Coordination:

Katty Fernández, Image and Communications Officer

Revision and advisory services:

Eduardo Ulibarri, Coordinator, Communications Committee
Hermann Faith, Executive Director
Ana María Vásquez, Programs Director

Design and Artwork:

Activa Publicidad S.A.

Printing:

Poliart

Photographs:

Osa Conservation Area: Roberto Ramos
Mauricio Eduardo Quintero, Dominio Digital S.A.
Cover photograph: Humedal Terraba Sierpe, Osa Conservation Area By Roberto Ramos

Copy editing:

Mauricio Meléndez

Translation:

Christina Feeny, Abrapalabra S.A.
Index

Our mission 2
Our vision 2
Message from the Administration 3
Towards a new challenge 4
Strategic alliances 6
SGS Certification 10
Amigos of Costa Rica 11
Important cooperation links 13
CRUSA 2.0 19
Projects and funds allocated 20
   Education 23
   Strategic Capacity 29
   Science and Technology 33
   Environment 37
About CRUSA 41
   Guidelines for Funding Applications 43
   Evaluation Criteria 44
   Organizational Structure 46
Financial statements 48
Our mission

To promote, encourage and develop the broadest possible cooperation between the peoples and Governments of Costa Rica and the United States of America, in all fields of human endeavor, through the exchange of knowledge, specialized assistance and technical support, for the execution and improvement of policies and programs that lead to sustainable development, and to the mutual and general benefit of both countries.

Our vision

To be an effective facilitator of cooperation mechanisms between the peoples and Governments of Costa Rica and the United States of America, within the context of sustainable development, in order to improve the quality of life of Costa Rican citizens.
Message from the Administration

The allocation of 47 million dollars - a sum practically equivalent to the original Endowment Fund - to more than 400 projects is the most tangible result of the Foundation’s contribution during these past ten years. However, the impact generated by these projects in improving the quality of life of thousands of Costa Ricans is the real incentive that motivates us to accomplish more ambitious goals.

These 47 million dollars were distributed among a total of 78 projects in the area of education, 74 in the area of science and technology, 67 in environmental initiatives and 85 in the area of strategic capacity.

However, this contribution to Costa Rican society would not have been possible without the support of more than 200 partner institutions that placed their trust in the CRUSA Foundation and gave it the opportunity to become a partner in their projects.

CRUSA’s operations have been characterized by three parameters: the implementation of the best practices adopted by NGOs, the application of the highest standards of ethics, transparency and equity, and the adaptation of its structure and its internal processes to provide more efficient services, in accordance with the guidelines established by the Administrative Board.

In this regard, the Société Générale de Surveillance (SGS), a prestigious Swiss organization internationally recognized as an auditor of NGO processes, assessed the Foundation’s work and awarded it a score of 93.3%, one of the highest percentages achieved in Latin America.

CRUSA has submitted voluntarily to this benchmarking exercise on two occasions, and in the most recent assessment obtained the maximum score in three of its processes: Strategic Framework, Operations and the area of Resources Allocation and Financial Controls.

As a way of publicly demonstrating its accountability to society, CRUSA organized an agenda of commemorative activities throughout 2007, which began with a breakfast attended by 200
The financial profits generated by CRUSA during its first decade of work have been substantial. As a result, the Foundation's current Endowment Fund has increased by 36.2% with respect to the original sum.

However, the current international financial situation and recent adjustments applied to our national economy have significantly affected CRUSA's yields from its investments.

Far from representing a threat to the Foundation, this new situation can be turned into a very valuable opportunity, one that will make us rethink our traditional system of operating, not only to maintain our positive impact on society, but also to expand it.

In this regard, our organization undertook an important strategic thinking exercise last May, receiving the inputs and contributions of its Founding Members, Directors and various distinguished collaborators of CRUSA.

The conclusion of this exercise showed that the best strategy for CRUSA to follow is to reappraise its way of interacting with the beneficiary institutions: rather than maintaining its profile as a donor, it should instead promote itself as a strategic partner, through the use of its capital to leverage new resources.

Under this new mode of operation, the Foundation must also develop the capacity for research and development in order to identify the needs and opportunities in its four areas of interest and facilitate the planning of joint proposals with other institutions.
This new model will be implemented in all aspects of our work starting in 2008. However, CRUSA has already begun to take the first steps under this new approach, and has obtained some positive results thus far, including the Cooperation Agreement with the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas de España- the Scientific Research Council of Spain (CSIS) and the role as administrator of the funds from the Debt for Nature Swap between Costa Rica and the United States.

The CRUSA-CSIC Cooperation Agreement was signed on July 17 and contemplates a joint fund of 200,000 euros that will be used to support five scientific research projects carried out jointly by Costa Rican and Spanish institutions.

The Debt for Nature Swap between Costa Rica and the United States is the outcome of an effort led by CRUSA in Washington D.C., at end of 2006, and by the Osa Campaign. This exercise involves the waiver of Costa Rica’s external debt with the US in exchange for a commitment by the Costa Rican Government to invest more than 26 million dollars in the conservation of the tropical forests, over a period of 17 years.

On September 6, after being invited to submit an application to manage these funds, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy notified CRUSA that it had been selected to administer the resources derived from the debt swap.

Based on these achievements, on our qualities, and on our open attitude to change and innovation, we are ready to move forward as an institution that is increasingly effective and committed to promoting sustainable development.

Sincerely,

Hermann L. Faith
Executive Director
Carnegie Mellon University (scholarships)

Last August, as part of a joint effort, Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) and CRUSA agreed to award full (100%) scholarships to four Costa Rican students accepted for the Masters Programs offered by the CMU-Portugal Program. The scholarships will cover all enrollment and tuition fees, together with board and lodging costs.

Carnegie Mellon University and the Government of Portugal created the Institute of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTI), based at CMU, with the aim of significantly expanding research and education in the area of information and communication technologies.

The CMU-Portugal Program will provide US$120,000 to cover the academic tuition fees of each Costa Rican student during the 18-month the Masters Program, while CRUSA will contribute US$25,000 to cover their board and lodging costs.

Scientific Research Council of Spain (CSIC)

During the second semester of the year, CRUSA opened a “window” to receive proposals in the context of the Cooperation Agreement signed with the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas de España- CSIC (Scientific Research Council of Spain). This agreement allocates a total of €200,000 to support joint projects in the area of science and technology. Details of this process are included further on in this report.
Administration of the Debt for Nature Swap funds

CRUSA was invited to submit an application to administer funds from the Debt for Nature Swap negotiated by the governments Costa Rica and the United States. On September 6, CRUSA's appointment as fund administrator was confirmed through official letter DM-1011-2007, after completing the required procedure.

In line with CRUSA’s new strategy for leveraging resources, the Foundation accepted the invitation. This process consisted of competing for the administration of these funds which total US$26 million dollars and will be disbursed over the next 17 years.

United States-Mexico Foundation for Science (FUMEC)

In May 2007, the Projects Director and Projects Officer of CRUSA visited the offices of the United States-Mexico Foundation for Science (FUMEC) with two main objectives in mind: 1) to learn details of the organization's operations with a possible view to implementing some of its processes under the “CRUSA 2.0” system and 2) to identify possible areas in which both institutions could develop cooperation links.

Two initiatives were identified that are of particular interest to the CRUSA Foundation, given their similarity with the projects supported previously, namely initiatives to “accelerate” the development of small and medium-sized businesses and a program to improve the teaching of science in primary and secondary schools.
Intel Foundation / Intel Components of Costa Rica (VMGP Program)

For the second consecutive year, the Intel Foundation approved a grant to support its “VMGP” volunteer work program (Intel Foundation Volunteer Matching Grant Program) in different schools around the country. The Agreement for this initiative was signed on January 26, 2006 and was expanded through an Addendum signed on May 17, 2007.

Under the Agreement, CRUSA is responsible for distributing the funds to the schools designated by Intel Components of Costa Rica. Subsequently, the corporation will present reports on the goals and results to CRUSA, which will then be included in a final report for the Intel Foundation.

Linden Trust for Conservation / Peace with Nature

In July, Mr. Roger Ullman of the Linden Trust for Conservation (LTC) and Mr. James Woody of the Redstone Strategy Group, an organization that advises foundations and NGOs on financial and environmental strategy issues, held a meeting with President Oscar Arias, with Dr. Pedro León of the Peace with Nature Initiative (PNI) and with other high-ranking government officials. As a result of these conversations, the LTC expressed its interest in supporting Peace with Nature with a donation of up to US$1 million, subject to certain preliminary conditions being met under its supervision and that of the Redstone Strategy Group.

