

## Story of survival – RODRIGO (El Salvador)



Photo: Gonzalo Bell

### At a glance

**Problem caused by climate change:**  
Drought.

**SCIAF partner:** JDS.

### **Solution:**

- Training provided on harvesting rain water to use to irrigate crops
- Training provided on how use different farming techniques to get the most out of the land.

### **Outcome:**

Rodrigo is now self-sufficient and grows a variety of different crops, including bananas and coffee. He sells some of his produce when he has an excess.

### Introduction

In Rodrigo's community people have to make their living from the incredibly steep, dry slopes of the countryside. Water is a big issue. When it rained, the water quickly ran off the fields, leaving little benefit for the crops.

### How SCIAF has helped Rodrigo's community

- Training provided on how to use innovative farming techniques that make the best use out of precious resources like water. For example, using old plastic bottles to drip-irrigate plants and creating 'living grass barriers' along the edges of fields. These help retain water in the fields as well as preventing soil erosion and landslides.
- Training provided on how to set up systems to harvest rain water.
- Provision of animals and seeds to families.

### Quotes

*"The people here try and live in harmony as best they can with their environment."*