Sentinel Landscape Nicaragua-Honduras advances to 2014

Jenny Ordonez
Norvin Sepulveda

Sentinel Landscapes workshop
Costa Rica 3-7 March 2014
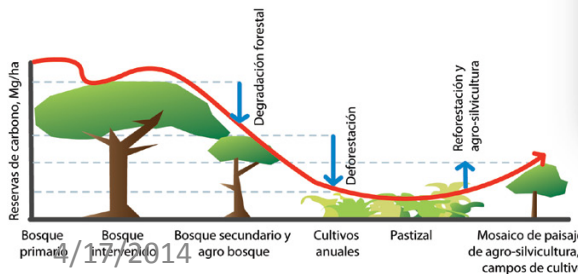
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The Nicaragua Honduras SL

68 000 km² which includes 2 biosphere reserves and 13 protected areas in Nicaragua and Honduras
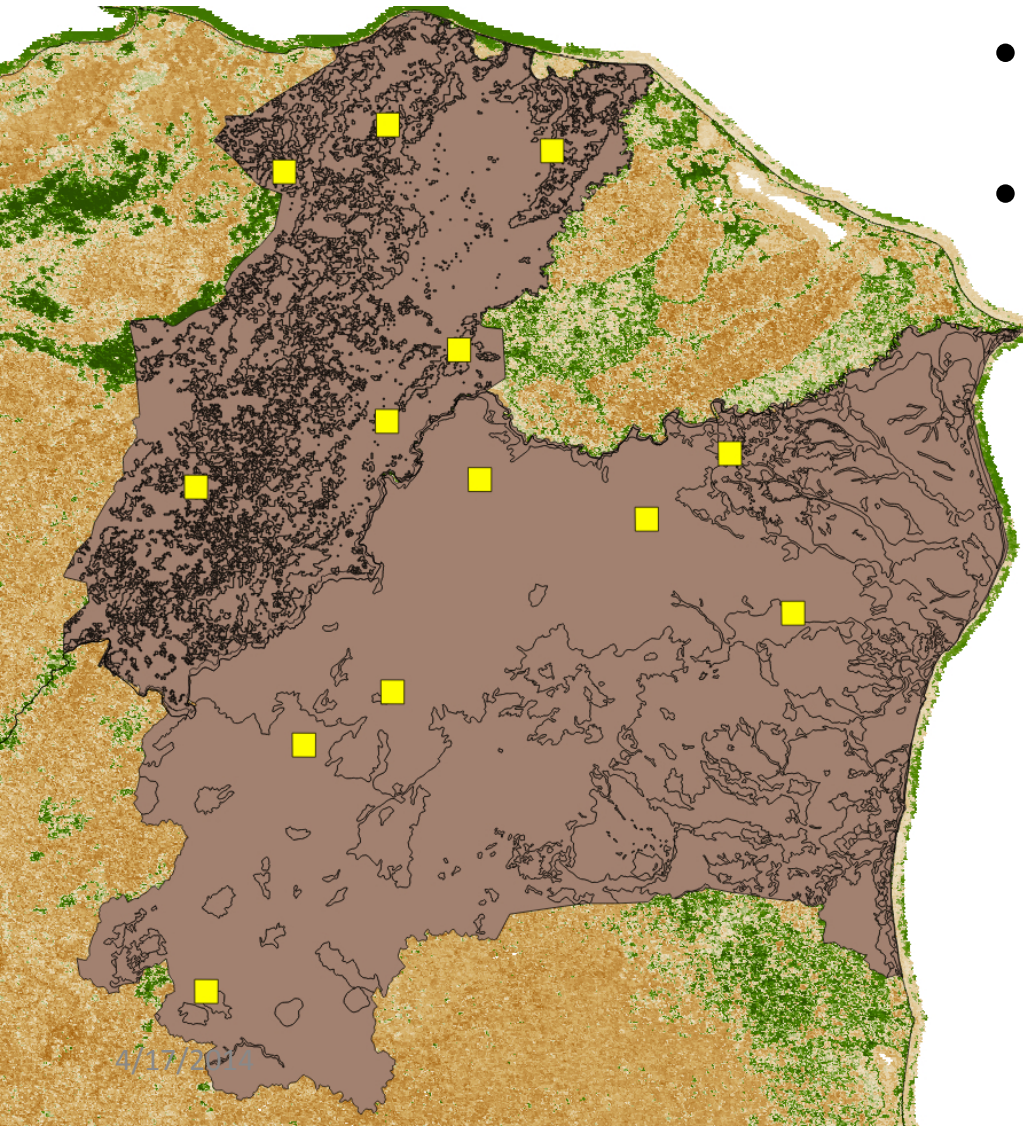
Map by Norvin Sepulveda and Noel Ulloa

