

**Title II**  
**Food Security Program**  
**Honduras/CARE International**  
**Fiscal Year 2004 Results Report**



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**I. Results Report (FY 2,004) Annual Results**

The following table presents a summary of the results for FY 2,004.

**Indicator Performance Tracking Table**

Indicator	Base-line	FY 1 Target	FY 1 Achieved	FY 1 Achieved Vs Target	FY 2 Target	FY 2 Achieved	FY 2 Achieved Vs Target	FY 3 Target	FY 3 Achieved	FY 3 Achieved Vs Target	FY 4 Target	FY 4 Achieved	FY 4 Achieved vs Target	FY 5 Target
Component 1 <b>EXTENSA</b> : Impact Indicator Reduced average % weighted yield gap for basic grains (corn, beans, sorghum).	26.5	N/A			N/A			23%			N/A	- 15.1		20%
<b>EXTENSA</b> : Impact Indicator Increased net agricultural income / hectare.	\$ 40.8 Lps.489	N/A			N/A			\$ 45.0 Lps. 539			N/A	\$ 39 Lps.687		\$50.0
<b>EXTENSA</b> : Monitoring Indicator Increased # of municipalities with micro watershed management plan being implemented.		N/A			15	15	100%	15	15	100%	15	15	100%	15
<b>EXTENSA</b> : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of families that implement 3 or more sustainable agroforestry practices.	62.0%	N/A			64%	(EMT)		66%						70%
<b>EXTENSA</b> : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of households obtaining agriculture inputs and technical assistance from self-sustained rotating banks (BRHIS).			2,376		100% (2,688)	96% (2,589)	96%	100% (2,688)	107% (2,880)	107%	100% (2,688)	(3,105)	116%	100% (2,688)
<b>EXTENSA</b> : Monitoring Indicator Increased average yields of basic grains (qq/hectare of land; corn, beans, sorghum).	23.1 c 6.4 b 13.4 s		25.8 c. 11.1 b. 16.0 s.		23.5 c 6.8 b 13.4 s.	18.4 c 7.0 b. 0 s.	78% 103%	24 c 7 b 13.6 s	24.5 c. 15.4 b. 12.9 s.	102% 220% 95%	24.5 c. 7.5 b. 13.8 s.	25.37 c 13.92 b 14.39 s	104% 186% 104.4%	25 c. 8 b. 14 s.
<b>EXTENSA</b> : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of household that plant two or more new crops.					30% (806)	31% (835)	103%	1,075	1,467	136%	1,209	1,308	108%	1,344
Component 2 <b>PODER</b> : Impact Indicator Increased % of households accumulating liquid and productive assets.	33.4%				N/A			33.4%			N/A	19.1		40%
<b>PODER</b> : Impact Indicator Increased average # of person days paid employment, per capita, for year.	9.8							10				10.9		16
<b>PODER</b> : Monitoring Indicator Reduced % of communities reporting commercialization problems.	80 %	78%	80%	103. %				78%				68 %	115%	60%
<b>PODER</b> : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of communities with increased access to markets.	33.3%				33% 29 Com	(EMT)		35% 31 Com	35 Com	113%	46 Com	107 Com	233 %	58% 51 Com
<b>PODER</b> : Monitoring Indicator Increased # of kilometers of roads constructed (cumulative)		10 Km	12.2 Km	122 %	16 Km	26.5 Km	166%	38.5 Km	42.9 Km.	111%	50.5 Km	64.6	128 %	50.5 Km
<b>PODER</b> : Monitoring Indicator Increased # of kms. of roads upgraded (cumulative)		10 Km	10.0 Km	100%	14 Km	26.9 Km	192%	45 Km	56.7 Km.	126%	65 Km	104.5	161 %	80 Km
<b>PODER</b> : Monitoring Indicator (M = Municipalities; C = Communities) # of municipalities/and communities increasing resource contributions to support Title II Program.		mu 15 Com 44	mu 15 com 53	100 % C120%	mu 15 com 88	Mun 15 Com 88	100%	Mun 15 Com 88	Mun 15 Com 88	100% 100%	mu 15 com 88	Mun 15 Com 103	100 % 117 %	mu 15 com 88
<b>PODER</b> : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of AF2000-2001 communities with sustainable Title II program phase-out plans.											35%	43 %	123 %	35%
<b>PODER</b> : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of municipalities coordinating civil society participation in forums among CODECOs-NGOs-GOs and private sector.		73 %	100%	137%	100% (15)	100% (15)	100%	100% (15)	100% (15)	100%	100% (15)	(15)	100 %	100% (15)
Component 3 <b>HOGASA</b> : Impact Indicator Reduced % of malnutrition (height/age) in children age 2-5 years in target areas.	60.9										53	58.6	90 %	53%
<b>HOGASA</b> : Impact Indicator Reduced % of malnutrition (weight/age) in children 12-23 months old in target areas.	30.1										24	27.2	88 %	24%
<b>HOGASA</b> : Impact Indicator Increased % of households consuming a balanced and diversified diet.	69.6										74	80.3	109 %	74%
<b>HOGASA</b> : Impact Indicator Increased % of mothers with suitable feeding practices of children under 12 months of age.	40.2%							45% 25%	34%	136%	35%	53.6%		50% 50%
<b>HOGASA</b> : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of children with growth monitoring according to MOH guidelines .		90 %	97 %	108 %	90%	98%	109%	90%	97%	107%	90%	97%	108 %	90%

