



**USAID**  
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**QUARTERLY REPORT #12: JANUARY TO MARCH 2014**  
**USAID-ACCESO**



**March 2014**

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The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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# I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

USAID-ACCESO is a 46-month project, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Office of Economic Growth in Honduras, to move rural Honduran households out of extreme poverty and under-nutrition by improving their incomes. USAID-ACCESO represents the core investment by USAID/Honduras in the US government's global hunger and food security initiative known as Feed the Future. The project is working through six key components to enable economic development at the household level:

1. Technical assistance and training to enhance the capacity of Honduras' poorest households in production, management, and marketing skills.
2. Market access focused on linking farmers to market opportunities.
3. Rural financial services through existing rural financial intermediaries, village banks, commercial banks, and other service and input providers.
4. Assistance in eliminating policy barriers that impede rural household access to market opportunities.
5. Malnutrition prevention activities to enhance the capacity of rural households to improve utilization and consumption of healthy food.
6. Sound environmental and natural resource management.

USAID-ACCESO is implemented by the US agribusiness firm Fintrac Inc., in association with Fundación Hondureña de Investigación Agrícola (FHIA), Escuela Agrícola Panamericana (EAP-ZAMORANO), Fundación para el Desarrollo Empresarial Rural (FUNDER), CARE International, and the Global Village Project. Seven additional local organizations are also under sub-contracts; these are Hermandad de Honduras, Save the Children, Cooperativa Regional Agroforestal Erandique Limitada (COPRAFEL), Organismo Cristiano de Desarrollo Integral de Honduras (OCDIH), Proyectos e Iniciativas Locales para el Autodesarrollo Regional de Honduras (PILARH), Comisión Acción Social Menonita (CASM), and Instituto Hondureño del Café (IHCAFE).

The project began start-up activities in April 2011, fielded senior technical staff in May 2011 and the majority of the field team by the end of 2011. This is the twelfth quarterly annual report for USAID-ACCESO, summarizing the principal activities carried out from January to March 2014.

Key activities carried out during the quarter include the integration of all of the technical components, development and delivery of the technical assistance and training programs, consolidation of technical assistance delivery, expansion of market-based production programs, implementation of basic production packages, development and implementation of nutrition and health assistance program, technical support to small off-farm businesses, programs to open and expand finance options to USAID-ACCESO clients, formalization of organized groups, establishment of renewable energy and water conservation projects, forming and organizing disaster mitigation groups, installation or repair of community potable water systems, and data and results sampling.

Results and status of indicators for the current quarter include:

- Increased rural MSMEs' access to inputs, practices, and technologies to improve market participation: as of March 2014, the project is providing training and technical assistance to 35,525 clients, including 30,952 poor and extreme poor household clients (28,373 extreme poor, 2,579 poor), in 2,740 communities in 130 municipalities in the six departments. 21 percent of the project clients are female. To date, 64,477 training events have been carried out (including 8,358 during the quarter). 52,707 individuals have received training, including 17,069 women (32 percent). As of

March 2014, project clients have received a total of 564,470 technical assistance visits from project technicians and specialists, including 73,860 recorded during the current quarter.

- This quarter, the project supported coffee growers in developing harvesting systems, drying systems, quality maintenance, and sales contacts. Training activities after coffee harvest included the implementation of production systems to reduce the problems with rust and borer. Some lead coffee growers have diversified their coffee production areas with calendarized plantings of cucumber, green bean, and cabbage, and are experiencing successes with these new crops.
- Continued and expanded delivery of technical assistance and training to basic grain and small-scale coffee producers on soil preparation practices, the use of lime applications, seed selection, increasing planting densities, implementing weed control, and improving fertilization use. During the quarter, 172 hectares of coffee were planted, 279 hectares of corn, and 121 hectares of beans. 430 hectares of vegetables were planted, plus 5.5 hectares of tree fruits.
- The total area under production which has received project assistance is 52,809 hectares. Overall, coffee accounts for 23,417 hectares, basic grains for 24,656 hectares, fruits and vegetables with 3,986 hectares, and tree fruits with 750 hectares.
- Private sector investment during the quarter totaled \$0.96 million, for a total to date of \$9.82 million (project clients and others). 2,305 individual investments were recorded in the quarter for a total of 20,445 individual investments made to date.
- As a result of project activities that eliminate barriers to rural MSME competitiveness and increase access to financing, 315 additional MSMEs accessed market-based financing, for a total to date of 5,175 MSMEs. The proportion of female participants in the project with access to productive economic resources (loans) now stands at 17.8 percent (919). Loans reported during the quarter were for \$0.81 million, for a total to date of \$8.42 million.
- During the quarter two public-private sector alliances were developed (46 to date) with 196 companies and organizations providing business development and extension services to project clients. 235 producer organizations, water users associations, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations have received technical assistance and training. 134 small farmer associations have been formally established as businesses, including 16 new ones during this quarter; an additional 131 are in the process of registration.
- One value chain/sector constraint was resolved during the quarter for a total of 22 barriers and six policies to date.
- The prevalence of underweight children under 2 years old in the communities supported by the project continues to decrease, from a baseline of 22 percent in August 2011 to 13.8 percent as of March 2014. The number of children under 2 involved with the project averaged 3,857 per month in communities where the project has worked over time. Of the 544 children (13.8 percent) under the third percentile in March, 210 (38.6 percent) were growing adequately. During the quarter an additional 19 new communities and 515 children under 2 years of age were included in the project. The promotion of improved feeding practices for children under 2 (diversified food groups, nutrient balance, quality, quantity, food preparation, demonstrations of child feeding practices related to frequency and quantity), improved hygiene practices, and the introduction of the healthy household program, is having a positive effect on the overall health status of entire families.
- Chronic nutrition data was also recorded over the last six months with an average of 37.5 percent in October 2013 and 26.9 percent in March 2014. There are limitations in the volunteers' ability in height measurement and recording, which is being addressed by the project. Two additional nutrition indicators were added – the number of people trained in nutrition and health (4,475 people) and the number of children reached (7,245 under 2 years old).
- 33 municipal governments are effectively implementing natural resource management policies and 61 vulnerable communities now have adequate disaster prevention and mitigation capacity.

- USAID-ACCESO installed 388 rural renewable energy projects during the quarter, for a total of 2,272 to date (including 1,224 eco-justa stoves, 879 solar dryers and 121 bio-digesters). The University of Florida project has installed 555 renewable energy projects with USAID-ACCESO clients to date.

The FY 2014 work plan and PMP were developed during the previous quarter. High level targets and selected indicators were adjusted taking into consideration the speed of change at the household level, external factors, and achievements to date. These targets are used in this report but remain subject to approval by USAID.

## 2. PROJECT BACKGROUND

Honduras' social and economic indicators rank it among the least developed countries in the western hemisphere, with 65.5 percent of its population living in poverty, the largest portions of which are found in rural areas.

The agriculture sector in Honduras employs 35 percent of the workforce, accounts for an estimated 75 percent of exports, and remains the most important source of income for the poor and extremely poor. USAID-ACCESO targets six departments that are among the poorest in the country. The majority of farm households cultivate traditional crops on small plots, often on hillsides, for which market access is hindered by poor roads and distance. The use of traditional cultural practices has produced poor yields, depleted soil of nutrients, and led to forest encroachment. Malnutrition is also a major problem, with nearly half of all children in extremely poor households exhibiting stunted growth.

USAID-ACCESO represents an important component of USAID/Honduras's new multi-year strategy for Feed the Future. Objectives of Feed the Future include increasing agricultural productivity, preserving natural resources, improving agricultural marketing, increasing the purchasing power of vulnerable households, and maximizing food security. This strategy is in line with the economic growth (Agriculture/Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise) and natural resource management related aspects of the "Promoting Economic Growth and Prosperity" goals of the US government's Honduras Country Assistance Strategy covering fiscal years 2009 to 2013.

USAID-ACCESO works in six departments: Intibucá, La Paz, Ocotepeque, Lempira, Copán, and Santa Bárbara, with the following original high-level targets:

- Bring 30,000 rural households living below the poverty line above the poverty threshold, of which a minimum of 18,000 will be from households living in extreme poverty.
- Generate \$73.95 million in net profits for client households assisted by the project.
- Create 10,425 permanent jobs in the assisted communities.

The original high-level targets and other indicators were adjusted in the previous quarter based on progress to date, taking into consideration the speed of change at the household level and external factors, including the coffee crisis. These are under review by USAID.

USAID-ACCESO will assist at least 31,800 client households in these six departments, distributed as follows: 30,000 households living in poverty (of which a minimum of 18,000 households are living in extreme poverty), 1,000 commercial scale producers of horticultural crops, and 800 off-farm rural MSMEs.

The project is increasing sales and incomes by introducing basic production practices and market-driven programs for high-value cash crops, as well as by expanding off-farm microenterprise and employment opportunities. The six key components explained above enable economic development and nutrition improvements at the household level.

The details on implementation methodology, strategies, and activities are provided in other documents prepared for USAID, including those on the work plan, gender, and environment. Additional information and details are provided in the March 2014 PMP Excel file presented in association with this report.

## 3. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

USAID-ACCESO aims to lift 30,000 families in six departments in Western Honduras above the poverty line, with a minimum of 18,000 from extreme poverty, while also achieving improvements in the nutrition and health indicators of both women and children. The poverty reduction targets are being achieved through income generation at the household level via on and off-farm economic development activities and employment. They apply to 30,000 families, or approximately 10 percent of the total population in the six departments. The nutrition targets on the other hand, apply to the total population of the six departments. The implementation strategies were designed with these differences in mind. The project also provides technical assistance at the household and community level on disaster mitigation, natural resource management, finance, renewable energy, and policy. Implementation strategies have been developed to ensure full coordination and integration of all technical components to meet the principal poverty reduction and nutrition targets. The following section provides a summary of strategies, systems, and selected activities under the principal technical components.

### 3.1. PROJECT CLIENTS

The principal project clients are households in poverty and extreme poverty. These families normally live on subsistence farming of corn and beans and/or small-scale coffee farms. In addition to low incomes, they are characterized by low yields; zero technology; do not consider farming as a business; poor or non-existent infrastructure; no access to technology, finance, or markets; a high dependence on government or NGO support; poor living conditions; and high levels of nutrition and health problems. To lift the families out of poverty, they need to generate income, which small-scale corn, bean, or coffee production alone will not provide.

To enter into higher value crop production, households first need to ensure their basic grain supply, while the project needs to obtain the families' confidence to make changes. The project shows farmers basic technologies to double or triple corn and bean yields with no additional cost of production. The grains for self-consumption are then guaranteed while freeing up area for production of other crops with higher farm-gate value. The increased yields demonstrate the technologies' ability and provide the confidence to enter in new crops. At the same time, the nutrition and health component works with selected families to change and improve the household living conditions, food preparation, eating habits, hygiene, and child care. For those families with (or interested in) small-scale livestock such as cattle or chickens, support is also provided to increase milk and egg production for self-consumption, again with no or minimal additional costs. Family plots are also being established to supplement the dietary requirements. This integrated approach and technical support at the household level provides multiple solutions and options to a complicated problem, for which solving only one area will not produce the required results.

### 3.2. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE DELIVERY

The USAID-ACCESO team is made up of 210 full time positions (March 2014), which is broken down as follows:

Management	3	Disaster mitigation/NRM	2
Production	124	M&E	19
Value Added	11	Admin/Accountants/IT	16
Marketing	4	Donations	3
Business Skills & Finance	10	Renewable energy	1
Nutrition & Health	19	Policy	1
Communications	1		

The team is technical based. 146 technicians are directly related to income generating activities. All field activities are coordinated through 30 zone managers (agronomists) and six department managers. To reach the target population of 30,000 families each agronomy position is providing ongoing technical assistance to an average of 300 families. As a result, technical assistance and training activities in production and animal husbandry are given in a group format, where the technician rotates the farm visits between growers in the same group. These are not formal groups but grouping of growers around buyer and market production programs, various crops, and logistics.

Training and technical assistance in the related areas for economic development follow a similar system, including marketing, postharvest, business skills, finance, and renewable energy. Nutrition technicians also work under similar systems with training in group format and household visits, which play a major role in fomenting change. Technical support to off-farm business is normally directed to the individual MSMEs with specific training being given both direct and in group format.

To speed up the implementation and expand outreach, USAID-ACCESO has made many alliances with municipalities, private-sector buyers, input and equipment suppliers, NGOs, donors, government, and others. Most have funds and donations to support the poor and extreme poor, but most do not provide integrated solutions or quality technical assistance and training. For example, some municipalities donate fruit trees and some NGOs donate irrigation equipment, but on their own, neither will help families move out of poverty. USAID-ACCESO is able to bring together the different players to provide the integrated solutions.

The 12 community technical teams with department managers, zone managers, and roving technicians and specialists are actually structured with 11 sub-contractors under Fintrac's management. However, unlike many other projects, Fintrac provides overall management and direction of all zones, activities, and technical areas. The structure ensures all project technicians report to Fintrac managers, who set targets, provide oversight, training, support, and direction. In this way, the project operates under one umbrella, moves in one direction, speaks the same language, and is fully integrated and focused on the households and the targets. While some sub-contractors would prefer more independence, multiple sub-contractors operating independently would not be able to achieve this level of integration.

### 3.3. INCOME GENERATION COMPONENT

The poverty line in Honduras has been established by the government as a minimum of \$2.42/day/person, while families with incomes below \$1.81/person/day are considered to live in extreme poverty. To take individuals above the poverty line requires an annual income of \$883 per year – a six-person family requires a minimum of \$5,298 per year to move above the poverty line. With basic technologies, maize generates a net income of around \$319 per hectare while beans can generate around \$433 per hectare. While the yields and incomes increase with technology adoption, farmers would still require 5-hectare plots to generate the required income levels. High-value horticulture production with the basic production technologies generates between \$3,000 and \$4,000 per hectare depending on the crops. Growers would need to have access to at least 0.5 hectares of land, with year round water supply to produce two crops a year and at least \$5,000 of annual working capital to cover production costs. Most client farmers have less than 0.5 hectares of land; grow coffee, corn, and beans with zero technology; and do not have access to water, finance, or markets.

As a result, USAID-ACCESO is working with progressive strategies to generate income from multiple sources, and over time, introduce basic technologies to increase yields of basic grains and coffee, enter into production programs for higher value crops, diversify crops and markets, and generate off-farm income where possible. Small-scale household production plots and chicken, egg and milk production provide additional nutrient sources that do not need to be purchased and in some cases, can be developed into a small business to generate additional income. While it is projected that 75 to 85

percent of income will need to come from high-value crop production, other income sources have been factored in and generated.

Off-farm activities with small-scale operations (MSMEs) are frequently groups or people. In most cases, these small businesses alone do not generate sufficient income to lift families out of poverty, but they can contribute to the overall family income. Pickled vegetables, plantain chips, tortillas, and crafts are good examples, but even with improvements in quality, reduced costs, and legalization, income generation is limited when split between numerous members or owners. Bakery, dairy, and honey products are normally exceptions, where the margins are sufficient to generate higher levels of income. Efforts have been made to try to match project support to MSMEs with support to the same family members for on-farm production activities.

### 3.4. PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES

Subsistence level growers of basic grains and coffee are introduced to some basic production practices that double or triple traditional yields. For corn and beans, four of five basic practices are introduced with no or minimal addition input costs, but which do require more work.

#### **Corn and beans**

- Basic land preparation and contouring where necessary
- Seed selection (with existing types)
- Specific planting distance with one seed per hole (high density)
- Fertilizer applications are applied in solution with more frequent applications (where fertilizers are used, the total volume of fertilizer used is equal to or less than that used traditionally)
- Weed control

Initially, most growers do not move completely to these practices, but instead “test” a small area in their production and then make comparisons. As mentioned previously, with increased yields the grower gains confidence in the basic technologies and, in subsequent plantings, can reduce the land area needed to obtain sufficient grains for self-consumption. The freed up area can then be used for higher value crops for planting in the rainy season, or year round if irrigation is possible. Given that technologies are introduced gradually, the crops selected are usually those that can still perform without full technology, are not expensive to produce and can withstand rural roads in (normally) poor conditions. These usually include carrots, broccoli, cauliflower, squash, potato, plantain, and others. Market driven production programs have been established with both formal and informal buyers; growers are introduced to these and normally start production with 1 or 2 *tareas* (1 *tarea* is equivalent to 1/23 of a hectare or 435 square meters). This again requires significant efforts in planting coordination between growers to ensure sufficient volumes are available at harvest to be able to fill pick-ups or trucks to minimize unit freight cost.

#### **Coffee (existing plantations)**

Basic production practices introduced for coffee production include:

- Liming soils
- Diluted and more frequent fertilizer applications (where fertilizers are used)
- Plant pruning (after harvest)
- Control of soil-borne insects
- Shade management

With the implementation of three or four of these practices, productivity can be doubled on existing plantings. Practices are also being implemented to dry more coffee on farm to increase incomes through added value and improved quality. However, it was known that most project coffee farmers will not

generate sufficient income from coffee alone and in these cases the project is promoting improved corn production systems, crop diversification, and other income sources.

The majority of project growers work with corn or coffee. Before the growers can be moved into higher value products, the project works to improve their existing operations to develop the confidence to introduce new crops or other income generating activities. At this point, crops are selected based on market needs, logistics, cost, production conditions, and water availability. Normally, the lower cost and less technically challenging crops are selected including carrot, cabbage, plantain, watermelon, and passion fruit. A large program with yellow corn production for the local industry was carried out during the 2013 planting season using basic production practices; the activity will be expanded during the 2014 planting season. Growers with interest, experience, and working capital enter into crop and income diversification activities, which include a wide range of crops.

### 3.5. NUTRITION AND HEALTH COMPONENT

As mentioned previously, the nutrition targets relate to the entire population in the six departments. A selection was made of priority communities based on the nutrition statistics (from the Ministry of Health) and the possibility of economic development activities (principally on-farm activities). In the majority of cases, communities with the highest nutrition problems were selected, under the basic premise that if these statistics can be improved the overall averages will also improve. As of March, this component is now working in 231 communities, and while most are also involved in economic development activities with the project, it is not the case in all of them as not all communities have the necessary agronomic conditions.

When the project started, the Ministry of Health was implementing the Atención Integral a la Niñez en la Comunidad (AIN-C) program through service providers or directly. Through a system of health volunteers, the AIN-C carried out monthly weighing of children under two years old, provided basic advice and messages, and tabulated the statistics for the Ministry of Health. In most cases the detailed data was not being utilized to determine the cause of problems nor was assistance provided at the household to address and prevent problems. Initial data analysis showed that at least half of the cases of underweight children were preventable, with the remainder being due to lack of balanced diet, calories, nutrients, and vitamins. Since January 2012, the AIN-C program has not been implemented by the government as initially done through the health service providers. USAID-ACCESO is working with AIN-C volunteers in target communities and is providing additional training to the volunteers, including them in economic development activities, and expanding the activities to the household level such as construction of eco-justa stoves and minor home improvements.

Solutions to the basic problems cannot be achieved with messages and basic training as changes are needed in culture, diet, and habits. The nutrition component implementation systems are similar to those used in economic development. A wide range of training activities are carried out in groups, from the preparation of fortified foods and meals, to ensuring a balanced diet, basic hygiene, and using locally available food items. Training activities are reinforced with household visits to determine problems and implement recommendations and procedures. In order to be successful, repeated training and visits are needed until the improvements form part of day-to-day activities.

The sources of preventable illnesses are determined and where possible, eliminated. The project has an integral “healthy household” activity to eliminate smoke from cooking fires, cover dirt floors and walls with a cement mix, ensure clean water and light inside the house, use waste disposal methods, keep animals outside (particularly chickens and pigs), and eliminate disease vectors. Once solutions to these problems are implemented they are usually permanent and do not require constant re-enforcement.

Activities also include the planting of home plots, with crops that are needed to supplement the nutritional needs. These are crops that do not require the purchase of expensive hybrids seeds or

pesticide applications to ensure production and from which planting materials can be taken from the plants themselves. They include both short and long term crops such as sweet potato, malanga (taro), banana, plantain, passion fruit, avocado, orange, mandarin, and locally available “weeds” high in iron (amaranthus, chipilin, juniapa – which already exist in many zones but are not available year round, nor considered as foods). These plots range from 100 to 400 square meters and are not commercial plots. They involve land preparation, beds, plantings distances, weeding and several of the basic practices used under commercial production systems, but this is to ensure production volumes, not commercial viability. They are normally managed by the women of the household, but men are also becoming involved. Some of these plots have also been planted in schools and centers where AIN-C meetings are held, for use by the volunteers and mothers with the training activities.

In FY 2014 activities are being expanded to include support to selected new communities served by decentralized service providers. This includes training in USAID-ACCESO’s implementation methodology, distribution of technical materials, and the implementation of healthy household program. With this, we aim to improve the nutrition indicators across a larger population base, in addition to the project prioritized communities. It is hoped that ongoing discussions and field visits with CRS and the WFP to invest in additional Nutritional Training Centers (NTCs) will result in them committing funds to enable the expansion of the training facilities into additional communities. Additional emphasis will also be given to ensure sustainability of the household plots and egg production activities. Despite the relatively small scale of these activities and the initial benefits, some households have not continued, and require more continuous technical support.