The Nicaragua Honduras SL

The largest remaining forest area in Central America, surrounded by a mosaic of agricultural land, cattle ranching and agroforestry systems.
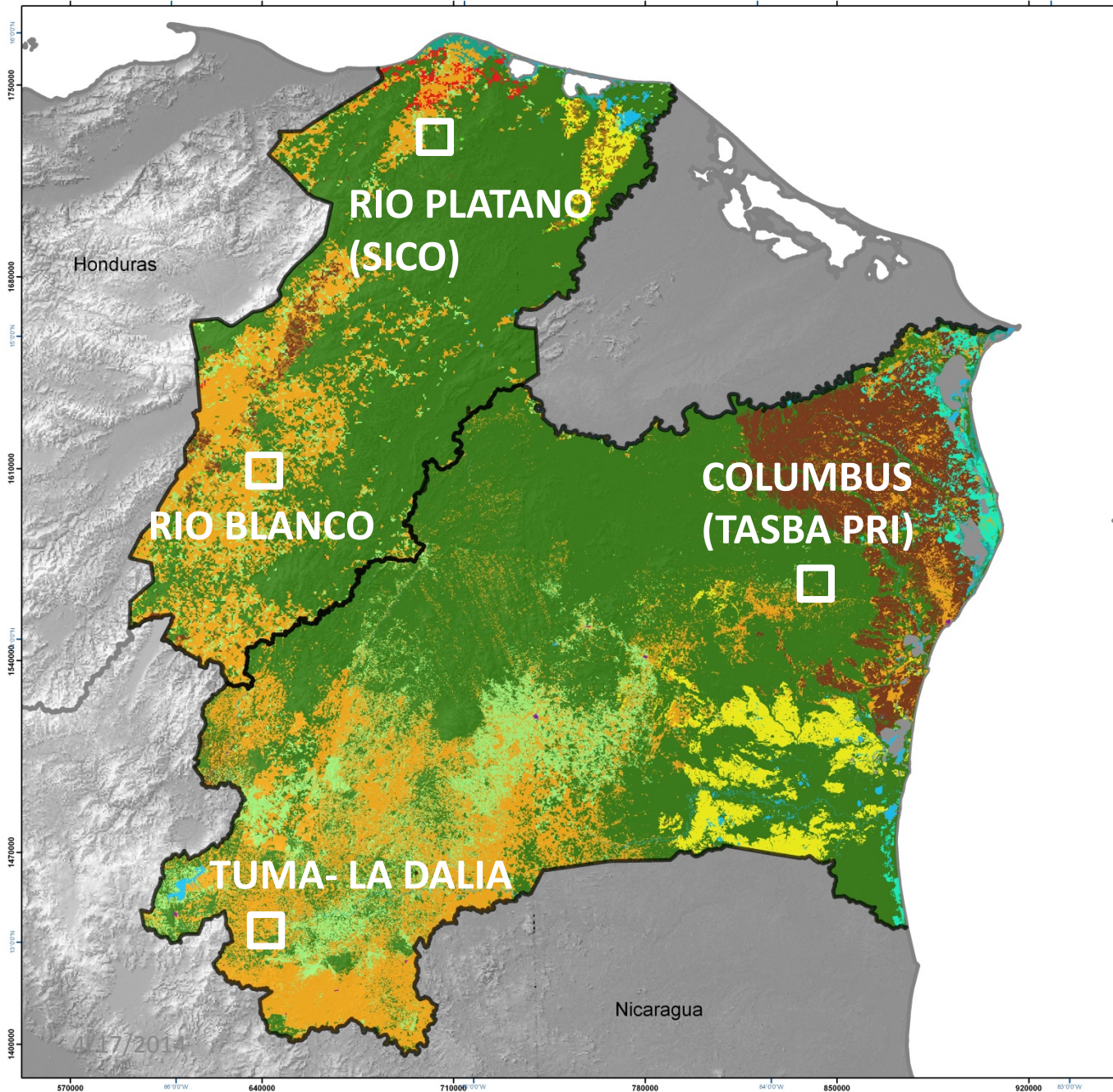
Ni-Ho-SL: Site selection

- 13 candidate sites

- 4 sites chosen in discussion with local partners:

  - Cover the forest transition curve

  - Representative of main land use and forest types in the landscape

  - Presence of partners in the site

  - Security and accessibility

Landuse and vegetation types in Nicaragua - Honduras Sentinel Landscape

RIO PLATANO (SICO)

RIO BLANCO

COLUMBUS (TASBA PRI)