On December 17, in its capacity as administrator, CRUSA signed a first agreement with the Linden Trust for Conservation for a total of US$300,000 to cover the professional fees of two consultants who will support the Project “Financing the System of Protected Areas”. This project aims to establish its own permanent fund.
Price Charities / PriceSmart (Learning and Growing Program)

Price Charities is a private, non-profit foundation, based in San Diego, California. The organization focuses mainly on community development and was founded by Mr. Sol Price who launched the PriceSmart Clubs operation in Central America in 1994.

The Programa Aprender & Crecer (Learning and Growing Program) was launched in 2006 as a pilot plan in six elementary schools in Costa Rica, serving a population of more than 2000 students. In response to these schools’ great need for essential materials and supplies required for class work, Aprender & Crecer donated a packet of basic school supplies to each student in the six schools. The program also provided school directors and teachers with a package of materials to use in their classrooms.

Given that the Price Charities Foundation is not legally registered in Costa Rica, the CRUSA Foundation was asked to support the initiative by agreeing to receive donations made by the companies that supply PriceSmart, so that these could be recognized in their tax declarations and subsequently be deposited in the account of the “Juntos por la Educación” (“Together for Education”) Campaign.
CRUSA certifies its processes a second time through the SGS / NGO benchmarking

The comparative evaluation exercise that was applied to our organization deserves special mention. After a rigorous audit that assessed 97 of the best management practices adopted by the world’s most prominent NGOs, the prestigious international organization Société Générale de Surveillance (SGS) certified that our operational and administrative procedures comply with the highest international standards of security, efficiency and quality.

This “NGO Benchmarking” process consisted of assessing different areas of CRUSA’s performance (namely: Board of Trustees, Strategic Framework, Integrity Management, Communication, Advocacy and Public Image, Human Resources, Fundraising, Resources Allocation, Outcomes, Financial Controls and Continuous Improvement) and comparing it against a series of reference criteria or international best practice standards for non-governmental organizations. Our organization achieved an overall compliance score of 93.3%, earning it the NGO Benchmarking Certificate valid for a period of eighteen months.
In 2007, Amigos of Costa Rica undertook a series of activities aimed at strengthening its fundraising capabilities and improving communication. In line with the vision of its Board of Directors, a good part of its efforts focused on supporting the Osa Campaign, an initiative of the CRUSA Foundation.

In the context of Amigos’ strategy, efforts were made to explore the potential of numerous individual donors. In order to maintain contact with and secure donations from past contributors, the Amigos team used various mechanisms such as sending out quarterly newsletters and personalized Thanksgiving cards in addition to mailing out membership incentive gifts. The newsletters were also sent to Amigos Board members along with a letter updating them on the organization’s progress.

The Amigos staff also sought out ways to attract new members and donors. After some research into the industry’s best service at the Foundation Center, Amigos signed up for a subscription to a donor search engine, Nozasearch. This application was used to generate a data sheet of over 100 contributors to environmental causes living in the Washington D.C. area. The work with the Foundation Center produced an extensive list of Costa Rican citizens living in the U.S.

Among other techniques employed in the search for Osa funding, Board Member Brenda Wright contacted the actor Woody Harrelson, with the aim of identifying a public figure who would be committed to working towards Amigos’ goals and generate support for the organization. Similar contacts were made with actress Cameron Diaz who had visited the Osa Peninsula. Amigos also worked to cultivate relationships with high-profile donors and supporters such as tropical wetlands biologist Gus Stacey in the hope that they might contribute to future events.
In addition, during 2007, Amigos of Costa Rica followed up on foundation and corporation leads from CRUSA that resulted in Amigos’ highest earnings to date. Perhaps the most valuable experience in this line was working to secure a contribution of $40,000 from the Evergreen Foundation for the Peace with Nature Initiative.

Amigos also facilitated an important donation from the Frey Foundation and served as a liaison between the donor and CRUSA. In addition, Amigos handled a donation from Intel Corporation and helped to assure INBio a timely purchase of equipment. These donations were worth $5,000 and $7,500, respectively, and were invaluable in increasing organizational capacity.

With the coming of 2008 and the end of its official commitment to the Osa Campaign, Amigos of Costa Rica is working to broaden its focus. The virtual office that had been located at 1776 I Street in Washington, DC, was shut down, and the Costa Rican Embassy is now the Amigos organization’s official home.
In 2007, the Foundation made a major effort to identify and finance project proposals that would serve to promote the country’s development and would also forge closer cooperation links, not only with the United States, but also for the first time with other countries. Accordingly, 41 of the 55 proposals approved included an international cooperation component.

Under the joint window for the reception of proposals opened as part of the CRUSA / CSIC Agreement, a total of 25 initiatives were received. Of these, five projects were approved in which Costa Rican research centers will collaborate with the following research centers in Spain:

- Institute of Biomedicine of Valencia
- La Mayora Experimental Station
- National Biotechnology Center of Spain
- Institute of Catalysis and Petrochemistry
- Institute of Cellular and Molecular Biology of Cancer, Salamanca

In addition, this year a total of 31 institutions from the United States collaborated with projects approved by CR-USA, either by providing matching funds or by offering technical training.
Below is a list of institutions in the US with which cooperation links have been promoted:

- Amigos de las Américas
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Conservation International
- Education Development Center
- Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, Colorado
- Emory University
- Fulbright
- Guanacaste Ventures
- Harvard University, Massachusetts
- Intel Corporation
- Illinois State University
- Institute of Molecular Evolutionary Genetics, Pennsylvania
- Junior Achievement
- Kansas University
- Linden Trust for Conservation
- Louisiana State University, Louisiana
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- Michigan State University, Michigan
- Microsoft Corporation
- Missouri Botanical Garden
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
- Opportunity Access Inc.
- Peace Corps
- The Nature Conservancy
- University of California, California
- University of California, Irvine
- University of Illinois, Chicago
- University of South Hampton
- University of Texas, Austin
- University of Washington, Seattle
The activities planned to commemorate CRUSA’s Tenth Anniversary were initially submitted to the consideration of the Administrative Board, at Meeting No. 5-2006 of August 17, 2006, and were subsequently ratified by the Assembly of Founding Members at a Special Meeting held on September 21, 2006 in the city of Washington DC.

To support this effort, the Foundation contracted the professional services of the firm Batista Comunicaciones S.A. for nine months (from October 2006 to June 2007), with three months of planning and six of implementation. During this period, a series of activities were programmed and carried out, with a work schedule, budget and tactics directed at three specific areas: Publications, Communications and Activities.

**Commemorative logo**

As part of the CRUSA’s institutional “re-engineering”, it was considered important to create a new image that would comprehensively reflect the Foundation’s personality, reinforcing its character as an institution based on cooperation and equity.

The limited edition commemorative logo celebrating CRUSA’s 10 years of service provided a more dynamic and modern design, while maintaining the organization’s serious and professional nature.

**Stationery**

A limited edition of institutional stationery was produced, including letter paper, envelopes and folders bearing CRUSA’s Tenth Anniversary logo. The idea was to create a presence, promote public awareness of the institution’s achievements and at the same time begin to introduce its new image.
Web Site

Nowadays the Internet plays an essential role in communications and it was therefore important that the web site reflect the organization's new image. This implied a total overhaul of the web site, trying to make it more dynamic and user-friendly.

Desk calendar 2007

The calendar was the first official material designed to commemorate CRUSA’s Tenth Anniversary. At the end of 2006, CRUSA produced a desk calendar to celebrate 10 years of working to promote cooperative efforts between our people and various institutions, and supporting initiatives that make significant contributions to the development of Costa Rican society.

Commemorative Report of the Tenth Anniversary 1996-2006

This Report was regarded as the “spearhead” of the Foundation's Tenth Anniversary celebrations, and was the medium par excellence for showing its accountability to society, demystifying CRUSA and presenting testimonies that corroborate its administrative and financial success.

An essential part of this document was the historic account prepared by Dr. Rodrigo Quesada, a distinguished Costa Rican historian, who was awarded the 1998 National History Prize by the National Academy of Geography and History. His account was complemented with photographic material of the highest quality showing CRUSA’s most representative projects, and the testimonies of coordinators and beneficiaries.
Institutional video

An institutional video was produced by the firm Dominio Digital, which has ample experience in this field as well as highly distinguished credentials, having carried out productions for “National Geographic” and “Discovery Channel”. The video provided a dynamic and pleasing complement to the written material prepared.

