Guatemala

Country Profile - Guatemala
Guatemala, the largest of the Central American countries, has a population of about 14 million, growing at a rate of 2.6% per year. Fifty-one percent of Guatemalans live in the rural areas of the country. It is estimated that 41% of the people live in poverty and 18% live in extreme poverty. The poorest of Guatemalans are concentrated in rural villages where more than 40% have no access to appropriate water systems and more than 83% have no basic sanitation services.

The Guatemalan Ministry of Health reports that 98% of the country’s water sources are contaminated. It is therefore not surprising that these rural areas suffer some of the world’s worst health statistics. UNICEF reports that 58 - 67% of rural Guatemalan children are chronically malnourished and 50% experience stunted growth. Guatemalan children have a very high incidence of preventable diseases such as diarrhea and respiratory infections malnutrition. Of every 1000 children born each year in Guatemala, 14 die within the first month and 53 die before they turn five. The lack of safe, clean water and sanitation practices contribute significantly to these tragic rates of death, disease and malnutrition.

Healthy Schools Program
The "Health Schools" initiative run by the Peace Corps was developed to respond to the glaring need for clean water and sanitation. It is a three phase program, lasting up to four years designed to train teachers, children, and parents healthy hygiene habits. For the past five years, Global Water and a local organization have collaborated with Peace Corps volunteers to accomplish the first phase of the program to ensure sufficient water quality and availability for the construction of hand washing and sanitation facilities for the schools.

Our projects consist of four main elements, which contribute to the success and sustainability of our work. These elements include developing potable water systems, building latrines for communities, implementing a health education program, and reforesting watershed areas. The main focus of a project is to provide clean drinking water, improve sanitation, educate community members about health and hygiene, and protect the
community watershed from deforestation. This integrated approach results in long term improved health of a community in particular, (reduced diarrhea and dysentery from waterborne pathogens) and an improved environment.

Healthy Schools Program - Las Moras School
# of people supported - 22 students, 2 teachers

Las Moras School is located in the outskirts of the Department of Huehuetenango. This project includes the construction of an 8-faucet hand washing station, rainwater catchment system and a 2,000-L tank.

The social norms in this community are very traditional. The women and children carry water two or three times a day for the various domestic chores, cooking and cleaning, while the men take charge of the farming, bringing the firewood, etc. This indigenous community speaks the Mayan language, Ixil, as well as Spanish and the typical level of education of community members is sixth grade.
La Cantzela School is located in the rural outskirts of the Department of Huehuetenango. This school project has benefited the 296 students who attend the school, 10 teachers and the families that live in the surrounding community.

The La Cantzela School project includes the construction of an 8-faucet hand washing station, rainwater catchment system, a 2,000-L tank and a concrete patio. During construction, of the hand washing station, it became apparent that the school had another problem aside from the lack of hand washing facilities which was the placement of their latrines. They were in a lower location on the school site and as a result, when it rained the entire area surrounding the latrines would be filled with water. Therefore, as part of this project a patio was extended to the front of the latrines and the latrine floors were raised 4 inches to prevent water from entering the area in front of the latrines and entering directly into the latrine cabins.
Healthy Schools Program - Felipe Lopez School
# of people supported - 1104 students, 35 teachers

Felipe Lopez School is located in the Municipality of Patzun, in the Department of Chimaltenango. This school project has benefited the 1104 students who attend the school, 35 teachers and 350 families that live in the surrounding community.

The Felipe Lopez School project includes the construction of two, seven faucet hand washing stations, improving the bathrooms by installing three toilets and improving the area by constructing a cement floor and steps. In addition, a pump was repaired to provide water to the hand washing stations. The parents of the students and the teachers provided all the labor to construct the facilities and a local organization purchased all the materials and will provide all long-term follow-up for the project.
Healthy Schools Program - Pachoc School
# of people supported - 38 students, 2 teachers

Pachoc school is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Pologua, within the Totonicapan. This school project has benefited the 38 students who attend the school, 2 teachers and the families that live in the surrounding community. The Pachoc School project includes the construction of an eight faucet hand washing station (wall style) and security doors.

The parents of the students and the teachers provided all the labor to construct the facilities and a local organization purchased all the materials and will provide all long-term follow-up for the project.
Healthy Schools Program - Paoj School
# of people supported - 40 students, 2 teachers

Paoj school is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Pologua, within the Totonicapan. This school project has benefited the 40 students who attend the school, 2 teachers and the families that live in the surrounding community. The Paoj School project includes the construction of an eight faucet hand washing station (wall style).

