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Rural Value Chains
Huehuetenango and San Marcos



RURAL VALUE CHAINS PROJECT

USAID – ANACAFE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT 520-A-12-00004

Annual Report

October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015

Guatemala, October 30, 2015

1. Introduction

The Rural Value Chains Project (RVCP) is implemented under Cooperative Agreement 520-A-12-00004 subscribed on May 31, 2012 between the National Coffee Association (ANACAFE) and the United States Government Agency for International Development (USAID).

Project implementation is the responsibility of a Consortium that includes ANACAFE as the lead institution before USAID. In addition to ANACAFE, the Consortium includes the Guatemalan Confederation of Cooperatives (*Confederacion Guatemalteca de Federaciones de Cooperativas – CONFECOOP*) represented by the Guatemalan Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives of Coffee Producers (*Cooperativas Agricolas de Productores de Cafe de Guatemala – FEDECOCAGUA*) together with the Guatemalan Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives (*Federacion de Cooperativas Agricolas de Guatemala – FEDECOAG*) and the Integrated Federation of Handicraft Producer Cooperatives (*Federacion Integral de Cooperativas de Produccion Artesanal -ARTEXCO*); the Coffee Grower Foundation for Rural Development (*Fundacion de la Caficultura para el Desarrollo Rural – FUNCAFE*) and the FUNDASISTEMAS Foundation.

Project objectives include:

- Reduce poverty and malnutrition rates throughout 22 municipalities in the provinces (*departamentos* in Spanish) of Huehuetenango and San Marcos¹ by improving income among small-scale producer members of the rural value chains for coffee, horticulture and handicrafts.
- Produce deep-rooted behavioral changes among producers and their families to ensure that improved income remains sustainable and ensures improved nutrition over the short, medium and long terms.

Consortium organizations joined forces to achieve RVCP objectives by implementing activities under each of the components listed below.

- **Component 1:** Improved competitiveness along the rural value chains
- **Component 2:** Greater participation in rural value chains
- **Component 3:** Improved agricultural productivity
- **Component 4:** Increased trade and access to markets **Note:** Implementation of this component was excluded from the USAID-ANACAFE cooperative agreement and included under those for another project with objectives similar to those of RVCP being implemented by a second consortium throughout municipalities in Quetzaltenango, Totonicapan and Quiche
- **Component 5:** Increased productivity of food and improved usage
- **Component 6:** Improvements to the handicrafts value chain

¹ Huehuetenango (11): Jacaltenango, Chiantla, San Sebastian Huehuetenango, Todos Santos, Santa Cruz Barillas, Cuilco, Union Cantinil, Concepcion Huista, San Antonio Huista, La Libertad and La Democracia. San Marcos (11): El Rodeo, San Rafael Pie de la Cuesta, San Lorenzo, San Pablo, Tajumulco, Nuevo Progreso, Sibinal, San Miguel Ixtahuacan, Tejutla, San Marcos and San Pedro Sacatepequez.

In addition to each of the above components, RVCP plans activities to address crosscutting issues, as listed below.

1. Gender,
2. Environmental mitigation,
3. Entrepreneurial development,
4. Financial services,
5. Communications (information), and
6. Engaging with local and central governments (political dialogue).

The Project Implementation Unit (UIP in Spanish) is responsible for implementing RVCP in compliance with the terms and conditions stipulated in the Cooperative Agreement between ANACAFE and USAID. The UIP was also responsible for designing and promoting a participatory process to draft the RVCP Year Three Work Plan for the period from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.

The USAID-ANACAFE Cooperative Agreement stipulates that the Project submit quarterly progress reports to USAID (for the periods from October through December, January through March and April through June) plus one annual report to cover the entire period from October through September of the following year. The reports should describe activities for the period and progress toward RVCP targets and expected results as stated in the Annual Work Plan.

To that end, the UPI drafted the current progress report to describe Year Three of RVCP implementation from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015. The technical teams from ANACAFE, FEDECOAGUA, FEDECOAG, ARTEXCO, FUNCAFE and FUNDASISTEMAS provided the UIP with input for this report.

