



## SNAPSHOT

### Garlic Producers Triple Income, Double Productivity

**With improved agricultural practices, rural farmers are seeing dramatic increases in incomes.**



Photo by Fintrac Inc.

Leocadio Mateo Reyes proudly displays his harvested garlic, which is ready for sale on the local market.

**“We are happy with the support provided by USAID-ACCESO. Now we grow more garlic in the same area.”**

*Juan López Rivera, garlic farmer*

**Telling Our Story**  
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In San Manuel de Colohete, rural farmers have been using traditional methods on their small garlic plots for many years. Without proper land preparation, fertilizer use, or other basic production practices, the farmers were barely able to sustain their families.

USAID-ACCESO is now working with 45 small-scale producers in the area to introduce improved farming practices that are increasing productivity and income.

The project is providing technical support in all aspects of the planting and harvesting process, from the introduction of soil preparation, seed selection, planting systems, fertilizer use and proper weeding techniques, to integrated pest management and postharvest training.

Thanks to these good agricultural practices and ongoing support from USAID-ACCESO agronomists, the garlic farmers are already seeing dramatic increases in their yields and productivity.

"The techniques the project teaches work well for us," said Ciriaco Martinez, a garlic producer.

The farmers have seen an average doubling of yields, and with the improved quality, this translates into a 305 percent increase in average net income, from \$104 to \$421 for each plot (0.05 hectares). Cost of production per pound of garlic produced is also down 29 percent thanks to the more efficient farming techniques.

In order to maintain the improved quality, farmers are reserving a quarter of their plots to cultivate seeds for future crop cycles.

USAID-ACCESO is also working with the producers to identify new market opportunities for fresh and processed garlic. For instance, the project is teaching farmers how to make garlic paste with the lower-quality crops, a value-added technique that creates an income opportunity out of what was previously considered a loss.

Seeing the income potential, the farmers are committed to growing more garlic and integrating their new knowledge and skills to further increase productivity.

"The lessons we learned from USAID-ACCESO were good," said Juan López Rivera. "Now we grow more garlic in the same area."

USAID-ACCESO, a four-year initiative, will assist more than 30,000 clients in western Honduras, lifting them out of poverty and malnutrition conditions through economic development and increased incomes.