

NEWSLETTER

BELIZE ASSOCIATION OF PLANNERS



"Making Belize Sustainable"

The Importance of Belize's NGO Directory

NGO Directory NGO Self-Assessment Open Data Resources

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To access these free resources and more, visit www.belizengos.org/ngo-resources/

The Belize Association of Planners is excited about the recent launch of the NGO Directory, the NGO Self-Assessment Tool and the Open Data Sources Access that supports the NGO Community (www.belizengos.org/ngo-resources/).

This is a great achievement for BAP, working in partnership with the Belize's 13th Senator, Hon. Osmany Salas, the Belize Network of NGO, and Research Triangle Institute International (RTI International), with funding from the U.S. Embassy Belize Carsi Grant.

These tools available will enable the NGO community to expand their reach and strengthen their capacity and voice as advocates of change.

Over the past twenty years, civil society has become more diverse and prominent in our political and

developmental parlance, operating as either one-person army or as large organizations, in formal and informal capacity, and at multiple levels and in multiple sectors.

From their role in parliament, influencing and shaping legislation, to being on the ground engaged in humanitarian work; from serving vulnerable and marginalized populations and communities to protecting our environment and borders; and from partnering with the government on development projects to plugging gaps in service delivery, in areas where the state have been delinquent, and to challenging the state on issues ranging from corruption and mismanagement to constitutional violations.

More and more, we are learning that it is not just state institutions and policy initiatives, that essentially, are needed for a high standard of democratic governance, but also civil society. And if Belize is to deliver on the sustainable development goals and on its national development goals, of ending spatial and socio-economic disparities and gender inequalities, and if we are to bring about a better quality of life for all Belizeans, and if we are to preserve the nation state of Belize for the next generation, the role of civil society in governance is key.

The Work of Belize Association of Planners

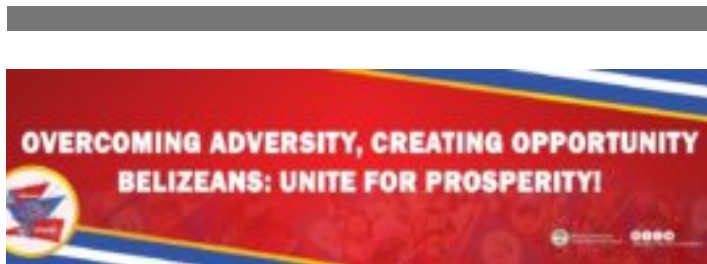


This spatial image represents disaggregated data that the Belize Association of Planners researched on roads, housing, access to green spaces, electricity and safety, environmental degradation and much more in the Port Loyola South-West Community.

For example, it shows that of the 8.44 miles of roadway, 36.4 % or 1/3 of the community is undeveloped (no roads etc.); while 1/2 or 50.6 % of the roads are unpaved (gravel and broken); and a mere 13 % are paved (asphalt or

This image was produced by Keisha Rodriguez with assistance from Carren Williams Sheree Lord Sofia Perez

concrete). Research and disaggregated data like this illuminate one of several exposure factors (others being proximity to the coast and low elevation, housing density, level status and condition, drainage etc.) which increases the vulnerability of these communities to disasters and the impacts of climate change, such as sea level rise, increased flooding and more intense storms. It also enables us to cost the strategic interventions necessary to reduce the vulnerability of the communities.



"Making Belize Sustainable"

MISSION – To address relevant planning and development issues in Belize by working in partnership with the public and private sector and civil society organizations, and the people of Belize through research, education, advocacy and action.

VISION – BAP is a proactive professional planning organization committed to assuring social justice and promoting sustainability in the natural and built environment.

Did You Know?

The 1931 hurricane was the deadliest hurricane in the history of Belize (British Honduras at the time). The storm killed an estimated 2,500 people. It made landfall in Belize City on September 10, as a category 4 storm. There was no warning, as Belizeans prepared to celebrate St. George's Caye Day, and high tides due to storm surges washed away many structures. In the end, all of Belize City was flooded with at least five (5) feet of water, destroying almost three-quarters of the old capital, including St. John's College and the U.S. Embassy, and millions of dollars in agricultural crops; a total destruction of over 7.5 million dollars.

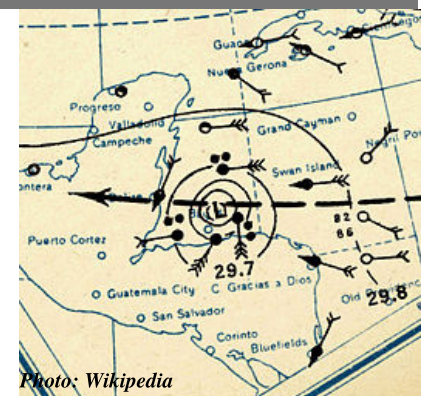


Photo: Wikipedia

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WE ARE SOCIAL:

