



# HONDURAS

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## THE PROJECT

**Project Location:** Olanchito, Aldea La Cumbre, Yoro, Honduras

**GPS Coordinates:** Latitude 15 26.137 N Longitude 086 27.976 W

**People Served:** 280

**Report Presented To:** Calvary Baptist Church

## THE COUNTRY

According to the most recent UNDP report, Honduras is ranked 106<sup>th</sup> 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 300 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 Northern 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 2012, Living Water plans to lead 50 mission trips to Honduras, with hopes of increasing production in the future.

## THE DATA

**Population:** 7.7 million

- 14% without access to an improved water source
- 29% without adequate sanitation services
- 23% living below the poverty line

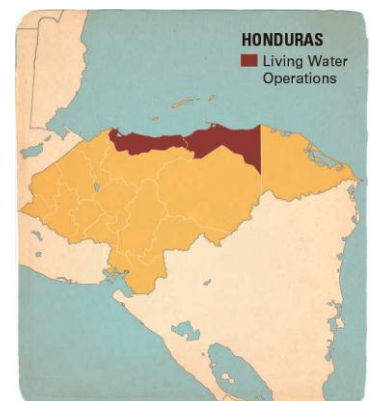
**Life expectancy:** 73 years

**Infant mortality rate:**  
30 per 1000 live births

**GNI per capita:** \$3443USD

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

When the LWI Honduras team arrived, community members were utilizing a river located half of a kilometer way from the community to meet all of their water needs. Because of this, families were suffering from malaria, diarrhea and severe dehydration among other preventable water related illnesses. During the team's stay, community members assisted the team with the water project whenever possible, provided any materials they had available and guarded the team's equipment during the night. A LWI Honduras team member stated, "This was so much fun!! I love these people! They are an inspiration for us to strive even harder to do more missions trips back to Honduras." Before leaving the community, the team provided community member Rene Munguilla, 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 sixty-eight year old community member and farmer, Guillermo Bardales, who stated, "I want to thank God first, because He was the one who answered our prayers and sent a organization like LWI to provide water for us. I thank the people, our fellow Americans, who came to work, teach, and demonstrate the love of God with their smiles. Also, to those who helped in some way making it possible. I pray that God Almighty bless you greatly and take you all back home in good health. Let it not be the first nor the last time you all visit us in Aldea La Cumbre. We will always keep you all in our prayers and hearts."

## CHARACTERISITICS OF THE WELL

### Project Details

Location Name	Olanchito, Aldea La Cumbre, Yoro, Honduras	
Type of Location	Village	
Region/Province/District	Yoro	
GPS Coordinates	Latitude:15 26.137 N	Longitude: 086 27.976 W
Altitude	144 m	
Total depth	50 m	
Static level	12 m	
Diameter of casing	4 mm	
Casing material	PVC	
Screen	Start: 45m	Stop: 50 m
Pump Type	India Mark II	
Depth of cylinder	50 m	
Well yield	65 liters per minute	
Gravel pack	Yes	
Sanitary seal depth from surface	5	
Community Population	280 people	

## HYGIENE EDUCATION

During the hygiene education, the LWI Honduras team addresses: Hand washing, how to properly transport and store water, disease transmission and prevention, how to maintain proper care of the pump, as well as signs and symptoms of dehydration and how to make Oral Rehydration Solution. All of these lessons are taught in a participatory method to help community members discover ways to improve their hygiene and sanitation choices, and implement community driven solutions.

## EVANGELISM

The LWI Honduras team shared with community members, "God loves us all, and because of that love, we are to reach out to all we come in contact with. Jesus gave all He had for us; and He stands with open arms to welcome us as we do for others. Our greatest joy is seeing others accepting Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior!"



## PHOTOS



Previous water source depended on by the entire community to meet all of their water needs.



Close up of plaque.



Community members pumping clean, safe drinking water.





Community members who are responsible for helping maintain the well.



Project in process.



Plaque on pump.





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Community housing.



LWI Honduras team testing the well chlorination.



Community member pumping clean, safe drinking water.





Project in process.



Well chlorination test.