

Village Update

Santa Fe Ajké, México



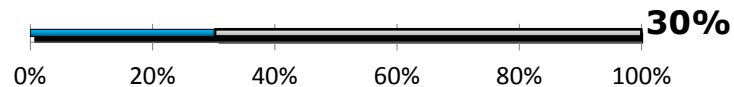
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Agros uses 20 indicators to measure the impact of our work in Agros communities. Indicators measure predetermined outcomes, such as improved access to water, that are hoped to be achieved through Agros' work and make up the greater vision of Agros, 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 (100% reached when community has paid off their land loans)



Economic Indicators:

Diversification of income-generating crops:

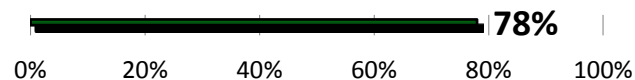
11 types of crops sold to provide income

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%

Twenty-nine year old Mario and his wife María have found happiness in Santa Fe Ajké. Their marriage in May was the first to take place in the community. Together they have found Santa Fe to be a satisfying place to live and are involved in several income-generating projects. Currently they grow potatoes, beans and papaya and are raising chickens. Like most in her situation, María was hesitant about the land loan at first. "We were a little scared about the payments on the land, but together we support each other and will follow through with our goals." She is now the Secretary of the first Community Bank in Santa Fe and earns extra income selling shoes from a catalogue. Mario is a native to the area, providing him with helpful agricultural experience. Both are satisfied with what they have achieved and have begun making goals for the future. "We are grateful for the support in Agros and we hope to soon

open a small market in the community where the community can sell our harvests.”



Community Organization

Leadership positions are being reelected and restructured in Santa Fe. The Credit Committee has new leadership and the Coordination Committee has dissolved and a group of municipal representatives is taking their place. These community members work to maintain open communication between the families and the local government, ensure goals of the annual plan are being carried out and that the bylaws are being followed. This is a one-year commitment.

Land Ownership

All twenty-four families of Santa Fe were pleased to have received their promissory notes from Agros. With this documentation, the families are clear on their responsibilities as they work to owning their land.



Housing and Infrastructure

In an effort to satisfy the water needs of Santa Fe, construction on a well has begun. With materials provided by Agros, the families have built two water tanks, dug a well fourteen meters deep and cased ten meters of the well with cement and brick. This project is taking priority over all other construction in the community to ensure water for consumption for all families.

Home improvements have taken place to improve the families' daily lives. A composting latrine and two improved cook stoves were constructed, totaling to fifteen and eleven, respectively. Cement was also provided to a family to lay a cement floor.

Sustainable Economic Growth

Four families recently took preventative measures to ensure the health of their birds. One family raising rabbits has seen a new litter of eight bunnies since December.



Ten women have received training and support to organize the first Community Bank in Santa Fe. Calling themselves "The Union," these women received a group loan of \$1,440 to fund various small business initiatives. After several loan cycles and regular savings, the group will be able to use their capital to provide loans to others in the community to pursue similar enterprises. Businesses being initiated include selling chickens, perfume, shoes and clothing.

Food security is being established by the farmers in Santa Fe. This past harvest, twenty-three tons of corn were harvested from 34.6 acres of farmland. The next planting is

already in progress with twenty-four families working on about 86.5 acres dedicated to growing basic grains. With the arrival of the rainy season, other projects such as growing peanuts and local fruits have begun as well. Surplus food is either being sold or stored for later use.

Four families are pleased with their recent onion harvest, resulting in one ton of produce. Growing on just 0.18 acres, families sold these onions to neighboring communities and local markets for a good price.

Two papaya projects are under way in Santa Fe. Together, there are about 115 trees grown for consumption and sale within and outside of the community. The 9.9 acre lime grove is also developing well.

Families growing melon in the community are pleased to have a profitable project. Their 150 plant grove covers 2,000 square feet and produced over 250 melons which were sold in and around their community for \$0.60 each. Although the project is small, continued profits should allow for expansion.

Community Education and Training

A partnering doctor visited the community this quarter, providing eight families with medical exams. Additionally, the community received basic medicines to treat common ailments such as parasites, the flu and stomachaches.

To improve the diets and overall health in Santa Fe, nutrition workshops were held in the community over the past few months. Fifteen men and women learned about the importance of a healthy diet and the nutrition found in local produce.