TUMA- LA DALIA

Honduras

Nicaragua

Simbology

— Sentinel Landscape

Landuse

- Agriculture
- Agro-export agriculture
- Broadleaf forest
- Broadleaf mix forest
- Dense pine forest
- Land flooding
- Land without vegetation
- Mangrove forest
- Savannah with trees
- Shrubs
- Sparse pine forest
- Urban areas
- Water

Projection: UTM Zone 16 N

Datum: WGS-84

Scale 1 : 1.000.000

N W E S

0 10 20   40
Kilometers

Sources:
ICF 2009 (Honduras) and
MARENA 2006 (Nicaragua)

Elaborated by:
Juan Carlos Zamora P. (CATIE)

December 2013

4/17/2014

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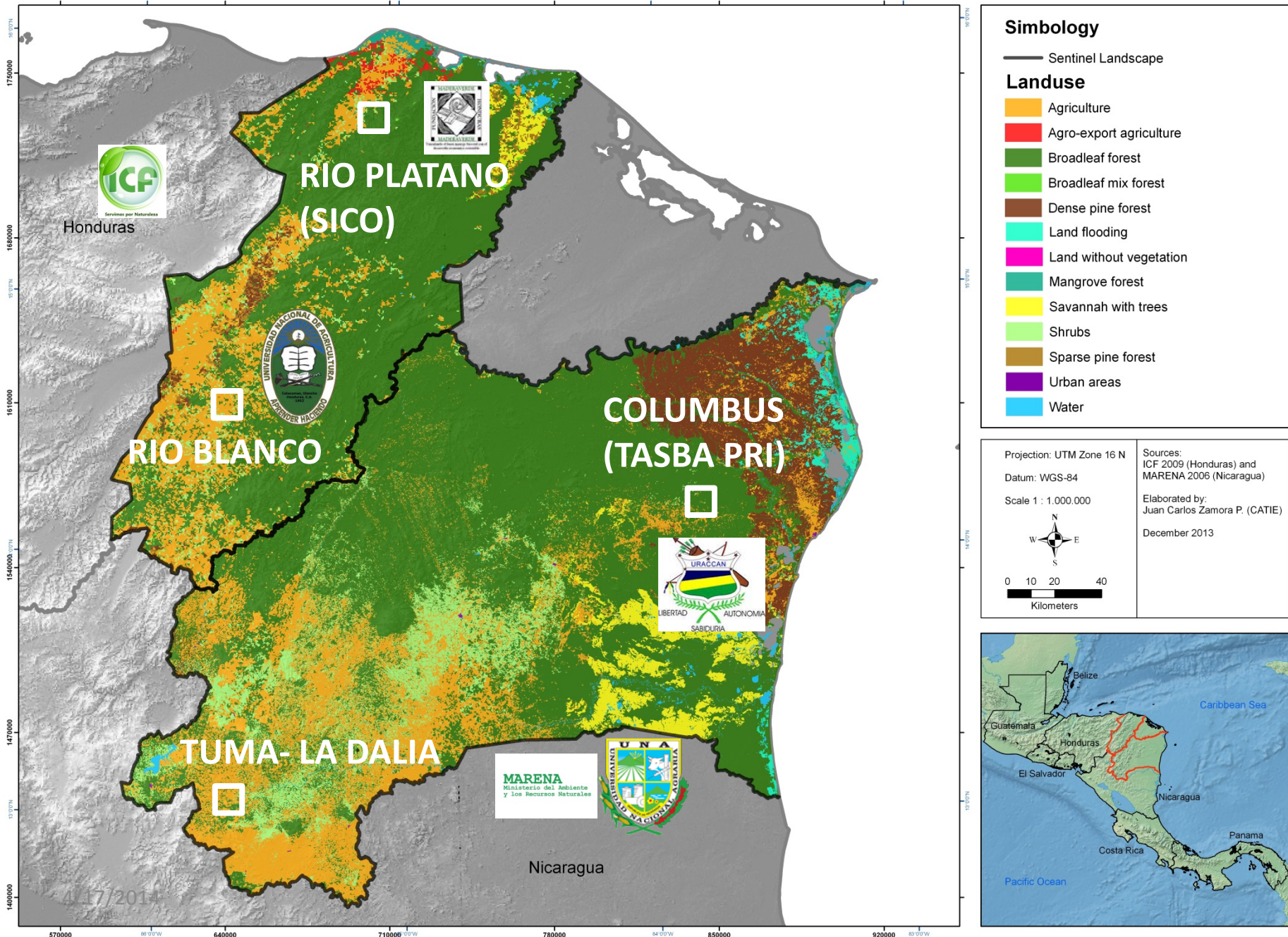Sources:
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Kilometers

