WEFTA Guatemala



Blanca Surgeon Matt Earthman April, 2012

Macalajau – Funding Review

- Macalajau small village of 89 homes
- Requested funding through Habitat for Humanity Guatemala (HFH) for Latrines
- Funding Provided, latrines installed for every house



Installed Latrine - Concrete base, toilet with closing lid, sturdy construction, vented



New Vented Latrine (right) near the replaced, unstable Latrine

Macalajau – Funding Review

- HFH Active in Village, has instituted 4 step program for very poor families:
 - 1. Provide vented, efficient wood stove for houses
 - Cuts down respiratory illnesses, reduces wood use
 - 2. Provide portable, Ecofilter water filters
 - -Prevent water-borne illnesses
 - 3. Provide Latrines
 - -WEFTA Funding
 - 4. Install concrete floors in houses



HFH Wood stoves, filters, and concrete floors



HFH Wood stoves, filters, and concrete floors

Ixcamal - Proposal Review

- Ixcamal village of ~600 persons, 118 households
- Requesting funding through Habitat for Humanity Guatemala (HFH) for Latrines
- Need is present in community, recommend funding project
- Village leadership is organized, motivated, and willing to perform work



Current Latrines appear unstable, do not offer privacy, and not present at each household



Community well-organized. Village volunteers working on spring-box project

Santa Rosa la Laguna – Proposal Review

- Santa Rosa is a village of ~380 persons, 76 households
- Requesting funding through United by Friendship to evaluate solution to water contamination
- Village water source is essentially a bog, surrounded by up-gradient latrines/houses
- Contaminated by nitrates, fecal bacteria



Village water source near year-round lake, in topographic low with high water table.

Water collected from open, shallow wells



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Santa Rosa la Laguna – Proposal Review

After site visit, appears 3 potential solutions:

- Installation of Shallow, up-gradient well
 - Hillside above village investigated for shallow groundwater flow
 - Water not present above 4 feet—would need larger scale investigation
 - Small catchment area not likely to produce much water
- Installation of deep well to access clean aquifer
 - Town within fractured limestone, well would need to penetrate lower unit to avoid potential contamination from shallow aquifer
 - Limestone potentially over 1,000 feet thick would require large rig, very expensive
- Rainwater Catchment Most Effective Solution
 - Area receives rain year-round
 - Less costly/risky than drilling for deep source