The video served as an effective tool in helping to convey CRUSA’s message, its origins and guiding principles, as well as some of its most representative projects, current issues and trends. It was the ideal medium to help CRUSA to “connect” with its target audience and show the impact of the initiatives it supports in a very real and human way.

Tenth Anniversary commemorative breakfast

The CRUSA Foundation’s Tenth Anniversary commemorative breakfast took place on Thursday March 22, and was attended by approximately 200 people, including beneficiaries, high-ranking public officials, representatives of the private sector, academic institutions and civil society groups. The breakfast was followed by a presentation describing CRUSA’s work during the last decade, complemented with the institutional video produced for this purpose.

Numerous distinguished guests were present, including Costa Rica’s First Vice-President, Mrs. Laura Chinchilla, and Mr. Mark Langdale, the Ambassador of the United States of America, both of whom received a digital copy of the commemorative Tenth Anniversary Report 1996-2006, as a symbolic gesture of accountability. The event generated very positive comments and expressions of congratulation.
Lecture series

The CRUSA Foundation organized a series of ten lectures of general interest to fully integrate its beneficiaries into the commemorative activities. The response to the invitation to these lectures, on the part of the proponents and the participants alike, was outstanding.

To assure the quality of the lectures, each topic first underwent a pre-selection process, in order to evaluate its level of current interest and relevance.

To support the organization of each lecture, the firm Batista Comunicaciones S.A. also prepared electronic invitations and press releases, which resulted in a total attendance of approximately 542 people.

Media coverage

The Tenth Anniversary celebrations received ample media coverage, including a Supplement in the university weekly newspaper Semanario Universidad, articles in La Nación, El Financiero and the AmCham Business Magazine, three press releases and one column. There were also specific references to projects in Capitalfinanciero.com, Radio Columbia, Radio Nacional and Telenoticias.
Taking advantage of the occasion of its Tenth Anniversary, and after an intensive Strategic Thinking exercise aimed at achieving continuous improvement and enhancing its effectiveness, CRUSA is projecting itself towards the future on the solid foundations of its experience and achievements of this first decade of work.

The Foundation intends to adopt a new approach to investment, known as “CRUSA 2.0”, based on leveraging resources, as well as on creating and developing strategic partnerships. However, under this new system, CRUSA will not relinquish its traditional role of providing non-reimbursable funding for Project proposals, but will do so in a more strategic way, focusing on small initiatives that have greater potential to be executed on a larger scale or that can be replicated, and that are undertaken in the context of larger coordinated efforts.

With this new approach, CRUSA will use its own resources to leverage and channel the resources of third parties, always with the aim of supporting projects that make significant contributions to Costa Rica’s development.
In 2007 CRUSA reached the highest number of proposals approved in its history: there were 55 proposals approved for a total of $ 3,428,240.63.
Development through cooperation

Project financing - CR-USA’s main activity - has enabled the Foundation to promote the country’s development in the areas of Education, Environment, Science and Technology and Strategic Capacity, through projects that contain components of cooperation between Costa Rica and the United States.

Accordingly, of the 55 projects approved by the Administrative Board in 2007, 41 served to promote the country’s development through relations of cooperation between Costa Rica and other countries, while only a minority (14 projects) did not have a direct connection with the US or other nations, but were nevertheless approved because of their high impact in strategic areas for our country.

Some of the most important cooperation links are listed in a section at the end of this Report.

Reception, evaluation and selection of proposals

### Status of Proposals Received During 2007
(Up to December 31st, 2007) | Number of proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modality</th>
<th>Approved</th>
<th>Rejected</th>
<th>Under Consideration</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>% Approved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joint Window CRUSA/CSIC</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Grants</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>90,6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Projects</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>78,6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>78,6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 2007, CRUSA received a total of 84 proposals in its different areas of interest. This represents an increase of 15 initiatives with respect to the previous year, and is the result of the opening of a joint window for the reception of proposals in conjunction with the Scientific Research Council (CSIC) of Spain, during the year 2007.

It is important to note that the number of proposals approved (55) is the largest in the Foundation’s history.

Areas of interest

Below is a summary of the amounts approved in each of the Foundation’s areas of interest during 2007.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Amount in dollars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>$495,679.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Capacity</td>
<td>$759,934.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science and technology</td>
<td>$599,950.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>$1,322,675.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-area</td>
<td>$250,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 3,428,240.63</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nota: The amounts of the budget allocations presented in the Financial Report are included in the corresponding areas of interest.
Education

“In 2007, education obtained the highest percentage of the resources CRUSA had assigned for projects. They received 39% of the resources. Education received $1.322.675,3.”
Mission

"Support the improvement of the Costa Rican education system."

During 2007, CRUSA did not open a Window for the Reception of Projects in the area of Education, but instead approved a number of initiatives based on the results of projects implemented in previous years, along with strategic partnerships and specific requests submitted by the Executive Branch of the Government of Costa Rica.

One of CRUSA’s greatest investments during this period was the funding provided to the Omar Dengo Foundation to establish Red Innov@, a network that promotes Education, Innovation and Enterprise. The Network will benefit more than 440,000 children and young people from different primary and secondary schools around the country.

CRUSA also approved funding for the National Institute of Biodiversity (INBio) in order to give continuity to a process begun in 2005, with its support, aimed at encouraging the use of science and technology to bring innovation into the classroom, and use the environment (protected wildlife areas) to generate experiences and projects that promote learning among primary and secondary students. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Public Education (MEP) received funding to implement a national technological platform for teaching-learning the English language at all levels of the education system, from pre-school to university level.

During this year, the MEP also received funding to conduct an assessment of the linguistic skills of more than 3,000 English language teachers currently working in pre-school, primary and secondary schools throughout the country.

Regarding the Foundation’s postgraduate scholarship programs, in 2007, CRUSA continued to support the Fulbright program with a postgraduate scholarship and also established a program with Carnegie Mellon University that will enable five Costa Ricans to study in this prestigious institution.

Finally, CRUSA provided support to six Peace Corps volunteers to implement projects that promote community cohesion in various “social risk” areas of Costa Rica.
Small community-based factory of nutritious tortillas made by women

$1,718,025.00  |  $3,325.06  |  Duration: 6 months

Executor: Asociación de Damas Unidas de San Miguel de Agua Buena, Coto Brus  | Women’s Association of San Miguel de Agua Buena, Coto Brus (Peace Corps)

Administrator: Asociación de Damas Unidas de San Miguel de Agua Buena, Coto Brus

Description: The project aims to establish a small tortilla factory in this community in order to generate employment for the members of this women’s association and income for future community projects.

Realizing dreams: providing healthy recreation opportunities for the children of the community of Los Geranios

$1,395,760.00  |  $2,699.79  |  Duration: 6 months

Executor: El Guácimo Community Development Association (Peace Corps)

Administrator: El Guácimo Community Development Association

Description: The aim of the project was to provide a recreation facility (play area) for the children and young people of the community of Los Geranios.

Implementation of the plan for the expansion and modernization of the facilities of the Casa de la Juventud

$5,150,000.00  |  $9,963.63  |  Duration: 10 months

Executor: Asociación Juvenil Casa de la Juventud (AJCJ)/ Casa de la Juventud Youth Association

Administrator: Casa de la Juventud Youth Association (AJCJ)

Description: With support from the CRUSA Foundation, the Asociación Casa de la Juventud executed a project that tries to bridge the gap between young people who have the socio-economic conditions to achieve their goals, and those who do not. During its 2 years of activity, the project has increased the number of students graduating in higher education and mature students obtaining school leaving certificates. It has also provided computer training to more than 350 children and adolescents and more than 500 young people have participated in workshops and informal education courses.

This project hopes to give continuity to this initiative and ensure its sustainability by supporting a human team that will promote the sale of services and the implementation of agreements and strategic partnerships with different institutions.

Rural Community Tourism as an opportunity for the development of Caño Negro

$1,400,440.00  |  $2,708.52  |  Duration: 3 months

Executor: Caño Negro Development Association (Peace Corps)

Administrator: Caño Negro Development Association

Description: The main purpose of the project is to establish a tourist information center in Caño Negro to improve opportunities for all the organized groups and tourism companies of Caño Negro and help them benefit from tourism.