N
W   E
S

Caribbean Sea

Belize
Guatemala
Honduras
El Salvador
Nicaragua
Costa Rica
Panama
Pacific Ocean

4/17/2014

Tuma-La Dalia-Ni

- Fragmented landscape with low forest cover
- Land use: basic grains production, coffee agroforestry and cattle ranching.
- Farm sizes ~0.5 ha - 300 ha, most commonly smallholders with individual private land tenure
- Good accessibility
- Part of the CATIE key territory
- Very high population density >250 persons/km2 (CIESIN estimates for 2010)

Columbus - Ni

- Part of the Tasba-Pry indigenous territory (indigenous reserve - Miskitu)
- High percentage of non indigenous settlers 50% in the area = source of conflicts
- Indigenous communities, recognized by the government, communal land. Settlers individual private land tenure
- Forest in recovery phase from a large event disturbance: Felix Hurricane in 2007
- Migratory agriculture and livestock encroachment in tropical forest – particularly after Felix.
- Very low population densities 1-5 persons/km2 (CIESIN estimates for 2010)

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Rio Blanco-Hn

- Main land use: pasture - cattle ranching and basic grains production
- Small pockets of forest remnants (mostly along rivers)
- A massive conversion from forest to cattle ranching started in 80's.
- Located between three protected areas (e.g. Patuca, Sierra de Agalta and Tawahka National Park).
- Low population density, 5-25 persons/km2 (CIESIN estimates for 2010)
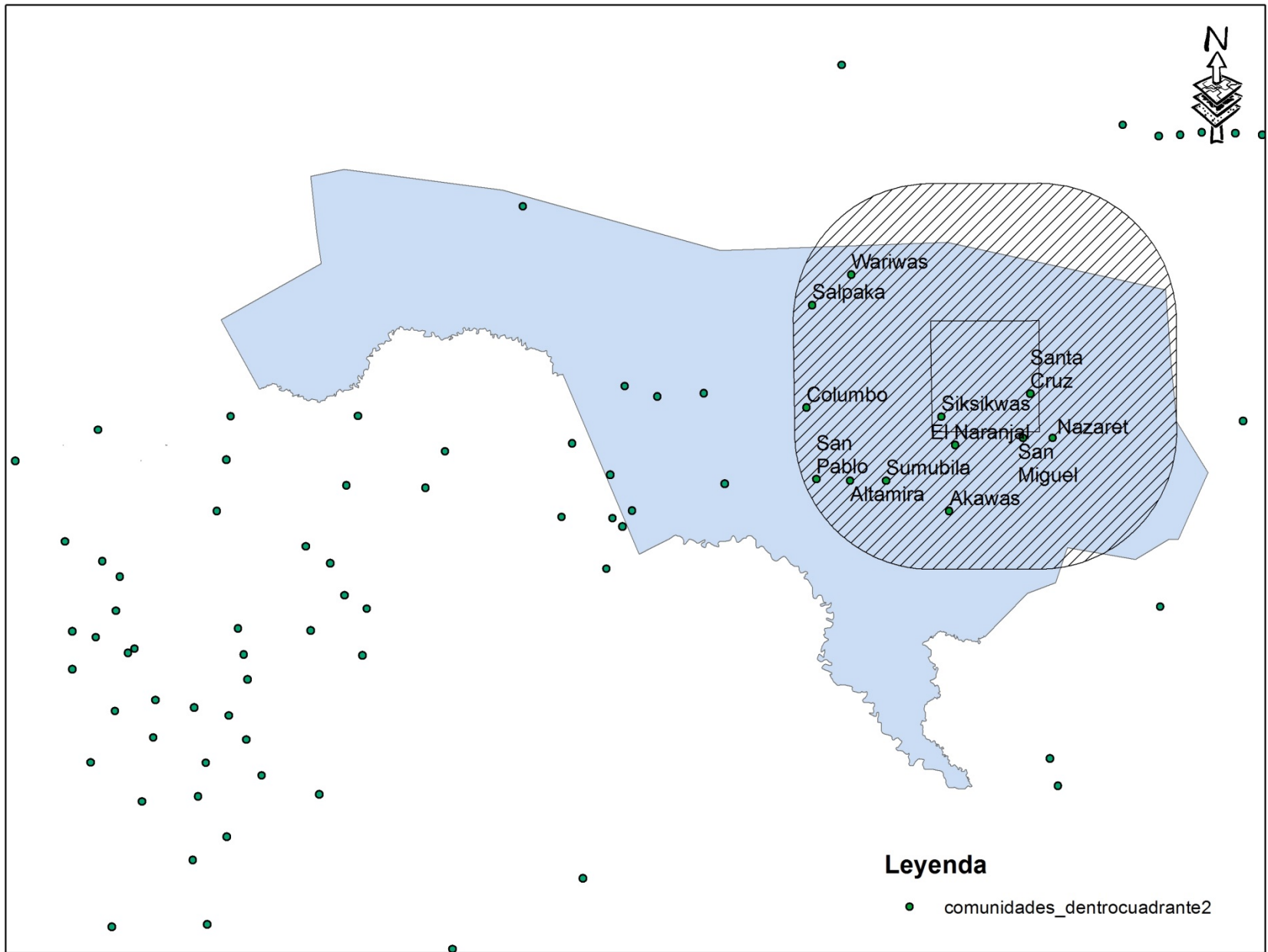
Rio Platano-Hn

