

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: Progress through the Agros Development Model
(100% reached when community has paid off their land loans)



Economic Indicators:

Diversification of income-generating crops:

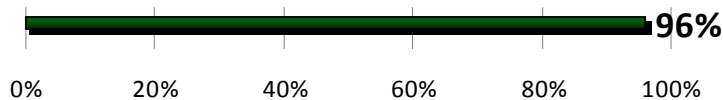
5 types of crops sold to provide income

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:

84%

Leadership Positions Held by Women:

14%

Oscar and María had been seeking a better future for their eight children for years before moving to the Nuevo Amanecer community in Honduras. They had managed to find enough land to rent to plant coffee and bring in a small income, but there was not enough to plant basic grains. When the couple heard of Nuevo Amanecer through a friend, they immediately decided to visit the village and see how it worked. Oscar remembers his thoughts after that first visit, "I liked how they worked together and thought this may be an opportunity for my family. We decided to move here, and our dream is to pay off the land and help our family move forward." Since moving to Nuevo Amanecer, Oscar, María and their children's lifestyle has improved. They now have their own house and are actively involved in the plantain project, generating enough income to pay off loans. "I am happy." Oscar says, "I am doing well, and I have faith that my children will inherit a better future."

Community Organization

There are currently eighteen families living in Nuevo Amanecer and community leadership is active, having received training in how to organize workshops, improve relationships among the community members, and organize the committees to work efficiently. The goals of the community's annual plan are being met and the community's values—respect, honesty, and faith—are also practiced daily.

Land Ownership

The families are consistently working their land and repaying their land loans on time continues to be a priority. All of the families have basic grains planted to ensure year-round food security. 11,500 pounds of corn were harvested this quarter and eight farmers were able to store up to 1,200 pounds of corn and beans in metal silos.

Housing and Infrastructure

The construction of a home was finished this quarter and 100% of families now have access to running water in their homes. One of their main goals for the new year is to improve their irrigation system.

Sustainable Economic Growth

After measuring and dividing the land into individual plots, each community member is managing their own plantain project, totaling to 8.6 acres of plantains. 1.7 of these acres will soon be ready for harvest and leadership is working with the producers to find a year-round buyer. 3,500 plantain plants are developing in the

nursery and will soon be ready to transplant and expand the existing plantain fields. This project has created enough income to cover the basic needs of each family.



Community Education and Training

Partnering with Fundación Amigos de Bernabé, the community received a medical team, benefiting sixty families this quarter. The village as a whole has learned how to improve their health through hygienic practices like hand-washing and keeping communal areas clean. Four women are being trained as health promoters to provide various health trainings and first aid to Nuevo Amanecer. Thirteen families participated in a training given by a health promoter on practical ways to keep homes and composting latrines clean and germ-free.

Through individual home visits and trainings on self-esteem, spiritual growth and relationships, families are more equipped to resolve conflicts peacefully. Families are demonstrating spiritual and relational growth. Seventeen men and women are participating in group facilitated by a local pastor about spiritual formation, practicing one's values and faith, and peaceful community living.



The adult literacy class has begun and thirteen adults and eight youth signed up for classes. The class' hands-on approach keeps lessons practical and interesting for the students. Learning how to read and write is a huge opportunity for these members, empowering and building self-esteem while providing necessary skills for improving their business activities.