Indicator	Base-line	FY 1 Target	FY 1 Achieved	FY 1 Achieved Vs Target	FY 2 Target	FY 2 Achieved	FY 2 Achieved Vs Target	FY 3 Target	FY 3 Achieved	FY 3 Achieved Vs Target	FY 4 Target	FY 4 Achieved	FY 4 Achieved vs Target	FY 5 Target
HOGASA : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of children with adequate growth trends.		40 %	71 %	176 %	70%	70%	100%	72%	67%	93%	75%	66%	88 %	75%
HOGASA : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of children taken for treatment when mothers identify 2 or more signs of diarrheal dehydration.	61.7	98 %	95 %	97 %	98%	95%	97%	98%	99%	101%	98%	98%	100%	98%
HOGASA : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of children taken for treatment when mothers identify 2 or more signs of acute respiratory infection.	64.8	90 %	90 %	97 %	90%	89%	99%	90%	100%	111%	90%	100%	111%	90%
HOGASA : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of mothers in families receiving rations trained in proper infant feeding practices and nutrition.		85 %	25%	30%	30%	39%	129%	50%	50%	100%	75%	70%	93 %	100%
HOGASA : Impact Indicator Increased % of couples of reproductive age using family planning methods.	10.8										16.8%	14.5%	86 %	16.8
HOGASA : Monitoring Indicator Maintained % of pregnant women with rations receiving pre-natal care-MOH norms.	88.3	100 %	97%	97%	100%	100%	100%	100%	93%	93%	100%	100%	100 %	100%
HOGASA : Monitoring Indicator Increased number of trained health advisors in reproductive health.		84%	99%	118%	650	650	100%	770	770	100%	770	1,032	134 %	770
HOGASA : Monitoring Indicator Increased % of children with immunization according to MOH norms.	86.8%	95%						95.0%	95%	100%	95	95	100 %	95%
HOGASA : Monitoring Indicator # Target households (pregnant women, women breastfeeding child <6 months of age, children 6-24 months) receiving rations		6,950	7,086	102%	6,950	7,063	102%	7,500	7,804	104%	7,500	8,063	108 %	7,500

- Targets which have been changed since the original approved DAP proposal are be noted with an asterisk

## Overall Program Results

FY 2004 was the fourth year of the CARE Honduras Title II Food Security Program (FY 2001-2005). CARE Honduras implemented a previous Title II Food Security Program (FY 1996-2000) in the same geographic area.

### National Context

According to the United Nations Development Programme Report on Human Development poverty in Honduras has risen since 2001 showing that the economic reforms have not been able to reduce poverty in Honduras.

In Honduras it is estimated that nearly 24% of the population live on less that \$1 per day and nearly 45% of the population on less that \$2 per day or in extreme poverty – nearly 69% of the total population under the poverty line.

Honduras occupies the bottom position in the region in regards to the index for gender potential. While women have achieved greater representation as employees in social services, they have very little representation in the political arena.

### Program Impact

During FY 04 both the Final Qualitative and Quantitative Evaluations were carried out. It should be noted that FFP moved up the evaluation to FY 04 which means that it was carried out after three and one half years instead of five, so in the quantitative evaluation achievements will be compared with the FY03 target if available. Appendix A presents the Qualitative Evaluation. The Quantitative Evaluation will be finalized in December, 2004.

