



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



G20 GLOBAL
LAND INITIATIVE

Belize



(<https://www.ma>

3000km

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Overview

Background

Belize sits on the Yucatan Peninsula in Central America, bordered by Guatemala, Mexico, and the Caribbean Sea, and is considered a Small Island Developing State.

Belize has 1,060 islands located in its jurisdiction, with some inhabited. The country is fortunate enough to hold one of the largest barrier reefs in the western hemisphere which extends almost the entire coastline of the country and acts as a natural defense against storm surges and hurricanes. The country is relatively mountainous to the south and has undulating hills to the north. Composed of hard dense limestone from the Yucatan platform, Belize rises gently from the coastline to steep elevations of the Mayan mountains of eastern Guatemala. The country's main foreign exchange earner is the agricultural sector, which contributes 35% of the

national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) with 41% of employment provided through fisheries and forestry.

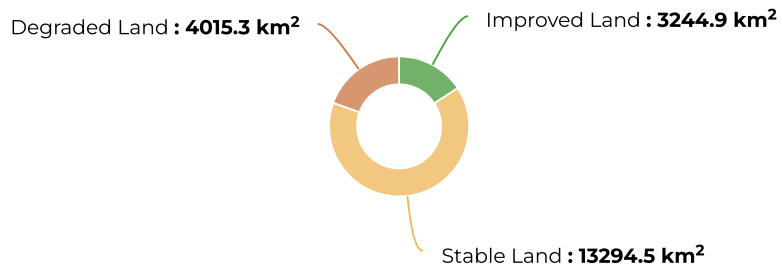
Belize has developed several important climate policy frameworks over the last decade, including: National Climate Resilience Investment Plan, Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy 2014-2017 and a National Climate Change Policy, Strategy and Action Plan (2015-2020). The Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries & Sustainable Development is responsible for natural resources preservation, protection and improvement of the environment and is the focal point for domestic and global climate action in Belize. Belize ratified the Paris Agreement on April 22, 2016, and the associated Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC).

Credits: [World Bank](#)

Summary Chart

Current State

Land degradation between 2001 and 2015 - SDG 15.3.1 (km²)

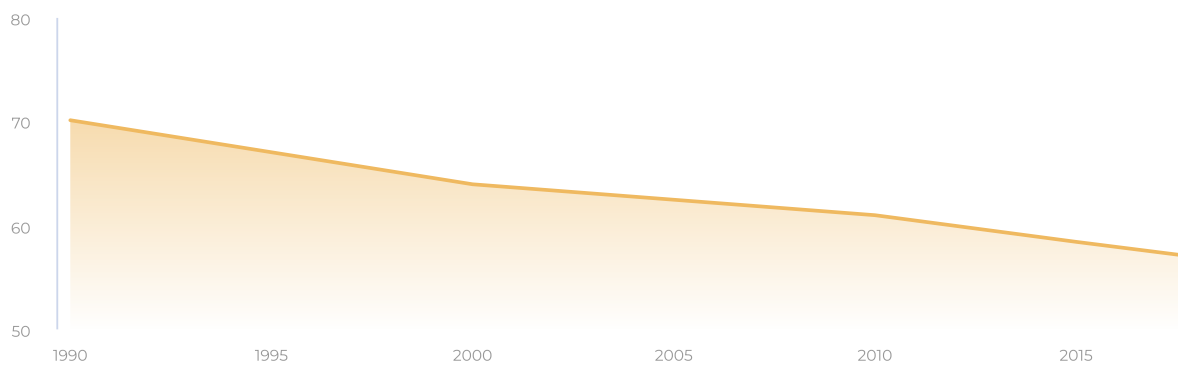


Credits: trends.earth

Forest area

56.0 % land

-8.2 % change over last 10 years

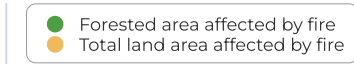


Credits: FAO



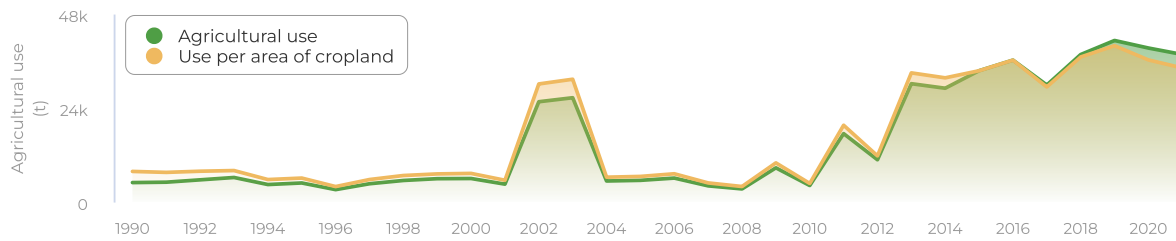
Stressors

Area affected by wildfires (kha)



Credits: FAO

Use of nutrients



Credits: FAO

Trends

Annual temperature anomalies against 1901-1920 (°C)