Per a USAID/Honduras request, two additional indicators were added to the PMP this quarter:

- Number of people trained in child health and nutrition through USG-supported programs
- Number of children under five reached by USG-supported nutrition programs

### 3.6. INTEGRATION OF THE TECHNICAL COMPONENTS

The integration of technical components is key to developing solutions and options for the households. Examples include:

- Production & Nutrition – household plots
- Nutrition & Renewable Energy – installation of eco-justa stoves, bio-digesters, natural light in houses using transparent roof sheets
- Nutrition & NRM – community potable water and clean community programs
- Nutrition & Processing & Value Addition – recipe development for short-term processing and storage
- Nutrition & Animal Husbandry – milk and chicken egg/meat production
- Production & Disaster Mitigation – improving market access by preventing floods, landslides, road damage
- Production & Finance – access to credit for market based production
- Production & Processing & Business Skills – recordkeeping, cost controls for income generating activities
- Renewable Energy & Processing – solar dryers
- Production / NRM / Health – use of microorganisms for decomposing coffee pulp

Project production technicians are also involved in giving basic nutrition messages during production trainings. Nutrition technicians are learning the basics for household production plots. Both men and women participate in nutrition and health activities.

### 3.7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

#### 3.7.1. M&E UNIT

As of March 2014, the USAID-ACCESO M&E team consists of one M&E manager, three regional M&E specialists, 12 field-based M&E technicians, and three full-time data entry people. Part-time data entry people are also hired when necessary. In addition to the designated M&E team, each project field technician is required to report on their own activities (and results in certain cases), which accounts for around 5 percent of their time.

#### 3.7.2. CIRIS

The Client Impact and Results Information System (CIRIS) is Fintrac's proprietary database software used to monitor all project activities and results. Activities such as technical assistance, plantings, training events, technologies in use and meetings are entered directly into the system by field staff, while more complex surveys covering outcome and impact indicators are collected and entered by designated M&E staff. Nearly all figures in this report are derived from primary information entered into CIRIS.

#### 3.7.3. SAMPLING AND DATA COLLECTION

Details were provided in the September 2013 annual / quarterly report on household clients sampling and data collection systems for the high level and selected low level indicators.

Indicators relating to marketing that were reported based on sampling data in September 2013 are now not reported in the PMP as the sampling is carried out annually. These include:

- PMP #4: Number of MSMEs accessing new market opportunities
- PIRS #12: Number of brokers providing market linkages
- WP #5: Number of MSMEs that have entered formal preferred supplier or contract agreements
- PIRS #13: Number of MSMEs that have been verified to meet market standards

These indicators are based on definitions that include multiple deliveries from multiple suppliers and multiple buyers. With more than 30,000 household clients, more than 150,000 individual plantings, more than 500 buyers, and many crops with multiple harvests, there have been hundreds of thousands of individual sales transactions carried out during implementation to date. For FY 2014, there will be at least 125,000 individual sales transactions. In FY 2013, ACCESO hired a data entry person to collect data in these areas to supplement those collected in the field. In the end, client sampling data was used. Going forward for the 09/2014 targets, sampling will also be used. This means that results against targets on a quarterly basis cannot be reported.

## 4. HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

This section highlights some of the activities and results achieved by the project across the areas of intervention during the reporting period. It details the actions taken by the project to meet the intermediate (IR) and sub-intermediate results (sub-IR) established in the contract, and presents the project's progress in achieving milestones and output indicators. The IRs are as follows:

- Rural MSME growth increased (*IR 2.1*).
- Honduran biodiversity and natural resources conserved (*IR 2.2*).
- Capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change strengthened (*IR 2.3*).
- Use of quality maternal and child health and family planning services increased (*IR 4.1*).

### 4.1. PROJECT CLIENTS

As of March 2014, a total of 35,525 clients were registered with the project and receiving technical assistance (reduced slightly from 35,725 clients in September 2013). Clients may be reclassified if they cease to produce, stop attending training and technical assistance activities, move location, die, etc. The total number of household clients with baseline incomes below the poverty line is 30,952 (28,373 extreme poor and 2,579 poor). The project is also working with 3,772 non-poor and 801 business enterprises and others. Details on the number of clients during implementation are provided in Table I.

**Table I. Project Client Breakdown**

CLIENT TYPE	April-Sept 2011	Oct-Sept 2012	Oct-Sept 2013	Total Sept 2013	Updated Mar 2014
HH Extreme Poverty	3,722	11,420	13,193	28,338	28,282
HH Poor	375	1,014	1,192	2,602	2,570
HH Non Poor	762	1,163	1,868	3,769	3,738
HH-MSMEs Extreme Poverty	21	98	5	127	91
HH-MSMEs Poor	2	8	5	13	9
HH-MSMEs Non Poor	15	22	5	42	34
MSMEs Microenterprise	57	176	212	441	449
MSMEs Small Enterprise	10	48	9	70	52
MSMEs Medium Enterprise	1	3	3	7	6
MSMEs Large Enterprise	1	-	1	2	2
Others	103	149	61	313	292
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>5,069</b>	<b>14,101</b>	<b>16,555</b>	<b>35,725</b>	<b>35,525</b>

The project is working in 2,740 communities in 130 municipalities in the six departments.

**Table 2. Number of municipalities and communities with project presence**

Department	# Municipalities	# Communities
Copán	23	442
Intibucá	16	417
La Paz	19	403
Lempira	28	617
Ocotepeque	16	294
Santa Bárbara	28	567
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>2,740</b>

#### 4.2. RURAL MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE GROWTH INCREASED (IR 2.1)

USAID-ACCESO's main activities and interventions are targeted toward achieving increased household incomes through MSME growth. Not only will increased incomes and increased productivities at the household level have a positive effect on the communities' overall economic growth, it will also increase client purchasing power to reduce the food insecurity situation in western Honduras and the related health problems.

In this section, USAID-ACCESO is reporting on activities that are directly contributing to three USAID sub-intermediate results (Sub IRs). These are:

- Rural MSMEs access to inputs, practices, and technology for market participation improved (Sub IR 2.1.1).
- Rural MSMEs access to new market opportunities increased (Sub IR 2.1.2).
- Barriers to competitiveness of rural MSMEs improved (Sub IR 2.1.3).

##### *4.2.1. RURAL MSMEs ACCESS TO INPUTS, PRACTICES, AND TECHNOLOGY FOR MARKET PARTICIPATION IMPROVED (SUB-IR 2.1.1)*

The greatest impact on the livelihoods of USAID-ACCESO-assisted households occurs when market-driven production programs are implemented with basic production practices to enable access to markets and buyers. Competitive, consistent, and coordinated production operations with defined markets are critical to ensuring increased incomes, the ability to continue generating incomes and resilience to climatic conditions, pest and diseases, and price fluctuations. To achieve this goal, a range of activities are being implemented by the project. This principally involves the provision of technical assistance and training to on- and off-farm MSMEs to implement technology and updated production practices; expand direct links with markets and buyers; work with groups of growers to introduce market-led production programs and the logistics requirements; develop private sector alliances; use the small grants program accompanied with technical assistance; and increase the technology transfer capacity, knowledge and process of local NGOs, agricultural schools, and the private sector.

##### *Implementation of updated production technologies (on- and off-farm)*

The status of activities in the Project Monitoring Plan (PMP) under this component during the reporting period, updated information from the previous quarter, and the year to date is provided in Table 3.

**Table 3. Rural MSME Access to Inputs, Practices and Technology for Market Participation**

Indicator	Year 1. May to Sept. 2011	Year 2. Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012	Year 3. Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013	Total Sept. 2013	Oct. to Dec. 2013	Jan. to Mar. 2014	Total Mar. 2014
WP #1: Number of individuals who have received government-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training	7,723	15,671	21,110	44,504	4,252	3,951	52,707
WP #2: Number of extension visits to program beneficiaries:	13,571	134,840	267,955	416,366	73,197	73,860	564,470
WP #12: Number of technical materials produced (bulletins, manuals, presentations and tools):	63	142	50	255	41	12	308
WP #10: Number of MSMEs (off-farm and processing) assisted by project	285	417	132	834	843	-42	801
PIRS #6: Value of new private sector investment in the agriculture sector or food chain leveraged by FTF implementation (\$ millions)	0.079	3.018	4.451	7.548	0.343	0.954	9.815
WP #11: Number of female individuals in training activities	2,202	5,729	5,711	13,642	1,539	1,888	17,069
PIRS #7: Number of farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of government assistance <sup>1</sup>	-	4,592	14,270	18,862	18,862	18,862	18,862

<sup>1</sup> tracked annually in client sampling survey

The status of activities in the Project Monitoring Plan (PMP) for years 1, 2, 3, updated information from the previous quarter, and the current quarter compared to targets is provided in Table 4.

**Table 4. Rural MSME Access to Inputs, Practices and Technology for Market Participation**

PIRS/ WP #	Year 1 (Apr. to Sept. 2011)		Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)		Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)		Total Sept. 2013		Oct. to Dec. 2013		Jan. to Mar. 2014	
	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
WP #1: Number of individuals who have received government-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training:	-	7,723	15,136	15,671	20,000	21,110	43,394	44,504	2,500	4,252	3,250	3,951
WP # 2: Number of extension visits to program beneficiaries (LOP Target 378,400):	-	13,571	103,200	134,840	108,000	267,955	256,411	416,366	25,000	74,244	29,500	73,860
WP #12: Number of technical materials produced (bulletins, manuals, presentations and tools)	-	63	75	142	50	50	255	255	20	41	15	12
WP #10: Number of MSMEs (off-farm and processing) assisted by project	-	285	322	417	103	132	805	834	5	9	5	-42
PIRS #6: Value of new private sector investment in the agriculture sector or food chain leveraged by FTF implementation (\$millions)	-	0.079	4.320	3.018	7.000	4.451	10.097	7.548	1.600	1.313	2.0	0.954
WP #11: Number of female individuals in training activities (LOP Target 8,300):	-	2,202	2,100	5,729	2,000	5,711	7,729	13,642	700	1,539	900	1,888
PIRS #7: Number of farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of government assistance *	-	-	4,410	4,592	7,000	14,270	11,592	18,862	2,400	Not reported	3,000	Not reported

\* tracked annually in client sampling survey

## WP #1: Number of individuals who have received government-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training

### WP #1 I: Number of female individuals in training activities

During the quarter a total of 3,951 individuals have been registered under agricultural sector productivity or food security training activities against a target of 3,250. As of September 2013, 44,504 individuals had received training against a target of 43,394. The accumulated total as of March 2014 is now 52,707 (35,638 male, 17,069 female). A breakdown by technical component is provided in Table 5 (individuals may receive training in different technical areas). Production accounts for the highest percentage (59 percent), followed by business skills (8 percent), and nutrition and health (7 percent). Names and identification numbers for each participant are taken from training logs and entered one by one in the CIRIS M&E program; identification numbers are then used to determine the number of individuals. Individuals may have participated in one or multiple training events.

**Table 5. Summary of Individuals Trained by Activity Area (Accumulated of March 2014)**

Activity Area	Accumulated March 2014		
	# Females	# Males	Total
Animal Production	1,147	2,147	3,294
Business Development Services	11	23	34
Business Skills	1,829	3,873	5,702
Certifications	195	757	952
Disaster Mitigation	427	850	1,277
Finance / Credit	87	265	352
Forestry	74	295	369
Information Technology	197	481	678
Market Information / Marketing	107	545	652
Natural Resources Management	553	1,505	2,058
Nutrition & Health	3,695	780	4,475
Postharvest	486	2,184	2,670
Processing	1,685	520	2,205
Production	9,995	30,300	40,295
Project	455	899	1,354
Renewable Energy	420	1,184	1,604
Research/Other	24	38	62
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,387</b>	<b>46,646</b>	<b>68,033</b>
<i>Only individuals with National ID numbers are included (52,707). Individuals can receive trainings in more than one area</i>			

For reference purposes, a total of 8,358 training events were carried out between January and March 2014 with 64,023 participants (19,153 female and 44,870 male). To date, production training accounts for the highest percentage of participants (70 percent), followed by nutrition and health (13 percent), and business skills (4 percent). Participant numbers and sex are recorded directly in the CIRIS M&E program; names and identification numbers are not recorded.

**Table 6. Training Events and Participants (by technical area)**

Technical Area	Accumulated December 2013*				Accumulated March 2014			
	# Events	Male	Female	Total	# Events	Male	Female	Total
Animal Production	1,360	7,465	4,387	11,852	308	1,877	627	2,504
Business Skills	3,178	18,796	10,244	29,040	263	1,650	645	2,295
Certifications	203	2,207	518	2,725	10	53	11	64
Finance / Credit	233	2,262	1,048	3,310	8	51	29	80
Food Safety	1	11	1	12				
Forestry	97	1,024	260	1,284	23	166	17	183
Health & Nutrition	3,865	4,670	53,943	58,613	567	351	7,814	8,165
Information Technology	68	514	350	864				
Market Information	257	2,532	624	3,156	17	102	28	130
Monitoring & Evaluation	11	234	37	271				
Postharvest	914	7,573	2,091	9,664	203	1,462	541	2,003
Processing	1,652	2,289	10,859	13,148	145	189	662	851
Production	42,269	289,674	76,948	366,622	6,468	36,697	8,198	44,895
Project	251	2,579	1,209	3,788	2	26	12	38
Renewable Energy	757	4,815	1,136	5,951	258	1,201	287	1,488
Research	6	61	59	120				
Specialty Coffee	21	378	11	389	15	107	1	108
Natural Resource Management	548	6,320	2,382	8,702	67	908	275	1,183
Natural Disaster Management & Mitigation	276	3,782	1,866	5,648	4	30	6	36
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>55,967</b>	<b>357,186</b>	<b>167,973</b>	<b>525,159</b>	<b>8,358</b>	<b>48,870</b>	<b>19,153</b>	<b>64,023</b>

\* December 2013 numbers updated to include those reported after this date.

**WP #2: Number of extension visits to program beneficiaries**

During the quarter, a total of 73,860 technical assistance visits were made, against a target of 29,500. A breakdown by technical component is provided in Table 7. As of March 2014, 564,470 technical assistance visits had been made against a target of 470,866. The majority of these are under the production component (77 percent) and nutrition and health (6 percent). Of the 564,470 technical assistances provided 74 percent were to males, 24 percent to females, and 1 percent not specified.

**Table 7. Technical Assistance Provided by Technical Component**

Component	Accumulated Sept. 2013*	Jan. to Mar. 2014	Accumulated Mar. 2014**
Administration		2	67
Certifications	1,012	85	1,190
Renewable Energy	2,552	1,586	6,799
Finance / Credit	1,599	206	1,965
Forestry	1,104	357	1,810
Business Skills	16,033	4,180	23,703
Marketing	2,862	441	3,879
Natural Resource Management	5,148	1,370	7,294
Disaster Mitigation/Management	3,389	77	4,095
Nutrition and Health	22,641	5,292	32,865
Postharvest	5,281	2,080	9,836
Processing	16,564	3,277	23,118
Production	329,789	51,750	433,144
Animal Production	8,898	3,156	14,394
Project Implementation/Results	277	1	311
<b>Total</b>	<b>417,228</b>	<b>73,860</b>	<b>564,470</b>

\* An additional 862 technical assistance visits were reported for September 2013.  
\*\* March 2014 updated to include those reported in the previous quarter.

**WP #12: Number of technical materials produced (bulletins, manuals, presentations and tools)**

During the quarter 12 technical materials were produced (against a target of 15). To date, 308 technical materials have been produced against a target of 290 (Table 8). Materials include 127 bulletins, 131 technical presentations, 25 Excel tools, plus manuals, posters, surveys, and toys.

**Table 8. Number of Technical Materials Produced by Component**

Technical Area	Accumulated Dec. 2013	Jan. to Mar. 2014	Accumulated Mar. 2014
Animal Production	16		16
Business Skills/Finance	81		81
Disaster Mitigation	21		21
Forestry	8		8
Marketing	10	3	13
NRM	13		13
Nutrition & Health	10	2	12
Postharvest	18		18
Processing	9		9
Production	107	7	114
Renewable Energy	3		3
<b>Total</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>308</b>

**WP #10: Number of MSMEs (off-farm and processing) assisted by project**

A total of 801 off-farm and processing MSME are receiving technical assistance and training from the project against an overall target of 805. A total of 42 companies were downgraded during the quarter from “active clients” to “sporadic” due to the lack of activities. MSMEs include 509 small- and micro-scale companies, 290 rural banks, and two others.

**PIRS #6: Value of new private sector investment in the agriculture sector or food chain leveraged by FTF implementation (\$ millions)**

During the quarter a total of \$954,469 of private sector investment has been made against a target of \$2 million (excludes USAID-ACCESO investments). A total of 2,305 individual investments were made during the quarter (20,445 individual investments as of March 2014), with the majority in production, processing, animal production, nutrition and health, and renewable energy. Total private sector investment as of March 2014 was \$9,815,020, against a target of \$11.15 million. Additional investment reported from the previous quarter totaled \$0.97 million which includes adjustment made with COMRURAL activities with project clients. COMRURAL is a World Bank project implemented by SAG. Previously, the COMRURAL portion to USAID-ACCESO assisted clients had been registered as a loan and the bank loan portion had not been registered. The COMRURAL portion is actually a donation to the client for co-investment in fixed assets. In this quarter, all records relating to COMRURAL were corrected and resulted in a decrease in the accumulated loan total and an increase in the investment total.

Overall the value of private sector investment is below the target, but is still a significant investment in fixed assets. Investment by area is provided in Table 9. Additional details are provided in the PMP 03/2014 Excel file.

**Table 9. Private Sector Investment in Fixed Assets (\$)**

Area	Accumulated Dec. 2013				Jan. to Mar. 2014				Accumulated March 2014 *			
	Client	Project	Other	TOTAL Non-Project	Client	Project	Other	TOTAL Non-Project	Client	Project	Other	TOTAL Non-Project
Alliances	6,300		65,000	71,300					6,300		65,000	71,300
Animal Production	697,987	542	53,193	751,180	37,889		2,820	40,709	735,876	542	56,013	791,889
BDS	727			727					727		0	727
Business Skills	150		3,491	3,641					150		3,491	3,641
Certifications	2,960			2,960					2,960		0	2,960
Forestry	3,950		1,253	5,203					3,950		1,253	5,203
Health & Nutrition	675,734	320,384	100,344	776,078	22,820	6,191	1,584	24,404	698,554	326,575	101,927	800,482
Information/ Other	250			250			2,500	2,500	250		2,500	2,750
Marketing	261		1,684	1,945					261	0	1,684	1,945
Natural Disaster Mngt	26,477	35,556	133,310	159,787	11,000	4,003	7,500	18,500	37,477	39,558	140,810	178,287
Natural Resource Mngt	96,948	102,589	120,416	217,364	23,545	16,765	3,540	27,085	120,493	119,354	123,956	244,449
Postharvest	57,033	8,815	36,137	93,169	4,880	585	590	5,470	61,913	9,400	36,727	98,639
Processing	930,597	706	335,748	1,266,346	58,805	20,504	7,737	66,542	989,402	21,210	343,485	1,332,887
Production	4,510,185	648,046	600,703	5,110,887	626,526	35,347	55,740	682,266	5,136,561	679,958	656,593	5,793,153
Project	111,017	690	16,507	127,523	0	1,250			111,017	1,940	16,507	127,523
Public Services	8,394		23,697	32,091	3,975		3,600	7,575	12,369	0	27,297	39,666
Renewable Energy	177,512	160,531	62,589	240,102	64,846	48,735	14,573	79,419	242,358	158,306	77,162	319,520
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>7,306,480</b>	<b>1,277,859</b>	<b>1,554,071</b>	<b>8,860,551</b>	<b>854,285</b>	<b>133,379</b>	<b>100,183</b>	<b>954,469</b>	<b>8,160,615</b>	<b>1,356,843</b>	<b>1,654,404</b>	<b>9,815,020</b>

## PIRS #7: Number of farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of government assistance

As of September 2013 a total of 18,862 farmers applied new technologies or management practices as a result of project assistance against a target of 11,592. Under this indicator the farmer has to implement a minimum of five technologies or practices. This was measured as part of the M&E sampling process carried out in August 2013 and extrapolated for project clients that started receiving technical assistance prior to March 2013. Results for this indicator will be reported in September 2014 from sampling to be carried out in August 2014 (Section 3.7.3).

- The project is promoting basic production technologies for corn, bean, and coffee, with additional technologies for high-value crops. Crop selection is based on the potential of each specific region in terms of crop development, cost of production, and availability and proximity to logistics and markets. Since most of the farmers are new to these crops, they start with small plots and the project technicians guiding them in every step of the production process, but in all cases, basic technologies are introduced.
- The main crops receiving project assistance are coffee (the majority under production with some new plantings), basic grains (to secure food supply), and higher value fruits and vegetables (for income generation). Plantings made during the quarter, together with those for each FY and accumulated to date are provided in Table 10. This will continue to increase as the project's investments in irrigation become fully operational and expand over the next year, and growers (and neighbors) see the results.

