

Village Update

San Diego, El Salvador



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This quarter a dedicated group composed of four men in the Agros community San Diego has been in charge of the hen project. The men sell the eggs to the rest of the families so that the community can have access to an important source of protein without having to travel lengthy distances. A bus to neighboring town San Martin has begun to pass near San Diego, and the entrepreneurs are taking initiative to expand their market there as well. Through the project, the participants are also producing income for their families, and setting an example of an enterprising spirit in San Diego.

Community Organization

The leadership and committees in San Diego recently reviewed and updated the community bylaws, analyzing each section and ensuring that they were still pertinent and being observed. Families then reviewed the document and brought questions to the community assembly, and then unanimously voted in favor of the bylaws. These guidelines are an important component of community organization and help the community to run smoothly. Additionally, new leaders were elected this quarter with a focus on gender equity among the representatives. There are an equal number of men and women leaders in San Diego.

This quarter, many of the men and women from the different committees participated in a values-based planning workshop in order to make plans for the upcoming fiscal year. They discussed how to better help the families in San Diego throughout the development and empowerment process. Urgent needs were discussed, values were reestablished, and plans were made. Between the interactive participation of everyone, a course for the future was set.

The Women's Committee was restructured at a meeting with twenty-eight women of all ages in attendance. The newly-formed group welcomed three new members in addition to hosting workshops on the importance of being a woman and formulating work plans. Through these trainings, the committee hopes to empower the women to embrace their gender, strive for equality in community work and set goals for their future.

Housing and Infrastructure

Four families finished construction on their composting latrines this quarter, contributing to a cleaner, healthier environment, and providing organic compost for their crops. The families are also working on incorporating a new gray water system, which is about 35% complete, in order to recycle wash water in their fields.

Partnering with Suchitoto, access roads have been greatly improved to aid transportation in and out of the community.

Sustainable Economic Growth

Three agricultural trainings took place this quarter in San Diego on the prevention and control of sicknesses that affect livestock. These trainings are important to the families currently involved in raising young bulls.



The chicken projects are growing in San Diego. There are now several active groups, and two more women have joined in. With their husbands, the women have built a chicken coop to house the 100 chicks they bought in order to expand the project. Through adequate care and feeding, the chicks will be ready to sell in the local market in about 1 ½ months. Additionally, forty mature hens and three roosters of improved varieties have been given to the participants in order to breed more chickens and increase the health of their brood. The goal is to raise healthier, quality chickens that sell at a higher price in the market.

Six families are actively involved in cultivating 3.4 acres of beans, providing an important staple in the community's diet and decreasing families' dependence on buying basic foods from the market.

Community Education and Training

In February, the first Health Day took place in San Diego, providing medical attention for the families. Forty-two received care and all ages were treated for parasites, colds, vitamin deficiencies, and infections. The Health Committee is coordinating with professionals from a nearby district to get physicals for the children in the community as well as dental treatment from a nearby hospital.