



# CONTRIBUTE TO SOLUTIONS...

## Support the strengthening of indigenous communities through improved food security, nutrition and sustainable economic development in BOSAWAS, Nicaragua

Known as the “Lungs of Central America”, the BOSAWAS Biosphere Reserve is the largest tract of tropical rainforest north of the Amazon basin. Severe poverty threatens this reserve as non-indigenous people encroach upon its borders, burning down the forest to grow their crops and raise cattle.

The reserve is an area of great importance for the planet. Its tropical rainforest is home to hundreds of species of birds, plants, animals and insects.

The health of the Miskito and Mayangna indigenous peoples in the region continues to be threatened by frequent disasters that pass through the area and destroy crops and stored food. For this reason, Change for Children is implementing the “Indigenous Capacity Building for Improved Food Security, Nutrition and Sustainable Economic Development Project” in the area. This project emphasizes infant and child nutrition, the cultivation and trade of horticulture crops, training in disaster adaptation and mitigation and capacity building for indigenous leaders in sustainable economic development.



Ecological health is also a key component of this project as it is crucial that the health of the indigenous population be assured in order to preserve this vital forest region. With the survival of the Miskito and Mayangna peoples, comes the survival of the forest in which they live: A forest ecosystem that plays an important role in sustaining our planet.

CFC’s partner in this project is the Nicaraguan NGO Centro Humboldt, a non-profit, civil society organization whose mission is to promote environmental protection through sustainable development. Centro Humboldt has been working on environmental preservation and sustainable development initiatives with Nicaraguan communities since 1990. Centro Humboldt will work directly with ADEPCIMISUJIN and MAKALANA, the indigenous associations that represent the Miskito and Mayangna communities in the Reserve. The mandate of these Associations is to elevate the quality of life in their communities, strive for the respect of their traditions, languages and cultural identity; strengthen the practice of individual and collective rights, and arrange for economic & technical assistance.



### Human Dignity, Healthy Communities, Global Justice

Change for Children is an Edmonton-based charitable organization with a 33 year history of supporting sustainable grassroots community development in Latin America and Africa. In Canada, CFCA provides an award-winning Global Education program that engages the public in a process of awareness raising, analysis and action on issues of global justice.