic alliances to promote biodiverse agroforestry systems and improve pest and risk management across northern Belize. This work will foster economic growth in rural areas and increase Belize’s climate resilience.

The innovative SPA project leverages Sustainable Harvest International’s (SHI) 25 years of direct technical assistance and is part of SHI’s ambitious Million Farm Transformation.

PROJECT FACTS:

- Belize, Cayo, Corozal, and Orange Walk districts of northern Belize
- 600 smallholder farmers + families
- 1200 indirect beneficiaries
- Key alliances with MAFSE, PCB, SIRDI, among others

GOAL: Increase the climate + economic resilience of 600 smallholder farmers and their families through the adoption of sustainable farming practices and agroforestry systems that increase crop productivity and biodiversity.

PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- Increase the capacity of farming families to adopt biodiverse agroforestry systems and sustainable farming practices
- Promote innovative, climate-smart technologies
- Strengthen collective alliances across northern Belize, including with government ministries, to improve pest management

TIMELINE:

2022  2023  2024

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