The parents of the students and the teachers provided all the labor to construct the facilities and a local organization purchased all the materials and will provide all long-term follow-up for the project.
Healthy Schools Program - Chimonjon School
# of people supported - 57 students, 3 teachers

Chimonjon school is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Pologua, within the Totonicapan. This school project has benefited the 57 students who attend the school, 3 teachers and the families that live in the surrounding community. The Chimonjon School project includes the construction of an eight faucet hand washing station (wall style) and security doors.

The parents of the students and the teachers provided all the labor to construct the facilities and a local organization purchased all the materials and will provide all long-term follow-up for the project.
Patrubala school is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Pologua, within the Totonicapan. This school project has benefited the 57 students who attend the school, 3 teachers and the families that live in the surrounding community. The Patrubala School project includes the construction of an eight faucet hand washing station (wall style) and security doors.

The parents of the students and the teachers provided all the labor to construct the facilities and a local organization purchased all the materials and will provide all long-term follow-up, for the project.
Healthy Schools Program - Chitaracena School
# of people supported - 58 students, 2 teachers

Chitaracena school is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of San Cristóbal, within the Totonicapán Department. This school project has benefited the 58 students who attend the school, 2 teachers, and the families that live in the surrounding community. The Chitaracena School project includes the construction of an eight-faucet hand washing station with 2,000-L tank and security doors.
Healthy Schools Program - Chuicotom School
# of people supported - 129 students, 4 teachers

Chuicotom school is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of San Cristobal, within the Totonicapan Department. This school project has benefited the 129 students who attend the school, 4 teachers and the families that live in the surrounding community. The Chuicotom School project includes the construction of an eight faucet hand washing station with 2,000-L tank and security doors.
Healthy Schools Program - Noruega School
# of people supported - 300 students, 10 teachers and 80 families

The Noruega School project includes the construction of a four faucet wall hand washing station and repairing the existing toilets in the school. This project will benefit the 300 students who attend the school, 10 teachers and 80 families that live in the surrounding communities.

Prior to this project, students did not have access to a reliable water source at school and therefore went without water for during the day. The bathrooms were not functioning correctly so kids either practiced open defecation or had to leave the school to find another place to use the restroom.

The social norms in this community are very traditional. The women and children carry water two or three times a day for the various domestic chores, cooking and cleaning, while the men take charge of the farming, bringing the firewood, etc. This indigenous community speaks the Mayan language, Kaqchikel, as well as Spanish and the typical level of education of community members is sixth grade.
Healthy Schools Program - Calvario School, San Cristobal
# of people supported - 242 students, 8 teachers

Calvario school is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of San Cristobal, within the Totonicapan Department. This school project has benefited the 242 students who attend the school, 8 teachers and the families that live in the surrounding community. The Calvario School project includes the construction of two four faucet hand washing stations (wall style) with security doors and rehabilitation to bathroom doors/septic system.
Healthy Schools Program - Calvario School, San Andres Xecul
# of people supported - 670 students, 20 teachers and 130 families

The El Calvario school is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of San Andres Xecul, within the Totonicapan Department. The El Calvario School project includes the construction of an eight faucet hand washing station with 2,000-L tank and security doors.
Healthy Schools Program - Chitucur School, San Andres Xecul
# of people supported - 241 students, 8 teachers

The Chitucur school is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of San Andres Xecul, within the Totonicapan Department. The Chitucur School project includes the construction of two four-faucet hand washing stations with 2,000-L tank and security doors.

Hand Washing Station #1

Hand Washing Station #2
Healthy Schools Program - Ichomchaj School
# of people supported - 273 students, 8 teachers

The Ichomchaj school is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Santa Lucia La Reforma, within the Totonicapan Department. The Ichomchaj School project includes the construction of two four-faucet hand washing stations with 2,000-L tank and security doors.
Healthy Schools Program - Siquibal School, Santa Lucia La Reforma
# of people supported - 161 students, 5 teachers

The Siquibal school is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Santa Lucia La Reforma, within the Totonicapan Department. The Siquibal School project includes the construction of eight faucet hand washing station (wall style) with security doors.
Healthy Schools Program - Justo Rufino Barrios Parvulos School
# of people supported - 135 students, 4 teachers

The Justo Rufino Barrios Parvulos School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Santa Lucia La Reforma, within the Olintepeque Municipality. The Justo Rufino Barrios Parvulos School project includes the construction of eight faucet hand washing station (wall style).
The San Isidro School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Santa Lucía La Reforma, within the Olintepeque Municipality. The San Isidro School project includes the construction of eight faucet hand washing stations (wall style) with security doors.
Healthy Schools Program - Pie del Cerro El Monion School  
# of people supported - 181 students, 5 teachers

The Pie del Cerro El Monion School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Santa Lucia La Reforma, within the Olintepeque Municipality. The Pie del Cerro El Monion School project includes the construction of eight faucet hand washing station (wall style) with security doors.
The Magdalena de La Abundancia School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Sacapules. The Magdalena de La Abundancia School project includes the construction of an eight faucet hand washing station with security doors and 2,000-L Tank.
Healthy Schools Program - Chaoj School
# of people supported - 350 students, 11 teachers

