



**12.10.2015 - In the tiny community of El Solís in rural Guatemala, traditional knowledge on biodiversity and growing practices has been handed down through generations, an important survival tool in hard times.**

In these harsh conditions, the community of [306 people](#) cultivate corn and beans, an essential part of their daily diet. Success depends on water, weather and seeds availability. In 2014 the farmers of the area estimated crop losses at over 60%. Predictions for the future are not positive either therefore the community has allied itself with the

[Partners for Resilience](#)

(PfR) and created the

[Native Seed Bank](#)

«With this Seed Bank we have the opportunity to store our basic grains or basic seeds so that they can be reproduced and exchanged at any time. I am thankful for this opportunity for our people, our farmers, with a vision towards assuring food security, which is priceless» says Javier Antonio Ortiz, Mayor of de Cabañas.

Local knowledge of the impacts of urbanization, population growth, eco-system decline and greenhouse gas emissions is especially important in an era when more and more disasters are climate- and weather-related. That is why El Solís have been nominated as a [Community Champion](#) for the International Day for Disaster Reduction.



[Second Meeting on Resilient and Sustainable Development](#)