**Table 1. A synthetic outlook of development projects related to water governance in the Sixaola basin**

| Projects | Actors involved | Financing source | Project description | Spatial unit for implementing the project |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Alianzas Project, Alliances in Solidarity for Sustainable Territorial Management in Central America 2004-2011 | IUCN Regional Office for Mesoamerica IUCN member organizations: Talamanca-Caribe Biological Corridor, Fondation Natura, Panamá Vert, among others. | Norwegian government Total project budget US$4.3 million for 2004-2008 and US$1.4 million for 2008-2011 | The main objective is to raise local awareness about the sustainability of natural resources and improve the quality of life. This project aims to foster partnerships among local stakeholders, enabling them to influence local and national public policies towards more responsible use of natural resources (Nordic Consulting Group-IUCN, Final Evaluation of the Alianzas Program, 2008, p. 37). In the Sixaola river basin, the project has successfully encouraged the formation of two local alliances on either side of the border and a Transboundary Commission. | Talamanca in Costa Rica and Bocas del Toro in Panama |
| IDB-GEF 2009-2012 Integrated Ecosystem Management Project for the Binational Sixaola River Basin | IDB, Costa Rican Ministry of Environment, Energy and Telecommunications (MINAET) National Environmental Authority (ANAM) | IDB donation of US$ 17.9 million | The aim of this bi-national project is to contribute to the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity, water, and soil resources for the integrated, cross-sectoral management of the Sixaola river basin (Franklin, 2007). The project also aimed to encourage and finance the implementation of initiatives that combine production and conservation, led by local organizations. It proposed the creation of a "Binational Commission for the Management of the Sixaola River Basin" as a forum for decision-making and governance. | Sixaola River watershed |
| BRIDGE project (Building River Dialogue and Governance)(2011-2018) | Former Water Management Unit now IUCN Livelihoods and Climate Change Unit Law Centre | Water Diplomacy Program of the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation | The BRIDGE Project aims to build water governance capacity through learning, demonstration, leadership, and consensus building around the management of transboundary river basins (BRIDGE, 2012). The main objectives of the three phases of BRIDGE executed in the Sixaola Basin are as follows:Phase 1: Focused on stakeholder analysis, defining governance structure, and functions in relation to the IDB-GEF Binational Project and the Permanent Binational Commission.Phase 2: Concentrated on strengthening the governance structure, defining a strategic plan, and holding periodic project follow-up meetings.Phase 3: Aimed to further strengthen the Sixaola River Basin Commission and support the implementation of its political agenda. | Sixaola River watershed |
| Good water management and adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins(2010-2014) | Formerly Water Management Unit, now Livelihoods and Climate Change Unit, IUCN Environmental Law Centre, Bonn | German Ministry of the Environment Budget: US$ 2.5 million | This project aims to improve the capacity to adapt to climate change in four transboundary basins: the Paz River (Guatemala/El Salvador), the Coatan and Cahoacan Rivers in Chiapas (Mexico/Guatemala), the Lempa River (El Salvador/Honduras/Guatemala), and the Sixaola River Basin. The project seeks to promote "good governance" by involving local stakeholders in decision-making processes. It was implemented as a complement to the BRIDGE Project. | Sixaola River watershed |
| UNDP Sixaola Integrated Watershed Management Project (2022-2026) | United Nations Development ProgrammeOrganization for tropical Studies | Global Environment Fund Trust (GEF)The GEF contributes $4,386,210 and with the resources contributed by the other counterparts, the total is $18,239,801.44. | This project proposes a more technical approach and aims to improve the management of the Sixaola watershed through policy generation, knowledge creation, reforestation, and risk management. | Political Sixaola River watershed |