



El Porvenir

Sustainable Development for Nicaragua

FINAL REPORT TO THE ANN CAMPANA JUDGE FOUNDATION

July 2007

- 1) *Water and Sanitation for Ivan Vilchez Cooperative*
- 2) *Two Well Rehabilitations and a Lavandero in El Prado*

Project Description

1) The village of **Ivan Vilchez Cooperative** (a former cooperative that is now a village with that name), in Leon Province, Nicaragua, has 38 families with 168 inhabitants living in 35 homes widely dispersed along the Hato Viejo river. Of the 168 inhabitants, 73 are adults and 95 are children. The village has no electricity and is considered inaccessible to motor vehicles during the rainy season due to high water levels in the river.

At the time of El Porvenir's first contact with Ivan Vilchez, the village had no sanitation facilities and only one hand dug well, which was privately owned, uncovered, nonpotable, and often went dry during the summer months. Many members of the community obtained their water from holes dug into the river bank -- collecting surface water contaminated with both human and animal pollutants. It was common for women and children (who do most of the water collection) to carry this water 1000 meters to their homes.

As with all El Porvenir projects, representatives of Ivan Vilchez Cooperative contacted El Porvenir and requested assistance with the construction of a well and 35 latrines. Working with the community, El Porvenir (*with funding from the Ann Campana Judge Foundation*) was able to partner with World Vision to provide the assistance necessary to construct 35 latrines. World Vision committed to the funding of latrines for those homes with children already sponsored by their program (25), and El Porvenir provided the resources necessary for the remaining 10. El Porvenir also assisted with the construction of the new hand-dug well.

Project Accomplishments

All project goals were completed within the proposed budget and timeline.

- 35 latrines were built by the people of Ivan Vilchez Cooperative with the assistance of El Porvenir and World Vision. That means 100% of the homes in this community now have functioning sanitation facilities. This success translates into human dignity and long-term health benefits.

- A fully enclosed hand-dug well with a rope pump was constructed by the people of Ivan Vilchez Cooperative with the assistance of El Porvenir. This community well provides the only potable water in the village and also represents long-term health benefits. It also greatly reduces the burden of carrying water long distances.
- Ongoing health education provided by El Porvenir staff ensures the optimal use of the new facilities and maximizes health benefits

Project Description

2) The village of **El Prado**, Matagalpa Province, Nicaragua, has 59 families with a total of 282 inhabitants. Of those, 139 are adults and 143 are children under the age of eighteen. The village is located approximately 16 miles from the regional center, Ciudad Dario, and is accessible to motorized vehicles year round. The community is made up of small-scale farmers and day laborers. The average monthly income is very low and resources for water and sanitation development are almost non-existent.

When El Porvenir was asked by community members to help address their water scarcity issues, El Prado had two failing wells serving the village. The pumps in both wells were incapable of meeting even the most basic needs due to old age and high demand.

El Porvenir (*with funding provided by the Ann Campana Judge Foundation*) worked with community members to successfully rehabilitate the wells and keep the water flowing to the village. The village was also able to make repairs to their community washing center, providing the people with access to clean and healthy bathing and laundry facilities near the water source. In addition to improved health conditions, convenient and well functioning facilities like these give families more time during the day to pursue other productive activities like employment and education opportunities.

Project Accomplishments

- All project goals were completed within the proposed budget and timeline. Both wells were rehabilitated and provided with new pumps. For less than \$900, potable water was provided to almost three hundred people.
- Both community laundry and bathing facilities were completely repaired. Community members can now bathe in clean water and wash their clothes in much more healthy and comfortable conditions.
- Ongoing health education provided by El Porvenir staff ensures the optimal use of the new facilities and maximizes health benefits



Figure 1: New Hand-Dug Well with Rope-pump and Community Members in Ivan Vilchez Cooperative

The long-term objective of the project, improving the health of the residents, can only be verified over time. El Porvenir collects health data in the regions and districts where we work, measuring project impact by a reduction in the number of villagers visiting the health center for diarrhea and related illnesses. One year after the completion of the project we hope to be able to see fewer visits to the nearest health post for treatment of diarrheal disease.



Figure 2: Water flowing from the well at Ivan Vilchez Cooperative



Figure 3: Proud community member with the latrine that he himself built

El Porvenir provides long-term follow up after the completion of well or latrine projects, through the visits of staff reforesters and community health educators. El Porvenir health educators will visit the community periodically to teach about cleaning and maintenance of the well and latrines as well as good hygiene (handwashing, chlorination of water supply), to support the local committee in meeting its responsibility for the projects, and to collect health data.

El Porvenir is currently in the process of creating a monitoring and evaluation system that will help us organize the health data we currently collect and better measure the impact that our projects are having on the health and quality of life of the people of Nicaragua.



Figure 4: Successful Well Rehabilitation with happy community members in El Prado

The communities of El Prado and Ivan Vilchez Cooperative will be able to participate now in the reforestation program, having completed a water project in their community. Long-term reforestation of the watershed in order to protect the water source is a major concern, and villagers will learn how to build a seedling nursery, tend the germinating plants, and transplant them into protected areas in the coming years. El Prado already has a head start as seen below.



Financial Report: Cooperativa Ivan Vilchez and El Prado
1 Hand-dug Well and 10 Latrines, Ivan Vilchez
2 Well Rehabilitations, El Prado

	Project Total	ACJF Budget	Actual expenses (ACJF)
Construction Materials:			
Well, Ivan Vilchez	\$1,492	\$1,492	\$1392.55
10 Latrines, Ivan Vilchez	\$1,312	\$1,312	\$1081.72
2 Well and Lavandero Rehabilitations, El Prado	\$1,352	\$1,352	\$836.81
Total Direct Materials Cost:	\$4,156	\$4,156	\$3311.08
Personnel and Transportation:			
Developer Staff Time	\$653	\$653	\$653
Per diem	\$60	\$60	\$60
Motorcycle expenses	\$110	\$110	\$110
Total Personnel:	\$823	\$823	\$823
Health Education and Reforestation:			
Health Educator Staff Time	\$120	\$0	\$0
Per diem	\$21	\$0	\$0
Health and Hygiene Education Workshops	\$300	\$0	\$0
Reforester Staff Time	\$820	\$0	\$0
Per diem	\$147	\$0	\$0
Refor. materials for 2 village nurseries	\$200	\$0	\$0
Total Health Education and Reforestation:	\$1,608	\$0	\$0
Community Labor:			
Value of Labor, 3 Wells	\$233	in kind	\$0
Value of Labor, Latrines	\$813	in kind	\$0
Value of Labor, Lavanderos	\$44	in kind	\$0
Value of Sand for concrete	\$177	in kind	\$0
Value of Wood for Latrine Frames	\$488	in kind	\$0
Total Value of Community Labor:	\$1,755	\$0	\$0
Total Project Cost	\$8,342	\$4,979	\$4,134.08

This project has a balance of \$844.92, which we request to reprogram to a rehabilitation of a well in another village.