

Agua Tica

Investing in water conservancy

Agua Tica is the first public-private water fund in Costa Rica. It aims to contribute to the protection of rivers *Grande and Virilla* sub-watersheds, which belong to *Rio Grande de Tárcoles* basin. Part of the Greater Metropolitan Area (GAM) is immersed in these two sub-watersheds. This is a key area to the country, due to the great water stress, particularly on sources, and derived from population growth, a historical lack of land planning and from soil changes, among other reasons.

Considering a scenario of natural resources deterioration that threaten their renewability, and rainfall variations, taking actions to ensure the quantity and quality of our water resources becomes necessary.

What is a Water Fund?

A Water Funds is an innovative long-term conservation model, which works as follows:

1. By using scientific tools, conservation needs in a specific area are identified.
2. A group of investors and partners provide technical expertise and financial resources which are consolidated in a fund and managed through transparent financial mechanisms (in this case, a trustfund).
3. These resources are invested in conservation activities in the upper and middle basin areas, thus contributing to water security in the cities.

Conservation activities

Agua Tica will implement 8 strategic investment lines:



Reforestation



Soil regeneration



Slope control



Forest protection activities



Degraded land restoration



Good agricultural practices



Agroforestry systems



Environmental education



Location

Agua Tica will contribute to the protection of water resources in the sub-watersheds of rivers *Grande and Virilla*, which are part of *Rio Grande de Tárcoles'* watershed. This has a direct impact on the GAM, which represents only 3.83% of the national territory, but where 57% of the population and 75% of the industry are located.

3,83% of the national territory

57% of the population

75% of the industry

Seed capital:
\$ 200 000.00

Impact by Agua Tica

33
counties

23
micro-watersheds

163.861,78 ha
in the two sub-watersheds

1.173.820
direct beneficiaries
(59% of the population
in the 33 counties)

2.300.000
total beneficiaries
(including lower-basin
populations)

A multiplier alliance

The Fund is a public-private partnership, in which civil society, public institutions and private companies are involved. This structure enables more effective actions and transparent processes. Our partners are:



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Agua Tica is part of the Latin American Water Funds Partnership endorsed by The Nature Conservancy (TNC), the FEMSA Foundation, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).