**Table 10. Hectares Assisted as of March 2014<sup>1</sup>**

Value Chain	Year 1 (Apr. to Sept. 2011)	Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)	Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)	Total to Sept. 2013 <sup>2</sup>	Jan. to March 2014	Total to Mar. 2014 <sup>3</sup>
Fruits and Vegetables	387	890	1,176	2,684	430	3,986
Coffee	13,716	1,769	2,351	17,734	172	23,417
Grains	2,029	5,396	14,792	22,096	402	24,656
Tree Fruits	509	83	165	518	5.5	750
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,641</b>	<b>8,138</b>	<b>18,485</b>	<b>43,032</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>52,809</b>

<sup>1</sup> Areas reported in previous reports in Years 1 and 2 have increased due to the entrance of new clients and their reporting of established coffee and fruit trees, now under project assistance.

<sup>2</sup> In September 2013 a total of 43,263 hectares were reported for households who were active clients at the time of the report. Data generated with active clients in December 2013 resulted in a drop in the total planted area by 321 hectares to 43,032 hectares.

<sup>3</sup> March 2014 data updated to include December 2013 information reported after this date.

- A total of 1,010 hectares were planted by 3,113 client households during the quarter. Crops with the largest plating area include coffee, corn, bean, potato, onion, cabbage, and plantain. Details of the accumulated area for the main crops planted up to March 2014 and during the current quarter are presented in Table 11.

**Table 11. Crops with the highest planting areas during the quarter (hectares) \***

Product	Total Dec. 2103	Jan. to Mar. 2014	Accumulated Mar. 2014 **
Coffee	23,245	172	23,417
Corn	19,720	279	19,999
Beans (dried)	4,273	121	4,394
Potato	892	113	1,005
Onion	202	30	232
Cabbage	185	50	236
Plantain	301	19	321
Pasture	144	19	163
Corn (on the cob)	148	24	171
Tomato	146	17	163

\* Areas reported are for active clients at the time of the report preparation.  
\*\* December 2013 numbers updated to include those reported after this date.

USAID-ACCESO is working to diversify on-farm income sources, including beef cattle. The cattle outgrower program established with a meat processing plant and six small-scale farmers with five cattle each resulted in average net incomes of \$800 per cycle. The project provided technical assistance and training in a wide range of activities, including stabling, feeding, and pasture production. This is an example of how incomes can be supplemented with small-scale operations. A second phase was initiated in the current quarter, with certain modifications and corrections, with the aim of achieving \$1,500 net income for the five cows.

*Private sector alliances and integration of private sector equipment, input and service providers*

The status of activities in the Project Monitoring Plan (PMP) under this component during the current quarter and overall to March 2014 is provided in Table 12.

**Table 12. Private Sector Alliances and Integration**

PIRS /WP #	Year 1 (Apr. to Sept. 2011)		Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)		Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)		Accumulated Sept. 2013		Oct. to Dec. 2013		Jan. to Mar. 2014	
	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
PIRS #30: Number of organizations / companies providing business development / extension services to MSMEs (LOP Target 465):												
	23	-	70	78	175	20	253	188	10	11	15	-3
PIRS #32: Number of public-private partnerships formed (LOP Target 65):												
	12	3	33	23	24	15	50	41	6	3	8	2

### **PIRS #30: Number of organizations or companies providing business development or extension services to MSMEs**

Three organizations/companies providing business development services/extension services to project client were downgraded as they have stopped providing services. The accumulated total is now 196. These include input and equipment suppliers, cooperatives, foundations, and others (details are provided in the ACCESO PMP Excel file 03/2014).

**PIRS #32: Number of public-private partnerships formed****PIRS #33: Number of private sector alliances developed**

During the quarter two public-private alliances were signed (against a target of eight) for a total of 46 to date. Details are provided in the ACCESO PMP Excel file 03/2014; copies of all alliances and letters of agreement are available on the [project's intranet site](#). Alliances signed this quarter were with the Centro Agronómico Tropical De Investigación y Enseñanza (CIAT) in forestry and CADELGA with inputs, equipment, training, and financing.

**Note:** The 2012/2013 PMP work plan merged the indicators relating to public-private sector alliance and private sector alliances into one indicator under public-private sector alliances. The new target set was at the sum of the two original targets.

**Table 13. Public-Private Sector Partnerships**

Date	Organization/Company	Activity
Jul. 2011	SwissContact	Santa Bárbara, La Paz, Intibucá: honey production training.
June 2011	VECO MA	Intibucá: produce consolidation
Sep. 2011	Bomhosa	All six departments: equipment supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Sep. 2011	MexiChem	All six departments: equipment supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Nov. 2011	ADHESA	All six departments: eco-justa stoves.
Nov. 2011	DICONSA	All six departments: equipment and input supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Feb. 2012	SEREMA	All six departments: equipment supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Feb. 2012	DURMAN	All six departments: equipment and input supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Feb. 2012	DISAGRO	All six departments: equipment and input supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Mar. 2012	Bayer	All six departments: equipment and input supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Mar. 2012	SEAGRO	All six departments: equipment and input supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Mar. 2012	ODECO	
Apr. 2012	Agritrade	All six departments: equipment and input supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Jun. 2012	COAPIGOR	Santa Bárbara: allspice production & exports.
Jun. 2012	ILAMEX	Santa Bárbara: allspice production & exports.
Jun. 2012	Productos Pantheods	Intibucá: vegetable packer.
Jul. 2012	Original Maya	Intibucá, Copán, Lempira: vegetable exporter.
Jul. 2012	Hermandad de Honduras	Copán: technical assistance to growers.
Aug. 2012	AGROS International	Santa Bárbara: technical assistance to growers.
Sep. 2012	Frozen Foods/Grupo Madeesma	Intibucá, Santa Bárbara, Copán: baby corn processor and exporter.
Sep. 2012	Bioplanet	All six departments: moringa seed provider.
Sep. 2012	COHORSIL	All six departments: equipment and input supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Sep. 2012	DUWEST	All six departments: equipment and input supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Oct. 2012	D'Leite	Santa Bárbara, Copán, and Lempira: oriental vegetable exporter
Oct. 2012	CAMOSA	All six departments: equipment supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations
Jan. 2013	TECHO Honduras	La Paz: low-cost housing
Jan. 2013	Programa Educativo El Maestro en Casa	Intibucá: greenhouse operations and training
Jan. 2013	Agroindustrias del Coral	Copán: cattle production program

**Table 13. Public-Private Sector Partnerships**

Date	Organization/Company	Activity
Jan. 2013	Croplife	All six departments: safe pesticide use training
Feb. 2013	Syngenta	All six departments: input supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations; training in safe pesticide use; support to healthy household program.
Feb. 2013	UNAH/CUROC	Copán: student internships
Mar. 2013	UNITEC (+SIC)	All six departments: company registrations
Mar. 2013	AHPROABA / DUWEST	All six departments: outgrower program, marketing, inputs and finance (corn)
Jul. 2013	Beneficio Santa Rosa	Copán, Lempira, Ocotepeque: coffee buyer, training
Jul. 2013	Supermercados La Antorcha	All six departments: buyer of horticultural and MSME products, promotion and training.
Aug. 2013	EYL Comercial	All six departments: equipment and input supplier, discounts, training, demonstrations.
Sep. 2013	Boncafe	Intibucá, Copán, Lempira, Ocotepeque: coffee buyer, training, specialty premiums
Sep. 2013	FENAGH	Project wide: support on policy activities
Oct. 2013	Pineapple growers/buyers/SAG	Pineapple value chain – Copán and Ocotepeque
Nov. 2013	Water Engineers for the Americas	Intibucá. Technical support and cost sharing for potable water system
Dec. 2013	Municipality of Candelaria, Lempira	Lempira. Cost sharing for irrigation system installation.
Mar. 2014	CIAT	Intibuca. Forestry, finance
Mar. 2014	CADELGA	All six departments. Equipment, inputs, training, finance

**Letters of Agreement**

Jun. 2011	IHMA
Jun. 2011	PRONADERS
Sep. 2011	Ministry of Health
Oct. 2011	Vision Mundial
Nov. 2011	SOLARIS
Jan. 2012	Ministry of Work and Social Security
May 2012	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
May 2012	Ministry of Health Region 14 – Ocotepeque
May 2012	Ministry of Health Region 04 – Copán Ruins
May 2012	Ministry of Health Region 10 – Intibucá
May 2012	Ministry of Health Region 12 – Marcala
May 2012	Instituto Polivalente San José Cupertino
Dec. 2012	Banadesa
May 2013	Registro Nacional de la Personas / SAG
Jul. 2013	Instituto Nacional de Conservación y Desarrollo Forestal (Nor-Occidental)
Jul. 2013	Municipality of Jesús de Otoro, Intibucá
Aug. 2013	COPECO
Sep. 2013	Municipality of Talgua, Lempira

*Grower organization and the development of market-driven production programs*

The status of activities in the Project Monitoring Plan (PMP) under this component during the reporting period and the year to date is provided in Table 14.

**Table 14. Grower Organization and Market-Driven Production Programs**

PIRS/ WP #	Year 1 (Apr. to Sep. 2011)		Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sep. 2012)		Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sep. 2013)		Accumulated Sept. 2013		Oct. to Dec. 2013		Jan. to Mar. 2014	
	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
PIRS #31: Number of producers organizations, water users associations, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance (LOP Target 210)												
	20	40	70	150	20	31	210	221	10	0	18	14
WP #3: Number of small farmer associations formally established as businesses (LOP Target 55)												
	-	-	4	0	150	118	150	118	30	0	35	16

**PIRS #31: Number of producer organizations, water users associations, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations receiving USG assistance**

USAID-ACCESO is developing activities with organizations and associations, particularly community-based organizations, to increase outreach and improve the quality and quantity of services. By working with community level organizations, the project generates client confidence. In many cases, problems and opportunities are identified through a participatory process by the communities themselves. During the quarter, 14 additional organizations were incorporated into the project (target of 18), with an accumulated total of 235 organizations enrolled as USAID-ACCESO beneficiaries. These include 184 water/irrigation associations, 17 community-based organizations, 25 grower associations, and two others. Many of the water and irrigation boards were set up with project assistance.

All have involved coordination and support from the local municipalities. In some cases, new MSMEs have been established and new income generated. Agriculture fairs have also been carried out in other departments to stimulate interest. This activity will continue to expand.

**WP #3: Number of small farmer associations formally established as businesses**

USAID-ACCESO business skills, policy, production, and marketing specialists work together to identify the needs and requirements of groups of growers to formally register as businesses. In addition to the work with the growers themselves, input from the project's policy component has shortened processes and reduced costs, and has improved the efficiencies of the registration process. Alliances were initially made with UNAH and SIC, but this was not formalized; a formal alliance was then made with UNITEC and SIC to assist in the legalization of the businesses. During the quarter, 16 registrations were obtained against a target of 35. As of September 2013, documents had been sent for registration of 71 businesses, while 53 were in the process of document assimilation. To date, a total of 134 have obtained registration, while 110 are in the process of registration and 21 are compiling documentation. Those involved in this process include:

- Grower associations: 4
- Rural banks (*cajas rurales*): 199
- Companies with multiple services: 26
- Water boards: 32
- *Campesino* groups: 3

Groups currently being provided assistance under this activity total 307, covering 6,158 members and an average of 23 members per group.

*Increasing the technical capabilities of agricultural schools and local NGOs*

As project implementation evolves, coordination with local actors continues to increase. NGOs, local governmental organizations, and agricultural, technical, and social promotion schools participate in many project training events and activities, and in some cases, specialized training courses have been developed to meet their specific needs.

During the reporting quarter, USAID-ACCESO continued close working relationships with more than 15 technical schools and universities from all project regions. As of September 2013, more than 435 students had held internships with the project in areas such as processing, business skills and finance, production, health and nutrition, IT, and administration. Interns came from 37 different schools, technical colleges, and universities and received a total of 3,025 weeks of on-the-job technical training. Twenty have been at the university level (Zamorano, UNAH, Universidad Metropolitana and UNA). Other schools have been trained in executing community cleaning campaigns and others are participating in the food preparation workshops. Coordination has been carried out with the World Food Program in training the mothers who prepare the *merienda escolar* in select communities within the project regions.

More than 40 counterpart organizations, including private sector companies, NGOs, and projects have participated in project-sponsored activities. These include: Aldea Global, ANDESAIN, Caritas, CASM, CESAL, CEPUDO, CHF Honduras, Child Fund, CODESSE, COMUCAP, COOMUPL, COPRAFEL, Catholic Relief Service, Escuela San Pablo, EDUCAR, Escuela Agrícola Pompilio Ortega, FAMA, FAO, FIDA, FIDE, FOPRIDEH, Fundación Adelante, FUNDAHRSE, Fundación Banhcafe, Fundahmicro, Fundación Vida, Funder, Red Cross, Heifer, IHCAFE, OCDIH, ODECO, Veco-MA, Oxfam, PILARH, Save the Children, SOCODEVI, Swiss Contact, World Food Programme (WFP), and World Vision. An additional 40 government and donor institutions, and projects, have also participated in USAID-ACCESO activities. Representatives from government organizations receiving USAID-ACCESO training include PRONADERS, DICTA, and selected municipalities and municipal organizations.

Most of the NGOs under subcontract to Fintrac have also increased their capabilities – especially on accounting and administration – with changes and improvements being made to meet USAID regulations and documentation requirements.

The project has also provided nutrition and health training to NGOs, municipalities, and health volunteers in project target areas

#### 4.2.2. RURAL MSMEs ACCESS TO NEW MARKET OPPORTUNITIES INCREASED (SUB-IR 2.1.2)

##### Development of buyer linkages and logistics

The status of activities in the Project Monitoring Plan (PMP) under this component is provided in Table 15. Note: WP#4 and PIRS #12 will be determined as part of the annual survey and reported in September 2014.

**Table 15. Rural MSME Access to New Market Opportunities**

Indicator	Year 1 (May to Sept. 2011)	Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)	Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)	Total Sept. 2013	Oct. to Dec. 2013	Jan. to Mar. 2014
WP #4: Number of MSMEs accessing new market opportunities through a broker (LOP Target 10,932):						
	35	1,403	5,486	6,924	Not reported	Not reported
PIRS #12: Number of brokers providing market linkages to MSMEs (LOP Target 500):						
	10	19	41	70	Not reported	Not reported
WP #6: Number of market surveys conducted (LOP Target 24):						
	1	5	3	9	0	3

**Table 16. Rural MSME Access to New Market Opportunities**

PIRS/ WP #	Year 1 (Apr. to Sept. 2011)		Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)		Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)		Accumulated Sept. 2013		Oct. to Dec. 2013		Jan. to Mar. 2014	
	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
WP #4: Number of MSMEs accessing new market opportunities through a broker:												
	300	35	1,968	1,403	3,500	5,486	4,938	6,924	750	Not reported	750	Not reported
PIRS #12: Number of brokers providing market linkages to MSMEs:												
	25	10	125	19	200	41	229	70	25	Not reported	25	Not reported
WP #6: Number of market surveys conducted:												
	6	1	12	5	12	3	18	9	0	0	1	3

#### **WP #4: Number of MSMEs accessing new market opportunities through a broker**

This indicator is not being reported quarterly based on census data (Section 3.7.3). Results toward this indicator will be determined in the next sampling survey for September 2014.

Activities carried out during the quarter that will contribute to this indicator include the expansion of the calendarized vegetable production programs for local supermarkets (particularly La Colonia), formal and informal intermediaries that sell to the supermarkets, and green bean sales to Guatemala with production activities expanded to include Copan and Lempira.

Activities under the same vein, but that will not contribute to the target, include yellow corn and coffee sales (as there is normally only one harvest and sales – the indicator requires at least two recorded sales events to at least one broker).

During the current quarter, the project obtained information directly from buyers, but this was limited by the fact that many buyers prefer to deal with a limited number of growers and in their records they may show only a single USAID-ACCESO grower, but in reality deliveries are made up of products from multiple growers, and these are not tracked by the buyer.

#### **PIRS #12: Number of brokers providing market linkages to MSMEs**

This indicator is not being reported quarterly based on census data (Section 3.7.3). Results toward this indicator will be determined in the next sampling survey for September 2014.

USAID-ACCESO marketing specialists continue to monitor new product and market opportunities, as well as recommending crops, varieties, and value-added products for calendarized production programs and commercial trials. Calendarized production programs are being implemented in each of the six departments for both the local and export markets, and will expand as more growers join these programs and new ones are developed. In addition to fresh produce, the project has emphasized developing new markets and improving logistics for MSME processed and off-farm products, including sweets, baked goods, pickles, sauces, plantain chips, raw sugar, honey, wines, and crafts. Trials for new products with good export potential are being carried underway in Intibucá (stevia) and Lempira (chia). During the quarter, samples of these two products were provided to local exporters and to importers in the United States.

Because of low production volumes (small plots, partial technologies) and difficulties competing in the large markets in the main and secondary cities (poor roads, long distances, high transport costs, low volumes), USAID-ACCESO has developed local farmers markets and distribution routes for sales to local markets, *pulperias* (home shops), and intermediaries in the same zones where they are produced. This reduces transport costs and speeds up payment time, especially given the low volumes, limited transport logistics, and poor roads. But most do not count toward these indicator targets.

Another key activity carried out is the development of new and expansion of existing local produce fairs (*ferias del agricultor* or *mercaditos verdes*). As the growers are selling themselves, this activity does not specifically contribute to the indicator target.

#### **WP #6: Number of market surveys conducted**

To date, 12 market surveys have been carried out for potential products against a target of 11. Three surveys on chia, stevia, and turmeric were completed this quarter. Previous reports covered allspice, cardamom, processed onions, gherkins, eggplant, zucchini, essential oils from pimento leaf, pimento berry, and cardamom. Allspice, cardamom, and eggplants are being exported. Informal market surveys were carried out for a range of crops in El Salvador (via market visits) and with exporters and importers for fresh herbs, snow peas, sugar snap peas, and French beans.

*Production and systems implementation to meet buyers' quality and standards***WP #5: Number of MSMEs that have entered formal preferred supplier or contract agreements with brokers**

The status of activities in the Project Monitoring Plan (PMP) as of September 2013 under this component is provided in Table 17.

**Table 17. Number of MSMEs that have entered formal preferred supplier or contract agreements**

Indicator	Year 1 (May to Sept. 2011)	Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)	Oct. 2012 to Jun. 2013	Jul. to Sept. 2013	Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)	Accumulated Sept. 2013	FY2013/ 2014
WP #5: Number of MSMEs that have entered formal preferred supplier or contract agreements with brokers							
	-	550	-	1,521	1,521	2,071	Not available

The status of activities in the Project Monitoring Plan (PMP) for years 1, 2, and 3 is provided in Table 18.

**Table 18. Number of MSMEs that have entered formal preferred supplier or contract agreements**

PIRS/ WP #	Year 1 (Apr. to Sept. 2011)		Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)		Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)		Accumulated Sept. 2013		FY 2013 / 2014	
	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
WP # 5: Number of MSMEs that have entered formal preferred supplier or contract agreements with brokers										
	-	-	599	550	925	1,521	1,475	2,071	400	Not available

This indicator is not being reported quarterly based on census data (*Section 3.7.3*). Results towards this indicator will be determined in the next sampling survey for September 2014.

The indicator is counted when actual sales to a specific market demanding a particular quality or standard take place. In order for micro and small businesses (including farmers) to build sustainable relationships with new markets, it is essential they comply with buyer expectations, not only for volumes, consistency, and frequency, but also in terms of quality and product standards. USAID-ACCESO's marketing, postharvest, and certification specialists provide direct technical assistance to farmers so they can achieve this goal. Additional training is provided by the actual buyers themselves, who visit the farms and participate in training and technical assistance activities or provide feedback to growers when produce is delivered.

These buyers include collection centers, cooperatives, supermarkets, processors and exporters. Details of those recorded to date are provided in the PMP 03/2014 Excel file.

*Implementation of business certification programs*

The status of activities in the Project Monitoring Plan (PMP) under this component as of September 2013 is provided in Table 19.

**Table 19. Implementation of Business Certification Programs**

Indicator	Year 1 (May to Sept. 2011)	Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)	Oct. 2012 to Jun. 2013	Jul. to Sept. 2013	Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)	Accumulated Sept. 2013	FY2013/ 2014
PIRS #13: Number of MSMEs that have been verified to meet market standards for their products							
	35	882	36	800	836	1,753	Not available

The status of activities in the Project Monitoring Plan (PMP) for years 1, 2, and 3 against targets is provided in Table 20.

**Table 20. Implementation of Business Certification Programs**

PIRS/ WP #	Year 1 (Apr. to Sept. 2011)		Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)		Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)		Total to Date (Sept. 2013)		FY 2013 / 2014	
	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
PIRS #13: Number of MSMEs that have been verified to meet market standards for their products (LOP Target 2,000)										
	-	35	300	882	500	836	1,417	1,753	325	Not available

This indicator is not being reported quarterly based on census data (*Section 3.7.3*). Results toward this indicator will be determined in the next sampling survey for September 2014.