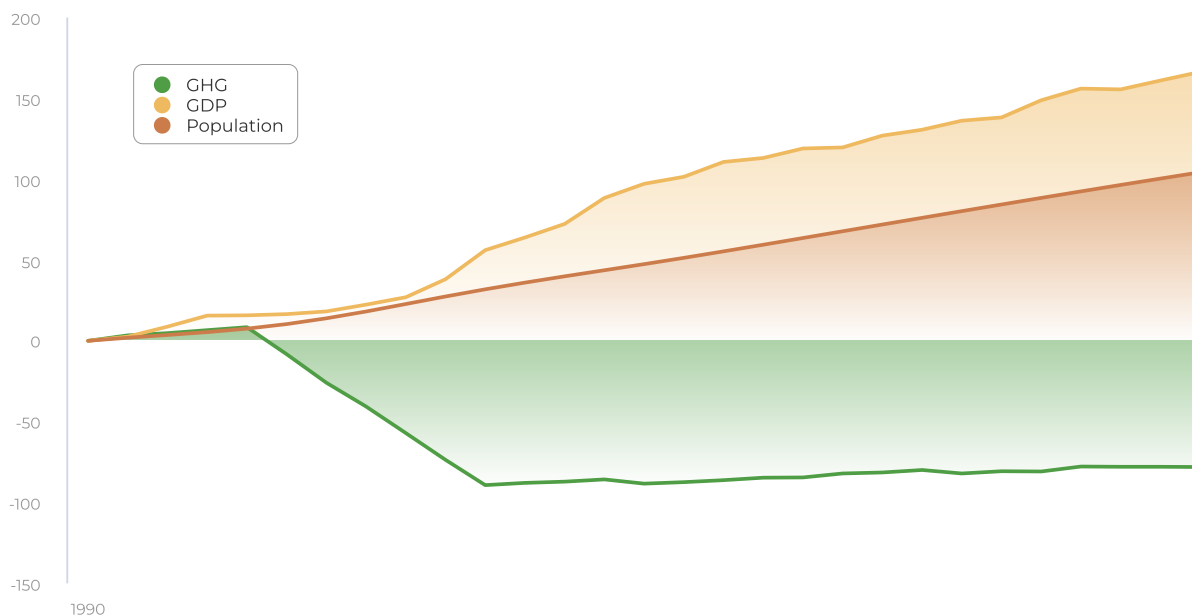
Credits: Climatic Research Unit (University of East Anglia) and Met Office

Annual precipitation anomalies against 1901-1920 (mm)



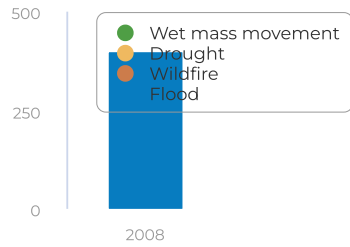
Credits: Climatic Research Unit (University of East Anglia) and Met Office

Population / Gross domestic product / Greenhouse Gases - change in % since 1990



↗ Impacts

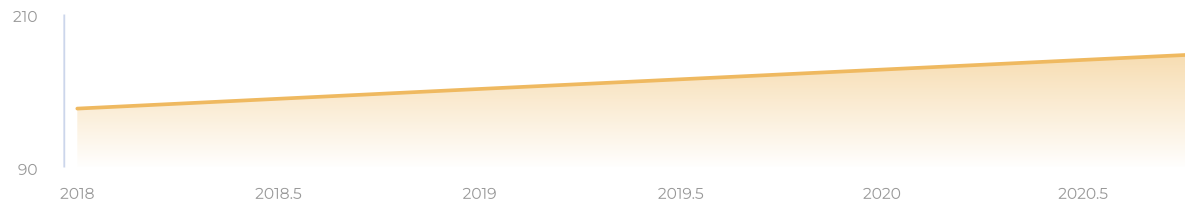
Human displacements caused by climatic hazards



Credits: Climatic Research Unit (University of East Anglia) and Met Office

Number of severely food insecure people - SDG 2.1.2

182.0 people



Credits: FAO

💡 Solutions

Proportion of terrestrial protected areas

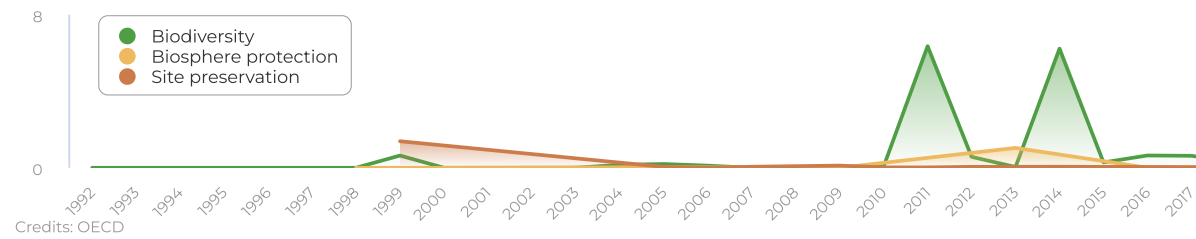
37.5 % of total land area

2024

Credits: UNEP-WCMC

Official Development Assistance flows

Biodiversity sector (million USD)



Commitments

**No data
available**

LDN

Land Degradation Neutrality

**No data
available**

NBSAP

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans under the Convention on Biological Diversity

**No data
available**

NDC

Nationally Determined Contributions embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

**No data
available**

Bonn Challenge

Bring 150 million hectares of degraded and deforested landscapes into restoration by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030

Treaties

Treaty	Signature	Ratification	Party status
Minamata Convention on Mercury		2023-06-12	Accession
Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean	2020-09-24	2023-03-07	Ratification
Paris Agreement	2016-04-22	2016-04-22	Ratification
Stockholm Convention	2002-05-14	2010-01-25	Ratification
Rotterdam Convention		2005-04-20	Accession
Cartagena Protocol		2004-02-12	Accession
Kyoto Protocol		2003-09-26	Accession
Cartagena Convention		1999-09-22	Ratification
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification		1998-07-23	Accession
Ramsar Convention	1998-08-22	1998-04-22	Ratification
Basel Convention		1997-05-23	Accession
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	1992-06-13	1994-10-31	Ratification
Convention on Biological Diversity	1992-06-13	1993-12-30	Ratification
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	1981-09-21	1986-08-19	Ratification