The following indicators were used to evaluate the impact of the Title II Program.

MET (90 – 109%)

**--Increased average # of person days paid employment per capita (10.9 achieved vs. target of 10).**

Although this target was met, the low number of days employed reflects the lack of employment opportunities in the program area. This shows the importance of the Food for Work activities which generated an average of 16 days per person in addition to the paid employment.

**--Increased number of households consuming a balanced and diversified diet (80.3% achieved vs. target of 74%).**

This important indicator shows the positive effect of the nutrition component of the HOGASA health project and also reflects the positive impact of more diversified crops advocated by the EXTENSA agricultural project. A diversified diet also contributes to the lowering of malnutrition.

**--Reduced % of malnutrition (height/age) in children age 2-5 years in target areas (58.6% achieved vs. target of 53%).**

This indicator measures chronic malnutrition. The fact that it has been reduced in our target area in children 2-5 years reflects the positive impacts of the HOGASA project coupled with the crop diversification and increased yield achieved in the EXTENSA agricultural component.

EXCEEDED (110 or above)

**--Reduced average % weighted yield gap for basic grains (corn, beans, sorghum) (-15.1% achieved vs. target of 23%)**

This exciting result shows that the yield gap no longer exists and that, in actual fact, the Title II farmers are producing 15.1% above the average yield in the zone. This is especially important when this result is compared to the baseline in 2001 when the farmers were 26.5% below the average. This result is supported by the grain yields discussed below. High agricultural yields can contribute to the reduction of malnutrition.

**--Increased net agricultural income/hectare (Lempiras 697 achieved vs. target of Lempiras 539).**

This target was exceeded due to the increased agricultural yields, crop diversification and the new marketing strategy.

**--Increased % of mothers with suitable feeding practices of children under 12 months of age (53.6% achieved vs. target of 45%)**

This target was exceeded in part due to the increased work and effort of the health volunteers and perhaps also due to the fact that mothers with healthy children using suitable feeding practices may be imitated.

FELL SHORT (BELOW 90%)

**--Reduced % of malnutrition (weight/age) in children 12-23 months old in target areas (27.2% achieved vs. target of 24%).**

It should be pointed out that while global malnutrition was reduced by 2.9% (30.1% in the baseline compared to the 27.2% achieved) in the program area, malnutrition showed a much greater reduction in program beneficiaries and was reduced by 11.1% (30.1% in the baseline compared to 20% achieved)

**--Increased % of households accumulating liquid and productive assets (19.1 achieved vs. target of 33.4%)**

This goal was not met in the sample of the general population from the program area. This reflects the precarious situation at the national level and shows that assets have decreased from the baseline study (33.3). When asked about the decrease in liquid and productive assets, the director of the National Institute for Statistics said that this reflects the national trend which shows that poor farmers have had to sell their assets to pay for food and other supplies. .

However, during the Final Qualitative Evaluation of the Title II participating farmers, they reported an increase of liquid and productive assets due to increased income. A quantitative study of this increase is planned for FY 05..

**–Increased % of couples of reproductive age using family planning methods (14.5% achieved vs. target of 16.8)**

86% of the target was reached. It should be pointed out that CARE does not distribute contraceptives. The volunteers can only refer patients to the nearest distribution point.

### QUALITATIVE IMPACT

The overall conclusion of the Final Qualitative Evaluation was that the Title II Program has had an extremely positive impact in the departments and municipalities in western Honduras where the program operates and that the program should continue and expand to other areas (see Appendix A).

The following conclusions are taken from the Final Qualitative Evaluation carried out by independent consultants during FY 2004.

“By an overwhelming majority, farmers report and describe changes in their agricultural practices, farm assets, crop yields and (current or expected) cash income that have resulted from their participation in EXTENSA”.

“The changes in the Community Development Committees (CODECOs) and Partonatos are important for community and municipal development because both structures are oriented to play a role in community management based on operational technical criteria, as distinct from the more political issue orientation characteristic of the past. In the case of municipal governments, these are characterized by rudimentary administration that required much strengthening. Thus when afforded this support, they have improved their management capabilities (vision, strategies, the use of legal mechanisms to promote citizen participation, office equipment) and are now in a position to carry out genuine municipal development.”

“The great majority of parents, community health volunteers (CHVs) and government health workers interviewed, state that there have been positive changes in the health and nutrition situation of mothers and infants.”

### Program Results

This year the Title II Program focused on several important areas.

