



Project Data for Guapinol Community
Lavandero Construction

A. Geographic Details

Department	Matagalpa
Municipality	Dario
Community	Guapinol
Location	30 Km SE of Ciudad Dario
GPS Points	Lat. N12° 35'12.4" - Long W 086°00'13.2"

B. Community Details

Urban, semi-rural, rural?	Rural
Accessible all year?	Yes
# of houses	16
# of families	21
Average family income per month	\$40
Current water source	spring capture
Average time to fetch water per day (4 trips a day)	20 – 30 minutes each trip
Electricity	No
Primary School	No (van to neighboring school)
Secondary School	No
Clinic	No
Distance to the nearest clinic	5 Km

B.1 Location

The community of Guapinol belongs to the region (county) of Tamalapa and is 30 kilometers southeast of the county seat of Ciudad Dario. To get there, we left the El Porvenir office in Ciudad Dario heading towards Managua. After traveling 16 km on the Panamerican highway we arrive to the junction of Puertas Viejas, and we turn left onto the road leading to the town of Esquipulas. After traveling 4 Km we find the community of El Tempisque . We continue 1 Km and we find the farm named Trinitaria, we asked permission of the owner of the property to cross the property and get to the Guapinol community and traveling 2 km, we reach the hamlet of the Community Guapinol.

B.2 Description

Guapinol community has 16 homes, 21 families and 85 inhabitants, most houses are built of mud. Its topography is varied, rocky terrain, with fertile soil for growing

corn, beans and wheat. Vegetables do not grow, because many insect pests attack. There is no irrigation, and farmers are at the whims of the rainy season. In recent years there has been drought, with crop losses, with little to take home. This area is dry, with only a small stream that comes from Ojo de Agua Tamalapa.

They have no health post for medical treatment so travel to Tamalapa which is 5 km away. Nor do they have a school, so the children travel 3 km to the community of El Tempisque.

B.3 Economic Activities

The inhabitants of this village are engaged in agriculture, planting basic grains such as: maize millet and beans in small quantities, which are used for their own consumption, and sold to cover family expenses. Women are engaged in the rearing of poultry as: chickens, pigs, turkeys, and some families (few) have a cow and this allows them to have milk and its derivatives, and cater to the rest of the community with these products.

As it is typical in all the communities of Nicaragua, the result of the economic situation that exists, many men and women migrate in summer to Managua or Costa Rica in search of employment; later, in the winter they return to cultivate the land.

B.4 Religious and Recreational Activities

The most prevalent religion is Catholic , but they do not have a church building , so that religious activities are carried out in private homes of parishioners. . The feast day is celebrated on June 29 , in celebration of San Pedro Apostle. The priest comes to the church left in the El Tempisque community, celebrates Mass and then takes the opportunity to baptize, perform marriages, and hear confessions.

Their favorite sport is baseball, forming teams and competing with neighboring communities.

B.5 Community History and Anecdotes

Local legend says that the community is called Guapinol because 100 years ago there were many locust trees. The first family came to settle in this place was the Urbina - Soza family. The first inhabitants were their children and grandchildren. Since its inception, in the community there is a spring water supply. It has never dried up and so far is the only place where they have water. There is no electricity. The road was accessible, was good, but after Hurricane Mitch , it undermined and deteriorated , preventing the penetration of vehicle and motorcycle.

C. Project

This project will help reduce and prevent diseases of the skin, since people of the community will no longer be bathing and washing clothes in polluted and stagnant waters of rivers. Another important aspect is the satisfaction that this will contribute in the improvement of community health, mainly of the most poor and needy population.

This project (bathing stalls and laundry stations) will be helping to improve the conditions of life, mainly women, which usually are responsible for washing clothes, but children and men too, since they will have adequate space provided with hygienic conditions and privacy for a good washing of clothes and a bath as well as give them comfort and security in such activities, able to perform all these actions in one place and closer to their homes, consuming less time and allowing more for other household chores.

Approximate number of beneficiaries	Males	Females	Total
adults	24	27	51
adolescents	13	16	29
children	3	2	5
Total	40	45	85



Lavandero construction -- covered area for laundry (R) and two stalls for bathing