



CEPAD 2022 Impact Report



Letter from the Director

Friends,

What a joy to greet you again after another year of serving. While you will see the many accomplishments from 2022, it was a difficult year due to tropical storm Bonnie and hurricane Julia. Many families suffered and lost all of the hard work they had put into their land.

Yet even with these challenges, we found great joy to celebrate CEPAD's 50th anniversary. As we look back on these many years of ministry, we can't help but be in awe of how the Lord has worked. We look forward to many more years of serving the rural Nicaraguan population together.

Thank you for joining us through your giving, prayers, and visits. It is an honor to serve with you.

Blessings,

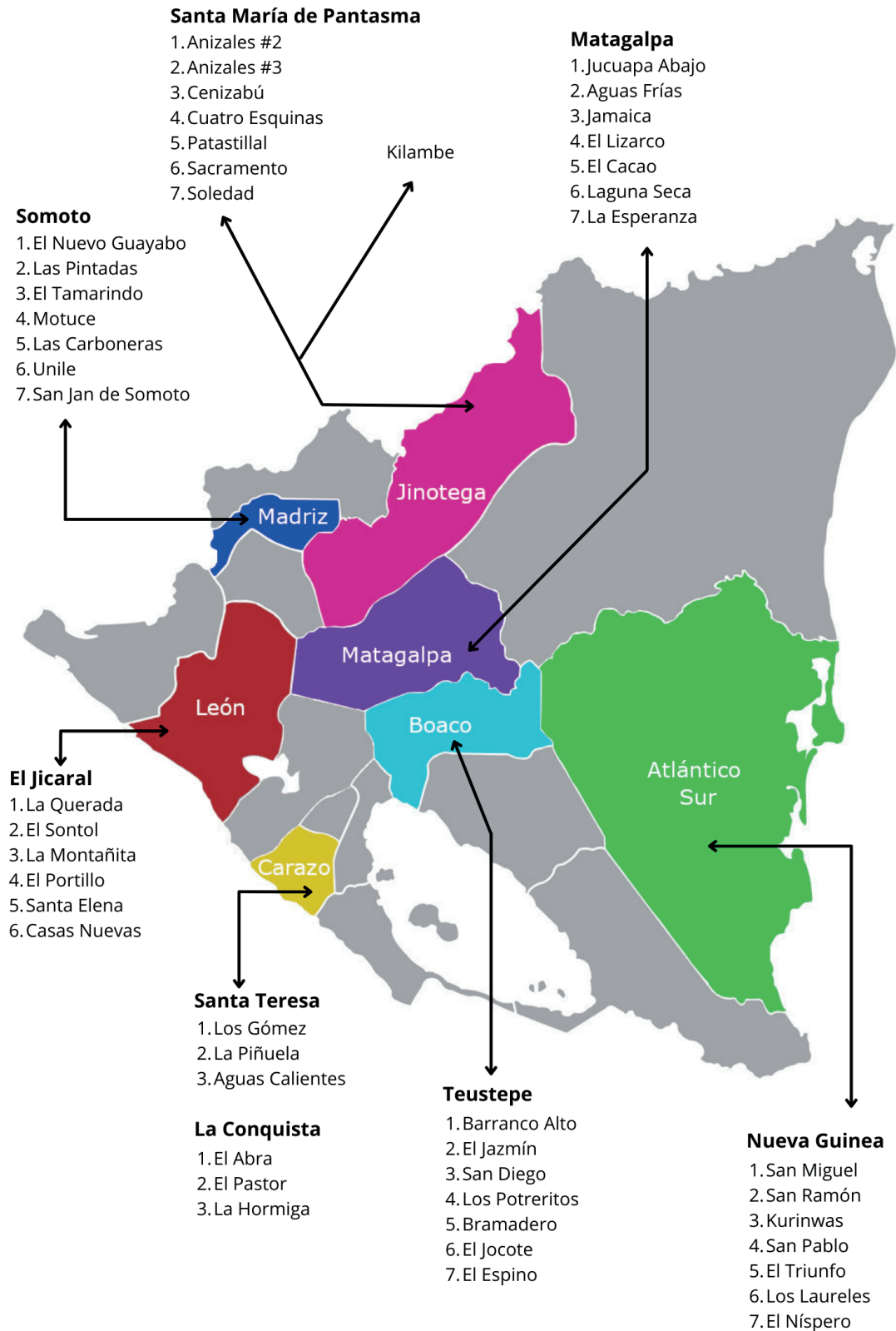


A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Emily Reyes'.