- Still largely covered by primary forests (in the mountainous areas within the reserves)
- Reserves land belong to the government
- Cattle ranching in fertile valleys, where population settle, managed as private land tenure (even within national territories).
- People share agricultural activities and forest management (concessions) as sources of livelihood.
- Home to several indigenous groups, within the reserve. Rights over land not recognized by government.
- Low population density, 5-25 persons/km2 (CIESIN estimates for 2010)
- Securities issues drug traffic , land grabbing

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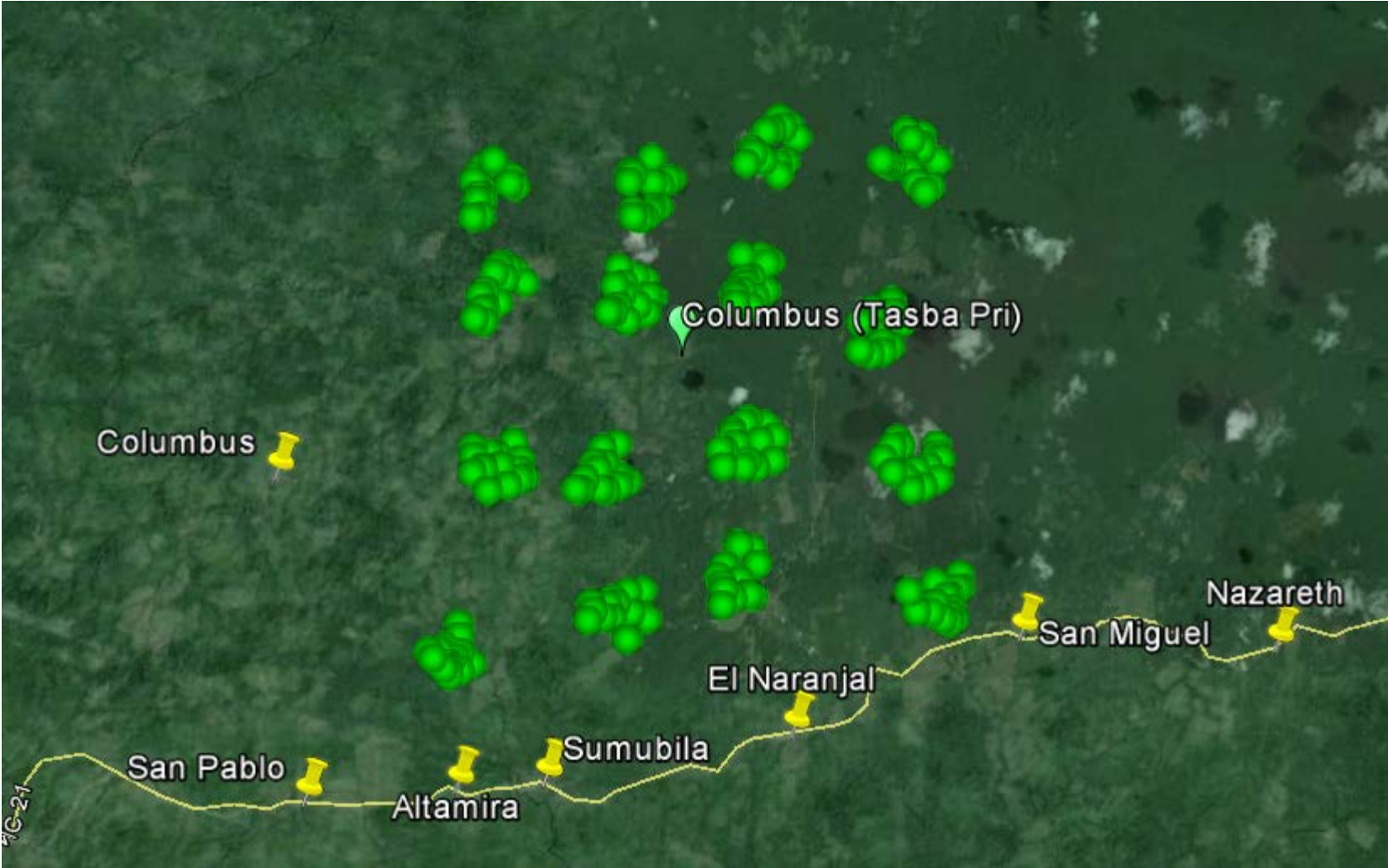# Ni-Ho Baseline- village selection

