Honduras — A forest alert needs a second pair of eyes



Honduras AI white paper • 27 November 2026 · Revision 2

On Honduras's Caribbean coast, the record that a machine produces can affect a truck driver, a shoreline community or a ranger far from a desk. Preserve a person's ability to check it at the point of use. Decisions about the release of cultural material and sensitive locations should stay with those authorised to make them.

The decision before local leaders

This paper proposes two starting points for Honduras. Before either begins, the service owner should agree on an existing comparison service, a way to challenge an error and the conditions for ending the trial.

Test change alerts using image pairs and authorised field observations.

Proposed lead. Reserve monitoring lead and participating community reviewers

What to measure. Verified changes, withdrawn alerts and unresolved locations by observation date.

Test access and correction at a public records desk using duplicate case files.

Proposed lead. Public information officer

What to measure. Time to a reasoned reply and records corrected across all copies.

Local evidence in context

Indicator	Value	Observation	Source
Population	11,005,850	2025	World Bank WDI
GDP per person, current US dollars	3,598	2025	World Bank WDI
Residents aged 65 and over	4.5%	2025	World Bank WDI
People using the internet	58.6%	2024	ITU / World Bank

The year and geographic coverage belong to each observation. These figures describe the jurisdiction as a whole. Collect service-level figures before setting a cost target, staff requirement or digital access threshold.

Economic and social needs

Check the handover at Puerto Cortés

Honduras's public-private partnership regulator reports on the concession for the container and general cargo terminal at Puerto Cortés. A prediction supplied by one contractor may influence work carried out by another. Before testing automated gate scheduling, identify who owns the booking, who can amend it and who will tell a driver that it has changed. Record a missed handover against the whole journey when comparing the trial with current practice.

Policy response. Rehearse a cancelled slot across the terminal, carrier and gate desk before using live recommendations.

SAPP Honduras, Puerto Cortés terminal concession monitoring, December 2025

Agree the audience before recording a story

UNESCO describes the role of elders in Garifuna oral traditions and identifies Honduras among the countries where Garifuna communities live. An oral-history project should let a contributor choose whether a recording may be heard locally, indexed for searching or shared online. A student editing an interview needs to see those choices before uploading it. A new use, such as an imitation voice, needs a fresh decision.

Policy response. Attach the contributor's permissions to the copy used by the editor and check them before publication.

UNESCO, Language, dance and music of the Garifuna

Public institutions and environmental needs

Give residents a workable correction process

Honduras's Institute for Access to Public Information publishes the transparency law, which addresses procedures for receiving requests for access to and correction of data. When a public office adds an assistant to its records desk, the resident needs to know who can fix the underlying record. A polite automated acknowledgement is only the first step. The desk should keep the request open until an authorised officer has considered it.

Policy response. Give residents a reference and record when the responsible officer communicates a decision.

Instituto de Acceso a la Información Pública, transparency law

Distinguish a cloud shadow from a clearing

UNESCO places the Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve in the Mosquitia of north-eastern Honduras and describes its forests and communities. A forest-change alert should trigger a review of the image date, weather and available field observations. A shadow or a change in river level can alter what appears in a single image. Before sending a crew or publishing a location, ask an authorised local reviewer to check the evidence and the route.

Policy response. Suppress sensitive locations from the public export and count alerts withdrawn after field review.

UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve

How the policy would change a decision

Before generating a public account of relief spending, remove bank details and individual case descriptions from the working file. Ask a reviewer familiar with the area whether the remaining combination of details identifies a household.

- Identify the official authorised to release the municipal report and limit access to the original applications.
- If a supervised financial institution handles a related service, have it assess the supplier’s technology and outsourcing arrangements.

The official authorising release should record which details the local reviewer could recognise. If the reviewer can identify a household, withhold that summary and combine or remove details before a second review.

Source: CAIA jurisdiction guide for Honduras. The worked example illustrates the proposal.