USAID-ACCESO specialists are providing support to vegetable growers to enter formal markets with quality and food safety standards and obtain farm and product certifications. Project specialists are also assisting coffee growers meet the requirements for a range of certifications, including Rainforest Alliance, UTZ, 4C, Certified Organic, and Fair Trade. Growers participating in the yellow corn program will have to comply with strict market quality standards and specific delivery and logistics compliance.

Details of the MSMEs meeting market standards for buyers are provided in the ACCESO PMP 03/2014 Excel file.

USAID-ACCESO has worked with many buyers to develop quality standards for several crops, including passion fruit and select vegetables for supermarkets, allspice for North American markets, and potato and carrot for CICOM. Other examples include fresh herbs and oriental vegetables for export to the US; a range of fresh products for El Salvadoran buyers; cardamom for a European importer; potatoes for the local market; Chinese eggplant for the export market; baby corn for the processing market; green beans to Guatemala; snow pea and sugar snap pea for the export and local supermarket buyers; cucumber, loofah, and coffee to local buyers for subsequent export; yellow and white corn for the local grain industry; stevia for a local processor; and honey and *panela* for export.

Given the informal nature of local markets, there are very few buyers with specifications for fresh produce. For this reason, postharvest specialists, working with marketing specialists, have worked with informal buyers to develop basic standards and quality inspections to formalize some of the relations. This is in addition to the continued focus on helping clients meet buyer quality standards so they can enter more reliable formal markets with potential for expansion. Support has been provided to both buyers and growers in the development and use of product standards. Additional activities have been initiated with quality and standards for processed and other off-farm products, such as pickled vegetables, raw sugar, processed garlic, dehydrated herbs, dairy products, honey products, wood, and woven items. Specific activities carried out during the quarter include working with new growers supplying coffee to BonCafé and French beans to Guatemala.

#### 4.2.3. BARRIERS TO COMPETITIVENESS OF RURAL MSMEs REDUCED (SUB-IR 2.1.3)

Increased access to finance

#### PIRS #14: Number of MSMEs accessing market-based financing as the result of government assistance

The status of activities in the Project Monitoring Plan (PMP) under this component during the reporting period and the year to date is provided in Tables 21 and 22.

**Table 21. Barriers to Competitiveness of Rural MSMEs Reduced**

Indicator	Year 1 (May to Sept. 2011)	Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)	Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)	Accumulated Sept. 2013	Accumulated Dec. 2013	Accumulated Mar. 2014
PIRS #14: Number of MSMEs accessing market-based financing as the result of government assistance						
	315	1,577	2,826	4,718	4,817	5,175
PIRS #15: Value of agricultural and rural loans made to MSMEs (\$ millions)						
	0.200	1.554	6.072	7.826	8.679	8.425
PIRS #11: Number of MSMEs implementing sound business management practices						
	-	695	4,498	5,193	Not available	Not available

**Table 22. Barriers to Competitiveness of Rural MSMEs Reduced**

PIRS/ WP #	Year 1 (Apr. to Sept. 2011)		Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)		Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)		Accumulated Sept. 2013		Jan. to Mar. 2014		Accumulated Mar. 2014*	
	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
PIRS #14: Number of MSMEs accessing market-based financing as the result of government assistance												
	215	315	863	1,577	1,000	2,826	2,892	4,718	700	315	5,718	5,175
PIRS #15: Value of agricultural and rural loans made to MSMEs (\$ millions)												
	0.32	0.200	1.26	1.554	1.730	6.072	3.484	7.826	1.15	0.809	9.476	8.425
PIRS #11: Number of MSMEs implementing sound business management practices												
	-	-	1,696	695	3,750	4,498	4,445	5,193	500	Not available	750	Not available
<i>December 2013 numbers updated to include those reported after this date; includes corrections made to data relating to loan and donations made under COMRURAL projects.</i>												

During the quarter, 315 MSMEs accessed market-based finance with project assistance against a target of 700. The total to date is 5,175 MSMEs with 7,651 loans, broken down by sex:

Total:	7,651
Male:	6,347 (83 percent)
Female:	1,304 (17 percent)

#### PIRS #15: Value of agricultural and rural loans made to MSMEs (\$ millions)

During the quarter, USAID-ACCESO clients accessed \$0.8091 million in loans against a target of \$1.15 million. To date, loans total \$8.425 million. 267 different finance sources have been used including rural village banks, input stores, cooperatives, buyers, NGOs, and municipalities. These are the formal loans. There are many informal loans, particularly between family members and intermediary buyers. Traditional banks do not normally work with this segment. Data broken down by sex:

Total:	\$8,425,136
Male:	\$7,417,493 (88 percent)
Female:	\$1,007,643 (12 percent)

Average loan size is \$1,125 with a minimum loan size of \$6 and a maximum of \$300,000. 16 percent of loans are less than \$100; 60 percent are loans of less than \$500; and 94 percent are loans less than \$5,000. More details on loans and lenders are provided in the Excel PMP file 03/2014.

The total value of loans reduced from \$8.68 million in the previous quarter to \$8.42 as of March 2014. During the quarter, changes were made loan data in Fintrac's M&E system relating to COMRURAL, a World Bank project implemented by SAG. Previously, the COMRURAL portion to USAID-ACCESO assisted clients had been registered as a loan and the bank loan portion had not been registered. The COMRURAL portion is actually a donation to the client. In this quarter, all records relating to COMRURAL were corrected and resulted in a decrease in the accumulated loan total and an increase in the investment total.

### **PIRS #11: Number of MSMEs implementing sound business management practices**

This indicator is now not being reported quarterly based on census data (*Section 3.7.3*). Results towards this indicator will be determined in the next sampling survey for September 2014. As of September 2013, 5,193 MSMEs were implementing sounds business practices.

To count as an MSME toward this indicator, the MSME has to implement a minimum of three of the following business management practices:

- Access to credit
- Annual accounts (internal or external)
- Annual audits (internal or external)
- Break-even point analyses
- Budgeting (operative / investment)
- Business operations
- Cash flow operations and control
- Credit scoring
- Financial indicator analysis
- Financial links
- Inventory controls
- Legal procedures/documentation
- Payroll systems and controls
- Promotional activities (materials, trade shows)
- Recordkeeping
- Sales records and control
- Tax management

### *Policy and value chain sector constraints identified and eliminated*

Prioritized policies and value chain/sector constraints were identified through a short-term consultancy finalized in December 2011. This activity identified the needs and feasibility of adjustments, changes, and additions in prioritized areas of agricultural policy in force, and in selected administrative procedures and requirements to produce, market, process, and export agricultural products and derivatives, which are needed to remove obstacles or barriers that affect the growth and competitiveness of USAID-ACCESO clients in the domestic and foreign markets.

The most important problems identified related to policies or regulations, and were found primarily in the area of access to credit, access to technologies and agricultural extension services, market access and business practices, food safety and plant/animal health, the coffee value chain, access to land or titles, and institutional aspects of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG).

In terms of administrative barriers, the most significant problems identified were related to the high costs, requirements for registrations, and procedures for exports or imports agricultural products and inputs.

Of the policy barriers identified, 11 were prioritized in seven areas, in addition to 11 prioritized administrative barriers. To date, more emphasis has been given on policy activities than the barriers, given the amount of time and work required to change, develop, and implement policies.

**Table 23. Status: Policy and Value Chain Sector Constraints**

PIRS/ WP #	Year 1 (Apr. to Sept. 2011)		Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)		Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)		Accumulated Sept. 2013		Oct. to Dec. 2013		Jan. to Mar. 2014	
	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
PIRS #16: Number of value chain / sector constraints identified and resolved (LOP Target 40):												
	-	-	15	1	24	16	25	17	5	5	5	1
PIRS #17: Number of policy reforms, regulations, administrative procedures passed for which implementation has begun with USG assistance (LOP Target – Original 4; Updated: 5):												
	-	1	1	2	1	3	4	5	0	1	0	0

**PIRS #16: Number of value chain / sector constraints identified and resolved**

One value chain/sector constraint was resolved this quarter against a target of five (for a total to date of 23 barriers against a target of 27). The following value chain/sector constraints have been resolved as a direct result of USAID-ACCESO assistance:

- National Plan for Integrated Assistance to Small Scale Coffee Growers affected by Coffee Rust (with IHCAFE) (current quarter)
- Official Recognition of Potato Production Manual to harmonize and improve the quality of agricultural extension services – presented by SAG-DICTA.
- Official Recognition of Onion Production Manual to harmonize and improve the quality of agricultural extension services – presented by FHIA.
- Official Recognition of Cocoa Production Manual to harmonize and improve the quality of agricultural extension services – presented by FHIA.
- Official Recognition of Carrot Production Manual to harmonize and improve the quality of agricultural extension services – presented by USAID-ACCESO.
- Simplification of the RTN applications from the DEI for companies and individuals.
- Legalization process for MSMEs.
- Simplification of export permit processes to regional markets of agriculture products.
- Reform of the operational guidelines of the MCA-H/ACA Trust Fund for Farmers' Credit Access (via Policy Measures to Expand Credit Service to Farmers).
- Normative evaluation and classification of the loan portfolio issued by the National Banking and Insurance Commission (via policy measures to expand credit service to farmers).
- Agricultural Insurance operated by BANADESA (via policy measures to expand credit service to farmers).
- Streamlined process for the establishment and operation of water administration boards.
- Streamlined process for the registration of poultry farms engaged in the production of poultry meat and eggs.
- Official recognition of corn production manual under integrated crop management in order to harmonize and improve the quality of agricultural extension services.
- Official Recognition of Bean Production Manual in order to harmonize and improve the quality of agricultural extension services.
- Reform of the operational guidelines of the MCA-H Trust Farmers' Credit Access (ACA) to finance projects in the cattle value chain.
- Reform of the operational guidelines of the MCA-H Trust Farmers' Credit Access (ACA) to finance projects in the chicken value chain.
- Reform of the operational guidelines of the MCA-H Trust Farmers' Credit Access (ACA) to finance projects in the coffee value chain.

- Reform of the operational guidelines of the MCA-H Trust Farmers' Credit Access (ACA) to finance projects in the agricultural inputs value chain.
- Development of credit access mechanism for small producers assisted by USAID-ACCESS with trust funds managed by BANADESA.
- Reform of the operational guidelines of the MCA-H/ACA Trust Farmers' Credit Access (ACA) for the qualification of new financial intermediaries.
- Executive Order to facilitate access to credit to MSMEs without collateral.
- Socialization of objectives, use and operation of the mobile guarantee register.

While this activity is slightly behind target, there are four more in process of being resolved: plantain and oil palm production manuals with SAG; accreditation of natural and legal persons to provide agricultural inspection services with SAG-SENASA; fund development for the control and disposal of pesticide packaging with SAG and Croplife. With the additional policy reforms, other constraints are expected to be resolved.

**PIRS #17: Number of policy reforms, regulations, administrative procedures passed for which implementation has begun with USG assistance**

No work was carried out on policy reforms during the quarter; a total of six policy reform procedures have been achieved to date.

- National Policy of *Cajas de Ahorro y Crédito* (approved by Council of Ministers) (current quarter).
- Country Investment Plan for the Agricultural Sector.
- Copyright law for protection for plant materials.
- Sector policy paper (FENAGH & COHEP) of actions to eliminate political and administrative barriers that limit sector growth.
- Regulation of Agricultural Mutual Guarantee Fund (Fagre) to facilitate access to credit to MSMEs.
- Policy Measures to Expand Credit Services to Farmers (approved by Council of Ministers).

**PIRS #GNDR 2: Proportion of female participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources.**

This indicator was added in Year 3 (October 2012 to September 2013).

The number of individuals receiving loans to date total 5,175, of which 919 were women (equivalent to 17.8 percent, against a target of 17 percent).

Additional breakdown by gender:

- Value of loans during the quarter total \$809,468, of which \$54,603 were to women (equivalent to 7 percent).
- Value of loans to date total \$8,425,136, of which \$1,007,643 were to women (equivalent to 12 percent).
- The number of new individuals receiving loans this quarter total 285, of which 44 were women (equivalent to 15 percent).
- The number of loans this quarter total 614, of which 77 were to women (equivalent to 13 percent).
- The number of loans to date total 7,651, of which 1,304 were to women (equivalent to 17 percent).

*Applied research and development programs developed*

Activities under the research activities have been completed.

### 4.3. HONDURAN BIODIVERSITY & NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVED (IR 2.2)

On-farm natural resource management activities to maintain healthy soils and conserve water are integrated into the good agricultural practices at the centerpiece of the USAID-ACCESO extension program. Under this component, the project works in collaboration with community groups to improve overall natural resource management practices at the community, micro-watershed, and municipal levels. USAID-ACCESO uses a participatory municipal and community planning process to develop and implement municipal natural resource management plans that identify existing, proposed, and potential areas of public interest; biological and economic corridors, including areas with potential for ecotourism and irrigation or hydropower development; as well as areas under current or future environmental threat due to deforestation, soil erosion and sedimentation, chemical and organic pollution, and natural hazards. The status of results reported to date is provided in Table 24.

**Table 24. Status: Natural Resources Conserved**

PIRS/ WP #	Year 1 (Apr. to Sept. 2011)		Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)		Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)		Accumulated Sept. 2013		FY 2013/2014	
	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
PIRS #8: Number of additional hectares under improved technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance										
	-	-	2,981	8,321	3,000	7,693	11,321	16,014	1,250	Not available
PIRS #10: Number of companies (including farms) that have made conservation-friendly changes in their business practices										
	-	-	4,410	356	8,750	351	9,106	707	6,000	Not available

#### *Implementation of natural resource management practices on farm*

#### **PIRS #8: Number of additional hectares under improved technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance**

This indicator is not being reported quarterly based on census data (Section 3.7.3). Results toward this indicator will be determined in the next sampling survey for September 2014.

During FY 2013, 7,693 hectares of production were placed under improved technologies or management practices, against a target of 3,000 hectares. As of September 2103, 16,014 hectares are under improved technologies, against a target of 11,321. This indicator was calculated with data from the client survey and extrapolated to the clients registered with the project up to March 2013. 14,030 hectares were managed by male clients (88 percent) and 1,984 by female clients (12 percent).

#### **PIRS #10: Number of companies (including farms) that have made conservation-friendly changes in their business practices**

This indicator is not being reported quarterly based on census data (Section 3.7.3). Results toward this indicator will be determined in the next sampling survey for September 2014.

During FY 2013, 346 companies made conservation-friendly changes, against a target of 8,750. As of September 2013, 707 companies had made the changes, against a target of 9,106. This indicator was calculated with data from the client survey and extrapolated to the clients registered with the project up to March 2013. To be counted toward this indicator the company has to implement a minimum of five changes (from the predefined list). This is behind target because the five changes requirement was included after the target was set. USAID-ACCESO type clients cannot make all of the required changes over a short period of time.

USAID-ACCESO incorporates on-farm natural resource management activities to maintain healthy soils, prevent contamination, and conserve water as part of the good agricultural practices package. The following practices are being promoted on a regular basis in all regions covered by the project:

- **Land preparation:** use of contoured beds, raised beds, drainage systems, low tillage techniques, and wind/erosion barriers; introduction of appropriate tools and machinery.
- **Crops:** crop rotation (including use of leguminous cover crops that fix nitrogen in a more economical way than chemical fertilizers), elimination of crop residues, use of border weed control (alternative hosts), use of hybrid seeds, and improved planting materials with greater disease tolerance.
- **Water:** protection of water sources from contamination for better water management, better water quality, less soil erosion, and less pesticide and fertilizer use. This also increases yields for farmers, reduces input costs, and increases gross and net incomes.

#### *Implementation of natural resource management practices at community and municipal levels*

During the life of project, USAID-ACCESO will work with at least 20 municipalities to develop and implement natural resource management policies. The USAID-ACCESO natural resource management team has developed activities with 64 municipalities. These municipalities were selected based on existing project presence, rates of poverty and child malnutrition, and high vulnerability to environmental disaster. Many NRM practices have now been implemented by these municipalities and community involvement is high. Assisted municipalities have made significant progress and are in different stages of the process, from awareness to implementation.

The project is currently working with 64 municipalities in this area, of which 33 municipalities have achieved the project criteria for successful implementation. During the quarter two additional municipalities are now implementing a minimum of four new practices, while others began implementation but remain below the threshold of four of the six activities required to be counted.

**Table 25. Status: NRM Practices at Community and Municipal Levels**

PIRS/ WP #	Year 1 (Apr. to Sept. 2011)		Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)		Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sep. 2013)		Accumulated Sept. 2013		FY 2013/2014	
	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
PIRS # 9: Number of Local Municipal Governments effectively implementing natural resource management policies										
	-	-	7	7	10	24	17	31	4	2

Per the indicator's precise definition, a municipality is counted once implementation of four out of six of the following NRM practices have begun:

#### Coffee waste

- Solid waste disposal
- Forest fire prevention
- Legalization of water producing zones
- Watershed protection / reforestation
- Basic sanitation and water treatment

The 33 municipalities that have achieved and are implementing four or more practices, as of March 2014 are:

- Intibucá: San Isidro, Jesús de Otoro, Intibucá, Yamaranguila, San Marcos De La Sierra.
- La Paz: Yarula\*, Santa Elena, Guajiquiro, Opatoro,

- Lempira: La Unión, Tomalá, Erandique, La Iguala, San Manuel De Colohete, Tambla, Guarita, San José Guarita, San Sebastian\*.
- Ocotepeque: Belen Gualcho.
- Santa Bárbara: Trinidad, Santa Bárbara, Quimistan, Las Vegas, Nueva Frontera, Protección, San Pedro De Zacapa.
- Copán: La Unión, San José, Santa Rosa, Trinidad, Santa Rita, Florida, Dulce Nombre.

Each of these municipalities is now implementing at least four NRM practices. An additional eight municipalities are currently implementing three criteria, 20 are with two, and one municipality is implementing one NRM practice.

#### 4.4. CAPACITY TO MITIGATE AND ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE STRENGTHENED (IR 2.3)

Two main activities tracked in the PMP are being developed under this component:

**Table 26. Status: Disaster Vulnerability Reduced**

PIRS/ WP #	Year 1 (Apr. to Sept. 2011)		Year 2 (Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012)		Year 3 (Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013)		Accumulated Sept. 2013		Oct. to Dec. 2013		Jan. to Mar. 2014	
	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
PIRS #28: Number of communities in high vulnerability municipalities with adequate disaster prevention and mitigation capacity												
	-	-	15	11	20	50	31	61	2	0	2	0
PIRS #29: Number of rural micro-generation clean/renewable energy projects established												
		4	351	724	100	1,094	828	1,649 <sup>1</sup>	25	235 <sup>2</sup>	25	388 <sup>3</sup>
								<sup>1</sup> 1,649 of USAID-ACCESO and 173 of University of Florida (total 1,822)				
								<sup>2</sup> 235 of USAID-ACCESO and 107 of University of Florida (total 342)				
								<sup>3</sup> 388 of USAID-ACCESO and 275 of University of Florida (total 663)				

##### 4.4.1. DISASTER VULNERABILITY REDUCED (SUB-IR 2.3.3)

*Development and implementation of disaster mitigation plans*

#### **PIRS #28: Number of communities in high vulnerability municipalities with adequate disaster prevention and mitigation capacity**

During the life of project, USAID-ACCESO will work with at least 40 communities to develop and implement adequate disaster prevention and mitigation capacity. The USAID-ACCESO disaster prevention team has developed activities with 75 communities. These communities were selected based on existing project presence, rates of poverty and child malnutrition, and high vulnerability to environmental disaster. Many disaster prevention and mitigation practices have now been implemented by these communities and community involvement is high. Assisted communities have made significant progress and are in different stages of the process, from awareness to full implementation.

The project is currently working with 75 communities in this area, of which 61 communities are implementing the required practices. No additional communities achieved the target during the quarter.

Work under this component includes support to communities with high vulnerabilities in disaster prevention, mitigation, and preparedness. Reducing communities' disaster vulnerabilities will ultimately put USAID-ACCESO-assisted households in a position to increase their incomes or reduce losses during disasters.

Systems to reduce vulnerability to disasters are being implemented at the farm level with the introduction and implementation of the basic production practices. Activities under this component are targeted to reduce vulnerability to disasters at the community level. USAID-ACCESO is utilizing the small grants mechanism for select projects.

Per the indicator's precise definition, a community is counted once implementation of six out of eight of the following activities has begun:

- Plans for local prevention and response (PLPR)
- Personnel trained to prepare and update PLPRs
- Risk mapping
- EDAN Capacity
- Early warning systems implemented
- Identification and management of emergency centers
- First aid systems
- Simulation exercises

The 61 communities which are implementing six or more practices are as follows:

La Paz:

- Yurula: Tierra Colorada, Zacate Blanco, Cipres.
- Guajiquiro: Bajillal, Linderos.
- Opatoro: Florida Opatoro, El Sauce, Las Mercedes, Las Delicias, San Antonio, El Paraíso, El Matazano, San Manuel, Barrio Suyapa, Buenos Aires, Valle de Ángeles.

