



HONDURAS

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THE PROJECT

Project Location: Sonaguera, Colon, Honduras

GPS Coordinates: Latitude:15 39.201 N Longitude:086 10.283 W

People Served: 300

Report Presented To: Calvary Baptist Church

THE COUNTRY

According to the most recent UNDP report, Honduras is ranked 106th out of 169 countries with comparable data in the United Nations Human Development Index. The economy relies on a narrow range of exports, notably bananas and coffee, making it vulnerable to natural disasters and shifts in global commodity prices. Honduras is an extraordinarily beautiful country, yet it remains a difficult place for many to live and is considered one of the least developed and least secure countries in Central America.

In recent years, Honduras has been hit hard by tropical storms and hurricanes. Hurricane Mitch devastated the country in 1998, leaving 5,000 people dead, 70 percent of crops destroyed, and damage estimated in the billions, setting back development by decades. Endemic poverty, chronic unemployment, and the prospects offered by drug trafficking have contributed to a crime wave conducted mainly by youth gangs known as "maras."

Natural disasters have piled their effects on top of malnutrition, inadequate housing, and widespread disease. More than one third of Honduran infants are malnourished. HIV/AIDS prevalence among adults is 1.8 percent, the second highest in Latin America. Each day, nine Honduran children lose one parent to AIDS. Some 18 percent of the population has no access to basic health services, while 16 percent lack access to safe water. While populations are evenly divided between rural and urban areas, poverty is not. About 74 percent of the country's poor people (86 percent of the extremely poor) live in rural areas – areas where Living Water International works.

OUR WORK IN HONDURAS

Since beginning operations in Honduras in 1997, Living Water has completed more than 270 water projects along the north central coast of the country. Living Water International is a registered NGO in Honduras with an established team of trained nationals implementing water solutions for communities in need. Headquartered in La Cieba, Living Water Honduras (known in-country as Agua Viva Internacional) also rehabilitates broken-down wells. In the La Mosquitia region of Honduras, villages have reported an almost immediate 75 percent reduction in illnesses after well completion. Each year, new wells are drilled in Honduras by Living Water mission teams. In 2011, Living Water plans to lead 35 mission trips to Honduras, with hopes of increasing production in the future.

THE DATA

Population: 7.6 million

- 16% without access to an improved water source
- 34% without adequate sanitation services
- 50% living below the poverty line

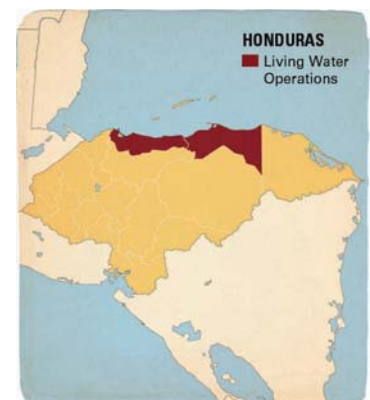
Life expectancy: 72 years

Infant mortality rate:
26 per 1000 live births

GNI per capita: \$3750 USD

Sources: World Bank, UNICEF, USAID, UNDP, CIA World Factbook

Official statistics often understate the extent of water and sanitation problems, sometimes by a large margin. Insufficient resources for monitoring population and/or coverage as well as varying definitions of coverage and access contribute to statistical variability.



GENERAL INFORMATION

A LWI Honduras team member commented, "The people were open to help and collaborate with each other as they volunteered to work on the project. We noticed that everyone wanted to be a part of this." When the team arrived, community members were utilizing a river located .25 of a kilometer away from the community to meet all of their water needs. Because of the community's dependence on this contaminated water source, families were suffering from malaria, diarrhea and severe dehydration. During the team's stay, community members assisted the team with the water project whenever possible, provided any materials they had available, made food for the drill team and provided security over the water project during the night. Most community members earn a living by farming and the nearest school is located half of a kilometer away from the community whose students, teachers and administrative personnel all have access to the new, safe water source. Before leaving the community, the team provided community member, Carlota Fuentes, with a LWI Honduras contact number in case their well were to fall into disrepair, become subject to vandalism or theft.

TESTIMONY

The LWI Honduras team had an opportunity to meet with forty-five year old community member and housewife, Karlota Fuentes, who stated, "Thank you for hearing our cry. We also needed this clean water, and now, there are no worries about where to get this clean water."

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WELL

Project Details

	Sonaguera, Colon, Honduras
Region/Province/District	
	Latitude:15 39.201 N Longitude:086 10.283 W
GPS Coordinates	
Altitude	82.5 m
Total depth	15 m
Static level	3 m
Diameter of casing	100 mm
Casing material	PVC
Pump type	India Mark II
Depth of cylinder	12 m
Well yield	60 liters per minute
No. of people served	300

HYGIENE TEACHING

House to house hygiene lessons were taught and in the school. The LWI Honduras team met daily to share the hygiene principles as we went to each lesson. The team saw most of the locals participating, helping, and getting involved with what was taking place. During the hygiene education, the team addressed: Organization, disease transmission, germs, hand washing, proper water saving techniques, causes of diarrhea, Oral Rehydration Solution, how to take proper care of the pump how to keep the water clean, good and bad hygiene behaviors, community mapping and identifying good and bad hygiene behaviors, clean hands and clean hearts, disease transmission stories and dental hygiene.

CHRISTIAN WITNESS

Alfredo Lopez continues to work the Oral Bible Stories with the local churches. Before leaving the community, the team distributed 45 Bibles to community families and established a partnership with the local church.

PHOTOS



Previous water source and river used by the entire community to meet all of their water needs.



Previous water source.



Project in process.



Community member, Karlota Fuentes, interviewed by LWI Honduras and who stated, "Thank you for hearing our cry. We also needed this clean water, and now, there are no worries about where to get this clean water."



Water committee members who are responsible for helping maintain the well and who were provided with a LWI Honduras contact number in case their well were to fall into disrepair, become subject to vandalism or theft.



Close up of plaque.



Plaque on pump.

Someone with clean water (or pumping water)



Community member collecting clean drinking water.



School located half of a kilometer away from the community.



Well dedication ceremony.



LWI Honduras team.



Completed water project.



The LWI Honduras team distributed Bibles to community families and shared the Gospel.