Emily Reyes
Executive Director of CEPAD

Where We Work





A farmer with his rows of sprouting crops.

Organic Agriculture

- 523 small farmers learned about making organic compost, pest management, and crop diversification. Not only does this ensure healthier crops, but it means that farmers are able to save around \$250 each year, because they don't have to purchase these items.
- 234 women in the family gardening program attended workshops in diet and nutrition, nutrition content of produce, and crop diversification. Growing new crops means they also have to learn different ways to prepare them for their families.
- 26,320 plants were sown with a variety of 29 crops over 629 acres. Planting crops, especially fruit trees not increases food security for rural families, but it also helps to decrease the carbon footprint and hydrate the earth.
- 188 water capturing systems were made using local resources, with an average of capturing 3,250 liters. The water captured is then stored to use during dry season so the crops are properly irrigated.
- 282 water filters were distributed across the country, resulting in improved family and community health.



Women's Economic Development

213 women learned about business administration, development from a Biblical perspective, and innovation using local resources. There are currently 212 new businesses formed in the areas of: bakeries, corner stores, selling second-hand clothes, butchers, and more.



Not only do these women have increased confidence in their new abilities and recognize their self-worth, but they are able to earn around \$60/month starting out. Some of their profits go towards supporting their family, while some go towards reinvesting in their business, growing each month, which in turn creates more income.



Top: a woman with her pan of bread, ready to sell.

Middle: Women receiving their seed funds of \$110 to start their small businesses.

Bottom: A woman with her two sons standing proudly next to the bread that will support her family.



Pastors and church leaders in a CEPAD workshop.

Pastoral Training

- 31 pastors learned about community involvement, local and church development, and the planning processes for community projects.
- In conjunction with CEPAD's refugee office, 104 pastors and church leaders in the border regions of Nicaragua attended workshops on techniques to use in crisis, tending to migrants within the congregation, and aiding immigrants.
- 10 pastoral committees were established with a total of 137 pastors.
- 47 church leaders learned how to lead study groups on the themes of creation stewardship and the history of the Protestant Reformation. The subsequent study groups were made up of a total of 445 students.
- 135 youth leaders learned about constructing family values, healthy relationships and codes of conduct, and working with youth.



Community Leadership

47 Community Development Committees (CDCs) made up of 240 leaders learned about organization and participation, community leadership, and basic tools for directing. 51 projects were started in water projects, well repairs, road repairs, and latrine systems. 12 of these projects were completed within the year while the others continue to be in process.



Top: a Community Development Committee (CDC) with CEPAD staff.

Left: an example of a new latrine that many CDC's advocate for.



Emergency Response

As previously mentioned, Nicaragua was hit hard by tropical storm Bonnie and Hurricane Julia. Through the many generous gifts received after these emergencies, CEPAD was able to provide the following:

- 170 leaders were trained in crisis intervention and basic counseling tools to help those struggling with the devastation caused by these disasters.
- 1,410 families received 3 hygiene packets throughout the year to continue to protect them from COVID-19.
- 200 seed packets were provided for family gardens to recuperate the crops that they had lost.
- 385 water filters were provided. The water filters are a long-term sustainable solution to a very serious problem.

Top Left: Intense flooding caused by Hurricane Julia.

Top Right: CEPAD staff providing hygiene kits and food packets.

Bottom: Families receiving their water filters from CEPAD.





Participants from our International Encounter.

Delegations

6 international groups came to Nicaragua to see CEPAD's work first-hand or to visit their partners.

The Department for International Relations and Communications (DRIC) continued to aid in communication between 13 partnerships. We planned the International Encounter for November and had 60 participants for that event. We have many more groups on the calendar for 2023. If you are wondering about a possible visit to Nicaragua, please email cepad.delegations@gmail.com and partners.cepad@gmail.com for more information.



Volunteers and Interns

Starting our Volunteer and Interns Program, we hosted one Nicaraguan intern and one North American volunteer. We have others scheduled for 2023. If you are interested in a volunteer or internship opportunity, please email voluntarios@cepad.org.ni for more information.

Volunteer Alayna learning how to make Nicaraguan food from the women in CEPAD's Family Gardening Program.