“The rain and the sun won’t let us play”: Improving the recreational area at Los Chiles Children’s Center

$1,800,000.00  |  $3,483.71  |  Duration: 1 month

Executor: Los Chiles Children’s Center Association (Peace Corps)

Administrator: Los Chiles Children’s Center Association

Description: This project tried to contribute to the development of the children cared for at Los Chiles Children’s Center, through the improvement of the center’s physical and recreational facilities.

For the integral and technological development of the young people and adults of San Rafael de Llano Bonito de León Cortés

$1,099,560.00  |  $2,129.20  |  Duration: 12 months

Executor: Escuela San Rafael Abajo de León Cortés (Peace Corps)

Administrator: Escuela San Rafael Abajo de León Cortés

Description: The project aims to improve the technology of the Escuela San Rafael Abajo to create optimum conditions for the integral development of the student community.

Liceo de Costa Rica as an experimental school

$8,104,000.00  |  $15,686.00  |  Duration: 12 months

Executor: Liceo de Costa Rica Foundation

Administrator: Liceo de Costa Rica Foundation

Description: The project will provide reimbursable funding to the Liceo de Costa Rica for the implementation of the International Baccalaureate Program in that school.
Improving fundraising capacity to give sustainability to educational improvement projects.

€5.167.000,00 | $10.000,00 | Duration: 6 months

Executor: Fundación Acción Joven (FAJ)
Administrator: Fundación Acción Joven (FAJ)
Description: In order to graduate, university students are required to work a minimum of 150 hours in a mandatory community service program known as Trabajo Comunal Universitario (TCU). To improve this program, the Fundación Acción Joven (FAJ) (Youth Action Foundation) requested funding from CRUSA to enable university students to invest their time and contribute their knowledge to different projects aimed at supporting the secondary institutions of Public Education.

The project involved a fundraising operation to ensure the organization's sustainability.

Ninth Flower Festival of the African Diaspora

€5.166.100,00 | $10.000,00 | Duración: Duration: 6 months

Executor: Art and Culture for Development Foundation (FACD)
Administrator: Art and Culture for Development Foundation (FACD)
Description: In an effort to conserve the country’s Afro-Caribbean culture and educate the Costa Rican public, the Art and Culture for Development Foundation requested financial support from CRUSA to organize the Ninth Flower Festival of the African Diaspora. Funding was requested specifically to cover part of the costs of organizing the event.

The project involved a fundraising operation to ensure the organization's sustainability.

"The Magic Flute" Opera by W. A. Mozart

€5.166.900,00 | $10.000,00 | Duración: 4 months

Executor: Fundación Ayúdenos Para Ayudar (FAPA)
Administrator: Fundación Ayúdenos Para Ayudar (FAPA)
Description: The project tried to bring together performance art and digital technology to create a new way of presenting opera. With this intention, the University of Texas, the Butler Opera Center of the United States and the National Auditorium of Costa Rica, will use cutting-edge technologies in digital sound amplification, lighting, video and editing to re-imagine and stage a modern version of the “The Magic Flute” opera by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The idea is to make this work more accessible to children, young people and adults by using a more familiar language and setting.

To make this possible, FAPA requested funding from CRUSA to stage the performances programmed in its tour of Costa Rica, specifically in relation to the musical execution of the opera.

Creation of two Community Credit Unions in rural areas of Costa Rica

€1.099.560,00 | $2.129,20 | Duración: 3 months

Executor: Fundación Integral Campesina (FINCA)
Administrator: Fundación Integral Campesina (FINCA)
Description: The main purpose of this project is to increase training, access to credit, community cohesion, business management and organizational capacity in two communities: Isla de Chira and San Pablo de León Cortés.

To accomplish this, the Community Credit Unions (ECC) system developed by FINCA will be used to create community microcredit enterprises. Using this methodology, 22 practical workshops will be imparted to a group of at least 12 people in each community. FINCA will be in charge of providing training and advice, but the decisions, regulations and the management of the ECC will be the responsibility of their owners. This approach ensures that the members of each community have a greater interest in the success and self-sufficiency of their credit unions.

After the three-month project, the two ECC’s will join a network of companies throughout the Central American region with a view to receiving additional training, accompaniment, exchanges and financial support.

To implement the initiative, FINCA requested financial support from CRUSA to cover the training costs in these two communities for the establishment of two community credit unions.

Establishing the International Baccalaureate in the Liceo de Costa Rica

€5.168.800,00 | $10.000,00 | Duración: Duration: 6 months

Executor: Fundación Liceo de Costa Rica
Administrator: Fundación Liceo de Costa Rica
Description: The Ministry of Public Education selected the Liceo de Costa Rica to implement a series of curricular, methodological and evaluative innovations with the aim of improving the competencies of its students and increasing their interest in education.

To this end, programs for the optional subjects were prepared and validated for the third cycle of education and new programs were prepared for the fourth cycle (diversified education) with two possible emphases: a scientific-technological program that would allow students to opt for the Baccalaureate in Sciences and another program focusing on humanities that would culminate with the Baccalaureate in Humanities. To complement this effort, and based on this set of reforms, the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program would be implemented, promoted by Central American Coordinator for Education and Culture.

Specifically, CRUSA covered the costs of training the Director of the Liceo and the Coordinator of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program IBO, in order to implement the program.
**Lecture on Innovation in Education: “Education and Development in the Information Society”**

€5,167,200,00 | $10,000,00 | Duration: 1 month

**Executor:** Omar Dengo Foundation (FOD)  
**Administrator:** Omar Dengo Foundation (FOD)

**Description:** To celebrate its twentieth anniversary, the FOD invited selected Dr. Manuel Castells, a Spanish professor and academic, to be the main speaker at the lecture on Innovation in Education. Dr. Castells attended an internal meeting with the staff of the FOD, CRUSA and other institutions, as well as another broader meeting with a distinguished group of academics, business people, representatives of NGOs and government officials.

The lecture on Innovation in Education was entitled: “The role of creativity and innovation in the era of knowledge”, and took place on Thursday November 15, in the Jean Piaget Auditorium of the Innov® Institute. Specifically, FOD requested CRUSA's support to partially cover the costs of publicizing the event so that more educators and non-governmental organizations would be informed of it and also to cover the travel and accommodation expenses of the international speakers.

**Red Innov® - Education, Innovation and Enterprise**

€274,212,643,00 | $530,238,12 | Duration: 24 months

**Executor:** Omar Dengo Foundation (FOD)  
**Administrator:** Omar Dengo Foundation (FOD)

**Description:** In recent years the Omar Dengo Foundation has focused its efforts on two major areas of work:

1) The National Computer Education Program MEP-FOD (PRONIE MEP-FOD), implemented in coordination with the Ministry of Education to provide computer training to children and young people in primary and secondary schools.

2) The Innov® Institute: a group of innovation, research and development centers, articulated as a platform for production, interaction and cooperation, between students, teachers, education authorities, leaders, businesspeople, academics, researchers and experts in different fields, who participate in training activities, exchange of knowledge and generation of initiatives for the country's socioeconomic development.

Specifically, the FOD proposal requested partial funding from CRUSA to cover the components of the hardware platform architecture which, together with the software platform, would activate the research, development and innovation processes of Red Innov®.

**Scholars in Residence (2007)**

€12,915,000,00 | $25,000,00 | Duration: 6 months

**Executor:** Embassy of the United States of America  
**Administrator:** CRUSA Foundation

**Description:** The main objective of this project is to finance the stay of Dr. Thomas Langen at a higher education institution in Costa Rica. The Fulbright program also finances the stay of three other US professors at Costa Rican universities.

**Beca Fulbright CRUSA 2007**

€25,830,000,00 | $50,000,00 | Duration: Veinticuatro meses

**Executor:** Embajada de los Estados Unidos de América.  
**Administrator:** Fundación CRUSA.

**Descripción:** Este proyecto financia la Beca Fulbright CRUSA 2007 (beneficiario: Mauricio Arroyo Campos, Maestría en Ingeniería de Software, Universidad de South Carolina).

**Publication and distribution of a School Text for learning the Ñöbe indigenous language: "Ka Uë"**

€2,584,200,00 | $5,000,00 | Duration: 11 months

**Executor:** Foundation for the conservation and development Chorotega(FUNDECHO)  
**Administrator:** Foundation for the conservation and development Chorotega(FUNDECHO)

**Description:** The project used the knowledge acquired by other initiatives previously funded by CRUSA in this area, on medicinal plants, to prepare a text to facilitate the teaching of the Engobe indigenous language to the student population of the five Guaymi indigenous reserves located in the areas of Osa and Talamanca.