- Increasing commercialization of agricultural products
- Increasing coverage of health activities by installing more Community Health Centers (UCSs) and covering more families with family rations.
- Strengthening municipal capacities by collaborating with municipalities on the formulation of Municipal Development Plans

- Carrying out participative community assessments to determine participants opinions and what they would like to see in the expansion of the Title II Program.
- Carrying out the Final Quantitative and Qualitative Evaluations to determine impact of the program and obtain recommendations for the expansion of the Title II Program.

EXTENSA promoted the installation of microirrigation systems and to date a total of 1023 systems have been installed. This activity has proved extremely successful and has spurred farmer demand for help in marketing and selling their produce. Partnerships for marketing agricultural products have been established with the Honduran Foundation for Agricultural Investigation (FHIA) and the Agribusiness Development Center (FINTRAC), two institutions with USAID funding. Farmers have learned how to carry out scaled agriculture and are now selling their diversified production directly to FHIA. Successful cash crops include onions, cabbage, carrots, green beans, potatoes, sweet peppers, tomatoes and watermelon. Net earnings from .02 hectares range from \$10 (watermelon) to \$247 (potatoes)/cycle.

A total of 49 new Community Health Centers (UCSs) have been installed, 18 in corporation with the Ministry of Health (MOH). The number of health volunteers has increased from 770 to 1,023. The number of children younger than 2 years old covered by food rations increased from 7500 to 8064. It is important to note that the MOH has contributed a total of \$645,000 during the life of the project and in FY05 will contribute an additional \$322,600. These activities greatly contribute to the sustainability of the program.

During FY 04 PODER was officially "certified" by the Ministry of Governance and Justice to train municipalities in the formulation of the new Municipal Development Plans (PEDMs). During FY 2004 PODER trained 16 municipalities using the new government norms. The Development Plans are consistent with the Poverty Reduction Strategy and are necessary to be eligible for government funding.

PODER also worked with two large mancomunidades ( a mancomunidad with coffee producing municipalities (CAFEG) and a mancomunidad composed of municipalities located in the mountains of La Paz (MANLESIP) in the strengthening and implementation of their strategic plans. PODER also carried out training to strengthen their technical units which are charged with following up of the strategic plans.

PODER also supervised the implementation of the Sustainability Strategy in 12 communities in the municipalities of Guajiquiro, La Paz and Yamaranguila, Intibuca.

This year three new Title II Programs were approved for Honduras and CARE. The four programs have signed an agreement where CARE will monetize the commodities during FY 04. In addition, CARE will train Save the Children in the management of commodities.

### Community Consultation

During FY 2004 a participative community consultation was carried out by Title II staff to determine participants opinions of the program and what activities they would like to see carried out in the expansion of the Title II Program (see Appendix B).

Results show that the participants are extremely satisfied with the Title II Program and the positive impact it has had on their lives. Participants recommend expanding or including the following activities in the expansion phase: better access and more roads, improved dwellings, water projects, improved formal and non-formal education, health centers with more equipment and medicines, agricultural and vocational training centers, generation of employment, more microirrigation and agroforestry activities, small business training and establishment and small animal breeding.

### Final Qualitative Evaluation

Appendix A presents the Final Qualitative Evaluation. Three conclusions from the evaluation are:

“EXTENSA’s strategy to address both short-term household needs, such as basic grains, and long-term investments in farm assets, such as agroforestry systems with high value perennials, has been a success. The revolving credit mechanism designed to underwrite this dual-track approach to agricultural intensification, has met with widespread farmer acceptance. Farm assets have increased significantly and risk has been reduced by means of diversification, soil conservation and microirrigation.”

“The processes advanced by PODER have brought about important changes in community organizations, municipal authorities and households. CODECOs and Patronatos coordinate better with other groups. In general, organizations have improved their planning and project implementation capacities and communicate more effectively with municipal governments. The latter now dialogue with community organizations and take into account the community priorities in Community Action Plans.”

There have been many positive changes with respect to health care. “Greater knowledge among mothers about the care of their children, greater access to health services and improved dwellings, leads to better overall family health and nutrition. In the minds of those interviewed, these changes can be directly attributed to CARE and USAID. The community health service based on health volunteers is sustainable, even with CARE presence.”

### **Success Story**

For the past three years, German Quintero has not gone to the municipal plaza to buy food, but to the contrary, he has become an example to be followed by other producers who are astonished to see his lands cultivated all year long and him selling every Sunday on market day.

