



Partnerships for a Greater Social Impact

Developing Costa Rica's Potential

Amigos of Costa Rica - *in the US*
CRUSA Foundation - *in Costa Rica*

The CRUSA consortium is formed by the CRUSA Foundation and Amigos of Costa Rica.

The CRUSA Foundation is a private, independent, Costa Rica-based institution that contributes to the improvement of Costa Ricans quality of life by donating resources from the revenues of its Endowment Fund and also, by working to develop and promote large-scale initiatives, partnerships, and support networks.

Amigos of Costa Rica, Inc. is a US based, 501(c)(3), supporting organization of CRUSA, its programs and its partners

A New Concept: A Public-Private Cooperation Model.

The US Agency for International Development (USAID) played an invaluable role in Costa Rica's development. It provided \$1.7 billion to the country from 1946 to 1996 and funded over 1,000 diverse activities ranging from technical assistance to construct water systems to dramatic macroeconomic policy changes. This support helped fund and consolidate a group of institutions of broad social scope that furthered the country's political stability and economic growth.

In 1996, shortly after USAID closed its mission in Costa Rica, five Costa Ricans and five Americans designed, developed and implemented the Costa Rican-United States Foundation with an initial seed capital donation for an Endowment Fund from USAID and the agreement of both Governments.

CRUSA's Partnership Model

Key factors for successful partnering

- **A strong local presence and extensive grant-making experience:**

By working with well-renowned local partners, CRUSA has ensured a strong local presence and gained ample knowledge of the local operating environment. This includes understanding, and working with, obstacles and limitations that a newcomer may find daunting.

- **Portfolio of services for effective Partnership Facilitation and Promotion:**

Based on a comprehensive portfolio of services developed to facilitate collaboration among public and/or private organizations in the US and Costa Rica, CRUSA actively seeks to promote partnerships to leverage resources and increase social impact

- **Sustainable source of potential matching grants:**

The revenues resulting from the yearly investment of the endowment fund supports grant making and covers operation costs. A small percentage of the revenues are invested in maintaining and/or increasing the value of the endowment, thus making the organization sustainable through the years.

- **Transparent review, selection, administration and follow-up process:**

Over the years CRUSA has invested ample resources and time to insure that internal processes comply with international best practices. The security, efficiency and quality of our services is well known by our stakeholders and the general public and certified by the *Société General de Surveillance (SGS)*.

A Model with Real Impact

During its history, CRUSA has supported more than 500 projects in Costa Rica for a total of over US \$51 million. Over 200 organizations, from small community associations to large Government Agencies, NGOs and public universities, have benefitted from CRUSA's support.

Examples of the impact CRUSA has helped achieve:

- Training of over 1,5 million children on the appropriate use of innovative technologies
Omar Dengo Foundation (FOD)
- Development of a national action plan to use innovation on science & technology as a vehicle for Costa Rica's development
Strategy for the XXI Century with the collaboration of more than 250 researchers, decision makers and business people.
- Discovery of new species and the development of the first genetically engineered food made in Costa Rica
National Institute of Biodiversity (INBio) and the Centro de Investigación en Biología Celular y Molecular (CIBCM)
- Implementation of an international alliance that raised over US\$20 million for the Osa's Peninsula conservation. A biological hot spot in Costa Rica where more than 2% of the world's biodiversity resides.
Partnership with The Nature Conservancy, Conservation International and Costa Rica's National Park System
- Restoration of different ecosystems of biological importance, such as Palo Verde's unique wetlands area that supports breeding, passage, and migratory waterfowl for birds of more than 50 different species.
Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS)

Increase your impact and leverage your resources by partnering with CRUSA

The CRUSA Foundation's extensive local knowledge, grant management and program oversight experience in Costa Rica makes it the most convenient local partner for your social investment interests.

CRUSA's portfolio of technical and certified administrative services to donors, corporations, national and international investors/donors looking to have a measurable, positive impact on the country offers:

- **Access to Prestigious and Successful Implementing Organizations**
With detailed knowledge of organizational strengths and project implementation history, the CRUSA Foundation is in a unique position to confidently recommend which institutions are best prepared and capable of developing and implementing a project in any of its three areas of interest.

- **Technical project identification and oversight.**
In addition to funds management, the Foundation has internationally certified capabilities to provide appropriate technical oversight for the projects it administers. This service is ideal for partners wishing only to focus on strategic management while CRUSA performs and reports against detailed project milestones.

Different levels of oversight that can be provided, including but not limited to: presentation of a final report, monthly reporting, field visits, project audits, and technical assistance, among others. Depending on the level of complexity required by the financial partner, the Foundation will retain a previously defined and agreed upon percentage of the total project budget for these services.

- **Tax-deductibility for donations in both Costa Rica and the United States.**
Whether through the Costa Rican public interest charity (CRUSA Foundation), or through Amigos of Costa Rica (501c3), our affiliate office in the U.S., CRUSA is able to receive tax-deductible funds from individuals and businesses in both the U.S. and Costa Rica, providing our partners with the flexibility to choose what makes the most financial sense to their organizations.

- **Possibility of matching funds.**
In line with CRUSA's specific areas of interest, and depending upon availability of funds, the CRUSA Foundation can provide counterpart financing (matching funds / donation) to resources provided by financial partners, a win-win for both organizations by enabling our collective funds to multiply our impact while addressing individual organization resource constraints.

- **Management of third-party funds.**
CRUSA is capable of managing all administrative aspects of joint grants (i.e. payments, disbursements, reports, audits, bank accounts, professional fees, budget execution and supervision). Depending upon the complexity, size or particular characteristics of the project, the Foundation may retain a small percentage defined and agreed upon in advance with the financial partner.

How does my organization become a CRUSA's partner?

If your organization is interested in partnering with CRUSA to support or implement a project in Costa Rica, please feel free to contact our Director of Strategic Partnerships, in the CRUSA Programs Office at +(506) 2246-5656 or via email mcoffey@crusa.cr

Proven capacity of both great social investment and good financial management.

With an initial seed capital from USAID legacy funds of about US\$ 47,3 MM in 1997, CRUSA has donated over US\$49 MM to different projects in Costa Rica, while increasing its endowment to an amount of approximately US \$64 MM.

CRUSA also has...

Over 12 years experience as a grantmaker in Costa Rica

Through its certified, review and follow-up processes over 96% of supported projects completed main objectives,

An extensive network of both, governmental and prestigious non-governmental organizations



Based on an audit of best management practices applied by leading NGOs around the world, SGS certified that CRUSA's operational and administrative procedures comply with international standards of security, efficiency, and quality and awarded the institution an overall score of 93.3%.