Intibucá:

- San Isidro: Macuelizo.
- Intibucá: Belen Manazapa.

Lempira:

- La Iguala: Llano Largo.
- San Manuel de Colohete: Nuevo Cedro, Poza Verde, Rancho Obispo.
- Tomalá: Copán, San Marquitos.

Santa Bárbara:

- Santa Bárbara: Las Crucitas, El Zapote.
- Trinidad: El Higuito.
- Protección: Nuevas Delicias
- San Pedro De Zacapa: La Majada, La Isla

Copán:

- Santa Rita: Londres, El Rabinal, El Último Vado,
- San Juan de Opoa: Los Linderos.
- Florida: Las Juntas, Pueblo Nuevo
- Santa Rosa: El Mogote, El Derrumbo, Sector San Miguel.
- Dolores: Vega Redonda.
- San José: Buena Vista, El Porvenir.
- Dulce Nombre: El Limón, El Zapote.
- San Agustín: Cerro Negro

Ocotepeque:

- Belén Gualcho: El Paraíso, Tejas, Belén Centro, Suyapa, El Calvario, El Magueyal, San Antonio.
- La Labor: Llano Largo, Pashapa, Santa Lucia, Rio Chiquito, El Azufrado, El Ingenio, Cerro Grande, San Antonio,
- San Marcos: Rio Hondo

Each of these communities is now implementing at least six disaster prevention and mitigation practices. An additional community is currently implementing five practices, three communities with four practices, four communities with three practices, one community with two practices, and five communities with one practice.

*Installation of renewable energy technologies*

**PIRS #29: Number of rural micro-generation clean/renewable energy projects established**

USAID-ACCESO's renewable energy component is focusing on promoting low-cost renewable technologies for individual rural households and selected nutrition training centers. Priority project support is being given to investments that provide energy for individual households and health training centers and clinics.

During the quarter, 388 renewable energy projects were installed by USAID-ACCESO, against a target of 25. To date, 2,272 projects have been installed by USAID-ACCESO. In addition, the University of Florida renewable energy program also coordinates with USAID-ACCESO to install systems with project clients (total 555 systems). The status for both is provided in Table 27.

**Table 27. Installation of Renewable Energy Projects (at household level)**

Renewable Energy - Type	USAID-ACCESO			USAID Trilateral University of Florida		
	Accumulated Sept. 2013	Oct. to Dec. 2013	Jan. to Mar. 2014	Accumulated Sept. 2013	Oct. to Dec. 2013	Jan. to Mar. 2014
Solar Dryers	336	217	326			
Biodigesters	102	10	9			
<i>Eco-justa</i> cooking stoves	1,168	4	52	168	107	275
Solar panels	42	2	1	5		
Ram pump	1	2	0			
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,649</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>275</b>

This activity is being carried out in close coordination with both the production and nutrition components. Solar dryers are being installed in key areas with coffee production with drying systems being implemented to add value and generate additional income; they are also being used to dry corn and beans, allspice, loofah, cashew, adobe blocks and clothes. This activity will continue to be implemented throughout FY2014. Biodigesters are being installed with households who work under the production component with cattle (mainly for milk production). The gas produced with the biodigester is being used for cooking and for lights. The *eco-justa* cooking stoves are being installed in households prioritized by the nutrition component, focusing principally on those households with children under 2 years old. In addition to the installation, the project is giving training on use and maintenance of all the systems to ensure they are operated correctly. *Eco-justas* are also being installed in the nutrition training centers established by the project. Additionally, trainings have been directed to staff of NGOs and municipalities on the installation of the renewable energy systems.

USAID-ACCESO works with NGOs, municipalities, and other organizations to schedule trainings, analyze financing opportunities, and establish alliances for the installation of future systems that will benefit USAID-ACCESO clients. This includes the collaborative activities carried out with the University of Florida/USAID Trilateral Agreement, where the project technicians work closely with USAID-ACCESO and install renewable energy projects with USAID-ACCESO client households and nutrition training centers. To date, this has focused on the installation of *eco-justa* stoves in client households and stoves and solar panels in USAID-ACCESO nutrition training centers. The activities were to have been

expanded to include the solar dryers being recommended and used by USAID-ACCESO clients (for coffee, corn, and other products).

#### 4.5. USE OF QUALITY MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES INCREASED (IR 4.1)

USAID-ACCESO has fully integrated the nutrition and health activities with all other technical areas, including economic development (access to food), renewable energy (improved stoves), natural resource management (drinking water access and chlorination, waste disposal), and value-added products and animal production (diet diversity).

Since January 2014, two key strategies have been implemented to expand coverage of project's Nutrition and Health services: community mobilization to identify and add to AIN-C records all children less than two years of age in the community, and expand to new communities identified based on presence of a decentralized health service provider in the community, existence of trained community health volunteers, presence of the USAID-ACCESO agriculture production component, and geographic location within the area of a nutrition and health technician.

As a result of these strategies, 19 new communities and 515 children under 2 years of age were added representing an 11 percent increase in the number of children under 2 receiving nutrition and health services. As of March, the project is serving a total of 5,187 children under 2 in 232 communities and 54 municipalities across in all six departments. Of these, 4,359 attended growth monitoring sessions in March accounting for 84 percent coverage of nutrition and health services in both old and new communities.

The status of indicators tracked by USAID-ACCESO reported in the quarterly report is presented in comparison to data reported in the September 2013 annual report. Data related to underweight children comparing results during the quarter to previous year results is given in Table 28. Note that data in Table 28 corresponds to children under 2 in existing project communities only. Tables presenting data from new communities added this quarter are identified as such since this data is considered to be baseline for these communities.

**Table 28. Prevalence of underweight children under 5<sup>2</sup>**

Indicator	Baseline (Aug. 2011) <sup>1</sup>	Sept. 2012	Difference		% reduction/increase from baseline		% Mar 2014
			Sept. 2012	Sept. 2013	Sept. 2012	Sept. 2013	
PIRS #19: Prevalence of underweight children under 5 <sup>2</sup> (Target Sept. 2013/LOP -5% (-20%)):							
	22.00%	16.74%	-5.26%	-7.44%	-23.92%	-33.79%	-37.10%
<sup>1</sup> PIR# 19 baseline from AIN-C data for the communities with USAID-ACCESO nutrition intervention.							
<sup>2</sup> PIR#19 data collected monthly with health monitors for the communities with USAID-ACCESO nutrition interventions; data collected by health monitors only for children under 2 years old.							

#### PIRS #19: Prevalence of underweight children under 5

Attendance to growth monitoring sessions continued to drop during the months of January and February primarily in the departments of Lempira, Ocotepeque and La Paz, for a total of 3,799, 3,842 and 3,930 for January, February and March respectively. As of March, 544 (13.8 percent) children under 2 years old in the 213 old targeted communities were reported as under the third percentile, of which 210 (38.6 percent) were growing adequately.

Of the 515 new children under 2 added to the project this quarter, 429 are in the 19 new communities. As indicated above, these communities were selected based on the criteria that the community is served by a decentralized health service provider and the existence of trained community health volunteers

implementing AIN-C. Despite these conditions, the baseline of *Prevalence of Underweight Children Under 2 Years* in these 19 new communities is consistent with what it was in the old communities when USAID-ACCESO first began working with them in 2011: 22.5, 20.9, and 18.8 percent for January, February, and March, respectively. This is a clear indication that growth monitoring activities as delivered by AIN-C groups on its own cannot affect the nutritional status of children. Complementary activities aimed to improve child feeding practices, food availability at the community level, household conditions, and personal hygiene in these poor communities are crucial to reduce the prevalence rates of this indicator.

Data on coverage and nutritional status of children under 2 years for this quarter is presented in tables below disaggregated by “old” and “new” communities.

**Table 29. Coverage of Nutrition and Health Services- January to March 2014 (Existing Communities)**

Department	# of Children < 2 Years in Records			# of Children < 2 Years Attending Meetings			Percentage		
	Jan	Feb	March	Jan	Feb	March	Jan	Feb	March
La Paz	726	732	752	649	582	594	89.3	79.5	78.9
Intibucá	882	892	898	762	765	753	86.3	85.7	83.8
Sta. Bárbara	678	692	712	551	579	602	81.2	83.6	84.5
Lempira	969	989	933	662	732	779	68.3	74.0	83.4
Copan	1,004	948	909	855	808	815	85.1	85.2	89.6
Ocotepeque	471	445	468	320	376	387	67.9	84.5	82.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,730</b>	<b>4,698</b>	<b>4,672</b>	<b>3,799</b>	<b>3,842</b>	<b>3,930</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>81.7</b>	<b>84.1</b>

**Table 30. Coverage of Nutrition and Health Services - January to March 2014 (New Communities)**

Department	# of Children < 2 Years in Records			# of Children < 2 Years Attending Meetings			Percentage		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar
La Paz	-	-	125	-	-	98	-	-	78.4
Intibucá	-	-	85	-	-	64	-	-	75.2
Sta. Bárbara	-	-	115	-	-	88	-	-	76.5
Lempira	118	67	67	49	67	67	41.0	100.0	100.0
Copan	-	95	95	-	87	87	-	-	91.5
Ocotepeque	35	14	28	13	13	25	37.0	92.0	89.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>94.8</b>	<b>83.3</b>

**Table 31. Prevalence of Underweight Children Under 2 Per Department (Existing Communities)**

Department	# children < 2 years				# children under 3 <sup>o</sup> percentile				Percentage			
	Aug 2011	Sep 2012	Sep 2013	Mar 2014	Aug 2011	Sep 2012	Sep 2013	Mar 2014	Aug 2011	Sep 2012	Sep 2013	Mar 2014
La Paz	634	603	669	594	123	102	73	65	19.4	16.9	10.9	10.9
Intibucá	629	793	750	753	185	191	124	117	29.4	24.1	16.5	15.5
Lempira	1,260	1,177	979	779	293	165	136	111	23.3	14.0	13.9	14.2
Copán	424	950	838	815	112	162	145	112	26.4	17.1	17.3	13.7
Ocotepeque	419	636	427	387	92	113	84	94	22.0	17.8	19.7	24.2
Santa Bárbara	887	595	630	602	131	63	64	45	14.8	10.6	10.2	7.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,253</b>	<b>4,754</b>	<b>4,293</b>	<b>3,930</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>13.8</b>

**Table 32. Prevalence of Underweight Children Under 2 Per Department (New Communities)**

Department	# of Children < 2 Years in Records			# of Children < 2 Years Attending Meetings			Percentage		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar
La Paz			98			11			11.2
Intibucá			64			15			23.4
Sta. Bárbara			88			17			19.3
Lempira	49	67	67	9	17	19	18.3	25.3	28.3
Copan		87	87		13	14		14.9	16.0
Ocotepeque	13	13	25	5	5	5	38.4	38.4	20.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>18.8</b>

**Table 33. Prevalence of Underweight Children Under 2 Years Old Per Month (Existing Communities)**

Month-Year	# Children < 2 years old	# Children under the 3 <sup>o</sup> percentile	Percentage
Aug-11	4,253	936	22.0
Mar-12	4,419	834	18.9
Apr-12	4,700	892	19.0
May-12	4,944	902	18.2
Jun-12	4,664	879	18.8
Jul-12	4,972	950	19.1
Aug-12	4,895	916	18.7
Sep-12	4,754	796	16.7
Oct-12	4,835	780	16.1
Nov-12	3,815	703	18.4
Dec-12	3,615	649	18.0
Jan-13	3,911	645	16.5
Feb-13	3,903	634	16.2
Mar-13	4,042	648	16.0
Apr-13	4,191	682	16.3
May-13	4,207	649	15.4
Jun-13	4,299	649	15.1
Jul-13	4,260	663	15.6
Aug-13	4,403	651	14.8
Sep-13	4,296	626	14.6
Oct-13	4,204	607	14.4
Nov-13	4,103	508	12.4
Dec-13	3,905	556	14.2
Jan-14	3,799	514	13.5
Feb-14	3,842	529	13.7
Mar-14	3,930	544	13.8

**Chronic Malnutrition (Stunting)**

According to ENDESA 2011-2012, 23 percent of children between the age of 6 months and 5 years of age experience stunting, with the highest percentage (48 percent) in Intibucá and Lempira, 39 percent in La Paz, and 31 percent in Copan. In January 2013, USAID-ACCESO began tracking height and weight per age for all children turning 2 and over during their last attendance to AIN-C growth monitoring

sessions. An analysis of this data during the last two quarters produces results consistent with those of ENDESA. For December 2013, the result for all six departments was 49.1 percent with a significant reduction in March 2014 to 26.9 percent; the highest rates were in Intibucá (66.6 percent), Ocotepeque (40.0 percent) and Copan (35.2 percent). The significant difference in results for these two quarters are primarily due to the limitations of community health volunteers in their abilities in height measurement of children and data recording. This limitation was identified at the beginning of January and is gradually being addressed in group meetings on a one by one basis by project nutrition specialist and technicians.

In this quarter the actual numbers are being reported, not the percentage reduction. This will be presented in the June 2014 quarter when analyses have been carried out on ENDESA and IFPRIL data.

**Table 34. Stunting in Children 2 Years of Age per Department (October to December 2013)**

Department	# of Children 23 months of age in AIN-C			# of Children with Stunting			Percentage		
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec
La Paz	15	19	15	6	6	6	40.0	31.6	40.0
Intibucá	0	11	7	0	4	6	0.0	36.4	85.7
Santa Bárbara	10	9	0	4	3	0	40.0	33.3	0.0
Lempira	21	20	14	6	6	12	28.6	30.0	85.7
Copan	32	31	10	13	7	3	40.6	22.6	30.0
Ocotepeque	18	11	15	7	4	3	38.9	36.4	20.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>49.2</b>

**Table 35. Stunting in Children 2 Years of Age per Department (January to March 2014)**

Department	# of Children 23 months of age in AIN-C			# of Children with Stunting			Percentage		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar
La Paz	12	14	25	3	5	6	25.0	35.7	24.0
Intibucá	8	22	12	4	13	8	50.0	59.0	66.6
Santa Bárbara	6	6	4	3	2	0	50.0	33.3	0.0
Lempira	11	22	36	1	4	4	9.0	18.1	11.1
Copan	8	14	17	0	4	6	0.0	28.5	35.2
Ocotepeque	14	7	10	3	4	4	21.4	57.1	40.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>26.9</b>

#### **PIRS #22: Prevalence of exclusive breast feeding of children less than 6 months**

The percentage of children receiving exclusive breastfeeding has decreased from 89.1 percent in December 2013 to 83.6 percent in March 2014. Project specialists and technicians continue to assist community health volunteers in properly collecting and reporting on this data during the monthly meetings. While 83.6 percent is much closer to national rates, it is expected that in the upcoming quarters this number may continue to decrease as training of community volunteers regarding the concept and data collection is completed throughout all six departments.

Baseline for this indicator collected among children less than six months of age recorded in AIN-C groups in new communities added during the quarter was 82.6 percent. As project nutrition technicians and specialist continue to work with these new groups and train community health volunteers in proper data collection methods, the level is expected to reduce before it begins to increase.

Promotion of exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months of life continues to be one of project technicians' key messages to pregnant women and mothers of young children. The data collected with health monitors is presented for reference in Table 36. This is not presented in the PMP for this quarter and will be presented in September 2014.

**Table 36. Prevalence of Exclusive Breastfeeding of Children Under 6 Months**

Department	# children < 6 months				# children with exclusive breastfeeding				Percentage			
	Aug 2011	Sep 2012	Sept 2013	Mar 2014	Aug 2011	Sep 2012	Sep 2013	Mar 2014	Aug 2011	Sep 2012	Sep 2013	Mar 2014
La Paz	132	88	177	137	115	85	177	116	87.1	96.6	100	84.6
Intibucá	80	128	146	145	67	117	127	117	83.8	91.4	87.0	80.6
Lempira	285	148	160	152	269	141	154	145	94.4	95.3	96.3	95.3
Copán	93	147	159	176	90	143	146	154	96.8	97.3	91.8	87.5
Ocatepeque	80	103	100	77	77	103	97	74	96.3	100.0	97.0	96.1
Santa Bárbara	NA	74	131	116	NA	74	131	58	ND	100.0	100.0	50.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>92.2</b>	<b>96.4</b>	<b>95.3</b>	<b>93.1</b>

#### PIRS #27: Modern contraceptive prevalence rate

The modern contraception prevalence rate among mothers of children under 2 years of age who attend growth monitoring sessions increased from 62.5 percent in December 2013 to 64.3 percent in March 2014. Baseline for this indicator collected among mothers of children less than 2 years of age recorded in AIN-C groups in new communities added during the quarter in the departments of La Paz, Intibucá and Santa Barbara was 53.2 percent. As with the results for PIRS #22, nutrition and health technicians will continue to work with community health volunteers to improve the data collection and reporting on this indicator. The data collected with health monitors is presented for reference in Table 37. This is not presented in the PMP for this quarter and will be presented in September 2014.

**Table 37. Prevalence of Use of Modern Contraceptive Methods (January to March 2014)**

Department	# children < 24 months			# mothers using modern contraceptive methods			Percentage		
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
La Paz	649	582	594	227	243	340	35.0	41.7	57.2
Intibucá	762	765	753	350	401	427	45.9	52.4	56.7
Lempira	662	732	779	481	446	489	72.6	60.9	62.7
Copán	855	808	815	523	552	510	61.1	68.3	62.5
Ocatepeque	320	376	387	231	239	230	72.1	63.5	59.4
Santa Bárbara	551	579	602	93	490	531	16.8	84.6	88.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,799</b>	<b>3,842</b>	<b>3,930</b>	<b>1,905</b>	<b>2,371</b>	<b>2,527</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>61.7</b>	<b>64.3</b>

### WP #8: Percentage of children less than two years old with two consecutive low monthly measurements

Data from March 2012 through March 2014 of children under 2 in project communities with “persistent inadequate growth” (two consecutive low monthly measurements) is provided in Table 38.

**Table 38. Percentage of children less than two years old with two consecutive low monthly measurements**

Year	Month	TOTAL # Children	Sum of # Girls with “PIG”	Sum of # Boys with “PIG”	Sum of TOTAL # Children with “PIG”	% total
2012	Mar	4,419	180	136	316	7.2%
	Apr	4,700	241	165	406	8.6%
	May	4,944	317	231	548	11.1%
	Jun	4,678	272	213	485	10.4%
	Jul	4,972	315	249	564	11.3%
	Aug	4,922	294	233	527	10.7%
	Sep	4,754	246	213	459	9.7%
	Oct	4,778	214	180	392	8.2%
	Nov	3,807	241	209	449	11.8%
	Dec	3,615	214	185	397	11.0%
2013	Jan	3,903	176	135	311	8.0%
	Feb	3,974	177	163	340	8.6%
	Mar	4,042	214	163	377	9.3%
	Apr	4,189	207	187	394	9.4%
	May	4,205	308	226	534	12.7%
	Jun	4,299	296	240	536	12.5%
	Jul	4,331	267	202	469	10.8%
	Aug	4,403	268	196	464	10.5%
	Sep	4,293	260	210	470	11.0%
	Oct	4,204	264	213	477	11.4%
	Nov	4,103	235	226	461	11.2%
	Dec	3,905	225	226	451	11.5%
2014	Jan	3,799	183	162	345	9.1%
	Feb	3,842	176	156	332	8.6%
	Mar	3,930	208	192	400	10.2%

### IND-3.1.9-1. Number of people trained in child health and nutrition through USG-supported programs (New 03/2014)

The total number of individuals to date who have received training in health and nutrition total 4,475, including 3,695 women and 780 men. Overall, 4,448 training events have been carried out with 67,048 participants (62,026 women and 5,022 men).

### IND-3.1.9-15. Number of children under five reached by USG-supported nutrition programs (new 03/2014)

To date 7,245 children under 2 years old have received assistance from the project. This is calculated based on the total number of children participating in monthly weighing sessions, an average attendance rate of 80 percent, and a monthly average of 80 children moving over 2 years old. As this indicator was requested this quarter, data was collected on the actual attendance rate.

### Sustained Service Delivery

USAID-ACCESO beneficiaries are provided training in health and nutrition-related activities, complementary to assistance being provided in production systems and economic development where

both components are present in the community. As of March 2014, the project is working with nutrition activities in 232 communities in 57 municipalities, directly reaching 3,034 households. Both men and women are receiving basic training in child care, prevention of illnesses, nutrition practices, keeping a healthy household, and family planning. Training subjects include exclusive breastfeeding for children under six months, hand washing, good household hygiene practices, safe water for human consumption, family planning, and consumption of vitamin- and nutrient-rich foods.