The Chaoj School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Sacapules. The Chaoj School project includes the construction of an eight-faucet hand washing station with security doors and 2,000-L Tank.
Healthy Schools Program - Tzinap School
# of people supported - 150 students, 5 teachers

The Tzinap School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Nebaj. The Tzinap School project includes the rehabilitation of an eight-faucet hand washing station with security doors and a 2,000-L Tank.
Healthy Schools Program - el Paraizo School
# of people supported - 95 students, 3 teachers

The el Paraizo School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Nebaj. The el Paraizo School project includes the rehabilitation of an eight faucet hand washing station with security doors and 2,000-L Tank.
Healthy Schools Program - Gonzales School
# of people supported - 110 students, 4 teachers

The Gonzales School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of San Juan Ostuncalco, Quetzaltenango Department. The Gonzales School project includes the construction of an eight faucet hand washing station with security doors and 2,000-L Tank.
Healthy Schools Program - Mendez School
# of people supported - 732 students, 14 teachers

The Mendez School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of San Juan Ostuncalco, Quetzaltenango Department. The Mendez School project includes the construction of an eight faucet hand washing station with security doors and 2,000-L Tank.
Healthy Schools Program - La Victoria School
# of people supported - 300 students, 10 teachers

The La Victoria School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of San Juan Ostuncalco, Quetzaltenango Department. The La Victoria School project includes the construction of two eight-faucet hand washing stations with security doors and 2,000-L Tank.

Hand Washing Station #1

Hand Washing Station #2
Healthy Schools Program - Los Gauches School
# of people supported - 95 students, 4 teachers

The Los Gauches School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of San Juan Ostuncalco, Quetzaltenango Department. The Los Gauches School project includes the construction of an eight-faucet hand washing station with security doors and a 2,000-L Tank.
Healthy Schools Program - La Libertad School
# of people supported - 405 students, 14 teachers

The La Libertad School is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Olintepeque, Quetzaltenango Department. The La Libertad School project includes the construction of an eight-faucet hand washing station with security doors and 2,000-L Tank.
The Xepiun Health Clinic Water and Sanitation Project

The Xepiun Health Clinic is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Nebaj, within the department of El Quiche, central Guatemala. The Clinic serves a population of about 500 families or about 2500 people from in the surrounding regions. A nurse from the national hospital in Nebaj visits several times a month to treat and diagnose health problems. During each visit between 100 -200 people visit the clinic for help. The visits last all day and currently there are no sanitary facilities for the people waiting.
Nicaragua

Country Profile - Nicaragua

Nicaragua is the third poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, with 80% of the population living in poverty, surviving on less than $2 a day. More than two thirds of Nicaragua’s rural communities lack access to clean drinking water.

There is a tremendous imbalance between rich and poor, with 45% of all income going to the richest 10% of the population. Poverty affects 2.3 million people, 831,000 of whom live in extreme poverty. Nicaragua’s biggest challenge is to overcome this inequity and deep poverty, which affects children and women most severely. Women and girls shoulder the burden of bringing water for all the household needs, often spending several hours a day carrying 40 pound buckets for kilometers.

Village Water Project - Protrero Plantanal Village, San Lorenzo
# of people supported - 325

The Protrero Plantanal Village Project includes the construction of 30 pit latrines, which will provide additional sanitation coverage in the rural community. The community of Potrero Platana is comprised of approximately 55 homes and 325 people. There is a primary school in the community, but there is no secondary school or health clinic. The nearest health clinic is 20 kilometers away. Most houses are made of brick, wood, adobe with tile or corrugated zinc roofs. Some houses are made of only black plastic sheeting. Families in this community are primarily subsistence farmers of beans and corn. The language spoken in the community is Spanish.
Village Water Project - Chagüite Grande Village, El Sauce
# of people supported - 36

The Chagüite Grande Village Project includes the construction of a bathing station, which will provide a safe place to change and bathe oneself in the rural community. The community of Chagüite Grande is comprised of 7 homes and 36 people. There is a primary school in the community, but there is no secondary school or health clinic. The nearest health clinic is 5 kilometers away. It takes about 2 hours to walk to the community, since the road is in poor shape and there is a river that is impassable in vehicle most of the year. Most houses are made of brick, wood, adobe with tile or corrugated zinc roofs. Families in this community are primarily subsistence farmers of beans and corn. The language spoken in the community is Spanish.
Village Water Project - El Guanacaste Village, El Sauce
# of people supported - 339