The funding requested was specifically to cover the publication of the book entitled Ka Uë, since the text has already been prepared and validated by 15 Guaymi teachers and the department of indigenous education of the Ministry of Public Education.
Postgraduate Scholarship Program at Carnegie Mellon University

€52,057,152.00 | $100,800.00 | Duration: 12 months

Executor: Carnegie Mellon University
Administrator: CRUSA Foundation

Description: In a joint effort between the CRUSA Foundation and the Information and Communication Technologies Institute (ICTI) of Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), five Costa Rican students accepted for the Masters courses of the CMU-Portugal Program will be awarded full (100%) scholarships to cover their enrolment and tuition fees as well as their board and lodging expenses.

Assessment of the linguistic skills of English language teachers in the Costa Rican public education system

€63,001,925.00 | $126,973.93 | Duration: 12 months

Executor: Ministry of Public Education (MEP)
Administrator: CRUSA Foundation

Description: The Ministry of Public Education, with the support of other national institutions, has developed a comprehensive strategy to improve the quality of the learning and teaching of English. The purpose of this project is to assess the current levels of linguistic competence in English among the more than 3,000 English teachers in pre-school, primary and secondary schools throughout the country. To this end, an internationally-recognized standardized test will be applied to all the teachers to evaluate their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

The results of these assessments will provide the basis for designing the training plan that will begin in 2008 with the participation of 500 teachers in intensive 8-week courses. Funds for the execution of these courses have already been included in the Ministry's regular budget.

Supporting agricultural education as a means to strengthen the training of Costa Rican human resources

€54,264,000.00 | $105,195.41 | Duration: 48 months

Executor: EARTH University
Administrator: EARTH University

Description: As part of its fundraising efforts for the 2006 scholarship program, EARTH received a donation from the Guanacaste Ventures organization to cover eight partial scholarships. This project will complement the funds provided by Guanacaste Ventures, and will cover the full scholarships of eight students from Guanacaste province who would be attending EARTH University for the four-year period of the course.

Virtual learning communities on biodiversity. Phase II

€71,734,497.00 | $138,901.90 | Duration: 12 months

Executor: National Institute of Biodiversity (INBio)
Administrator: National Institute of Biodiversity (INBio)

Description: The main purpose of the project is to encourage the use of science and technology to promote innovation in the classroom, and the use of the environment (protected wildlife areas) to generate experiences and projects that facilitate learning among primary and secondary students. The idea is to help teachers to innovate in their practical classroom activities through the use of strategies that encourage direct and virtual learning, in order to contribute to an improvement in academic attainment and a reduction in student drop-out rates.

Digital Language Laboratory to support English language teaching-learning processes in pre-school education and in Cycles I and II of General Basic Education

€69,681,137.00 | $134,740.67 | Duration: 18 months

Executor: Ministry of Public Education (MEP)
School of Modern Languages of UCR
Administrator: Research Foundation of the University of Costa Rica (FUNDEVI)

Description: The Ministry of Public Education has decided to prioritize efforts to ensure that a large segment of the Costa Rican population is bilingual in English. Using a comprehensive approach, the proposed strategies include 3 components: 1) purchase of equipment for language laboratories, 2) development of training materials and tools for the teaching of English and 3) improving the linguistic skills of teachers.

In the second component - the development of training materials and tools- the Ministry wishes to take advantage of the successful experience of a previous project approved by CRUSA in 2003, at the University of Costa Rica’s School of Modern Languages, to develop a digital platform (CDROM) with contents that reinforce the linguistic skills of third cycle students. Six rural and urban schools of different socioeconomic conditions participated in the pilot scheme, benefiting more than 30 teachers and 600 students.

Based on this platform, which has already been validated, the MEP together with UCR will develop additional didactic and pedagogical models using the same digital platform to cover the levels of preschool, first and second cycle of education. Once these new contents have been validated, the project will train 100% of the English teachers of these levels in the correct use of the tool. Subsequently, a monitoring and follow-up process will be implemented to ensure the correct use of these teaching resources in the classroom and in extra-curricular activities.
In 2007, CRUSA donated $759,934.92 to strategic capacity projects.
Mission

"Strengthen Costa Rica’s competitiveness to meet the challenges of open markets and improve efficiency in the provision of services by public and private non-profit institutions."

During 2007, the Foundation, in coordination with the Cost Rican Government, placed greater emphasis on supporting efforts to improve the provision of certain services considered key for Costa Ricans:

- In the area of public security CRUSA approved a project to validate a proposal for an intervention related to gangs and young people at social risk.
- In the area of health, CRUSA continued to support a project that will enable the Caja Costarricense de Seguro Social (Costa Rican Social Security System) to automate, within four months, various services such as outpatient care, emergencies, admissions and nursing stations and to create electronic medical files for patients at the hospitals of Alajuela, Heredia, Cartago and the Hospital Mexico. By enabling patients to make appointments by telephone or online, the project hopes to reduce early-morning waiting lines, prevent patients from forgetting and losing their appointments and improve efficiency in the assignation and confirmation of appointments with specialists.
- To prevent student desertion from schools and support primary and secondary school students, CRUSA supported the Ministry of Housing and Human Settlements in developing the follow-up, monitoring and evaluation system for the Avancemos Program.
- Finally, to promote improvements in the administration of public funds, CRUSA provided the Ministry of Finance with funding for a project that will strengthen the financial administration subsystems of public sector institutions.
- In an effort to improve the country’s competitiveness, CRUSA approved funding for the National Planning Ministry to support the creation of the National Public Investment Service (SNIP), to establish instruments for the planning, scheduling, follow-up and evaluation of public investment projects. The aim of this initiative is to provide Costa Rica with the essential components required to guide public investment processes and consolidate those investment projects that are most profitable for the country in economic, social and environmental terms.
Preliminary studies for the restoration of Cariari Park, Limon

€15.114.750,00 | $30.462,23 | Duration: 4 months

Executor: National Institute of Biodiversity (INBio)

Administrator: National Institute of Biodiversity (INBio)

Description: This initiative was submitted as a component of the “Limon Port City” macro-project that the Costa Rican Government is negotiating with the World Bank. This project aims to restore the city’s cultural heritage, its green areas and parks and, in general, provide the necessary infrastructure to promote the economic and social development of this province.

With the support of the National Institute of Biodiversity, the component funded by CRUSA will implement a preliminary project to rehabilitate the Cariari Park, in order to rescue and restore the natural attractions of the site, and enable it to fulfill its previous role as a cultural and recreational center for the community of Limon.

Specifically, CRUSA will provide funding to carry out a biodiversity inventory in the park and to map the contour lines of the site. These studies will provide the basis for a design that will help justify the inclusion of the park’s restoration within the project to improve Limon that the Government is negotiating with the World Bank.

Building Dreams: Developing Capacity to Secure Philanthropic Cooperation for the National Children’s Hospital

€5.167.000,00 | $10.000,00 | Duration: 3 months

Executor: Asociación Pro-Hospital Nacional de Niños/National Children’s Hospital Association (APHNN)

Administrator: Asociación Pro-Hospital Nacional de Niños (APHNN)

Description: The National Children’s Hospital (HNH) is undoubtedly one of the country’s leading health institutions, but according to the Asociación Pro-Hospital Nacional de Niños (APHNN), more than 4,500 children are waiting for an operation and some of the medical equipment at the hospital is more than 30 years old. For this reason, the Association created the “Children’s Hospital Costa Rica Foundation (CHCRF)” as a “US 501c3” organization to promote philanthropic cooperation with this medical center in the USA.

According to APHNN, through CHCRF, it is possible create links with corporations, individuals, foundations and other similar institutions in the USA to share resources and ideas, and also to receive financial support. However, to accomplish this, the APHNN must develop an effective and sustainable fundraising model and must forge cooperation links through CHCRF in the United States. This model has been called “Building Dreams”.

The CRUSA project will cover consultancy fees in the US required to identify possible donors within the proposed fundraising model.

Post-implementation support for the Outpatient Information System and Electronic Patient Files in the Hospitals of Alajuela, Heredia, Cartago and Mexico

€63.648.000,00 | $128.276,03 | Duration: 12 months

Executor: Caja Costarricense del Seguro Social/Costa Rican Social Security System (CCSS)

Administrator: Research Foundation of the University of Costa Rica (FUNDEVI)

Description: The main objective of the second phase of this project is to demonstrate to the rest of the CCSS health facilities (especially the hospitals) that it is possible to install and put into operation, within a very short period, an information system that automates outpatient services, emergencies and patient admissions, as well as the Electronic Medical Files. This effort will speed up and improve the quality and timeliness of the services provided to patients and will also improve decision-making based on more reliable and timely information.