2. RVCP Implementation Context

The Project reports the following highlights to describe implementation context in Year Three.

- ANACAFE added 20 more coffee producer groups from San Marcos to work with a total of 43 organizations. Five of these are co-ops, 11 are associations, one is an associative rural enterprise (ECA in Spanish) and 26 are work groups (GATs in Spanish). Membership amounts to 2,124, of which 1,590 (75%) are men and 534 (25%) are women. Members cultivate a total of 2,079.38 hectares of coffee representing an average of 0.98 hectare per member. Of the total number of hectares planted (2,079.38), 1,568 hectares (75%) were in active production for this coffee harvest season, while 511.38 hectares (25%) were under renewal. The 1,568 hectares in production yielded 1,594,200 pounds of parchment coffee averaging 1,016 pounds per hectare.

Members from 18 of the grower groups are from the *Mam* ethnic group and members from one additional organization are primarily *Sipakapense*. Table 1 summarized information on each producer group.

Table 1
RVCP/ANACAFE Producer Groups in San Marcos for FY2015

| | Organization | Location | Municipality | Province | Membership | | | Hectares | | Yield (in lbs. of parchment coffee) |
|----|--|---------------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|-----|-------|----------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | | Total | Men | Women | Coffee | Production | |
| 1 | Asociacion Campesina Unidos Por La Paz y El Desarrollo Integral Comunitario - ACUPDIC- | Comunidad La Suiza | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 90 | 74 | 16 | 136.8 | 122.6 | 72,700 |
| 2 | Cooperativa Integral Agricola Flor del Cafe R.L. | Comunidad Nueva Escocia | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 57 | 44 | 13 | 87.78 | 79.35 | 81,000 |
| 3 | Cooperativa Integral Agricola Nuevo Eden R.L. | Comunidad Nuevo Eden | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 23 | 10 | 13 | 70.84 | 56.2 | 22,300 |
| 4 | Cooperativa Integral Agricola Nuevo Porvenir R.L. | Comunidad Nuevo Porvenir | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 39 | 35 | 4 | 148.59 | 132.31 | 99,000 |
| 5 | Empresa Campesina Asociativa Emmanuel | Comunidad Agraria Emanuel | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 57 | 43 | 14 | 107.8 | 91.05 | 71,500 |
| 6 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Nuevo Florecer | Caserio San Pedrito | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 15 | 10 | 5 | 11.57 | 11.57 | 5,700 |
| 7 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo El Esfuerzo | Caserio El Coco | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 18 | 15 | 3 | 9.13 | 9.13 | 7,500 |
| 8 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo El Paraiso | Caserio Los Cardona | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 25 | 7 | 18 | 7.08 | 7.08 | 5,500 |
| 9 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo La Esperanza | Caserio La Conquista | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 37 | 13 | 24 | 18.69 | 18.69 | 8,500 |
| 10 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Nuevo Amanecer I | Caserio Parian | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 19 | 10 | 9 | 11.48 | 11.48 | 5,745 |
| 11 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Nuevo Amanecer II | Caserio Los Cardona | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 22 | 15 | 7 | 7.37 | 7.37 | 6,000 |
| 12 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Nuevo San Luis | Comunidad Nuevo San Luis | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 10 | 10 | 0 | 35.7 | 31.9 | 25,000 |
| 13 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Barranca Las Flores | Aldea La Barranca Grande | San Cristobal Cucho | San Marcos | 18 | 17 | 1 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 4,750 |
| 14 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo El Cafetalito | Aldea las Majadas | San Cristobal Cucho | San Marcos | 13 | 13 | 0 | 18.81 | 14.58 | 16,500 |
| 15 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo El Renacimiento | Caserio Guativil | San Cristobal Cucho | San Marcos | 15 | 15 | 0 | 14.87 | 14.87 | 7,435 |
| 16 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Emprendedores | Caserio Corral Grande | San Pedro Sacatepequez | San Marcos | 18 | 13 | 5 | 8.08 | 8.08 | 7,000 |
| 17 | Asociacion de Pequeños Productores Agricolas Entre Cerros - APPAECE- | Aldea Provincia Chiquita | San Pedro Sacatepequez | San Marcos | 16 | 16 | 0 | 68.75 | 68.75 | 67,000 |
