

# Village Update

Santa Fe Ajké, México



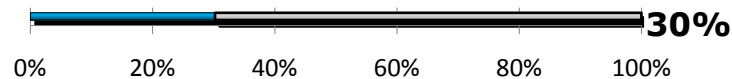
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Agros uses 20 indicators to measure the impact of our work in Agros communities. Indicators measure predetermined outcomes, such as improved access to water, that are hoped to be achieved through Agros' work and make up the greater vision of Agros, 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 2010) Founded: 2008

**Development Level**—Progress through the Agros Development Model. Direct support typically ends at 70% and 100% is reached when land loans are repaid.



## Economic Indicators:

### Diversification of income-generating crops:

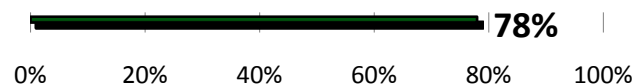
11 types of crops sold to provide income

40% of people have livestock

### Participation in commercialization of products:

100% of people commercialize their products

### Enterprise loan repayment rates:



## Community Indicators:

### Access to water for domestic use:

47% of families have water at 0-10 meters from home

*\*This goal has been revised from 0-100 meters to accurately reflect Agros' priority to ensure accessible water closer to the home.*

### Presence of health promoters in community:

No (Selection and training process currently underway.)

### School-aged children attending school:

79%

### Leadership Positions Held by Women:

53%

Gume, his wife, Elicea, daughter, Yolanda, and three grandsons were one of the first families to join the Agros village of Santa Fe Ajké. Before, "in my previous life," as Gume calls it, he worked as a foreman of another landowner's farm. He always had an interest in agriculture but never had the opportunity to make his own decisions about what to grow. Now, he says, even though he has just started to make payments on his land loan, he enjoys the empowerment of deciding what agricultural projects to pursue.

Gume says with great hope and excitement, "I have my land, my house. Even though I am already an adult, I know will enjoy it for a long time."

## **Community Organization**

This quarter, with the addition of 11 new families, the planned number of families for Santa Fe Ajké – 30 – was realized. The new families are excited to be a part of the Agros program and are already working their land parcels with great enthusiasm.

## **Land Ownership**

By the end of the quarter, 23 families had made the first of their annual land payments. The remaining families planned to make their payments in July. In addition, during the quarter, \$255 was paid on loans for individual agricultural projects.

Through a reforestation project, cedar trees and bamboo were planted to define land borders and to prevent erosion.

## **Housing and Infrastructure**

With Agros' help, a system was constructed to drain off excess irrigation water and avoid flooding of fields. Also, an additional irrigation canal was constructed to reach the community's most distant parcels of land.



***A new drainage system and irrigation canal were constructed during the quarter.***

Two more houses were completed, for a total of 25. The number of composting latrines reached 20 completed and five more in process. Progress is also being made in the construction of improved stoves, with 19 in process.

## **Sustainable Economic Growth**

At the beginning of the quarter, four families harvested and sold 1.5 tons of onions, earning between \$261 and \$523 per ton. Another family harvested and sold peanuts and chilies.



***One family harvested an abundance of onions to sell.***

Also, 30 families prepared about 50 hectares for seeding corn. By the end of the quarter 20 hectares had been successfully seeded. To help ensure a good yield of corn, Agros provided each family with a supply of fertilizer, insecticide and weed killer.

With the beginning of the rainy season, maintenance of the four hectares of lemon trees intensified, with the Agros

team assisting the seven participating families with proper pruning, fertilization and disease control.

One family raising sheep and another raising turkeys also received guidance from the team. During the quarter, two of the sheep gave birth to healthy lambs.

In the kitchen gardens of ten families, a variety of vegetables are being grown. Radishes, cauliflower and carrots provide important nutritional diversity for the families' health.

Eight women attended a workshop on how to process and preserve onions and tomatoes. Two more workshops focused on controlling disease among various types of produce, and a third addressed the care of poultry.

Also this quarter, the ten women involved in the community bank were trained in basic finance administration principles.

## **Community Education and Training**

Three more people were added to the team of community health promoters, for a total of five. The promoters were provided training on the roles and responsibilities of their position, as well as training in the care and prevention of such common ailments as respiratory and stomach problems.



***The community bank enables women in the community to pursue various income-generating projects.***