In the village of Cerro Colorado, in the community of San Francisco in the municipality of Candelaria, Lempira, it is common to hear, “look at don German and his family, you’d think they’re from the North coast because they produce all year, even in the dry season.” For this reason this story recounts the life of German Quintero, a 41-year-old

producer, who lives entrenched in the community that saw him born and in which he has grown up, has married and established his family.

We spoke with him in his home, as he prepared to go to his labors. He and his wife Paula, have 6 daughters ranging from 11 to 4 years old. They all go to school except the youngest. German compares life before and after CARE Project interventions. Before he produced eight quintales (100-pound sacks) of corn per hectare, and 4 quintales of beans per hectare. Now he produces 28 quintales of corn per hectare and 17 quintales per hectare of beans.

German has been a "Promoter Producer" since April 2001. He receives trainings from the project technicians which he then transfers to three producer "students" who he visits at least twice a month. Don German shares his knowledge with other farmers of the zone, and he also provides seeds to grow white cucumber, peanuts, string beans, sugarcane, material for living barriers such as Cameroon grass, as part of a solidarity culture which exists in rural areas.

German had access to the Rotating Bank of Tools and Supplies (BHRIS). "Thanks to the BRHIS I could get my irrigation system so I was able to work in the dry season, produce and sell part of the crop. Today I have 11 plots with irrigation, and there I harvest tomatoes, peppers, watermelons, corn, green beans and fruit trees, rotating them throughout the year. With these crops I've almost paid for this system, since I only owe \$59 of the \$450 it cost," German narrates.

He considers his achievements to be of great impact, since to him the yearly profits of \$86 in the cultivation of watermelon, \$76 in the cultivation of peppers, and \$59 in corn are very significant, and so he tells other farmers so that they may follow his example and live better. Before his participation in the Title II Program, he had no income and now his average income is \$6/day well above the average in the area.

The quality of life of the family has improved greatly. German's wife Paula, says that they now have money to buy clothes, medicines, and school supplies for their daughters. In addition they have improved their dwelling, which is built of adobe, with tile roof, and a clay floor, and has two bedrooms, a kitchen, a living room and corridor.

He faces the future with enthusiasm and his vision, as a family, is to be strengthened and become an economically sustainable unit.

## **Annual Results by Project**

### **EXTENSA**

The main goal of the EXTENSA project is to increase food availability by promotion of increased agricultural diversity and productivity.

### **Principal Accomplishments**

One of the most exciting results of EXTENSA is that the project has facilitated the installation of microirrigation systems for 684 farmers covering an area of 140 hectares. This has resulted in commercialization of crops and increase in the income the farmers are reporting. This is the result of partnering with FHIA and FINTRAC. Before, most

farmers reported no net income, but now this has changed. Income data are being analyzed and the report will be finished in mid November. The chart below presents data from EXTENSA farmers. The first row presents the actual income on .04 ha and the second row projects the income/ha.

Crop	Onion	Cab- bage	Carrot	Green beans	Potato	Sweet peppers	Water- melon	Corn	Tomato
(Lps) Income /.04 ha. (US \$)	400	858	600	400	4600	1500	600	2000	1400
(Lps) income /ha (US \$)	10,000	21,450	15,000	10,000	115,000	37,500	15,000	50,000	35,000
	571	1,226	857	571	6,571	2,143	857	2,857	2,000

Another important accomplishment is the increase in environmental protection activities and the protection of 113 water sources.

Activities which contributed to the success of EXTENSA include:

- 316 commercial fruit plots with drip irrigation were installed for a total area of 17 hectares. Fruits include apples, pears, peaches, mangoes cashew and avocado, depending on local agroecological conditions
- 2,787 hectares of agroforestry and soil conservation including: 195 km of living barriers, 54 km of dean barriers, 33 km of trees barriers, 21 km of wind breaking barriers, 47 km of trees planted in contour, 824 ha. of minimum tillage and 99 km of living fences.
- A total of 367 aspersion microirrigation systems with a total of 81 ha., 340 drip microirrigation systems with an area of 14.25 ha. and 316 drip irrigation systems for fruit trees during the life of the project, In adition a community microirrigation system covering an area of 17 ha and benefiting 69 farmers was installed this year
- 291 environmental campaigns, 145 community nurseries with 156,500 plants and 1,343 individual nurseries with 82,000 plants.
- 173 silos constructed each with a storage capacity of 1,800 pounds.
- 464 farmers trained in diversified crops including broccoli, tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, squash, green beans, etc.