| 18 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo La Industria | Aldea La Industria | San Jose El Rodeo | San Marcos | 30 | 22 | 8 | 18.73 | 18.73 | 20,000 |
| 19 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Santa Ana | Caserio Santa Ana | San Jose El Rodeo | San Marcos | 15 | 9 | 6 | 4.93 | 3.93 | 4,500 |
| 20 | Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Santa Rita Ruiz | Aldea Santa Rita | San Jose El Rodeo | San Marcos | 20 | 16 | 4 | 31.49 | 25.2 | 22,000 |
| 21 | Asociacion Campesina De Desarrollo Integral "Txol Kab'E Chman Wutz" (ACDI) | Caserio Loma Bonita | San Pablo | San Marcos | 25 | 22 | 3 | 46.26 | 30.06 | 40,000 |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-----|-------|-----|----------|----------|-----------|
| 22 | <i>Asociacion de Desarrollo Integral Buenos Aires</i> | Caserio Buenos Aires | San Pablo | San Marcos | 57 | 47 | 10 | 50.08 | 32.55 | 32,500 |
| 23 | <i>Cooperativa Integral Agricola La Igualdad</i> | Caserio La Igualdad | San Pablo | San Marcos | 61 | 53 | 8 | 79.43 | 51.63 | 50,000 |
| 24 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Colima</i> | Caserio Colima | San Pablo | San Marcos | 30 | 20 | 10 | 32.41 | 25.94 | 22,000 |
| 25 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Nueva Victoria</i> | Aldea Nueva Victoria | San Pablo | San Marcos | 15 | 15 | 0 | 7.86 | 7.86 | 7,000 |
| 26 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Pacala</i> | Aldea El Porvenir | San Pablo | San Marcos | 25 | 18 | 7 | 19.61 | 15.68 | 21,000 |
| 27 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Plan de Pati</i> | Aldea El Porvenir | San Pablo | San Marcos | 25 | 22 | 3 | 19.61 | 15.68 | 21,000 |
| 28 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo San Jose</i> | Aldea El Porvenir | San Pablo | San Marcos | 40 | 28 | 12 | 31.45 | 25.16 | 31,000 |
| 29 | <i>Asociacion Civil de Pequeños Productores Agricolas Flor del Cafe</i> | Aldea Santa Rita | Sibinal | San Marcos | 120 | 97 | 23 | 111.72 | 76.21 | 160,000 |
| 30 | <i>Asociacion Civil de Pequeños Productores Agricolas Comunidades Unidas - ACIPACU</i> | Caserio el Naranjo | Tajumulco | San Marcos | 61 | 46 | 15 | 100.78 | 69.79 | 75,000 |
| 31 | <i>Asociacion de Pequeños Caficultores Organicos Mayas Mames, APECAFORM I</i> | Aldea Pueblo Nuevo | Tajumulco | San Marcos | 186 | 139 | 47 | 191.9 | 124.74 | 77,500 |
| 32 | <i>Asociacion de Pequeños Caficultores Organicos Mayas Mames, APECAFORM II</i> | Aldea Pueblo Nuevo | Tajumulco | San Marcos | 180 | 140 | 40 | 117.25 | 76.21 | 72,500 |
| 33 | <i>Asociacion de Pequeños Productores de Cafe de Liberacion - APECAFEL</i> | Caserio Liberacion | Tajumulco | San Marcos | 46 | 33 | 13 | 50.57 | 34.83 | 41,000 |
| 34 | <i>Asociacion de Productores de Cafe Media Cuesta</i> | Aldea Media Cuesta | Tajumulco | San Marcos | 26 | 21 | 5 | 34.94 | 22.71 | 40,000 |
| 35 | <i>Asociacion Nuevos Horizontes</i> | Aldea Toquian Grande | Tajumulco | San Marcos | 39 | 33 | 6 | 35.64 | 23.16 | 35,000 |
| 36 | <i>Cooperativa Integral Agricola Entre Rios</i> | Caserio La Libertad | Tajumulco | San Marcos | 50 | 39 | 11 | 73.48 | 52.91 | 80,000 |
| 37 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Mujeres Con Esencia De Cafe</i> | Aldea Chanchicupe | Tajumulco | San Marcos | 19 | 0 | 19 | 27.17 | 23.89 | 28,000 |
| 38 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Plan Villanueva</i> | Aldea Plan Villa Nueva | Tajumulco | San Marcos | 25 | 20 | 5 | 13.28 | 10.48 | 15,000 |
| 39 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo La Lima</i> | Caserio La Lima | San Miguel Ixtahuacan | San Marcos | 143 | 107 | 36 | 67.43 | 35.13 | 72,100 |
| 40 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo La Pena</i> | Caserio La Pena | San Miguel Ixtahuacan | San Marcos | 158 | 120 | 38 | 60.96 | 32.91 | 51,800 |
| 41 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Legual</i> | Colonia Legual | San Miguel Ixtahuacan | San Marcos | 116 | 78 | 38 | 49.48 | 25.57 | 33,000 |
| 42 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Siete Platos</i> | Caserio Siete Platos | San Miguel Ixtahuacan | San Marcos | 53 | 42 | 11 | 22.43 | 10.48 | 26,200 |
| 43 | <i>Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Sipacapa</i> | Cabecera Sipacapa | Sipacapa | San Marcos | 67 | 43 | 24 | 7.65 | 2.09 | 2,900 |
| Totals | | | | | | 1,590 | 534 | 2,079.38 | 1,568.04 | 1,594,200 |