Promotion and follow-up, monitoring and evaluation system for the Avancemos Program

€65.000.000,00 | $125.815,38 | Duration: 12 months

Executor: Ministry of Housing and Human Settlements

Administrator: Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales/ Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO)

Description: The project will support the implementation of the follow-up, monitoring and evaluation system for the Avancemos Program, as well as its dissemination and promotion throughout the country.
Proposal for the design of an intervention project to address the problems of gangs and youths at social risk, from the perspective of violence prevention

€2,500,000.00 | $4,838,21 | Duration: 3 months

**Executor:** Ministry of Justice  
**Administrator:** Asociación Programa Centroamericana para la Sostenibilidad Democrática  
**Description:** One out of every five Costa Ricans considers insecurity and crime to be the country’s number one problem.

In response to these concerns, and based on the National Development Plan, the Ministry of Justice requested the Foundation’s support to design an intervention project to enable the Executive Branch to tackle the problem of violence generated by gangs and youths at social risk, using an integrated approach that is democratic and, above all, respectful of Human Rights.

Design and initial implementation of the National Public Investment Service for Costa Rica

€78,208,000.00 | $151,381,07 | Duration: 12 months

**Executor:** Ministry of National Planning (MIDEPLAN)  
**Administrator:** Central American Institute of Public Administration (ICAP)  
**Description:** The proposal aims to provide the country with the essential components to guide the process of Public Investment, consolidating investment projects that are more economically, socially and environmentally profitable for the country.

Strengthening the Financial Administration System in the Public Sector

€153,400,000.00 | $309,162,00 | Duration: 3 months

**Executor:** Ministry of Finance  
**Administrator:** Research Foundation of the University of Costa Rica (FUNDEVI)  
**Description:** The project aims to strengthen the Financial Administration subsystems to encourage the efficient use of public resources in pursuit of three major objectives:

- Generate useful information for processes to improve public interventions by managers.
- Support decision-making in the allocation of public resources to the pertinent institutions.
- Provide citizens with simple and meaningful information on the use of public resources in relation to the results obtained through institutional and programmatic management.

Specifically, the funds provided by CRUSA will be used to support consultancies, training and development of computerized information systems for the National Treasury (approx. US$50,000), the National Budget (approx. US$ 50,000) and National Accounts (approx. US$200,000).
“In Science and Technology projects, CRUSA donated $599,950,63.”
Mission

"Strengthen scientific and technological development in fields of strategic importance for Costa Rica."

In 2007, the CRUSA Foundation signed a cooperation agreement with the Scientific Research Council (CSIC) of Spain with the aim of opening a joint window for the reception of projects. In the context of this “Joint Window”, five projects were approved that will be implemented by Costa Rican and Spanish researchers.

The research topics covered by these projects are very varied and include genetic analysis to predict acute leukemia; the search for new substances to combat microorganisms resistant to the most commonly used antibiotics; and the search for alternative fuels. It is important to note that this agreement represents a first effort by the Foundation to formalize cooperation links with institutions outside North America.
Preparatory meeting for the International Conference on "Science and Wellbeing: from astonishment to citizenship"

€3,150,000,00  |  $6,096,14  |  Duration: 1 month

**Executor:** National Academy of Sciences (ANC)

**Administrator:** National Academy of Sciences (ANC)

**Description:** In November 2007, the Fourth International Conference "Science and Wellbeing: from Astonishment to Citizenship" took place in Mexico City. Prior to this International Conference, three preparatory meetings were organized, one of which took place in San Jose, Costa Rica. The preparatory meeting in Costa Rica analyzed the impact of the changes that are taking place in the economic, scientific and cultural relations between the countries of Latin America and the rest of the world. Specifically, the funds provided by CRUSA were used to partially cover the costs of stationery, food and accommodation of the international speakers invited to this preparatory meeting.

---

Work Meeting for the negotiation of a Letter of Understanding between the National Center for High Technology (CENAT), Costa Rica, and the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) of the University of Illinois

€5,166,500,00  |  $9,948,00  |  Duration: 3 months

**Executor:** Centro Nacional de Alta Tecnología/National Center for High Technology (CENAT)

**Administrator:** National Center for High Technology (CENAT)

**Description:** The National Center for High Technology (CENAT) wishes to take full advantage of any cooperation agreement that enriches our country, and has therefore requested funding from CRUSA to organize a series of meetings to help build bridges between scientific and technological institutions in the United States and Costa Rica. This cooperation agreement would facilitate exchanges and provide mutual benefits in research, technologies and services to support research and scientific-technological development.

---

Manual of Telecommunications Law

€5,000,000,00  |  $9,675,48  |  Duration: 10 months

**Executor:** Asociación de Amigos del Consultorio Jurídico Ambiental (AACJA)

**Administrator:** Asociación de Amigos del Consultorio Jurídico Ambiental (AACJA)

**Description:** The purpose of this project is to prepare a training manual for the program Technician in the Regulation and Administration of Telecommunications (TRAT) and for the Masters program in Law with Emphasis on Technology, E-Trade and Telecommunications. CRUSA was asked to provide funding for the design of didactic materials for the legal component of the training Program.

---

Interactive Geoespacial Directory (DIRIGE-T): A commercial application of the CARTA 2005 images

€5,167,800,00  |  $10,000,00  |  Duration: 6 months

**Executor:** National Center for High Technology (CENAT)

**Administrator:** National Center for High Technology (CENAT)

**Description:** The 2005 CARTA Mission carried out jointly by the Airborne Missions and Remote Sensors Program (PRIAS) of CENAT and NASA, with the support of CRUSA, obtained high-resolution digital photos of approximately 80 percent of Costa Rica’s territory. These images have been used by various public institutions, universities and the private sector for mapping projects and to update cartographic data. However, their potential as a data source for providing online localization and positioning services via the Internet has not yet been exploited.

The project will exploit this potential to contribute to the sustainability of the PRIAS program through the creation of a web site that would sell advertising and publicity to different companies, in order to offer the general public a free service for locating sites of commercial and cultural interest such as hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, shopping centers etc. within the national territory.

---

Symposium on Structural and Evolutionary Genomics: Genome and RNA, Expression and Function (2007)

€5,158,400,00  |  $10,000,00,48  |  Duration: 5 months

**Executor:** Research Center in Cellular and Molecular Biology - CIBCM (CIBCM)

**Administrator:** (FUNDEVI)

**Description:** This project will support the organization of the VI Symposium, aimed at facilitating contacts between Latin American researchers and students, through the dissemination of the latest research results in Molecular Biology, Genomics and Molecular Evolution.

CRUSA’s funding will be used to support the participation of 10 Costa Rican professors and students.
"CSIC | CRUSA" Cooperation Agreement

€66,717,565,20 | $129,240,00 | Duration: 12 months

Executor: Scientific Research Council of Spain (CSIC)
Administrator: CRUSA

Description: As a result of the agreement signed between the Scientific Research Council of Spain (CSIC) and the CRUSA Foundation, an annual budget of €100,000 from the CSIC, and approximately $100,000 from CRUSA, was approved to finance this program. The funds will be shared between five research initiatives.

Under the agreement, a maximum of five projects may be approved annually, each with a duration of one or two years, with the possibility of being renewed for another two years. In this case, the projects would compete with other proposals, for a maximum duration of four years. The maximum amount of funding awarded to each project will be €40,000 (€20,000 from CSIC and €20,000 from CRUSA).

The research project must involve both Spanish and Costa Rican researchers, and the partner institution must also be recognized by the CSIC.

Assessment of the Information Technology (IT) Sector in Costa Rica

€5,165,800,00 | $9,959,76 | Duration: 6 months

Executor: Fundación Comisión Asesora en Alta Tecnología de Costa Rica / Advisory Commission on High Technology of Costa Rica (CAATEC)
Administrator: Fundación Comisión Asesora en Alta Tecnología de Costa Rica (CAATEC)

Description: The present context of the world economy is characterized by a continuous revolution in digital technologies, genetics and the increase international of goods and services. For this reason, the Advisory Commission on High Technology of Costa Rica (CAATEC) has requested funding from CRUSA to carry out an assessment of information and communication technologies (ICT) in 165 companies of the Productive Sector.