### **Intersectoral Partnering**

Alliances and partnerships with private industry, NGOs and government institutions have strengthened the impact of the EXTENSA project.

EXTENSA coordinates with the following partners at the local level:

- Chiquita Brands (The Tela Railroad Company)
- The Agribusiness Development Center (FINTRAC), a USAID financed project.
- The Honduran Foundation for Agricultural Investigation (FHIA)
- The Zamorano Agricultural School

At the central level EXTENSA coordinates with:

- The Department of Science and Technology (DICTA) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock

### **Indicator performance (see table)**

#### **MET (90 – 109%)**

#### **--Increased # of municipalities with micro watershed management plan being implemented (15 municipalities achieved vs. target of 15 municipalities)**

This important goal was met in all 15 municipalities with the help of community members. Watershed protection is also a priority activity in the majority of the Long Range Strategic Plans being implemented by each municipality.

#### **--Increased average yields of basic grains (qq/hectare of land: corn) (25.4 qq/hectare achieved vs. target of 24.5 qq/ha)**

This year the target was met due in part to adequate rainfall, the use of certified seeds, timely fertilization, and the use of microirrigation.

#### **--Increased average yields of basic grains (qq/hectare of land: sorghum) (14.4 qq/hectare achieved vs. target of 13.8 qq/ha)**

Sorghum yield met the target.

#### **--Increased % of households that plant two or more new crops (1,308 households achieved vs. target of 1,209)**

This reflects the emphasis given to crop diversification this year. Microirrigation, which guarantees year-round production, has facilitated the diversification.

#### **EXCEEDED (110 or above)**

#### **--Increased % of families that implement 3 or more sustainable agroforestry practices (93% achieved vs. target of 68%)**

These practices have been adopted by the majority of the farmers as they contribute both sustainability and an increase in farm income. Non-participant farmers are imitating successful EXTENSA participants.

#### **--Increased % of households obtaining agriculture inputs and technical assistance from self-sustained rotating banks (BRHIS) (116% achieved (3,105 farmers) vs. target of 100 % (2,688 farmers))**

This indicator shows that more farmers than planned have access to and are using the services of the BRHIS. This success is due in part to the good results obtained by the farmers using the BRHIS and also to the increased efficiency of the BRHIS.

#### **--Increased average yields of basic grains (qq/hectare of land: beans) (13.9 qq/hectare achieved vs. target of 7.5 qq/ha)**

This year the bean yield was 186% above the target. This excellent yield is due in part to adequate rainfall, the use of certified seeds, timely fertilization, and the use of microirrigation.

### **PODER**

The main goal of the Rural Employment and Development (PODER) project is to increase access to and availability of food in the region. The two main components of the project are:

- Municipal and Institutional strengthening
- Community infrastructure projects

## **Principal Accomplishments**

One of the strategies of the government is decentralization including municipal strengthening and local governance. PODER has worked very closely with its counterpart, the Ministry of Governance and Justice in municipal strengthening. This year CARE was certified by the Ministry to train municipalities in the preparation of the new Municipal Development Plans. PODER trained 16 municipalities in the preparation of these development plans.

Last year the Title II Program equipped 15 with computers and other office equipment. Training in cadastre and tax collection has continued and all of the municipalities have increased their contributions to the Title II as a result of the increased tax revenue

Environmental mitigation activities with road construction and improvements were given a very high priority at the community level during FY 2004. Communities are aware that these activities (including drainage ditches, barreled road surface, retaining walls, and vetiver grass for soil stability) are important for the long-term sustainability of the road.

This year PODER carried out a new activity. As part of an alliance with other NGOs and financed by FHIS, CARE constructed 100 houses each with a rainwater collection system, pila, latrine and improved stove and 4 schools.

Activities that contributed to the success of the PODER project include:

- 65 km of new roads have been constructed and 105 km of roads have been improved during the life of the project
- 2,943 meters of concrete walls, 52,836 meters of living barriers (Vetiver) planted, 201 drainage structures, 66 water sources protected (500 trees were planted in each one), 15,256 meters of road have been covered with graded and compacted with mechanical compactors.
- Technical support to the mancomunidades of CAFEG and MANLESIP
- Implementation of the Sustainability Strategy in 12 communities in Guajiquiro, La Paz and Yamaranguila, Intibuca.

