

Village Update

Nuevo Amanecer, Honduras



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Agros uses 20 indicators to measure the impact of our work in Agros communities. Indicators measure predetermined outcomes, such as improved access to water, that are hoped to be achieved through Agros' work and make up the greater vision of Agros, to restore hope to the world's poor. The eight indicators below are measured on an annual basis and are now included in each quarterly Village Update.

ANNUAL INDICATORS OF VILLAGE PROGRESS (June 2009) Founded: 2004

Development Level:



Economic Indicators:

Diversification of income-generating crops:

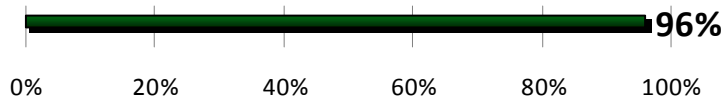
5 types of crops sold to provide income

70% of people have livestock

Participation in commercialization of products:

70% of people commercialize their products

Enterprise loan repayment rates:



Community Indicators:

Access to water for domestic use:

100% *of families have water at 0-100 meters from home*

Presence of health promoters in community:

Yes

School-aged children attending school:

53% *(The children from nine families joined the community too late in the year to begin classes; they will enroll next school year.)*

Women in leadership:

14%

Eighteen-year old Carlos is the son of one of the Nuevo Amanecer community members who joined the village in October of last year. Since then, Carlos has already established food security by planting beans and corn. He does not have children, but he wants to make sure that when he does, they will be well provided for. When Carlos first joined Agros, he was skeptical as to how a community could work together; he was not very active in the community and kept his distance. After a short time, however, he decided to apply for a loan for a plantain project and along with his brother, planted 1.72 acres of plantains with 2,800 plants. Somewhere along the way, his heart

changed. "I used to be an angry person," recalls Carlos. "I didn't like anybody and I hated being told what to do. I had problems working with the agronomist because he was telling me what to do so I would fight with him. But now we're friends and I'm constantly asking him for advice on how to treat and irrigate my plantains. I want to have a wonderful crop and have enough to provide for a family." Rather than anger and resistance, Carlos now has a future full of hope and promise.

Community Organization

Through general assembly meetings, religious gatherings, and committee-sponsored events, the community is growing stronger every day. There are now twenty families living in the village, two of which are new and are working to integrate in to the community activities.

All members are aware of the community rules and values and are constantly putting these into practice. Weekly meetings have strengthened leadership and opened the door to constant communication and conflict resolution as relationships improve.



Housing and Infrastructure

All but two permanent homes have been finished and all have access to running water, an incredible accomplishment for the families that removes the need to travel long distances carrying heavy jugs for meals and washing. Agros is partnering with the community to improve the water system even more.

Sustainable Economic Growth

As the families are assisted weekly by technicians from a partnering agricultural training organization, they are gaining more knowledge on how to produce basic grains to ensure food security for the present and future. This quarter, 33.5 acres of corn and 0.3 acres of beans were planted using new, environmentally-friendly techniques. Individual vegetable gardens are also being implemented throughout the community to add to family nutrition.

Besides basic grains, the major project this quarter has been the plantains, involving twelve producers. The existing 7.4 acres were expanded to eleven, supported by loans from Agros.

Community Education and Training

Partnering with the international health organization MAP, the health promoter sponsored a workshop on home cleanliness to prevent illness and keep families healthy. The promoter has been attending health trainings for three years now and is very thankful for what she has learned as she plans future workshops pertinent to the Nuevo Amanecer community.

The Women's Committee continues planning production projects for the future based on the funds they manage. The

women are learning about money management and how to save what they earn. The women are excited to begin trying new things as they prepare to start a doughnut, bread, and tamale business.