Strategy for the 21st Century (Office of Follow-up and Dissemination), 2007

€206,741,000,00 | $400,000,00 | Duration: 12 months

Executor: CRUSA Foundation
Administrator: CRUSA Foundation

Description: The main purpose of this joint initiative with the National Center for High Technology (CENAT) is to provide the necessary financial resources and technical support for the establishment and implementation of the Office of Follow-up and Dissemination of the Strategy for the 21st Century.

Promoting Scientific and Technological Exchange between the Costa Rican and Latin American Informatics Community

€5,148,000,00 | $9,959,76 | Duration: 10 months

Executor: School of Computer Science and Informatics (ECCI - UCR)
Administrator: Research Foundation of the University of Costa Rica (FUNDEVI)

Description: To encourage the development of local research in the area of informatics, the Latin American Center for Informatics Studies (CLEI) organized the Latin American Informatics Conference, the region's largest event in the area of computer research and training.

This project will award enrolment scholarships to 66 national university students. Priority will be given to those studying at regional centers of public universities who would otherwise be unable to cover the costs of the conference.

Support for public institutions to participate in the launch of the program "ICT Standards for Development"

€2,600,000,00 | $5,031,25 | Duration: 1 month

Executor: INCAE Business School
Administrator: INCAE Business

Description: The program "ICT Standards for Development" is a joint initiative by INCAE and the Club de Investigación Tecnológica (CIT), involving the participation of 150 public officials.

The program aims to encourage the business community and public institutions in Costa Rica to adopt software standards, in the hope of improving the efficiency of the government's digital systems and the interaction between the systems of different institutions and different software providers.

Specifically, CRUSA was asked to provide funds to organize the introductory seminar with simultaneous translation for 150 public officials.
In 2007 CRUSA made a contribution for environmental conservation for $495,679.15.
Mission

"Promote and strengthen environmental and natural resource management."

Although CRUSA did not open a Window for the Reception of Proposals in this area during 2007, it continued to support the Osa Campaign, an initiative to raise 32.5 million dollars to implement various conservation activities in the Osa Peninsula.

At the same time, the Foundation approved funding for the establishment and first year of operation of the Implementation Office of the “Peace with Nature” Initiative, sponsored by the Presidency of the Republic of Costa Rica, which seeks to coordinate all efforts to promote the conservation and sustainable use of Costa Rica’s natural resources.
**Local and Sustainable Market: Farmers’ Fair**

€234,823,00 | $454,48 | Duration: 3 months

**Executor:** Asociación de Productores de Café Diferenciado y Otros Productos ASOPRODI (Peace Corps)

**Administrator:** Association of Producers of Differentiated Coffee and other Products (ASOPRODI)

**Description:** The community of Agua Buena, just south of San Vito, is located in one of the poorest cantons of Costa Rica in Coto Brus de Puntarenas.

In 2003, a group of local farmers founded the Asociación de Productores de Café Diferenciado y Otros Productos/Association of Producers of Differentiated Coffee and other Products (ASOPRODI) to resolve the area's agricultural problems. Local producers have expressed a strong interest in setting up a local organic market in the district, but do not have a good locale to start off with.

Since there is no appropriate market site, most producers currently sell their products at better-established farmers’ fairs located in neighboring districts. This is because the place where the fair is currently held is a car park without protection from the sun or the rain, without tables, chairs or garbage cans to keep the area clean.

The funds requested from CRUSA are to support the establishment of a local organic produce market that will bring farmers together and provide consumers with better and healthier farm products.

**Corcovado Conservation Campaign (Osa en tu Piel II)**

€80,048,200,00 | $155,000,00 | 12 months

**Executor:** CRUSA Foundation

**Administrator:** CRUSA Foundation

**Description:** This initiative provides reimbursable financial support to the Campaign for the Conservation of Corcovado and Piedras Blancas National Parks, specifically for the execution of the Osa en tu Piel II (Osa on your skin) Campaign.

**Campaign for the Conservation of Corcovado (Expenditures 2007)**

€105,470,040,00 | $204,000,00 | 12 months

**Executor:** CRUSA Foundation

**Administrator:** CRUSA Foundation

**Description:** The project provides financial support to the Campaign for the Conservation of the Corcovado and Piedras Blancas National Parks.

**National Workshop on Sustainable Timber Supply in Costa Rica**

€16,645,387,50 | $33,547,07 | Duration: 7 months

**Executor:** Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) | Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center, CATIE (CATIE)

**Administrator:** Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS)

**Description:** In Costa Rica the sustainable production of forest goods and services is threatened. Not only are productive forestry systems threatened, together with landscape and environmental services, but some experts also anticipate a timber shortage starting in 2007. This would imply an outlay of around $95 million for timber imports this year and up to US $126 in 2010.

In this context, the OTS and the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center, CATIE (CATIE) plan to organize a national workshop to bring together the main players involved in setting national forestry policies and to analyze factors that restrict investment in forestry, as well as forest management policies and standards and other elements that contribute to a reduction in the area covered by forest plantations.

Specifically, CRUSA was asked to provide funding for the organization of this workshop. The results of this activity will be presented to the leading decision-makers, the media and the general public, using both traditional and electronic media.
Course on quantitative methods for the study of wildlife population dynamics

€1,383,705.00 | $2,677,60 | Duration: 2 months

Executor: Cornell University (CORNELL)
Tropical Science Center (CCT)

Administrator: Tropical Science Center (CCT)

Description: Most current efforts to manage and monitor wildlife populations in our country suffer from the use of outdated methods and analysis techniques. The purpose of this project was to organize an advanced course that would improve the level of professional training in the field of ecology in Costa Rica, particularly with respect to wildlife population studies. The idea is to increase the quantity and quality of biodiversity monitoring and conservation efforts in Costa Rica.

Specifically, CRUSA was asked to cover the travel and accommodation costs of the instructors and the course materials.

Support for the creation and first year of operation of the Implementation Office of the "Peace with Nature" initiative

€51,701,000.00 | $100,000.00 | Duration: 2 months

Executor: Presidency of the Republic
National Institute of Biodiversity (INBio)

Administrator: National Institute of Biodiversity (INBio)

Description: There is a growing consensus that the climatic and environmental changes occurring on planet Earth are largely the result of human intervention. Environmental degradation and other consequences of human actions are not only felt on a global scale, but also at the local level, for example in the pollution of watersheds and aquifers, poor management of waste products and the extinction of ecosystems and life forms.

In this context, the "Peace with Nature" initiative, spearheaded by President Oscar Arias, aims to promote efforts to harmonize human actions with the natural processes in order to minimize the impact of human activity on the biosphere and try to reverse both local and global trends, through the concerted action of all countries of the world, beginning with our own country.

At the local level, the initiative will coordinate work on different issues, for example efforts to consolidate protected areas, or the conservation and sustainable use of water resources, etc. At the international level, it will work to promote the global objectives established in the environmental agreements that call for collaboration to reverse the atmospheric, marine and terrestrial changes caused by human action.

Specifically, the proposal submitted to CRUSA will support the creation and operation of the Implementation Office of the Peace with Nature Initiative so that it may accomplish the goals established for its first year of work.
About CRUSA
CRUSA is a private, non-political, non-profit Costa Rican Foundation that works in an independent, professional and transparent manner. It is a binational organization that focuses on cooperation between the United States and Costa Rica.

The CRUSA Foundation was established at the beginning of 1996, when the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) decided to cease its activities in the country and, through an agreement between the governments of the United States of America and Costa Rica, the funds remaining from AID's support programs were used to establish an Endowment Fund, for the sum of US$47.3 million dollars.

In fulfillment of its constitutional mandate to contribute to Costa Rica’s sustainable development, the Foundation has administered the Endowment Fund with total autonomy and independence. In the eleven years since its creation, CRUSA has allocated 45.7 million dollars to 445 projects that focus on its four areas of interest: environment, education, science and technology and strategic capacity.

These efforts have been possible thanks to the use of the yields generated by the investment of the Endowment Fund.