- Initial listing of villages with census data, regional census, (scarce, not up to date)
- National maps, regional maps
- visit to municipalities, knowledge of partners
- Check location of villages within or near the block
- Criteria for selection:
  - Distance to the road – forest (in Nicaragua used exchangeable)
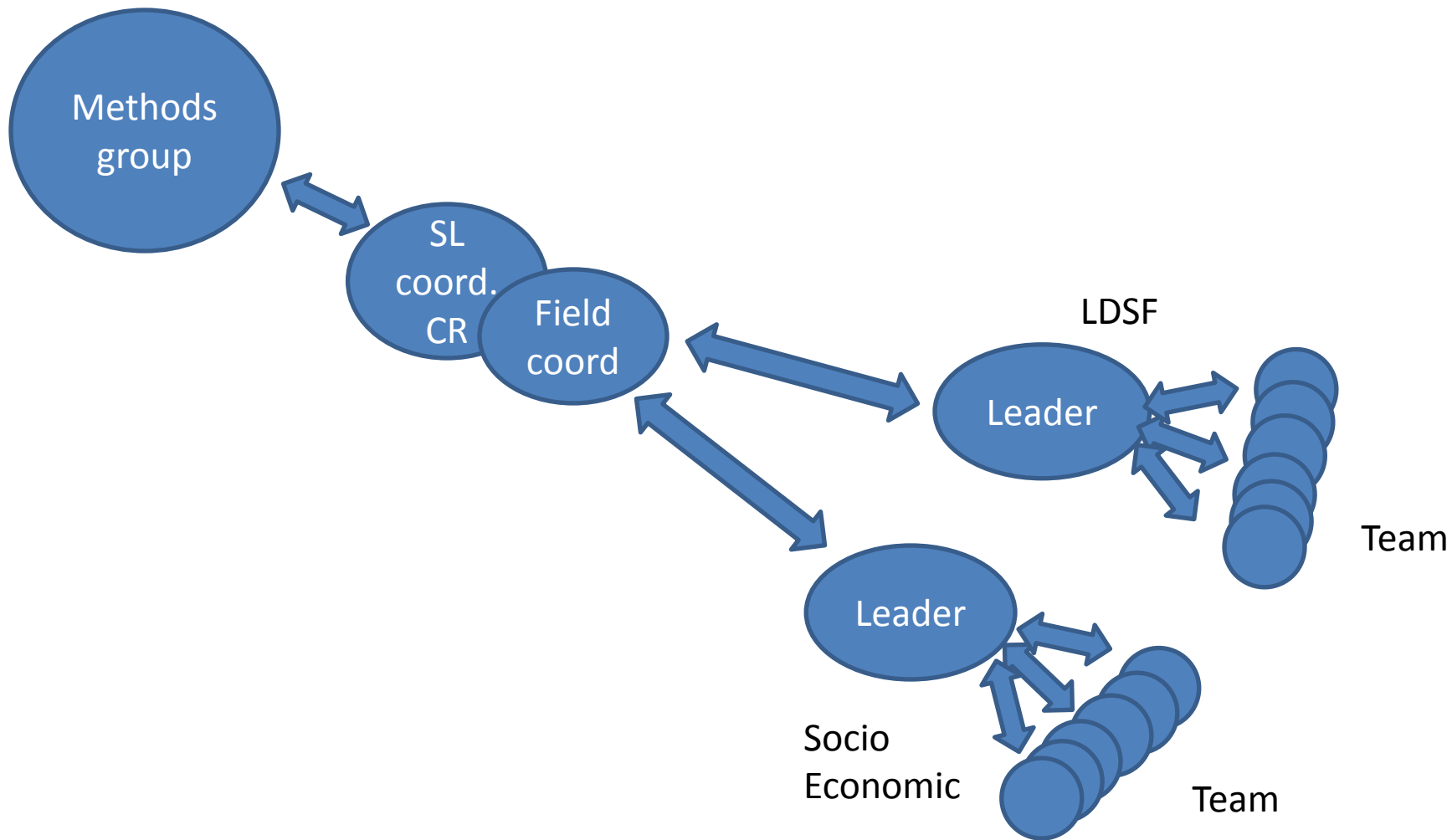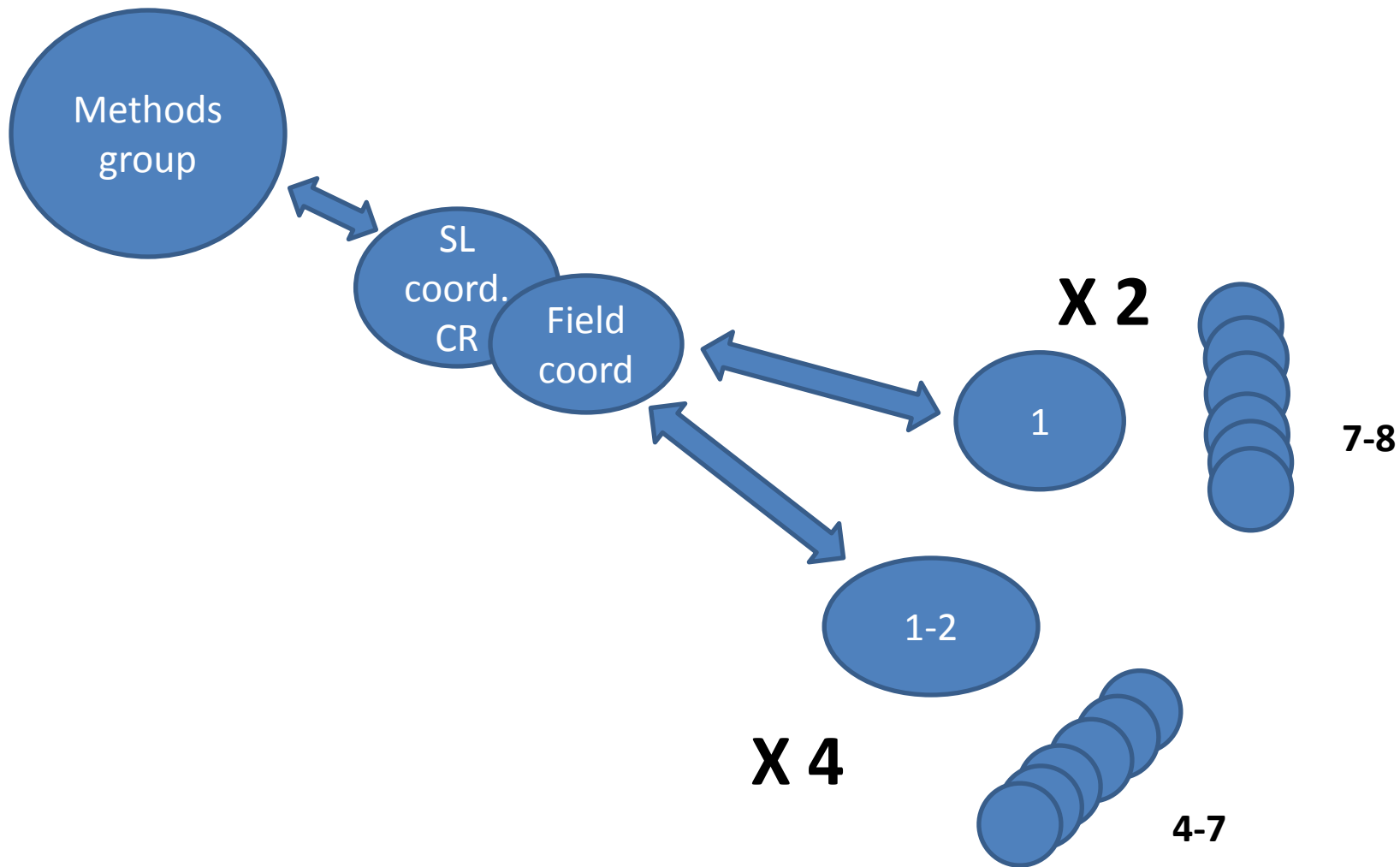 - Partners recommendation based on accessibility and security

