

Village Update

San José, Nicaragua



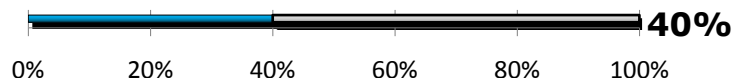
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Agros uses 20 indicators to measure the impact of our work in Agros communities. Indicators measure predetermined outcomes, such as improved access to water, that are hoped to be achieved through Agros' work and make up the greater vision of Agros, 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: 2007

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:

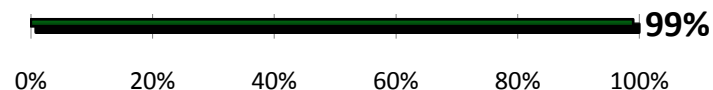
6 types of crops sold to provide income

70% 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:

100% 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:

Yes

School-aged children attending school:

93%

Leadership Positions Held by Women:

38%

Juan Rayo is a great example to the other community members of crop diversity. In addition to coffee, the primary crop of San José, he also grows corn, green peppers, passion fruit and chili peppers. Recently, he planted banana trees among his coffee plants to provide needed shade for the coffee and to further diversify his crops.

Juan's wife, Maria, recently started a chicken-raising project to help with the family's nutrition and income. She began with seven hens and one rooster. Today, she has 18

chickens in her coop. Juan and Maria are well on their way to a bright future for themselves and their two children.

Community Organization

This quarter, a new leadership board was elected by the community. For most of the members, this is their first time to serve in a leadership position. Agros is supporting them with training to develop their leadership skills and understanding of the role they play.

Agros is also working with the families, encouraging them to internalize the established community values and use them to guide their interactions with each other.

Land Ownership

To date, three of the families of San José have made payments on their land loans. All the families look forward to the completion of the irrigation system, which will allow them to increase their production and earn more income to make payments on their loans.

Tree seedlings native to the region were planted during the quarter. This reforestation project helps preserve natural resources and prevent soil erosion. The trees will also provide shade for the coffee plants, important to good coffee production.

Housing & Infrastructure

The families completed their home improvement projects of adding floors to at least one-half of the space in their houses.

Also, the community leadership worked with the local municipal government to have improvements made to the main access road. And a water tank for the much-anticipated irrigation system is under construction.



The tank for the irrigation system is in the final construction stages.

Sustainable Economic Growth

This quarter, the families planted about 57 acres of corn. These corn fields have also been fertilized and are progressing well. In addition, credit was extended to enable families to plant 120,000 coffee plants, 14,200 tomato plants, 8,000 plants of chili peppers and 3,000 plants of green peppers. Families are also cultivating squash and passion fruit.

Agriculture training this quarter focused primarily on coffee cultivation. Families were trained in a variety of topics including seed selection, soil disinfection, treating common diseases and fertilization.

A group of women received loans to start a project to raise chickens. So far, they are enjoying success with this venture, and they are happy to be learning not only how to care for their flock but also how to manage a small business.

Community Education & Training

Fifteen women in the community received gynecological exams. These women, who have never before had this screening, demonstrated great courage in overcoming their anxieties about this important health measure.

A community clean-up day was held this quarter. Also, families were instructed about the proper disposal of fertilizer and other agro-chemical containers, to avoid water contamination and consumption of poisonous substances.

Unfortunately, the teacher of the adult literacy classes moved from the area. The community is looking for a replacement so the classes can be resumed without too much delay.

Community members continue to be dedicated to their spiritual lives. Devotionals are conducted at the beginning of each work day, as well as the start of every meeting.



San José is located on high-quality land with a great climate for the production of a variety of crops.