



Sustainable development requires integrated consideration of economic well-being, the environment and equity. The Osa and Golfito Initiative (INOGO) is designed to build on many previous efforts by integrating the sociocultural dimensions of the Osa and Golfito region with both its marine and terrestrial ecosystems. We search for sustainable solutions that protect the environment while addressing related social and economic issues including education, health, social equity and infrastructure.

## Mission

INOGO – an acronym formed by the initiative’s name in Spanish – is working to develop resources and processes to support sustainable human development and environmental stewardship in Costa Rica’s Osa and Golfito region.

## Goals

- To generate a living process for sustainable development led by Costa Ricans, especially the people of the Osa and Golfito region, through facilitation and capacity building focused on local community organizations
- To provide regional stakeholders, and other interested parties, with useful decision-making information that facilitates information exchange and coordination such as:
  - Diagnostic analyses synthesizing existing information on the region
  - An interactive website, including a reference library
  - Alternative futures scenarios using geospatial modeling to explore multiple futures that are possible for the region
  - Case studies exploring timely regional issues such as proposed major development projects, economic opportunities in sustainable production, and the biological and socioeconomic impacts of African palm plantations
  - A low-cost monitoring and evaluation protocol to understand changes as they occur

## WE ARE

A collaboration between people and institutions in the U.S. and Costa Rica, facilitated by the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

## WE REACH

- Local community organizations
- Public and private sector institutions
- Nongovernmental organizations
- Civil society groups





## Listening to and Consulting With Stakeholders

---

INOGO strives to add value in ways that empower and build capacity within existing organizations and institutions. The goal of sustainable development is not something that INOGO has imposed upon this region, but is the vision that the people of the region have for their own future. This important distinction – working to build capacity so that local actors can achieve their goals, as opposed to defining our goals for the region – is a core principle of INOGO.

## Building Connections

---

With the information that INOGO has gathered and synthesized, as well as the relationships built during this process, INOGO is uniquely positioned to act as a matchmaker in the region, connecting well-functioning organizations and people with prospective funders, training opportunities and like-minded individuals.

## Alternative Futures Scenarios

---

We develop scenarios in collaboration with GeoAdaptive LLC, based on public input, that visually represent future impacts (social, economic and ecological) of decisions facing the region today. These concepts help increase transparency, decentralize procedures and increase the accountability of both technical and local groups. The scenarios developed in this process explore factors such as population change, infrastructure improvements and the implementation of land-use regulations.

### For more information:

---

Emily Arnold  
Project Manager  
Phone: (301) 717-8791  
Email: [ebarnold@stanford.edu](mailto:ebarnold@stanford.edu)  
[inogo.stanford.edu](http://inogo.stanford.edu)