N

Wariwas
Salpaka

Santa
Cruz
Columbo
Siksikwas
El Naranjal   Nazaret
San   San
Pablo   Sumubila   Miguel
Altamira   Akawas

Leyenda

● comunidades_dentrocuadrante2

La Dalia

Columbus

The Team

The Team

Methods group

SL coord. CR

Field coord

X 2

1

7-8

X 4

1-2

4-7

Socio – economic survey

- Tuma:
  - 8 communities
  - 297 HH, 158 forms (IFRI and ISOP)

- Columbus
  - 8 communities
  - 121 HH, 136 forms (IFRI and ISOP)
  - 3-5 days per village

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Collection of information – village level

- Random selection of HH, based on lists of households from leaders, and snowball.
- IFRI survey:
  - Mostly workshops ideally at least 30 participants
  - Focal groups smaller groups (particularly for user and products)
  - Key informants leaders, teacher
  - Individual interviews (users and products)
  - People chosen in coordination with the leaders of the villages
  - As much as possible 50% men and 50% women

Type of villages

La Dalia

- Village with a core area (church, school, mayor building) and houses around.

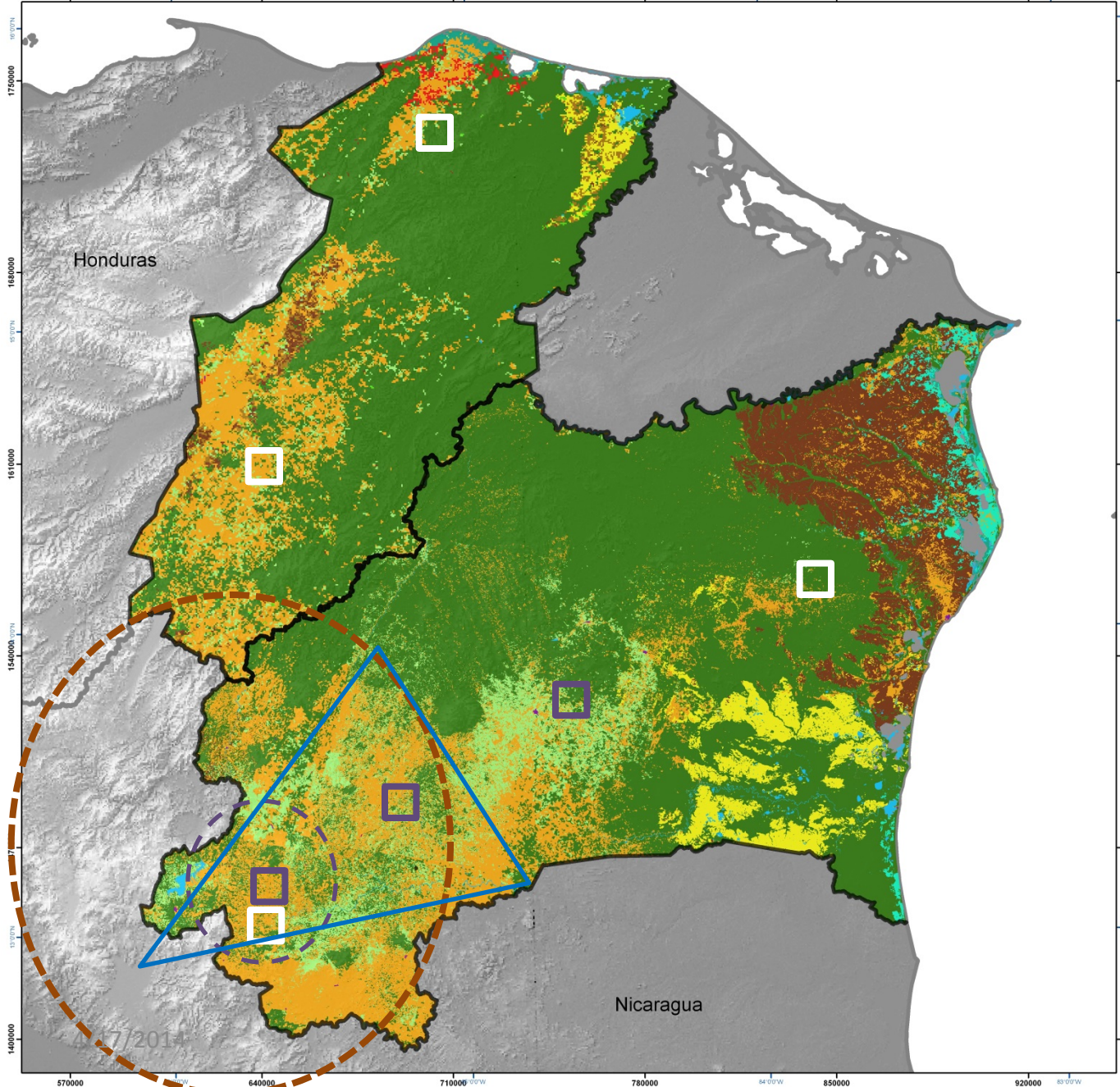- Spread households

Columbus

- Village is set along the road

Gender components

- Try to get more participation of women
- Consider not only farming activities but also household activities to plan interviews
- Perhaps other approaches needed to go beyond conditions (this is a good starting point), but we need to get to power relations.

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Thanks