Project implementation strategies for the treatment and prevention of malnourished children under 2 years continued this quarter with emphasis on increasing coverage and improving community health volunteers' motivation to continue carrying out their roles, while sustaining the delivery of key nutrition and health services:

- **Household visits:** Technicians continued to work closely with community members, health committee members, and health volunteers to identify households with children under 2 years of age who are not attending group sessions for growth monitoring. This includes children recorded on group records as well as children who are not. In addition to the regular home visits to refresh mothers' knowledge of food preparation and feeding practices for the malnourished child and ensure they are being put into practice, household visits were conducted by community health volunteer and technicians to educate mothers on growth monitoring sessions and identify and record children who are not currently attending these sessions. In addition to improving coverage, this strategy will provide technicians with the opportunity to increase knowledge transfer to community health volunteers and motivate them to carry out household visits, which is key to sustainability. During the quarter, a total of 5,292 technical assistance visits was conducted by nutrition and health technicians (32,865 to date).
- **Counseling on child nutrition, training and demonstrations for food preparation:** During the quarter a total of 254 food preparation demonstrations were conducted compared to 597 during the previous quarter. This reduction was primarily because last quarter there were interns in each department assisting technicians with this activity, and because activities this quarter focused on in formal training of community health volunteers. These training and demonstrations are done during household visits, at the Nutrition Training Centers (NTC) and at the community health volunteers' homes. Because health volunteers were busy participating in training sessions, only three nutrition centers (out of nine planned) were inaugurated this quarter, for a cumulative total of 27. All are equipped, installed, and are operational. The remaining centers of the 40 projected are in the process of construction and equipping and are expected to be inaugurated by the end of the following quarter. In communities where a NTC has not been established, demonstrations of food preparation and training to mothers are carried out at the homes of mothers and community health volunteers on a rotating basis.

During the quarter, specialists and technicians held 567 training events with 8,165 participants (67,048 participants to date). Current quarter participants were 351 male and 7,814 female, for a total to date of 5,022 male and 62,026 female. As of February 2014, project technicians began to coordinate with school teachers the participation of adolescent girls in fourth, fifth and six grades in training sessions held in the NTCs. During the upcoming quarter participation of school-age children in these training events will be tracked to allow reporting on their involvement in nutrition training events.

- **Training community health volunteers:** In addition to the ongoing training of community health volunteers during group meetings, household visits, and food demonstration events in the community, during the months of February and March, significant effort was invested in the conduction of formal four-day training sessions of community health volunteers in all six departments. Training topics covered data collection and recording, nutrient-rich foods, child feeding practices, conduction of household visits, demonstrations of food preparations,

improving food availability at the home level, and personal hygiene. Pre- and post-tests indicated a strong grasp of knowledge on the part of the volunteers. 80 percent of the community health volunteers completed the four-day training sessions.

- **Activities to ensure food availability/diet diversity at the household level:** Family plots have been successful in the homes of most community health volunteers and at NTCs housed in schools. However, this has not been the case in the majority of households with children under 2, who need these food sources most. After a successful first cycle, many have not replanted because mothers need more guidance, technical assistance, and training in good agricultural practices for the promoted crops. Nutrition technicians continue to work with production technicians to increase and improve the level of technical assistance given to mothers and families on these small plots. Some clients are also receiving training in poultry health and production as another source of both food and income.
- **Promotion of healthy household concept among client households.** Initially, this activity focused on health volunteers and families with children under 2 years old to improve basic household sanitation and health through improvements to stoves, floors, walls, and water sources. This quarter, healthy household activities extended to the wider community. A total of 1,224 *eco-justa* stoves have been installed to date, mainly in households with children under 2 (plus an additional 550 installed by the University of Florida). The project's natural resource management component has complemented this activity with land fill construction for solid waste management and residual water treatment systems at both household and community levels.

## 5. SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES

### 5.1. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

Most of the senior level technical and management team were in place within two weeks of project start-up. Contracts were developed in the first quarter, with the initial five subcontractors operating six of the 12 local field implementation teams by the end of the second quarter. In the third quarter, contract mechanisms were developed with six local NGOs for five local implementation teams. By the end of 2011, 11 of the 12 Community Technical Units (CTUs) were operational. The final CTU was finalized in January 2012.

Project staff turnover during the past year has been high, particularly at the junior level. With relatively low salaries and low annual increases, it is difficult to retain staff; after they have been trained by the project, they are frequently taken up by other organizations who offer improved salaries and less work pressure to accomplish targets. During the reporting period, project management continued to work closely with subcontractors to identify reasons for staff turnover and ensure proper measures are put in place to address the issues. During the last quarter 13 field staff had to be replaced. Some initiatives to improve staff motivation and promote job satisfaction among all levels of staff are in place and will continue during upcoming quarters.

### 5.2. MONITORING AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

Activities carried out by the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) unit enable all project employees to report their activities in the field, to provide recurrent and real time feedback to department managers on major advancements in their regions, and to collect information on assisted client households. Specific activities carried out during the period include:

- Preparation and data analysis for monthly and quarterly reports.
- Updating project PMP.
- Preparation of advance reports for subcontractor's feedback and follow-up.
- Participation in FTF Agricultural Indicators webinars.
- Ongoing CIRIS data registration and performance maintenance.
- Ongoing feedback and training to M&E team on tablet use and data collection management.
- Field data collection using the tablets (EOH data).
- Support and oversight to TECHO in the implementation of the "Poverty Assessment from a Multidimensional Perspective by Project Among Rural Population in Departments of Copán, Intibucá, Lempira and La Paz."
- Development of new progress reports to provide follow up.
- Participation in Fintrac International Conference on M&E in Kenya.
- Ongoing feedback and training on CIRIS management.
- Participation in departmental meetings, presenting CIRIS reports and providing critical feedback on project progress.
- Providing data to USAID on project 2014-2016 goals and FTFMS indicators.
- Management of CIRIS nutrition and health data entry personnel.
- Follow up to CIRIS nutrition and health database programming and data entry progress.
- Support to marketing staff in collecting beneficiaries' marketing links information.

### 5.3. SMALL GRANTS, SUBCONTRACTS AND ALLIANCES PROGRAM

Activities during the past year focused on the development of technology and partner funds in marketing, production, postharvest, nutrition and health, and disaster mitigation. It should be noted that large-scale irrigation projects, needed for the economic development component, were initiated in 2012 and will continue through the duration of the project as these activities require that growers comply with certain requirements for eligibility such as: demonstrated commitment by their actions, has passed through at least one crop cycle, followed recommendations and are committed to change traditional practices.

- Technology fund / grants to households:
  - Accumulated to September 2013: 12,841 grants.
  - Accumulated to March 2014: 13,522 grants.
  - Current quarter: 442
- Nutrition and health grants:
  - Accumulated to September 2013: 11 grant activities
  - Accumulated to March 2014: 13 grants activities.
  - Current quarter: 0
- Disaster mitigation/NRM:
  - Accumulated to September 2013: 9 grant activities
  - Accumulated to March 2014: 9 grant activities
  - Current quarter: 0
- Renewable energy:
  - Accumulated to September 2013: 1,649 grant activities (with project funds)
  - Accumulated to March 2014: 2,272 grant activities (with project funds)
  - Current quarter: 388

A summary on the small grants and sub-contracts made is provided in Table 39.

**Table 39. Small Grant and Subcontracts Program**

Activity	Area	Date	#	Status	HH total to date	Orgs/ MSMEs
Installation of Photovoltaic Systems (33)	R. Energy	Nov-11	TF 2011-01	Completed	32	1
Solar Dryers (300)	R. Energy	Nov-11	TF 2011-02	Completed	287	0
Installation of Small Scale Biodigesters (120/240)	R. Energy	Jan-12	TF 2011-03	Ongoing	91	0
International Marketing Jumpstart (20)	Marketing	Nov-11	TF 2011-04	Ongoing	0	4
Installation of MSME Training Kitchen (400)	MSME	Nov-11	TF 2011-05	Completed	0	0
Construction of Eco-Stoves (Eco-Estufas) (500)	Nutrition	Nov-11	TF 2011-06	Completed	500	0
Herb Seeds (230)	Production	Dec-11	TF 2011-09	Completed	3	0
Snow and Sugar Snap Pea Seeds (320)	Production	Jan-12	TF 2012-02	Completed	311	0
Allspice Thresher and Cleaners for COAPIGOR (48)	Production	Mar-12	TF 2012-03	Completed	0	2
Irrigation Equipment (1,500)	Production	Mar-12	TF 2012-04	Completed	311	0
Pea Packing Plant Equipment (200)	Production	Apr-12	TF 2012-05	Completed	0	1
Weather Stations (6)	Production	May-12	TF 2012-06	Completed	0	6

**Table 39. Small Grant and Subcontracts Program**

Activity	Area	Date	#	Status	HH total to date	Orgs/ MSMEs
Nutritional Training Centers - Equipment (40)	Nutrition	Apr-12	TF-2012-07	Completed	20	0
Improving Rural Health Centre Capacity to Manage Under-Nutrition	Nutrition	Apr-12	TF-2012-08	Completed	20	0
Bean Seeds (2,100)	Production	May-12	TF 2012-09	Completed	1,575	0
Improved Diet Diversity in Households (Parcelas) (1,000)	Nutrition	Jul-12	TF 2012-10	Completed	1,074	0
New Crop and Product Development	Production	May-12	TF 2012-11	Ongoing	704	6
Box Culvert Materials, Intibucá	NRM/ Disaster	Jun-12	TF 2012-12	Completed	1	0
Irrigation Phase II (885)	Production	Jul-12	TF 2012-13	Completed	1,481	0
Household Water Filters (600)	Nutrition	Jul-12	TF-2012-14	Ongoing	606	0
Kitchen Water Connections (1,000)	Nutrition	Aug-12	TF-2012-15	Ongoing	761	0
Construction of Eco-Stoves (Follow-Up) (500 + 80 CEN)	Nutrition	Sep-13	TF-2012-16	Ongoing	496	34
Biological Pest Control for Coffee (480)	Production	Sep-12	TF-2012-17	Completed	200	0
Floor & Wall Improvements (1,000)	Nutrition	Oct-12	TF-2012-18	Ongoing	921	0
Strengthening Market Associations (12)	Marketing	Oct-12	TF 2012-19	Ongoing	1	0
Agromercados Agricultural Fair	Marketing	Oct-12	TF 2012-20	Completed	0	7
Yellow corn seed (4,000)	Production	Nov-12	TF 2012-22	Completed	2,422	0
Crop Competitions	Production	Nov-12	TF 2013-23	Ongoing	3	0
Water Systems Improvement	NRM/ Disaster	Nov-12	TF 2012-21	On-going	0	27
Training Workshops	Misc	Jan-13	TF 2013-24	Ongoing	126	0
Training Materials and Equipment for CODELs (60)	NRM/ Disaster	Feb-13	TF 2013-25	Ongoing	0	29
Road Rehabilitation Opatoro	NRM/ Disaster	Feb-13	TF 2013-26	Completed	118	1
Irrigation Systems - Phase III (1,449)	Production	Jun-13	TF 2013-27	Ongoing	165	0
Greenhouses – El Maestro en Casa-Intibucá (1)	Production	Feb-13	TF 2013-28	Completed	0	1
Home Improvements Follow Up (1,000)	Nutrition	May-13	TF 2013-30	Ongoing	540	0
Improving Diet Diversity Through Access to Animal Protein (318)	Nutrition	May-13	TF 2013-31	Completed	318	0
Water Tanks & Latrines (380)	NRM/ Disaster	May-13	TF 2013-32	Ongoing	0	0
Improving Diet Diversity Through Access to Animal Protein-Goats (13)	Nutrition	Jul-13	TF 2013-33	Completed	13	0
Solar Coffee Drier Technology- Phase II (600)	Production	Jun-13	TF 2013-34	Ongoing	426	0
Value added equipment (40)	MSME	Jul-13	TF 2013-35	Ongoing	0	0
Health & Nutrition Equipment and Training	Nutrition	Dec-13	2013-36	Approved	0	0
Yellow Corn Harvest & Marketing Support	Production	Dec-13	2013-37	Approved	0	0
Electronic Scales- PAG	Production	Dec-13	TF 2013-38	Ongoing	0	1
Production Manuals	Production	Mar-14	TF 2013-39	Ongoing	0	0
FHIA. Research and Development for Increased Productivity	Production	Nov-11	PF 2011-02	Completed	0	0

**Table 39. Small Grant and Subcontracts Program**

Activity	Area	Date	#	Status	HH total to date	Orgs/ MSMEs
ICADE. Disaster Mitigation (EDAN) Training (90)	NRM/ Disaster	Apr-12	PF 2012-02	Ongoing	310	0
UNITEC. MSME Formalization & Training (200)	MSME	May-12	PF 2012-03	Ongoing	128	0
Agroindustrias Del Corral. Cattle Production Program (40)	Production	Nov-12	PF 2012-04	Completed	6	0
Boncafe. Specialty Coffee Program (600)	Production	Nov-12	PF 2012-05	Completed	163	0
R&D for Nematode activity in drip irrigation systems and soil	Production	Nov-12	PF 2012-05	Completed	0	0
Bakery Workshops (Ana Dilet Manzanares) (75)	MSME	Nov-11	FPC 2011-01	Completed	60	0
El Gourmet Katracho Promotional Cooking Events	Marketing	Aug-12	FPC 2012-01	Completed	109	0
Potable Water Studies for Two Communities - Santa Bárbara (Marvin Trejo)	NRM/ Disaster	Sep-12	FPC 2012-02	Completed	0	4
Potable Water Studies for Two Communities- Intibucá & Lempira (Rigoberto Sandoval Reinbold)	NRM/Disaster	Sep-12	FPC 2012-03	Completed	0	4
10 Mitigation Studies (Oscar Carbajal)	NRM/Disaster	Sep-12	FPC 2012-04	Completed	0	12
Legalization of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) (Bufete Eduardo Pinto Chinchilla) (81)	MSME	Jun-13	FPC 2013-06	Ongoing	0	0
El Gourmet Katracho Promotional Cooking Events- Part 2	Marketing	Sep-13	FPC 2013-07	Ongoing	0	0
Multidimensional Poverty Study by TECHO	Nutrition	Dec-13	FPC 2013-08	Approved	0	0

#### 5.4. GENDER MAINSTREAMING

USAID-ACCESO continued to emphasize and implement its gender mainstreaming strategy. The gender strategy includes details on gender disaggregated indicators and data analysis, as well as for including women in technical training in the cultural context of Honduras. The strategy identifies the types of technical assistance, technologies, and crops that best address the constraints faced by women. Key activities targeting women include focusing crop selection on production of herbs that require smaller areas of land for cultivation; production of garden-grown vegetables to generate food for the family; and fruit tree production. Good opportunities exist to increase women's involvement in the economy in animal production and off-farm and value-added microenterprises. Targeted technologies include drip irrigation and the introduction of low-cost greenhouses. Sowing, harvesting, and postharvest activities are also activities that provide women with labor opportunities. Selected gender related activities and numbers include:

- 95 percent of client household are men and women (not necessarily a couple), while 2 percent are women only and 3 percent are men only.
- 17,069 of the 52,707 individuals that have received project agricultural sector productivity or food security training are women (32 percent).

- Fintrac's gender specialists are making plans to repeat the focus groups with client households to determine the progress on roles, responsibilities, division of labor, and decision making for household expenses and investments.

## 5.5. IFPRI

IFPRI has been contracted by USAID to carry out selected M&E activities and impact evaluations. As of September 2013, IFPRI has conducted the baseline survey and the midterm evaluation among USAID-ACCESO client households. USAID-ACCESO's involvement with IFPRI has been as follows:

- Participation in an IFPRI presentation on baseline data.
- Comments provided on baseline data report.
- USAID-ACCESO client data provided when requested in 2012 and 2013.

USAID-ACCESO has not seen the mid-term report; no correspondence or meetings were held with IFPRI during the current quarter.

## 5.6. COMMUNICATIONS

Activities during the quarter included:

- Publication of project activities in local newspapers and business magazines.
- Publication of project technical manuals.
- Participation in trade events including coffee, fresh produce markets; cooking demonstration and product promotion; and business fairs.
- Preparation of one USAID-ACCESO snapshot (42 to date).

### Field Visits

Various field visits were organized for staff and visitors from USAID and other local and international organizations. These included:

- Visit by the incoming Vice-President and Minister of Economic Development to project activities in production, marketing and nutrition in Intibucá.
- Signing of donor agreement for the new Dry Corridor Project at a USAID-ACCESO client farm in La Paz, including the President of Honduras, US Ambassador, and representatives from Canada, World Bank, European Union, and BCIE.
- Two field visits by World Bank and other donor representatives to USAID-ACCESO clients in La Paz as part of the Dry Corridor activities.
- Field visits in Intibucá and Lempira with WFP and CRS to demonstrate USAID-ACCESO activities with project CENs and nutrition with the aim involving them both in project activities.
- Field visit to Santa Barbara by students from Calvin College, USA.
- Routine field visits by USAID/Honduras representatives.

### Selected Activities with Government Ministries

USAID-ACCESO is collaborating with several government ministries and institutions, both informally and formally through signed memorandum. These include:

- SAG: wide range of activities including training of SAG technicians, organization of the USAID-ACCESO consultative committee meetings, ad-hoc committee for approval of technical production manuals, Ministerial meetings regarding policy activities and rural village bank financing.
- SAG: donation of small scale drip irrigation systems to USAID-ACCESO clients.

- Ministry of Health through coordination with Departmental Officers, health centers at the community level and ULAT.
- SIC: registration of MSMEs.
- COPECO: training events for CODELs.

While the project does not work through the government, the relationships and agreements with them facilitate implementation; expand outreach; promote information; technology and methodology exchange; and increase visibility.

### **Municipal Governments**

USAID-ACCESO has coordinated field activities with 80 municipalities of the 129 municipalities in the six departments:

Copán	10 of 23 municipalities
Intibucá	5 of 15 municipalities
La Paz	18 of 19 municipalities
Lempira	13 of 28 municipalities
Ocatepeque	14 of 16 municipalities
Santa Bárbara	20 of 28 municipalities

### **Local NGO and Organizations**

USAID-ACCESO is working with more than 100 private and public organizations to coordinate activities and facilitate project implementation. Technical areas of collaboration include production, nutrition and health, renewable energy, natural resource management, and disaster mitigation. These range from grower organizations, cooperatives, local and international NGOs, donor projects, *mancomunidades*, and government institutions. Examples include Plan de Honduras, ASONOG, Caritas, Childfund, Red Cross, Fundación Banhcafe, Heifer International, UNICEF, WFP, FAO, COMRURAL, SwissContact, and SOCDEVI.

## **6. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS**

Several administrative constraints have been presented in previous reports. These include:

- Staff turnover
- Vehicle registration/exoneration
- Security
- Time for certain approvals

All of these points remain as previously reported and discussed.

## 7. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD

### **Rural MSMEs access to inputs, practices, and technology for market participation improved**

- Continue the development of existing market-driven production programs in all six departments for high-value cash crops to meet local and regional markets demand, including potato, carrot, broccoli, cauliflower, peppers, garlic, French beans, Asian vegetables, plantain, onion, and cucumbers.
- Continue procurement and installation of irrigation infrastructure for producers in all six departments.
- Continue training and technical assistance to coffee growers on basic production practices, with particular emphasis on prevention and control of coffee rust; increase market links with buyer of quality coffee.
- Continue implementing technology investment fund small grants projects for productive infrastructure.
- Continue delivery of technical assistance to off-farm MSME's to improve efficiencies, reduce production cost, improve food safety, product packaging and market promotion.
- Continue and expand the animal production initiatives in Copán and La Paz.
- Begin negotiations with selected municipalities for the sustainability of selected project productive activities among growers.
- Continue technical assistance in postharvest to all project growers, with specific emphasis on coffee growers under agreement with BonCafé, growers producing French beans under contract with UNISPACE.
- Expand warehouse receipts projects (*pignoración*) with selected basic grain growers.
- Safe pesticide use and application training to *agrotiendas* and growers.
- Establish low cost field cool rooms.

### **Rural MSMEs access to new market opportunities increased**

- Consolidate, formalize, and promote local farmers' fairs in new locations in all six departments.
- Increase the number of local buyers for increased market linkages and production programs.
- Expand the local distributor and retail outlet network in local towns for MSME sales with off-farm value added products.
- Expand outgrower programs for local exporters and processors.
- Expand calendarized production programs for local market buyers.
- Continue the legalization process of selected MSMEs.
- Continue support to selected MSMEs to increase their productivity and marketing capacity.
- Continue the implementation of *agrotiendas* in selected departments.

### **Barriers to competitiveness of rural MSMEs reduced**

- Continue with SAG on the standardization of the technical production packages for plantain and oil palm.

- Continue and expand implementation of project clients' access to financial products developed with input providers, exporters, cooperatives, and other financial service providers in all six departments.
- Accreditation option for independent people to provide selected SENASA related services.
- Establishment of a fund for control and disposal of agricultural pesticide containers.
- Implementation of a strategy for expanding raw material production for bio-energy plants and for firewood production.

## **Biodiversity and natural resources conserved**

### *At the farm level*

- Expand and continue technical assistance in soil conservation, water resource management, wildlife preservation, pest and disease identification and control, and the safe use of pesticides.