- ANACAFE added nine more grower groups to the 30 organizations working with the Project in Huehuetenango. Of the 39 groups, three are co-ops, 14 are associations and 22 are GATs.

Membership amounts to 2,636 individuals, of which 1,876 (71%) are men and 760 (29%) are women. Producers are primarily from the Mam, Qanjolal, Chuj and Popti ethnic groups. Women and youth are in positions of authority in nine (30%) of the organizations. Producers are growing coffee on 2,912.45 hectares with a yield of 6,872,300 pounds of parchment coffee during the 2014/15 harvest. The yield is the equivalent of 2,360 pounds of parchment coffee per hectare. Table 2 summarizes the information for each producer group.

Table 1
RVCP/ANACAFE Producer Groups in Huehuetenango for FY2015

| | Organization | Location | Municipality | Province | Membership | | | Hectares | Production (lbs.) |
|---|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------|-------|------------|----------|-------------------|
| | | | | | Men | Women | Total | | |
| 1 | <i>Asociacion Union de Pequeños Caficultores (UPC)</i> | Aldea Camojallito | La Democracia | Huehuetenango | 82 | 68 | 150 | 58 | 440,000 |
| 2 | <i>Asociacion de Desarrollo Integral El Esfuerzo, Tuiboch, Todos Santos (ASODIETT)</i> | Caserio Tuiboch, aldea Mash. | Todos santos Cuchumatán | Huehuetenango | 26 | 8 | 34 | 42 | 79,000 |
| 3 | <i>Asociacion de Desarrollo Flor del Cafe. (ASDEFLOOR)</i> | Caserio Chanjon, aldea San Martin | Todos santos Cuchumatán | Huehuetenango | 24 | 7 | 31 | 28 | 70,000 |
| 4 | <i>Asociacion de Caficultores Flor del Cafe (ASCAFCA)</i> | Aldea la Esperanza | Union Cantinil | Huehuetenango | 43 | 3 | 46 | 131 | 374,600 |
| 5 | <i>Asociacion de Desarrollo Economico y Social Los Chujes (ADESC)</i> | Aldea Vista Hermosa Union Cantinil | Union Cantinil | Huehuetenango | 61 | 12 | 73 | 251 | 900,000 |
| 6 | <i>Asociacion de Caficultores Union Cantinil (ASOCUC)</i> | Canton Casa Grande | Union Cantinil | Huehuetenango | 22 | 1 | 23 | 63 | 160,000 |
| 7 | <i>GAT Buenos Aires</i> | Canton Buenos Aires | Union Cantinil | Huehuetenango | 0 | 26 | 26 | 8 | 19,200 |
| 8 | <i>Asociacion Integral de caficultores Rancho Viejo (AIDEC)</i> | Aldea El Rancho Viejo | San Antonio Huista | Huehuetenango | 26 | 3 | 29 | 84 | 300,000 |
| 9 | <i>Asociacion Integral Agricola Sostenible Toneca (ASIAST)</i> | Canton Centro | San Antonio Huista | Huehuetenango | 20 | 2 | 22 | 33 | 97,500 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|-----|-----|------------|-----|-----------|
| 10 | <i>Asociacion de Desarrollo Integral de Caficultores El Pajal (ADICEP)</i> | Aldea El Pajal | San Antonio Huista | Huehuetenango | 25 | 4 | 29 | 50 | 163,200 |
| 11 | <i>GAT Cipresales</i> | Caserio Cipresales, aldea Coyegual | San Antonio Huista | Huehuetenango | 21 | 0 | 21 | 48 | 170,000 |
| 12 | <i>GAT Cafe Toneco Nojaya</i> | Aldea Nojaya | San Antonio Huista | Huehuetenango | 22 | 0 | 22 | 14 | 60,000 |
| 13 | <i>Cooperativa Agricola y de Servicios Varios RIO AZUL R.L.</i> | Canton San Sebastian | Jacaltenango | Huehuetenango | 153 | 37 | 190 | 201 | 256,600 |
| 14 | <i>Cooperativa de Ahorro y Credito ESQUIPULAS R. L.</i> | Cabecera municipal | La Libertad | Huehuetenango | 100 | 46 | 146 | 386 | 568,500 |
| 15 | <i>Asociacion de Permacultores de Cuilco (ASOPERC)</i> | Aldea Oajaqueno | Cuilco | Huehuetenango | 33 | 6 | 39 | 48 | 250,000 |
| 16 | <i>Asociacion de Desarrollo Integral La Esperanza Toneca -ADIESTO-</i> | Canton Norte | San Antonio Huista | Huehuetenango | 231 | 207 | 438 | 432 | 1,019,600 |
