



El Edén, Nicaragua **Village Plan Fiscal Year 2012 (July 2011 - June 2012):**

This Annual Village Plan has been developed by the women, men and children of El Edén through the Values-Based Planning process, a process in which the entire community chooses the upcoming year's activities based on their commonly-held values, vision and goals.

Sustainable Economic Growth

Objective: *The community will ensure food security, obtain self-sufficiency, and be part of a viable economy through diverse enterprises. Families will receive training to achieve a higher level of productivity and fair trade of their goods and services.*

- **Coffee Project:** Families will cultivate their coffee crops as a main source of income, practicing improved farming techniques learned in workshops with Agros staff.
- **Vegetable Projects:** Twenty-five families will grow a variety of vegetables in their home gardens for commercialization and consumption. Families will also learn new techniques to experiment growing garlic, carrots, cabbage, peppers, watermelon and beets to improve family nutrition.
- **Basic Grains:** Twenty-five families will store their corn and bean harvests to consume and sell throughout the year.
- **Women's Businesses:** The women will receive training on small enterprise operations to generate family income. Ten women participating in the Community Bank will use credit to invest in their small businesses and to save as a group.
- **Worm Composting:** Families will build worm compost bins to produce organic compost to improve soil fertility and crop production.
- **Cattle Project:** Twenty-five families will receive training to establish improved pastures for cattle, provide feed during the dry season, and use veterinary skills to ensure animal health.
- **Chicken Project:** Chicken coops will be built to expand the poultry production for income generation and consumption.
- **Fish Project:** The community will start preparations for a tilapia project by building tanks and receiving training on how to care for the fish.

Community Education and Training

Objective: *Families have opportunities for adequate healthcare, education, adult literacy and spiritual growth.*

- **Education:** Families will ensure all school-aged children receive a formal primary school education. Parents will learn the benefits of actively participating in their children's education.
- **Values:** Twenty men and women will practice unity by sharing work and incorporating community values into daily life. Groups of fifteen community members will form and meet regularly to encourage one another in personal growth and values in tolerance, respect for diversity, human rights, and community living.
- **Health Promoters:** Three new health promoters will receive training and develop skills in basic health care in order to serve the community.
- **Nutrition:** The children will participate in a nutritional health diagnosis and their height and weight will be measured monthly. Parents will participate in workshops on nutritious cooking to improve family diets.
- **Preventative Health:** Families will participate in preventative health seminars on good hygiene, participate in a community-wide clean-up, learn techniques for keeping their homes sanitary, and receive medicine to prevent parasites.
- **Medicine Supply:** The community's medicine and first aid kit supplies will be replenished to attend to families' minor medical needs and volunteers will receive training to properly administer medicines.

Community Organization

Objective: *Families define a vision for their village and develop the local leadership required to create a self-sustaining, thriving community.*

- **Leadership Development:** Leadership will receive training on their roles and responsibilities based on values outlined by the community, such as the importance of organization, motivation, democracy, transparency and participation.
- **Values-Based Planning:** Families will participate in a workshop facilitated by community leaders on values-based planning, community organization, vision and mission, and creating bylaws.
- **Evaluations:** The families will take part in annual and biennial evaluations to reflect on the goals, performance and progress of the annual village plan.

Housing and Infrastructure

Objective: *Families implement individual and communal infrastructure to meet their basic needs of shelter, health and production.*

- **Improved Water Systems:** The community will purchase materials to construct a system to provide water for consumption and irrigation and maintain the water reservoirs.
- **Housing Improvements:** Twenty-five families will make improvements to their homes to ensure adequate shelter.