### *At the municipal and community levels*

- Continue implementing projects funded under the small grant program for disaster mitigation, potable water, and basic sanitation projects.
- Continue promoting and implementing natural microorganisms as alternatives for coffee pulp treatment.
- Continue the rehabilitation of chlorinators.
- Continue assisting water boards and community and municipal leaders in effluent treatment projects and management of water chlorinators.

## **Disaster vulnerability reduced**

- Continue implementation of mitigation plans in 20 communities.
- Continue the implementation of projects funded under the small grant program for disaster mitigation projects (roads, flood prevention, landslide prevention, disaster mitigation capacity building).
- Continue disaster mitigation training to CODELS in coordination with COPECO.
- Establish alliances with new municipal authorities and continue training of Municipal Emergency Committees to strengthen their operational capacities.
- Continue the organization and strengthening of at least 30 Local Emergency Committees.

## **Renewable energy projects**

- Continue to install and train on the concepts and critical points of design and installation of eco-stoves, biodigesters, and solar crop dryers in the six departments.
- Continue to train users and owners on the use and maintenance of improved stoves, biodigesters, and solar dryers.
- Continue coordinating activities with the trilateral program United States/Honduras/Brazil in renewable energy activities.

## **Use of quality maternal and child health and family planning services increased**

- Continue with the expansion of the IEC strategy in targeted communities.
- Continue providing assistance to client households for family plots for increased food availability.
- Continue equipment and operations of nutrition training centers.
- Continue promoting family planning, reproductive risk, and quality maternal and child health practices through basic messages.

- Expand training events in food preparation and diet diversity to ensure nutrient uptake.
- Continue and expand household visits to provide direct technical assistance to those families with children less than two years of age.
- Continue coordinating field activities with the health units and other service providers in targeted communities
- Continue the population of data to CIRIS/Nutrition
- Train Nutrition/Health Staff in CIRIS/Nutrition

### **Gender mainstreaming**

- Continue to promote and follow up on gender inclusion activities in the day-to-day implementation of USAID-ACCESO.
- Monitor project activities' consistency with recommendations highlighted in the gender mainstreaming plan.
- Ensure training events and technical assistance delivery schedules and methodologies are promoting participation of women and youth.

### **Project management and administrative activities**

- Continue developing formal alliances with selected counterpart institutions and private sector companies.
- Continue providing support, supervision, and oversight to implementation activities.
- Monitor PMP indicators for preparation of reports and guidance to implementation plans for the following quarter.
- Detailed review with individual field technicians of activities and targets.
- Identify and provide human resource development and motivational activities.
- Develop project closeout plan.
- Respond to RIG audit requirements.

### **Monitoring and evaluation activities**

- Maintenance and analysis of the CIRIS database.
- Preparation of inputs for monthly and quarterly reports.
- Continue using tablets for sample clients' data collection (EOH).
- FY2014 off-farm income and investment data collection (Oct-March progress).
- Start project assessment with sampling clients.
- Update PMP monitor.
- Subcontractor reports.
- Continue registering trainees lists on CIRIS.
- Continue registering results in CIRIS N&H based on AIN-C monthly meetings.
- Follow up to meetings with technical production staff to evaluate performance and data entering.
- Provide management reports to department and zone managers for performance evaluation and decision making.
- Endorsement of TECHO Research Study "Poverty Assessment from a Multidimensional Perspective" final report.

### **Small grants, subcontracts, and alliances program**

- Continue close-out procedures and documentation for closed projects.
- Continue the support and assistance in the procurement and distribution of services, equipment, and supplies under the existing activities as well as new activities proposed.

- Continue the design and approval process for new initiatives identified in the areas of production, health and nutrition, processing and value addition, and natural resource management and disaster mitigation.
- Re-evaluate small NGO subcontractor budgets to determine if realignments are necessary.
- Monitor projects' implementation in concurrence with small grants operational manual.

# ANNEX I: PERFORMANCE MONITORING PLAN

The PMP and work plan targets for each indicator is provided below, together with the overall status as of March 2014. These are separated by IRs and sub-IRs to be consistent with the quarterly and work plan formats. Note: data for selected indicators are collected on an ongoing basis while others are collected via annual surveys. Note: the targets in the FY 2014 PMP/workplan is in the USAID review process.

ACTIVITY	YEAR 1 (FY 2011)	YEAR 2 (FY 2012)	YEAR 3 (FY 2013)	STATUS	YEAR 4 TARGETS (Oct. 2013 to Sept. 2014)				Year 4 Target	Total END OF Year 4	UPDATED LOP (Feb. 2015)	ORIGINAL LOP (Feb. 2015)	DELIVERABLE / UNITS	Year 4 Target Breakdown		Previous Reported Status (12/2013)	Additional Reported for Previous Quarter	Current Quarter (03/2014)	Updated Status (03/2014)
	ACHIEVED Apr. 2011 to Sept. 2011	ACHIEVED Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012	ACHIEVED Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013		Sept. 2013	Q1	Q2	Q3						Q4	Male				
<b>1</b>	<b>Program Administrative Activities</b>																		
	<b>Start-Up Activities</b>																		
1.1	done															done			
1.2	1															done			
1.3	2															done			
1.4	cars/motorbikes															done			
1.5	done				on-going	on-going										done			
1.6	done				on-going											done			
1.7																done			
	<b>Communications &amp; Reporting</b>																		
1.8	1															done			
1.9	1															done			
1.10		1		1												done			
1.11	6	12	12	30	3	3	3	3	12	42	46	46	Reports			33		3	36
1.12	2	4	4	10	1	1	1	1	4	14	15	15	Reports			11		1	12
1.13	1	1	1	3	1				1	4	4	4	Workplans			4			4
1.14												1	Reports						
1.15		2		2	1			1	2	4	5	5	Meeting Minutes			2		1	3
<b>2</b>	<b>Project Monitoring &amp; Evaluation Activities</b>																		
2.1	done															done			
2.2	done															done			
2.3	1											1	Plan			done			
2.4													Data			done			
2.6													Data			on-going			
2.7		1	1	2	1				1	3	4	4						done	
2.8	2	18	17	37	3	3	3	3	12	49	53	53	Publications			41		1	42
<b>3</b>	<b>Small Grants Program</b>																		
3.1		5,160	7,681	12,841	500	500	500	500	2,000	14,841	14,841	14,841				13,080		442	13,522
3.2		4	7	11					0	11	11	11				13		0	13
3.3		4	5	9					0	9	9	9				9		0	9
3.4	4	724	921	1,649	25	25	25	25	100	1,749	1,749	805				1,884		388	2,272
3.5		5,896	8,614	14,510	525	525	525	525	2,100	16,610	16,610	16,610				14,986		830	15,816

ACTIVITY	YEAR 1 (FY 2011)	YEAR 2 (FY 2012)	YEAR 3 (FY 2013)	STATUS	YEAR 4 TARGETS (Oct. 2013 to Sept. 2014)				Year 4 Target	Total END OF Year 4	UPDATED LOP (Feb. 2015)	ORIGINAL LOP (Feb. 2015)	DELIVERABLE / UNITS	Year 4 Target Breakdown		Previous Reported Status (12/2013)	Additional Reported for Previous Quarter	Current Quarter (03/2014)	Updated Status (03/2014)	
	ACHIEVED Apr. 2011 to Sept. 2011	ACHIEVED Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012	ACHIEVED Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013		Sept. 2013	Q1	Q2	Q3						Q4	Male					Female
<b>High Level Targets</b>																				
<b>GOAL: Increased Rural Household Incomes</b>																				
PIRS # 1	Number of households living in poverty moved above the poverty line	1,183	1,053	2,236					5,264	7,500	10,000	30,000	Households	4,211	1,053	2,236		0	2,236	
PIRS # 2	Number of rural households living in extreme poverty moved above the poverty line!	834	796	1,630					4,370	6,000	7,500	18,000	Households	3,496	874	1,630		0	1,630	
PIRS # 3	Value of new net income of participant rural farmers and MSMEs	7.100	-6.937	0.163					25.00	25.16	30.00	73.95	US\$ Million	22.50	2.50	0.163		0	0.163	
PIRS # 4	Number of jobs attributed to FTF implementation	2,332	243	2,575					400	2,975	3,250	10,425	FTEs	320	80	2,575		0	2,575	
<b>Increased Agricultural Productivity</b>																				
PIRS # 5	Value of incremental sales (collected at farm/firm level) attributed to FTF implementation	12.400	-4.388	8.012					50.00	58.01	68.00	133.65	US\$ Million	45.00	5.00	8.012		0	8.012	
<b>IR 2.1: RURAL MICRO, SMALL, AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE (MSME) GROWTH INCREASED</b>																				
<b>Sub-IR 2.1.1: RURAL MSMEs' ACCESS TO INPUTS, PRACTICES, AND TECHNOLOGY FOR MARKET PARTICIPATION IMPROVED</b>																				
<b>Implementation of updated production technologies (on-farm and off-farm)</b>																				
WP # 1	Number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training	7,723	15,671	21,110	44,504	2,500	3,250	3,250	1,000	10,000	54,504	55,500	55,500	Individuals	8,066	1,935	48,756	0	3,951	52,707
WP # 2	Number of extension visits to program beneficiaries	13,571	134,840	267,955	416,366	25,000	29,500	29,500	28,000	112,000	528,366	550,000	378,400	Extension Visits			488,372	2,238	73,860	564,470
WP # 12	Number of technical materials produced (bulletins, manuals, presentations and tools)	63	142	50	255	20	15	10	10	55	310	310	225	Technical materials			296	0	12	308
WP # 10	Number of MSMEs (off-farm and processing) assisted by project	285	417	132	834	5	5	0	0	10	844	844	805	MSMEs	4	6	843	0	-42	801
PIRS # 6	Value of new private sector investment in the agriculture sector or food chain leveraged by FTF implementation	0.079	3.018	4.451	7.548	1.60	2.00	2.00	1.96	7.56	15.11	17.00	21.60	New private sector investment (Millions)			7.894	1.057	0.954	9.815
WP # 11	Number of female individuals in training activities	2,202	5,729	5,711	13,642	700	900	700	200	2,500	16,142	16,200	8,300	Female Individuals			15,181	0	1,888	17,069
PIRS # 7	Number of farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance	4,592	14,270	18,862	2,400	3,000	3,079	1,000	9,479	28,341	28,500	22,050	MSMEs	7,583	1,896	18,862		n/a	18,862	
<b>Private sector alliances and integration of private sector equipment, input and service providers</b>																				
PIRS # 30	Number of organizations / companies providing business development / extension services to MSMEs	0	78	110	188	10	15	10	5	40	228	250	465	organizations / companies providing services to MSMEs			199	0	-3	196
PIRS # 32	Number of public-private partnerships formed	3	23	15	41	6	8	8	2	24	65	65	65	PPP formed			44	0	2	46
PIRS # 33	Number of private sector alliances developed	merged to PIRS # 32											PSAs Formed							
<b>Grower organization and the development of market driven production programs</b>																				
PIRS # 31	Number of producers organizations, water users associations, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance	40	150	31	221	10	18	17	5	50	271	271	210	Organizations / associations / CBOs receiving assistance			221		14	235
WP # 3	Number of small farmer associations formally established as businesses	0	118	118	30	35	30	5	100	218	225	55	Associations formally established as businesses			118		16	134	

ACTIVITY	YEAR 1 (FY 2011)	YEAR 2 (FY 2012)	YEAR 3 (FY 2013)	STATUS	YEAR 4 TARGETS (Oct. 2013 to Sept. 2014)				Year 4 Target	Total END OF Year 4	UPDATED LOP (Feb. 2015)	ORIGINAL LOP (Feb. 2015)	DELIVERABLE / UNITS	Year 4 Target Breakdown		Previous Reported Status (12/2013)	Additional Reported for Previous Quarter	Current Quarter (03/2014)	Updated Status (03/2014)	
	ACHIEVED Apr. 2011 to Sept. 2011	ACHIEVED Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012	ACHIEVED Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013		Sept. 2013	Q1	Q2	Q3						Q4	Male					Female
<b>SUB-IR 2.1.2: RURAL MSMEs' ACCESS TO NEW MARKET OPPORTUNITIES INCREASED</b>																				
<b>Development of buyer linkages and logistics</b>																				
<a href="#">WP #4</a>	Number of MSMEs accessing new market opportunities through a broker	35	1,403	5,486	6,924	750	750	1,000	1,000	3,500	10,424	10,932	10,932	MSMEs	3,150	350	6,924	n/a	6,924	
<a href="#">PIRS # 12</a>	Number of brokers providing market linkages to MSMEs	10	19	41	70	25	25	35	35	120	190	225	500	Brokers providing market linkages to MSMEs			70	n/a	70	
<a href="#">WP #6</a>	Number of market surveys conducted	1	5	3	9	0	1	1	1	3	12	12	24	Market Surveys			9	3	12	
<b>Production and systems implementation to meet buyers quality standards</b>																				
<a href="#">WP #5</a>	Number of MSMEs that have entered formal preferred supplier or contract agreements with brokers		550	1,521	2,071	100	300	350	200	950	3,021	3,250	2,996	MSMEs	808	143	2,071	n/a	2,071	
<b>Implementation of business certification programs</b>																				
<a href="#">PIRS # 13</a>	Number of MSMEs that have been verified to meet market standards for their products	35	882	836	1,753	75	250	300	125	750	2,503	2,750	2,000	MSMEs			1,753	n/a	1,753	
<b>SUB-IR 2.1.3: BARRIERS TO COMPETITIVENESS OF RURAL MSMEs REDUCED</b>																				
<b>Increased access to finance</b>																				
<a href="#">PIRS # 14</a>	Number of MSMEs accessing market-based financing as the result of USG assistance	315	1,577	2,826	4,718	300	700	600	400	2,000	6,718	7,000	4,314	MSMEs accessing finance	1,600	400	4,817	43	315	5,175
<a href="#">PIRS # 15</a>	Value of Agricultural and Rural Loans made to MSMEs	0.200	1.554	6.072	7.826	0.50	1.15	0.98	0.65	3.28	11.11	11.50	6.33	Value of loans (millions)	2.62	0.66	8.679	-1.063	0.809	8.425
<a href="#">PIRS # 11</a>	Number of MSMEs implementing sound business management practices		695	4,498	5,193	500	750	1,250	750	3,250	8,443	8,482	8,482	MSMEs	2,600	650	5,193	n/a	5,193	
<a href="#">PIRS # 16</a>	Number of value chain / sector constraints identified and resolved		1	16	17	5	5	7	6	23	40	40	40	Constraints			22	0	1	23
<a href="#">PIRS # 17</a>	Number of policy reforms, regulations, administrative procedures passed for which implementation has begun with USG assistance	1	2	2	5						5	5	4	Policies, regulations or administrative procedures passed			6	0	0	6
<a href="#">PIRS # GNDR-2</a>	Proportion of female participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources (ADDED FY 2012-2013)			17.4%	17.4%					19%	19%	20%	20%	Percentage			17.9%		17.8%	17.8%
<b>Applied research and development programs developed</b>																				
<a href="#">XX</a>	R&D projects and Activities identified	1	8	2	11					0	11	11					11			11
<b>IR 2.2: Honduran Biodiversity and Natural Resources Conserved and IR 2.3: CAPACITY TO ADAPT AND MITIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE STRENGTHENED</b>																				
<b>Implementation of NRM practices on farm</b>																				
<a href="#">PIRS # 8</a>	Number of additional hectares under improved technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance		8,321	7,694	16,014	500	750	833	500	2,583	18,597	19,000	14,904	Hectares	2,325	258	16,014	n/a	16,014	
<a href="#">PIRS # 10</a>	Number of companies (including farms) that have made conservation-friendly changes in their business practices	0	356	350	707	2,500	3,500	3,500	2,500	12,000	12,707	15,000	22,050	Companies (including farms)	10,800	1,200	707	n/a	707	
<b>Implementation of NRM practices at community and municipality levels</b>																				
<a href="#">PIRS # 9</a>	Number of Local Municipal Governments effectively implementing natural resource management policies		7	24	31	2	2	2	2	8	39	39	20	Local Municipal Governments			31		2	33

ACTIVITY	YEAR 1 (FY 2011)	YEAR 2 (FY 2012)	YEAR 3 (FY 2013)	STATUS	YEAR 4 TARGETS (Oct. 2013 to Sept. 2014)				Year 4 Target	Total END OF Year 4	UPDATED LOP (Feb. 2015)	ORIGINAL LOP (Feb. 2015)	DELIVERABLE / UNITS	Year 4 Target Breakdown		Previous Reported Status (12/2013)	Additional Reported for Previous Quarter	Current Quarter (03/2014)	Updated Status (03/2014)	
	ACHIEVED Apr. 2011 to Sept. 2011	ACHIEVED Oct. 2011 to Sept. 2012	ACHIEVED Oct. 2012 to Sept. 2013		Sept. 2013	Q1	Q2	Q3						Q4	Male					Female
<b>SUB-IR 2.3.3: DISASTER VULNERABILITY REDUCED</b>																				
<b>Development and implementation of disaster mitigation plans and systems</b>																				
<a href="#">PIRS # 28</a>	Number of communities in high vulnerability municipalities with adequate disaster prevention and mitigation capacity	11	50	61	2	2	0	0	4	65	65	40	Communities with adequate disaster prevention and mitigation capacity			61		0	61	
<b>Installation of renewable energy technologies</b>																				
<a href="#">PIRS # 29</a>	Number of rural micro-generation clean/renewable energy projects established	4	724	921	1,649	25	25	25	25	100	1,749	1,749	805	Projects established			1,884		388	2,272
<b>IR 4.1: USE OF QUALITY MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES INCREASED</b>																				
<a href="#">PIRS # 18</a>	Prevalence of households with moderate to severe hunger																			n/a
<a href="#">PIRS # 19</a>	Prevalence of underweight children under 5	33.8%	-33.8%	33.8%																
<a href="#">PIRS # 20</a>	Prevalence of stunted children under 5																			
<a href="#">PIRS # 21</a>	Percent of children 6-23 months that received a Minimum Acceptable Diet			60.6%					30%	30%	30%	30%	% increase over baseline			60.6%		n/a	60.6%	
<a href="#">PIRS # 22</a>	Prevalence of exclusive breast feeding of children under 6 months	4.5%	3.3%	4.47%					5%	5%	20%	20%	% increase over baseline			3.32%		n/a	2.83%	
<a href="#">PIRS # 23</a>	Prevalence of anaemia among women of reproductive age			-0.4%									% reduction from baseline			-0.4%		n/a	-0.4%	
<a href="#">PIRS # 24</a>	Prevalence of anaemia in children 5 - 59 months			7.4%									% reduction from baseline			7.4%		n/a	7.4%	
<a href="#">PIRS # 25</a>	Women's dietary diversity: mean number of food groups consumed by women of reproductive age			4.3%									% Change in HDDS			4.3%		n/a	n/a	
<a href="#">PIRS # 26</a>	Number of health facilities with established capacity to manage acute under-nutrition (REMOVED for FY 2012-2013)											20	Health Facilities							
<a href="#">PIRS # 27</a>	Modern contraceptive prevalence rate		103.6%	103.6%	103.6%								% Increase over baseline	2.5%	2.5%	103.6%		n/a	103.6%	
<a href="#">WP # 8</a>	Percentage of children less than two years old with two consecutive low monthly measurements		9.7%	11.0%	11.0%								%			10.6%		10.2%	10.2%	
<a href="#">WP # 9</a>	Percentage of mothers utilizing improved feeding practices																	n/a	n/a	
<a href="#">IND-3.1.9-1</a>	Number of people trained in child health and nutrition through USG-supported programs (New 03/2014)												new indicator starting this quarter			0		4,475	4,475	
<a href="#">IND-3.1.9-15</a>	Number of children under five reached by USG-supported nutrition programs (new 03/2014)												new indicator starting this quarter			0		7,245	7,245	

# ANNEX II: SNAPSHOTS & MONTHLY SUMMARIES



## USAID | ACCESO

### SNAPSHOT

### Supporting National Strategy to Combat Coffee Rust

**With support from USAID-ACCESO and IHCAFE, coffee producers have an opportunity to combat coffee leaf rust and diversify into other crops.**



Photo by Fintrac Inc.

Project technical specialists provide training to a group of coffee farmers on the basic production practices that minimize the potential problems with pests and diseases, including rust.

#### **USAID-ACCESO support to coffee farmers includes:**

- **Basic production practices**
- **Crop diversification**
- **Improved harvesting and drying**
- **Buyer linkages**

The majority of coffee production in Honduras is carried out on a small scale, with 73 percent of all producers harvesting about 13 quintals per manzana (0.7 hectares). These smallholder farmers have little to no access to basic technologies and are especially susceptible to problems of pests, diseases, and price fluctuations.

In 2012, the country detected the first outbreaks of *la roya*, a coffee leaf rust disease, which is associated with poor crop management and accentuated by climate change. Coffee harvests in the 2012/2013 season were severely affected by rust, and together with negative international price fluctuations, resulted in a significant reduction in producer incomes and employment opportunities in rural areas. Food security, rural families' well-being, and the overall rural economies also suffered.