| 17 | <i>Cooperativa San Antonio R.L.</i> | Canton Esquipulas | San Antonio Huista | Huehuetenango | 29 | 4 | 33 | 55 | 100,000 |
| 18 | <i>GAT Centro San Antonio</i> | Canton Norte | San Antonio Huista | Huehuetenango | 17 | 9 | 26 | 16 | 35,000 |
| 19 | <i>Asociacion Agricola y Desarrollo Integral Bitenam</i> | Aldea Petatan | Concepcion Huista | Huehuetenango | 113 | 67 | 180 | 97 | 116,200 |
| 20 | <i>GAT Grano de Oro</i> | Canton Maravillas, Aldea El Porvenir | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 32 | 10 | 42 | 20 | 40,000 |
| 21 | <i>GAT California</i> | Aldea Balbeeltzap | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 18 | 10 | 28 | 21 | 40,000 |
| 22 | <i>GAT San Francisco Momonlac</i> | Aldea San Francisco Momonlac | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 30 | 4 | 34 | 48 | 57,500 |
| 23 | <i>GAT Flor de Limon</i> | Aldea Santa Elena | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 20 | 8 | 28 | 31 | 34,000 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|---------------------|---------------|-----|----|------------|-----|---------|
| 24 | <i>GAT El Aguacatal</i> | Aldea Puente Alto | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 13 | 15 | 28 | 20 | 35,000 |
| 25 | <i>GAT Centro Jolomtaj</i> | Aldea Jolomtaj | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 28 | 5 | 33 | 14 | 29,500 |
| 26 | <i>GAT San Jose Jolomtaj</i> | Caserio San Jose, aldea Jolomtaj | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 29 | 13 | 42 | 15 | 35,500 |
| 27 | <i>Asociacion Barillense de Agricultores (ASOBAGRI)</i> | Santa Cruz Barillas | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 306 | 88 | 394 | 435 | 880,000 |
| 28 | <i>Asociacion Promejoramiento Agroforestal (ASPROAGR)</i> | Caserio Buena Vista, Aldea Jolomtaj | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 72 | 7 | 79 | 35 | 80,000 |
| 29 | <i>GAT La Providencia</i> | Caserio la Providencia | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 66 | 2 | 68 | 30 | 80,000 |
| 30 | <i>GAT San Francisco</i> | Caserio San Francisco, Aldea Jolomtaj | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 11 | 5 | 16 | 8 | 17,000 |
| 31 | <i>GAT San Jorge</i> | Caserio San Jorge, Aldea Canchoch | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 15 | 1 | 16 | 17 | 30,000 |
| 32 | <i>GAT Blanca Flor</i> | Caserio Blanca Flor, aldea San Antonio | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 26 | 4 | 30 | 10 | 30,000 |
| 33 | <i>GAT Villa Linda/Nuevo Triunfo</i> | Yula San Juan | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 56 | 27 | 83 | 88 | 161,000 |
| 34 | <i>GAT Cocales</i> | Aldea Yulaxac | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 35 | 6 | 41 | 16 | 20,000 |
| 35 | <i>GAT Nuevo Tacana</i> | Aldea Victorias Chancolin | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 19 | 5 | 24 | 9 | 30,000 |
| 36 | <i>GAT Tres Marias</i> | Caserio San Agustin, aldea Puente Alto | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 15 | 3 | 18 | 16 | 15,000 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|-------|-----|-----------|----------------|------------------|
| 37 | <i>GAT Productivo del Campo</i> | Aldea Nochbente | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 13 | 6 | 19 | 15 | 35,000 |
| 38 | <i>GAT Porvenir</i> | Aldea Porvenir | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 23 | 4 | 27 | 14 | 30,000 |
| 39 | <i>GAT Nuevo Amanecer</i> | Aldea Momonlac | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 1 | 27 | 28 | 6 | 13,400 |
| TOTALS | | | | | 1,876 | 760 | 2,636 | 2912.45 | 6,872,300 |

