

**Strengthening Democracy, Promoting Prosperity:
A Partnership to Build Capacity
In Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua**

Corporations and Non-Government Organization Assistance

Each country prepared a national trade capacity building (TCB) strategy which defines needs and identifies priorities ([weblink..](#)). Based on these strategies, the assistance to address TCB priorities will be provided by many U.S. government agencies, five international institutions, corporations and non-governmental organizations. As these are summaries of the projects, please contact the donor agency, institution or organization directly for additional information. While not exhaustive, this summary covers initiatives of corporations and non-governmental organizations coordinated with our TCB efforts.

Initial programs¹ to address TCB needs identified by each country in their national TCB strategies include:

Strengthening Trade-Related Information Systems and Regulatory Practices

- The Humane Society of the United States can provide workshops and training in administrative procedures, such as the U.S. Administrative Procedures Act.

Involving Civil Society in the Trade Policy Process

- The Humane Society of the United States has committed to provide assistance to respond to the countries request for assistance in broadening outreach efforts to civil society.

Building Capacity in Environmental Issues

- The World Environment Center (WEC) seeks to expand their environmental activities which provide more and affordable financing of environmental investments generally, and pollution prevention and cleaner technologies specifically, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises to Central America. The WEC Capacity Building Program offers industry training courses and environmental management tools, designs pilot projects, develops Internet resources in Spanish.

Improving the Lives of Workers and Consumers

- Worldwide Responsible Apparel Production (WRAP) – a global factory certification program for best practices in the apparel and sewn products industries – will expand government, manufacturer and NGO participation in its factory compliance and labor inspection training activities during 2003.

Maximizing Opportunities: Small Business and Rural Development

- The Humane Society of the United States has committed to provide technical assistance in rural development, and training and information about the U.S. market-entry requirements.

¹ Programs are provided to all five countries, i.e., regional programs, unless otherwise indicated.

Expanding Educational Opportunities Through Technology

- Intel Corporation has committed to extend its Intel® Teach to the Future effort to help 2100 experienced teachers and pre-service teachers in Costa Rica in 2003 to integrate technology into their classroom instruction and enhance student learning.