Decide which features the map can show

Before mapping, ask participating communities and park staff what should remain private and how to report an error without internet. Pay local reviewers; do not make access to services conditional on handing over a map.

The local pilot connects to Public administration and justice. Review R05 · R03 in the regional risk register.

Implementation and public review

Stage	Evidence or decision	Proposed responsibility
Before the trial	Define a completed case and sample the current process. Include people who use the phone, desk or an offline route.	Reserve monitoring lead and participating community reviewers
During shadow testing	Verified changes, withdrawn alerts and unresolved locations by observation date. Compare the same cases through both routes and record every override.	Reserve monitoring lead and participating community reviewers
At the local decision	Time to a reasoned reply and records corrected across all copies. Record whether the result justifies a live trial and identify the person who can stop it.	Public information officer
After six months	Publish results by channel, the correction time, unresolved complaints and the decision to continue, revise or stop.	Local service owner

What partners can share

Compare forest-alert error rates with Nicaragua using a shared test. Each authority retains its field files, and communities decide which locally supplied knowledge can leave the reserve.

Record the local approval, correction route and stop authority before exchanging results. Other jurisdictions can reuse the method and run their own tests. Regional recommendation 5.

Where to draw the boundary

An office adopting this proposal would still need to check its own powers, contracts and data permissions. Organisations named as possible reviewers or leads have not been appointed by this publication. Publish any accepted role and its date with the local trial record.

A 90-day plan for the first service

Test change alerts using image pairs and authorised field observations.

Proposed pilot lead. Reserve monitoring lead and participating community reviewers

A reserve change alert mixes observations from different dates

Failure to test. A draft layer pairs unsuitable image dates and labels seasonal variation as unauthorised change.

Evidence to retain. Keep image dates, authorised site observations and dispositions of the alerts.

Pause condition. An unverified location could trigger a restriction or inspection without field confirmation.

When	Proposed action and evidence
Days 1–30	Reserve monitoring lead and participating community reviewers agrees the eligible cases, existing service measures, staffed alternative and authorised decision owner. Record reviewers and a cost estimate in local currency for staff time, testing, access and recovery. Identify the funding source and who would approve it.

When	Proposed action and evidence
Days 31–60	Run the original and proposed routes on the same sample. Verified changes, withdrawn alerts and unresolved locations by observation date. Report counted errors and eligible cases by channel and language where lawful, plus the time from error report to correction.
Days 61–90	Witness the fallback, correction and restart before asking the accountable officer for a decision. Pause on the condition above. Record affected cases, unresolved issues, costs and the date for the next check.
Six months after live launch	Publish a lawful comparison with the baseline, including corrections, open complaints and the decision to continue, change or end the use.

Sponsorship, funding and the proposed lead’s acceptance require a recorded local decision. Share test methods with Caribbean partners using the local data permissions.

Sector guide · UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve · Local evidence and sources · Regional high-impact use rules · Local risk scenario

Sources and method

The committee used published local evidence to select the four priorities and compared them with the Caribbean AI Framework's requirements for access, data, skills, oversight and adoption. Recommendations and stories are editorial proposals. This edition reports no results from a completed local pilot.

1. SAPP Honduras, Puerto Cortés terminal concession monitoring, December 2025
2. UNESCO, Language, dance and music of the Garifuna
3. Instituto de Acceso a la Información Pública, transparency law
4. UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve
5. World Bank WDI — Population
6. World Bank WDI — GDP per person, current US dollars
7. World Bank WDI — Residents aged 65 and over
8. ITU / World Bank — People using the internet
9. Honduras jurisdiction guide, Caribbean AI Association
10. Honduras pilot note, Caribbean AI Association
11. Caribbean AI Framework, consultation edition, 27 November 2026

Suggested citation: Caribbean AI Association, AI Framework Committee (2026). Honduras — A forest alert needs a second pair of eyes. Country white paper, consultation edition, 27 November 2026. Publication page.