## **Intersectorial Partnering**

An important aspect of the PODER project is working in coordination with local partners. This coordination helps assure that communities receive a complete package of interventions and at the same time avoids duplication of activities.

At the local level PODER coordinates activities with the following institutions:

- German Cooperation for Food Security (COHASA)
- Rural Development Project in La Paz and Lempira (PROSOC)
- Rural Municipal Strengthening Project (PROMUR) in La Paz
- PAHO in San Marcos de Sierra, Intibuca
- Association of Non-governmental organizations (ASONOG) en Lempira
- Integral Municipal Development Project (PRIDEMUN) in San Juan, Intibuca
- Coffee Fund (Fondo Cafetero) (road improvement with heavy machinery)

At the central level PODER is coordinating with:

- Ministry of Health
- Honduran Social Fund (FHIS) (construction of houses and schools)
- FAO (civil society participation project)
- Association of Municipalities de Honduras (AMHON)

### **Indicator performance (see table)**

MET (90 – 109%)

**--Increased % of municipalities coordinating civil society participation in forums among CODECOs-NGOs-GOs and private sector. (100% achieved vs. target of 100%)**

The municipalities are carrying out public forums to discuss the new Municipal Development Plans.

**--Number of municipalities and communities increasing resource contributions to support Title II (municipalities: 15 achieved vs. target of 15).**

This is especially significant and reflects the commitment of the municipalities to the CARE program. The contributed resources were used to fund repairs and improvements in food storage warehouses, purchase of materials used for record keeping and transport of the food to communities.

EXCEEDED (110 or above)

**--Increased % of communities with increased access to markets (107 communities achieved vs. target of 46 communities)**

The increased access to markets exceeded the target by 233% and can be attributed to the increase in road construction and maintenance. Municipal and community leaders comment that the increased access to market has served as an incentive for farmers to diversify and produce more.

**--Reduced % of communities reporting commercialization problems (68% achieved vs. target of 78%)**

The target was exceeded due, in part, to an increase in Food for Work road construction and improvement which increased the number of communities with increased access to markets.

**--Increased number of kilometers of roads constructed (64.6 achieved vs. target of 50.5)**

Several factors contributed to exceeding this goal:

- Communities requested more projects on road construction and improvement
  - High level of participation in food for work activities during the last two trimesters of the FY
  - Increased support from the municipalities especially with respect to gaining consent of the land owners for road right of way and purchase of cement and other materials needed for road construction
  - Low coffee prices.

**--Increased number of kilometers of roads upgraded (104.5 achieved vs. target of 65)**

The same factors apply here as for the previous indicator.

**--Number of municipalities and communities increasing resource contributions to support Title II (communities: 103 achieved vs. target of 88).**

This is especially significant and reflects the commitment of the municipalities to the CARE program. The contributed resources were used to fund repairs and

improvements in food storage warehouses, purchase of materials used for record keeping and transport of the food to communities.

**--Increased % of AF 2000-2001 communities with sustainable Title II program phase-out plans (43% achieved vs. target of 35%)**

Emphasis was placed on this activity during this FY.

## **HOGASA**

The main objective of the Community Based Health Services (HOGASA) project is to increase biological utilization of food among at-risk women and children. Food distribution is accompanied by the establishment of community health centers and the training of community health volunteers who offer health services to the community.

During FY 2004 the coordination with the Ministry of Health, principally through the regional Health Areas, was strengthened and all activities were carried out jointly. The incorporation of the AIN strategy, the official government strategy with respect to integrated child health, continues to contribute to the success of the project as reflected by the indicators.

### **Principal Accomplishments**

Advocacy at the national level was increased this year when HOGASA was asked to form part of the commission responsible for formulating the National Nutrition Policy.

An exciting result is the huge increase in the % of mothers with suitable feeding practices of children under 12 months of age. 65% of the mothers report adequate feeding practices compared to the target of 30%. This shows that the target was exceeded by 217%. Adequate feeding practices are an very important during the weaning period.

The community service provision by volunteers for regular child growth monitoring and for treatment of common childhood illnesses has very strong vertical linkages to local health units. 97% of mothers reported that their children are regularly participating in growth monitoring.