The funding of projects in the Foundation’s four areas of interest has been the organization’s main strategic action. However, CRUSA has gradually developed another strategic orientation, which it has adopted more actively since 2007, and which its hopes to strengthen in the future. This involves utilizing its financial solidity, credibility and administrative capacity to leverage resources from third parties and undertake fundraising efforts (also with third parties) for the projects and initiatives that it supports.
Eligibility

The following institutions are eligible to receive financial support from the Foundation:

- Non-profit organizations or associations
- Universities or other research institutions
- Companies in association with universities or non-profit organizations
- State institutions

Funding Levels

- The level of funding obtained will depend on specific needs and on the type of project envisaged
- In the event that an initiative financed by CR-USA should result in a patent or a commercial product, the Foundation will negotiate with the beneficiary a percentage of its net profits as reimbursement. This sum will be re-invested in activities related to the project

Funding Restrictions

Given its nature, the Foundation cannot provide financial support for:

- Individuals
- Extra payments or bonuses
- Purchase | acquisition of land, vehicles or infrastructure
- Endowment Funds
Given the complexity of the activities carried out in the thematic areas supported by the Foundation, and to ensure transparency in the proposal evaluation process, the Projects Directorate always consults recognized experts on the technical aspects to be considered.

Proposals are assessed in accordance with the following criteria:

**Relations between USA | CR**
- Relación de cooperación directa entre la institución
- Direct Cooperation Links between the proposing institution and US organizations, universities and/or consultants in the implementation of project activities. Cooperation may occur at three levels: financial, technical and in the form of technology transfer.

**Compliance with the Foundation’s funding priorities**
- How the project fits in with the Foundation’s guidelines and funding priorities, specific to the window.

**Real Need / Demand for the Project**
- How the project contributes to resolving a real need in the country. Does the project respond to this need in a practical way?

**Expected Impact**
- The initiative must make a significant difference in the specific area it addresses.

If the proposal satisfactorily complies with the above-mentioned criteria, then the following considerations apply:
Implementation and Evaluation Plan

- The proposal should contain clear objectives and goals, based on a methodology, a schedule of activities and a defined period, to facilitate monitoring and to ensure the project’s success.

- The proposal should clearly specify internal evaluation mechanisms designed to measure the project’s results and to monitor the effect of these on the target population.

Institutional Capacity and Capacity of the Project Leader

- Installed capacity (financial, technical, organizational, etc.) of the institution or institutions proposing to implement the project.

- Level of experience of the institution and of the project leader in the field of the proposed project.

Budget

- The budget should be consistent with the project’s objectives and expected results. Is this the most rational way of achieving the proposed objectives?

Sustainability

- The proposal should contain mechanisms to ensure that the project is sustainable, both financially and operationally. Will the initiative result in positive changes that will continue over time?
Assembly of Founding Members

The Assembly of Founding Members is the CRUSA Foundation’s governing body. It is made up of an equal number of Costa Ricans and North Americans and is responsible for ensuring the fulfillment of the Foundation’s objectives and for preserving its Endowment Fund. It is also in charge of approving the institution’s regulations.

The Founding Members render their services ad honorem.

For Costa Rica:
- Mr. Luis Diego Escalante
- Mr. Alfonso Gutiérrez
- Mr. Harry Odio
- Mrs. Ana María Sittenfeld
- Mr. Pedro Dobles

For the United States of America:
- Mr. Franklin Chang-Díaz
- Mrs. Robin Chazdon
- Mr. Thomas E. Lovejoy
- Mr. William Abraham
- Mr. Dan M. Martin

Honorary Members
- Mr. Carlos Espinach
- Mr. Francis J. McNeil

Administrative Board

The administrative functions are the responsibility of a Board made up of five members: three of them appointed by the Assembly of Founding Members, one appointed by Costa Rica’s Executive Branch and one by the Municipality of the Canton of Pérez Zeledón, the Foundation’s legal domicile. Members of this Board also serve ad honorem.

- Mr. Luis Diego Escalante, President
- Mr. Francis J. McNeil, Vice president
- Mr. Rowland Espinosa, Secretary
- Mr. William F. Merrigan, Treasurer
- Mr. Randall Sánchez, Director
- Mr. Alfonso Gutiérrez, Fiscal
Executive Director

Hermann L. Faith, Executive Director - hlfaith@crusa.cr
Katty Fernández, Image and Communications Officer
kfernandez@crusa.cr
Maritza Valverde, Secretary - mvalverde@cr-usa.org

Programs Directorate

Ana María Vásquez, Programs Director - mvasquez@crusa.cr
Miguel Fuentes, Senior Programs Officer - mfuentes@crusa.cr
Camilo Acosta, Senior Programs Officer - cacosta@crusa.cr
Armando Alfaro, Senior Programs Officer - aalfaro@crusa.cr
Juan Manuel Campos, Senior Programs Officer - jmcampos@crusa.cr
Ana Maria Camacho, Programs Officer - acamacho@crusa.cr
Mariana Cortés, secretary - mcortes@crusa.cr

Administrative and Financial Directorate

Ingrid Gutiérrez, Senior Financial-Administrative Officer
igutierrez@crusa.cr
Noma Díaz, Administrative-Accounting Officer - ndiaz@crusa.cr
Carlos Laurent, IT Officer - claurent@crusa.cr
Jorge Arturo Vargas, General Support and Messenger - jvargas@crusa.cr
Yuri Mejía, General Support and Maintenance
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF COSTA RICA – UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOUNDATION FOR COOPERATION

We have audited the financial statements of Costa Rica – United States of America Foundation for Cooperation (herein “the Foundation”) as of December 31, 2007 and for the year then ended, from which the summarized financial statements were derived, in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. In our report dated March 4, 2008 we expressed an unqualified opinion on the financial statements from which the summarized financial statements were derived.

In our opinion, the accompanying summarized financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the financial statements from which they were derived.

For a better understanding of the Foundation’s financial position, the results of its operations for the period and the scope of our audit, the summarized financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements from which the summarized financial statements were derived and our audit report thereon.

Juan Rafael Campos – CPA
March 4, 2008
San José, Costa Rica

Ernst & Young

50
### Costa Rica – United States of America Foundation for Cooperation
**(A Costa Rican Entity)**

#### Balance Sheet Summarized

*(amounts in thousands)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>December 31</th>
<th>December 31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$720,833</td>
<td>$502,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Investments in securities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At fair value through profit or loss</td>
<td>$5,491,549</td>
<td>$5,284,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available-for-sale investments</td>
<td>$12,417,340</td>
<td>$10,256,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest receivable on investments</td>
<td>$401,211</td>
<td>$678,173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes and other receivables</td>
<td>$27,365</td>
<td>$20,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>$2,352</td>
<td>$2,352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,060,830</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,738,495</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Investments in securities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At fair value through profit or loss</td>
<td>$18,823,059</td>
<td>$20,466,255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available-for-sale investments</td>
<td>$251,022</td>
<td>$166,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>$11,910</td>
<td>$15,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total non-current assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,085,991</strong></td>
<td><strong>20,642,386</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$38,146,821</strong></td>
<td><strong>$37,380,881</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>December 31</th>
<th>December 31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Grants pending disbursement</td>
<td>$2,497,077</td>
<td>$2,204,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 and 11 Funds administered on behalf of third-party donors</td>
<td>$402,460</td>
<td>$813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>$29,110</td>
<td>$110,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,929,547</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,314,731</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Equity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>December 31</th>
<th>December 31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Endowment fund</td>
<td>$26,979,472</td>
<td>$18,351,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Reserve for contingencies</td>
<td>$2,187,379</td>
<td>$1,959,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated surplus</td>
<td>$594,199</td>
<td>$23,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total equity</strong></td>
<td><strong>$29,761,050</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20,337,865</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total liabilities and equity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>December 31</th>
<th>December 31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Interests on investments in securities</td>
<td>$2,770,468</td>
<td>$3,574,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yield on investment funds and interests on bank balances</td>
<td>$16,797</td>
<td>$65,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange differences, net</td>
<td>$814,324</td>
<td>$711,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on available-for-sale investments derecognized</td>
<td>$4,054</td>
<td>$662,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>$18,447</td>
<td>$28,776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,815,819</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,102,898</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>December 31</th>
<th>December 31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 Non-reimbursable financing</td>
<td>$1,670,497</td>
<td>$819,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative expenses</td>
<td>$265,362</td>
<td>$374,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial expenses</td>
<td>$36,206</td>
<td>$25,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation adjustment</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$(1,087)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,072,069</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,219,910</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net income (loss)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>December 31</th>
<th>December 31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net income (loss)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$(76,507)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,882,988</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

51
Visit our web site at: www.crusa.cr. Here you will find extensive information about CRUSA Foundation’s work and activities, including a complete list of projects that CRUSA has supported during 11 years of operations, previous annual reports, news, forms and many more documents.