The El Guanacaste Village Project includes the construction of 25 pit latrines, which will provide additional sanitation coverage in the rural community. The community of El Guanacaste is comprised of 75 homes and 339 people. There is no primary or secondary school or health clinic. The nearest health clinic and school is 3 kilometers away in El Sauce. Most houses are made of plastic, brick, wood, adobe with tile or corrugated zinc roofs. Most have dirt floors, although a few have brick floors. Families in this community are primarily salaried workers in town, often government workers. The language spoken in the community is Spanish.
Village Water Project - San Matias Village, Esquipulas
# of people supported - 182

The San Matias Village is located in the rural outskirts of the municipality of Esquípulas, Matagalpa Department. The San Matias School project includes the construction of a spring catchment system for the village, which includes spring containment, distribution with 5,064 meters of piping and taps for each of the homes throughout the village.
Peru

Country Profile - Peru

We are working to improve the very poor health conditions suffered by indigenous people of the Andes Mountains near Cusco, Peru. Health and economic data are very limited for indigenous communities in the Peruvian Andes, however, by any measures, these people are amongst the poorest in Latin America. Within the indigenous population of Peru, 85% live in poverty (1-2 USD/day) or extreme poverty (< USD/day). In these communities, malnutrition and diarrhea diseases caused by parasitic contamination are endemic.

Village Water Project - Huarqui (Lamay District) and Accha Alta (Calca District) Communities:
Chaupaimayo, Kellocococha, Sasicancha, Accha Pampa, Chaipa and Totora

# of people supported - 240

The Huarqui and Accha Alta Village Projects are located in the rural Districts of Lamay and Calca of the Andes Region of Peru. The Huarqui and Accha Alta Village Projects include the construction and installation of 40 bio sand filters and family training in filter operation and maintenance and in safe hygiene and sanitation practices.
Tanzania

Country Profile - Tanzania

In Tanzania, as in many other sub-Saharan African countries, numerous people do not have access to safe water. There are more than 41 million people living in Tanzania, of whom have little water to use, and some use contaminated water. The Household Budget Survey in Tanzania estimated close to half of the households lack access to safe drinking water. Water supplies in Tanzania are not sufficient to meet the needs of its population as inequalities in water supply continue to exist both between and within rural and urban areas.

A well drilled for schools will have a life changing effect on the school and village members. Closer access to water immediately relieves the students and teachers from spending much of their time during the day traveling to search for water. Women and children within the surrounding community, who have the responsibility of fetching water for their families, will have more time to pursue things such as an education and work opportunities. However, the main and most important benefit will be the improved health of the communities associated with drinking clean water.

School Water Project - Nyathorogo Secondary School
# of people supported - 700

At Nyathorogo Secondary School, water for cleaning is taken from a marshy area on campus. The water is too salty for human consumption, so drinking water is obtained from a small spring about 2 km distant.

School Water Project - Waningo Secondary School
# of people supported - 700

At Waningo, Secondary School water is obtained from a seasonal stream about 3 km from the school.
Sierra Leone

Country Profile - Sierra Leone

After the decade-long war, poverty in Sierra Leone is severe with about 80 percent of the population living in absolute poverty with expenditure levels below US$1 per day. Poverty is primarily rural, as 62 percent of the country’s population live in rural areas. Almost half of the population is not using a protected water source for drinking. Most of the unsafe drinking sources are freestanding water, such as ponds, and unprotected wells. Infections and parasites, most found in contaminated water, lead to the largest cause of death in Sierra Leone. Poor sanitation generates high risk of hepatitis A and Typhoid fever. Stillwater breeds malaria-carrying mosquitoes that plague the region with one of the most common deadly infections contracted in the area. Overall, health and standard of living are poor.

Village Water Project - Serabu #1, 2, 3, 4
# of people supported - 4,000

Four wells were drilled in the village Serabu in 2012. Wells drilled in rural communities in Sierra Leone will have a life changing effect on the village members. Closer access to water immediately relieves women and children from spending much of their time during the day traveling to search for water. Women and children, who have the responsibility of fetching water for their families, will have more time to pursue things such as an education and work opportunities. There are also new agricultural opportunities that may have never been available in the area before. However, the main and most important benefit will be the improved health of the communities associated with drinking clean water.
Village Water Project - Mosenesie Junction
# of people supported - 1,000

The region has a tropical climate, African savannah, most dominant tribal people are the Mende that predominate in the South-Eastern Provinces. Deprived of education and training opportunities and income generating activities during the ten year civil war that ended in 2002. In a survey, 60 percent of respondents were self-identified as belonging to the low socio-economic status category. Women in Sierra Leone are still recovering from the gender-based violence during the civil war. Men are often away farming long distance; the women are the lead person in the home, with the Children being the prime source for labor. The Children have the prime role of bring the water to house.