Activities that contributed to the success of the HOGASA project include:

- Training of 600 community health volunteers in the recognition of danger signs during pregnancy and
- Number of beneficiary families increased from 7,500 to 8063
- Training of 85 government health area personnel in community empowerment
- Strengthening of the Health Areas capacity to monitor health data (installation of computers and training packages)
- Implementation of the Epidemiological Vigilance system for maternal mortality
- 49 community health centers installed, 18 in coordination with the MOH.
- Placement of oral dehydration packages in each health volunteer's house.
- Volunteers now can administer initial dose of antibiotics

### **Intersectorial Partnering**

At the local level HOGASA coordinates with:

- Family Assignment Program (PRAF)

- Association for the Environmental Development of Honduras (ADESAH)
- Honduran Association for Family Planning (ASHONPLAFA)
- World Vision
- Peace Corps

At the central level HOGASA coordinates with:

- Ministry of Health
- Biology Dept. National University of Honduras
- ACQUIRE/Engender Health
- World Soy Initiative (WISHH)

### **Indicator performance (see table)**

MET (90 – 109%)

#### **--Increased % of children with growth monitoring according to MOH guidelines (97% achieved vs. target of 90%)**

This indicator was met due to emphasis in several actions:

- An increased number of trained volunteers in the community
- Services are more decentralized and attention is given at the village level and not just in the communities
- Trained volunteers are present in their village

#### **--Increased % of children taken for treatment when mothers identify 2 or more signs of diarrheal dehydration (69.3% achieved vs. target of 65% (evaluation indicator))**

The excellent response of the mothers is due to awareness and the active participation in health education by both the HOGASA technical personnel and the community volunteers. This shows that the general population is being benefited by the HOGASA program and not just the direct beneficiaries.

#### **--Increased % of mothers in families receiving rations trained in proper infant feeding practices and nutrition (70% achieved vs. target of 75%).**

This target was reached in part due to the increased training of more volunteers and the incorporation of new families that have been trained in proper infant feeding practices and nutrition. In addition, the Ministry of Health has installed 12 new Community Health Centers as part of the Ministry's replication of the HOGASA model. The new centers have been equipped using Honduran government funds given to HOGASA as counterpart funds.

#### **--Maintained % of pregnant women with rations receiving pre-natal care- MOH norms (100% achieved vs. target of 100%)**

It is important to note that pregnant women are being identified earlier and thus receive prenatal care for a longer time during the pregnancy. Also, monthly follow-up meetings with pregnant women are carried out in the communities. In addition, institutional and community volunteers have been trained to identify risk factors in pregnancy.

#### **--Increased % of children with immunization according to MOH norms (95% vs. target of 95%)**

The close working relationship with the Ministry of Health has permitted the reaching of this important target.

#### **--# target households (pregnant women, women breastfeeding child <6 months of age, children 6-24 months) receiving rations (8,064 achieved vs. target of 7,500)**

Coverage increased during FY 2004 due to an increase in the number of communities participating in the Title II Program.

**EXCEEDED (110 or above)****--Increased % of children taken for treatment when mothers identify 2 or more signs of acute respiratory infection (100 achieved vs. target of 90%)**

The excellent response of the mothers is due to the active participation in health education by both the HOGASA technical personnel and the volunteers. In addition, the volunteers continue increasing their technical capacity to identify, treat and manage cases of acute respiratory infections. Another important factor is the opportune supply of medicines by the Ministry of Health.

**--Increased number of trained health advisors in reproductive health (1032 vs. target of 770)**

The target was exceeded in that 1032 volunteers were trained in reproductive health. Traditional midwives were included in the training which permitted and increased coverage.

**FELL SHORT (BELOW 90%)****--Increased % of children with adequate growth trends (66% vs. target of 75%)**

88% of the target was met this year.

**B. Monitoring & Evaluation, Audits, and Studies****Audit**

At present a three year (FY 2001, 2002 and 2003) audit is being carried out, and will be completed early FY 2005. Therefore, no key findings or recommendations can be reported at this time. There are no outstanding recommendations from previous years.

**Final Qualitative Evaluation**

The Final Qualitative Evaluation was carried out during FY 04. According to the evaluation team, the Title II Program has had an extremely positive impact in the departments and municipalities in western Honduras where the program operates and that the program should continue and expand to other areas (see Appendix A).

**Community Consultation Study**

This study, led by a consultant, was carried out by the Title II staff to determine what participants felt about the Title II Program and what interventions they would like to see in the expansion of the Title II Program. The study is based on group and individual interviews (see Appendix B).