The impact of rust on coffee production was estimated at 1.63 million quintals, dropping from 7.3 million quintals in the 2011/2012 season to 5.7 million in the 2012/2013 season. Total revenue lost last year is estimated at \$177 million from production and \$48 million in lost wages.

Coffee farming represents the main source of income for many rural families and is the main driver of many rural economies. To assist in recuperating from the effects of the 2012/2013 season, the Honduran Coffee Institute (IHCAFE), with the support of USAID-ACCESO and other public and private sector organizations, has implemented the "Plan Nacional de Apoyo Integral a las Familias Productoras de Café Afectadas por la Roya."

With the implementation of the plan, participating institutions aim to reduce the vulnerability of coffee-producing families, minimize pest and disease problems in the short term, improve crop management and production efficiency over the medium term, and replant using basic production practices and rust tolerant varieties for the long term.

Support from USAID-ACCESO is being provided through ongoing technical assistance and training to more than 16,000 coffee producers with 18,000 hectares of production in western Honduras. Farmers are learning how to implement basic coffee production practices, pruning and shade management, liming, and improved fertilization application. With these basic practices, growers are increasing productivity from an average of 13 to 24 quintals per manzana. Improved harvesting system and adding value through drying are also helping increased family incomes.

To reduce risks from mono-cropping and to diversify income sources, USAID-ACCESO is also providing technical assistance and training to improve the yields of basic grains and to diversify into small-scale production of vegetables, fruit trees, timber trees, and livestock. USAID-ACCESO has also promoted the registration of the project farmers with IHCAFE, which allows them to access credit for coffee inputs and other benefits.



# USAID | ACCESO

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## Monthly Bulletin *January 2014*

### JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

- USAID-ACCESO is assisting 34,769 households in the most vulnerable communities in western Honduras, promoting production technologies and practices to increase incomes and improve the overall quality of life. The project is benefitting 184,884 people – 90 percent of whom live in poverty and extreme poverty conditions – through technical assistance and training in production, value-added processing, natural resource management, renewable technologies, disaster mitigation, and nutrition and health.
- During the month of January, 268 new hectares were planted reaching a total production area of 45,352 hectares under project technical assistance, including: 18,510 hectares of coffee, 22,997 of basic grains, and 3,845 of fruit and horticulture crops. The crops with the highest planting area this month were: coffee, corn, sweet potato, beans, green beans, banana, cabbage, onion, and watermelon.
- This month, USAID-ACCESO trained three women's groups in Ocotepeque on legalization activities for micro, small and medium enterprises. The groups work in bread production and flower production. The Association of Municipalities of Valle de Sesecapa (AMVAS), which includes the municipalities of Santa Fe, Concepción, Nueva Ocotepeque, and Sinuapa, helped facilitate the trainings. The project also trained community groups engaged in waste collection to promote recycling activities.
- In January, the project held an award ceremony for yellow corn production in Erandique, Lempira. The highest yield was achieved by Neftalí Cáceres with 110 quintales per manzana, with Pablo Martínez taking second place with 96 quintales per manzana of production. The average of the 10 most productive producers was 82 quintales per manzana. More than 100 producers attended the event and each could attest that implementing improved production practices and basic technologies increases yields.



All photos by Fintrac Inc.

Access to technical knowledge: Producers in Lempira implementing good agricultural practices such as plant spacing and use of plastic mulch for weed control and humidity conservation for their green beans.



Access to results: Yellow corn producers with the highest yields and quality took home prizes at an awards ceremony in Erandique, Lempira.

### USAID-ACCESO client households, beneficiaries and other clients, January 2014

Department	Household clients	Beneficiaries	Other Clients *
Copan	5,463	24,130	1,305
Intibucá	5,646	37,146	1,082
La Paz	5,777	27,594	993
Lempira	6,678	44,808	1,863
Ocotepeque	4,404	24,076	810
Santa Bárbara	6,799	26,328	1,457
Others	0	0	726
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34,769</b>	<b>184,884</b>	<b>8,236</b>

\*Includes: MSPES, buyers, input and service providers, municipal corporations, counterpart organizations.

### About USAID-ACCESO

USAID-ACCESO is a four-year initiative funded by the people and government of the United States of America through the US Agency for International Development (USAID). This project is part of the global Feed the Future initiative of the US government and the main investment by USAID in Honduras.

USAID-ACCESO is assisting more than 30,000 clients in the departments of Copán, Intibucá, La Paz, Lempira, Ocotepeque, and Santa Bárbara to lift these rural households above the poverty line and malnutrition conditions through economic development and increased incomes.

[www.usaid-acceso.org](http://www.usaid-acceso.org) | [acceso@fintrac.com](mailto:acceso@fintrac.com)

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# USAID | ACCESO

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Access to technical knowledge: A producer from Copán receives assistance identifying pests and diseases in his crop.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

USAID-ACCESO carried out 22,940 technical assistance visits this month. Of these, 16,515 strengthened farmers' knowledge in agricultural production topics including basic practices for coffee and horticulture crops; soil preparation and management; pest, disease, and weed identification and control; transplant and planting; fertilization program management; nutrient balance; adequate use of agrochemicals; soil conservation; and contour plowing.

1,224 technical assistance visits focused on childhood nutrition and improving personal and home hygiene; 990 on processing; 1,414 on business skills such as production logs and reducing costs. 795 technical assistance visits in animal production focused on poultry farming and livestock management; 461 visits focused on natural resource management; and 777 on postharvest and certification.

## VALUE ADDITION

USAID-ACCESO processing specialists continued working with communities to create new products from locally available resources to generate off-farm employment opportunities. This month, 216 participants attended 43 training events during which they learned good manufacturing and processing practices, and techniques to produce frozen chicken tacos, frozen beans, and other dairy and bakery products.

Forestry specialists continued promoting legal tree felling and working with woodcrafters to build furniture, doors, chests, and other in-demand products for sale to local markets.



Access to new crops: Chia producer in San Sebastián, Lempira learns proper harvesting and cleaning activities to meet sales requirements for domestic and international markets.



ACCESS to new markets: A regional buyer visits green bean crops to verify the quality of the product purchased through a formal contract.

## ACCESS TO MARKETS

In January, 45 participants attended eight training events on market information. The producers and buyers learned about quality standards and regulations, supply, and the negotiation process.

Marketing specialists continued coordinating tours of producers' plots to increase market exposure for small-scale farmers and deliver information about market routes and formal buyer requirements. This month, the project organized 204 technical assistance visits that facilitated sharing market information, logistical details, and transportation coordination.



# USAID | ACCESO

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Access to better health and nutrition: Project staff and health volunteers make home visits to monitor children's weights, as well as the overall hygiene and sanitation of the household.

## NUTRITION AND HEALTH

The nutrition and health team held 153 training events, giving 1,991 parents the opportunity to strengthen basic nutrition and health practices. This month, 1,079 participants received training in family planning and optimal spacing of pregnancies (two years between pregnancies) to contribute to a better quality of life. 208 participants learned about nutritious food preparation and practiced recipes for natural juices, rice with vegetables, fortified tortillas, bean soup, and other vitamin-rich recipes made from low-cost and accessible ingredients. 220 participants learned "healthy household" practices: the concept of establishing healthy and safe norms within the home to prevent diseases and improve hygiene practices.

## COFFEE RUST STRATEGY

USAID-ACCESO and IHCAFE, with support from other public and private organizations, recently launched the Integrated National Plan to Support Coffee Producing Families Affected by la roya. (La roya is more commonly known as the coffee rust disease.) Through coordination with IHCAFE, project-assisted coffee producers will be added to IHCAFE's official records, allowing them to access credit for inputs.



Access to knowledge: The project is supporting coffee farmers affected by leaf rust, helping them access implement good agricultural practices that serve as preventative measures, management of current harvests, and crop diversification.

As another coping strategy, the project is introducing demonstration (but commercial) plots of vegetables in Santa Bárbara to encourage crop diversification. Additionally, USAID-ACCESO is working to establish an early warning mechanism to help prevent pests and disease by using the network of weather stations managed by the World Wildlife Fund. The project is providing technical assistance and training to 16,497 coffee producers on 18,510 hectares.

### Trainings – January 2014

Area	Participants	Events
Renewable Energy	458	82
Business Skills / Finance	632	69
Natural Resources Management and Disaster Mitigation	326	30
Postharvest and Certifications	596	95
Processing and Added Value	216	43
Production	13,976	2,185
Market Information	45	8
Nutrition and Health	1,991	153
ACCESO project	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,240</b>	<b>2,665</b>

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# USAID | ACCESO

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## Monthly Bulletin February 2014

### FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

- USAID-ACCESO is assisting 34,755 households in the most vulnerable communities in western Honduras, promoting production technologies and practices to increase incomes and improve the overall quality of life. The project is benefiting 184,802 people – 90 percent of whom live in poverty and extreme poverty conditions – through technical assistance and training in production, value-added processing, natural resource management, renewable technologies, disaster mitigation, and nutrition and health.
- This month, 186 new hectares were planted reaching a total of 46,306 hectares under assistance, including: 18,797 hectares of coffee, 23,498 of basic grains, and 4,011 of fruit and horticulture crops. The crops with the highest planting area this month were: maize, coffee, beans, potato, green beans, pasture, tomato, eggplant, and papaya.
- USAID-ACCESO organized a business conference in Santa Barbara to bring micro-enterprises and potential buyers together. 140 individuals and about 20 companies attended the event, networking with various financial institutions to explore opportunities for possible expansion of their activities. Financial institutions in attendance included BANADESA, ODEF Hermandad de Honduras, BANPAIS, and Cooperative Pinalajo.
- In February, the project gave the second module of the vegetable production course to 50 producers in Santa Barbara. This initiative aims to improve farmers' ability to successfully manage their farm operations and to help disseminate the technologies to other farmers. The modules covered included project management, basic practices, drip irrigation, plant nutrition, pests and diseases, postharvest, marketing, and processing for pepper, tomato, eggplant, cucumber, banana, corn, watermelon, and zucchini crops.



All photos by Fintrac Inc.  
 Access to crop diversification: Producers inspect an onion crop planted with good agricultural practices in the community of Nueva Esperanza, La Iguala, Lempira.



Access to new opportunities: The second business conference in Santa Barbara promoted micro-enterprise activities with potential buyers and financial institutions.

### USAID-ACCESO client households, beneficiaries and other clients, February 2014

Department	Household clients	Beneficiaries	Other Clients *
Copan	3,462	24,114	1,316
Intibucá	3,841	37,134	1,106
La Paz	5,772	27,586	1,029
Lempira	6,679	44,783	1,917
Ocotepeque	4,402	24,873	814
Santa Bárbara	6,799	26,312	1,490
Others	0	0	724
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34,755</b>	<b>184,802</b>	<b>8,398</b>

\*Includes: MSMEs, buyers, input and service providers, municipal corporations, counterpart organizations.

### About USAID-ACCESO

USAID-ACCESO is a four-year initiative funded by the people and government of the United States of America through the US Agency for International Development (USAID). This project is part of the global Feed the Future initiative of the US government and the main investment by USAID in Honduras.

USAID-ACCESO is assisting more than 30,000 clients in the departments of Copán, Intibucá, La Paz, Lempira, Ocotepeque, and Santa Bárbara to lift these rural households above the poverty line and malnutrition conditions through economic development and increased incomes.



# USAID | ACCESO

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Access to technical knowledge: Producers in the community of La Jigua, Copán receive training in basic production practices.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

USAID-ACCESO carried out 23,041 technical assistance visits this month. Of these, 15,592 strengthened farmers' knowledge in agricultural production topics including basic practices for coffee and horticulture crops; soil preparation and management; pest, disease, and weed identification and control; transplant and planting; fertilization program management; nutrient balance; adequate use of agrochemicals; soil conservation; and contour plowing.

1,843 technical assistance visits focused on childhood nutrition and improving personal and home hygiene; 1,201 on processing; 1,281 on business skills including production logs and reducing costs. 1,298 technical assistance visits in animal production focused on poultry farming and livestock management; 456 visits focused on natural resource management; and 676 on postharvest handling and certifications.

## VALUE ADDITION

USAID-ACCESO processing specialists continued working with communities to create new products from locally available resources to generate off-farm employment opportunities. This month, 429 participants attended 61 training events during which they learned good manufacturing and processing practices, and techniques to produce frozen chicken tacos, frozen beans, and dairy and bakery products.

Forestry specialists continued promoting legal tree felling and working with woodcrafters to build furniture, doors, chests, and other in-demand products for sale to local markets.



Access to knowledge – traditional crops: Coffee producers receive training in best practices for preventing pest and disease problems, including leaf rust and coffee borer.



ACCESS to new markets: Through a partnership with supermarket La Colonia and Chief Catracho, the project presented recipes and in-store demonstrations using ingredients produced by USAID-ACCESO clients.

## ACCESS TO MARKETS

In February, 70 participants attended seven training events on market information. The producers and buyers learned about quality standards and regulations, supply, and the negotiation process.

Marketing specialists continued coordinating tours of producers' plots to increase market exposure for small-scale farmers and deliver information about market logistics routes and formal buyer requirements. This month, the project organized 126 technical assistance visits that facilitated sharing market information, logistical details, and transportation coordination.



# USAID | ACCESO

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Access to nutrition and health: A young girl eats highly-nutritious food prepared by a mothers group under the guidance of the project's nutrition and health specialists in the community of San Antonio, Lempira.

## NUTRITION AND HEALTH

The nutrition and health team held 197 training events, giving 2,905 parents the opportunity to strengthen basic nutrition and health practices. This month, 1,438 participants received training in family planning and optimal spacing of pregnancies (two years between pregnancies) to contribute to a better quality of life. 330 participants learned about nutritious food preparation and practiced recipes for natural juices, rice with vegetables, fortified tortillas, bean soup, and other vitamin-rich recipes made from low-cost and accessible ingredients. 339 participants learned "healthy household" practices: the concept of establishing healthy and safe norms within the home to prevent diseases and improve hygiene practices.

## RENEWABLE ENERGY

USAID-ACCESO, through its renewable energy component, encourages the installation of solar coffee dryers to ensure quality and add value to the final product. Dryers are also used with corn, beans, allspice, cashew, adobe and firewood. To date, with the project support, 813 solar dryers have been installed in the six departments.



Access to technology: Solar dryers improve coffee yields, quality and sales prices, earning farm families additional income. Some farmers are renting their dryers for an additional source of income.

USAID-ACCESO is also working with rural households to implement the use of inexpensive biogas stoves. These systems improve the quality of life in rural areas and encourage the proper management of natural resources and environment. The benefits provided by these technologies include reduced fuel wood consumption, reduced incidence of respiratory diseases, increased availability of organic matter for use in family plots, and additional time at home for other activities. To date, 1,176 homes have installed eco-stoves and 115 households have bio-digesters.

### Trainings – February 2014

Area	Participants	Events
Renewable Energy	547	94
Business Skills / Finance	675	92
Natural Resources Management and Disaster Mitigation	388	20
Postharvest and Certifications	803	56
Processing and Added Value	429	61
Production	14,731	2,031
Market Information	70	7
Nutrition and Health	2,905	197
ACCESO project	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,548</b>	<b>2,558</b>

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# USAID | ACCESO

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## Monthly Bulletin *March 2014*

### MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- USAID-ACCESO is assisting 34,724 households in the most vulnerable communities in western Honduras, promoting production technologies and practices to increase incomes and improve the overall quality of life. The project is benefitting 184,668 people – 90 percent of whom live in poverty and extreme poverty conditions – through technical assistance and training in production, value-added processing, natural resource management, renewable technologies, disaster mitigation, and nutrition and health.
- This month, 164 new hectares were planted reaching a total of 52,809 hectares under project technical assistance, including: 23,417 hectares of coffee, 24,656 of basic grains, and 4,736 of fruit and horticulture crops. The crops with the highest planting area this month were: maize, coffee, cabbage, potatoes, beans, cucumber, passion fruit, banana, carrot, and red onion.
- This month USAID-ACCESO held a workshop on the use of microorganisms to treat organic waste for conversion into fertilizer. Thirty-one students and two teachers from ESNACIFOR attended the training. The project is also counseling a forest engineering student on his thesis.
- In March, project technicians held a training session for the first micro measurement of potable water in La Sierra, La Paz. Currently 96 homes have micro measurement capabilities and 14 more will be added, along with various churches and schools in the community. Micro measurement allows water management boards and municipalities to determine water consumption per household and calculate pay rates.



All photos by Fintrac Inc.  
Access to technical expertise on high value crops: Producers review their crop prior to harvest in San Antonio, Ocotepeque bean.



Access to results: Thanks to the technical assistance provided by USAID-ACCESO and the implementation of good agricultural practices, farmers are realizing excellent yields in the department of Intibucá.

### USAID-ACCESO client households, beneficiaries and other clients, March 2014

Department	Household clients	Beneficiaries	Other Clients *
Copan	5,458	24,121	1,471
Intibucá	5,839	37,127	1,185
La Paz	5,776	27,622	1,044
Lempira	6,679	44,787	1,978
Ocotepeque	4,408	24,925	847
Santa Bárbara	6,764	26,085	1,690
Others	0	0	789
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34,724</b>	<b>184,688</b>	<b>9,004</b>

\*Includes: MSPMES, buyers, input and service providers, municipal corporations, counterpart organizations.

### About USAID-ACCESO

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# USAID | ACCESO

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Access to production technology: Producers have adopted good agricultural practices such as raised beds, drip irrigation and plastic mulch for green bean crops in Gracias, Lempira.

## VALUE ADDITION

USAID-ACCESO processing specialists continued working with communities to create new products from locally available resources to generate off-farm employment opportunities. This month, 365 participants attended 56 training events during which they learned good manufacturing and processing practices, and techniques to produce frozen chicken tacos, frozen beans, and dairy and bakery products.

Forestry specialists continued promoting legal tree felling and working with woodcrafters to build furniture, doors, chests, and other in-demand products for sale to local markets.



Access to product and promotion: Small businesses participate in markets and fairs to increase exposure to buyers, at both the national and international level.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

USAID-ACCESO carried out 24,574 technical assistance visits this month. Of these, 17,414 strengthened farmers' knowledge in agricultural production topics including basic practices for coffee and horticulture crops; soil preparation and management; pest, disease, and weed identification and control; transplant and planting; fertilization program management; nutrient balance; adequate and safe use of agrochemicals; soil conservation; and contour plowing.

1,936 technical assistance visits focused on childhood nutrition and improving personal and home hygiene; 1,149 on processing; 1,453 on business skills including production logs and reducing costs. 921 technical assistance visits in animal production focused on poultry farming and livestock management; 503 visits focused on natural resource management; and 680 on postharvest handling and certifications.



Access to technical knowledge: Farmers prepare the soil, raised beds and apply lime for the next planting, Yamaranguila, La Paz.

## ACCESS TO MARKETS

In March, 15 participants attended two training events on market information. The producers and buyers learned about quality standards and regulations, supply, and the negotiation process.

Marketing specialists continued coordinating tours of producers' plots to increase market exposure for small-scale farmers and deliver information about market logistics routes and formal buyer requirements. This month, the project organized 111 technical assistance visits that facilitated sharing market information, logistical details, and transportation coordination.



# USAID | ACCESO

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Access to better nutrition and health: Parents attend nutrition training sessions on best feeding practices for their newborn children.

## NUTRITION AND HEALTH

The nutrition and health team held 205 training events, giving 3,039 parents the opportunity to strengthen basic nutrition and health practices. This month, 1,144 participants received training in family planning and optimal spacing of pregnancies (two years between pregnancies) to contribute to a better quality of life. 257 participants learned about nutritious food preparation and practiced recipes for natural juices, rice with vegetables, fortified tortillas, bean soup, and other vitamin-rich recipes made from low-cost and accessible ingredients. 477 participants learned "healthy household" practices: the concept of establishing healthy and safe norms within the home to prevent diseases and improve hygiene practices.

## ANIMAL PRODUCTION

USAID-ACCESO animal production specialists are training livestock farmers in various aspects of good livestock management, including how to reduce production costs and improve animal feed practices through preparation of concentrate. Livestock farmers are also learning to build waterers and feeders to improve feed monitoring and ensure appropriate rations to the animal in its various stages of growth. Currently the project is also assisting tilapia farmers, as well as poultry farmers, dairy cattle production, and pig rearing.

During this month 921 visits of technical assistance in animal production have been made, mainly focusing on proper handling of poultry and livestock.



Access to different sources of income and diversification: A group of producers shares their experiences in managing, breeding, and feeding livestock with visiting livestock farmers in the community of Agua Zarca, Intibucá.

### Trainings – March 2014

Area	Participants	Events
Renewable Energy	414	72
Business Skills / Finance	909	92
Natural Resources Management and Disaster Mitigation	505	21
Postharvest and Certifications	638	59
Processing and Added Value	365	56
Production	16,184	2,197
Market Information	15	2
Nutrition and Health	3,039	205
ACCESO project	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,069</b>	<b>2,704</b>

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**USAID-ACCESO**