- FEDECOCAGUA worked with 28 coffee producer groups (eight of them in San Marcos and 20 in Huehuetenango) to benefit a total of 2,824 members. Of these, 2,307 (82%) are men and 517 (18%) are women. The organizations include 24 co-ops and four precursor co-operatives. The groups are growing coffee on 4,171 hectares, of which 17% of the area is used for organic production and the remaining 83% is conventional. The 2014/2015 harvest yielded a total of 10,578,914 pounds of parchment coffee. A total of 18 organizations (64%) have one or more certifications, i.e. Utz Certified, Rainforest Alliance, organic production (NOP/USDA, EU, JAS from Japan), Starbucks C.A.F.E. Practices and/or FLO Fair Trade. The certifications confer an additional value based on high quality coffee. Table 3 summarizes details on RVCP coffee growers in Huehuetenango and San Marcos that work with FEDECOCAGUA.

Table 3
RVCP/FEDECOCAGUA Producer Groups in Huehuetenango and San Marcos for FY2015

| | Organization | Location | Municipality | Province | Members (Men) | Members (Women) | Total Members | Area under Production by Men (in hectares) | Area under Production by Women (in hectares) | Total Production (in hectares) |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|--|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 | <i>Cooperativa Integral Agrícola Tajumuco</i> | Aldea Tajumuco | Union Cantinil | Huehuetenango | 340 | 82 | 422 | 693 | 82 | 775 |
| 2 | <i>Cooperativa Integral Agrícola La Todosantera</i> | Caserio Tuiboch, Aldea Mash | Todos Santos Cuchumatan | Huehuetenango | 92 | 14 | 106 | 211 | 20 | 231 |
| 3 | <i>Cooperativa Agrícola Integral San Pedro Necta</i> | Cabecera municipal de San Pedro Necta | San Pedro Necta | Huehuetenango | 138 | 32 | 170 | 236 | 53 | 289 |
| 4 | <i>Cooperativa Agrícola Integral San Jose El Obrero</i> | Cabecera municipal de La Libertad | La Libertad | Huehuetenango | 374 | 72 | 446 | 580 | 69 | 649 |
| 5 | <i>Cooperativa Agrícola Integral Nuestro Futuro</i> | Km. 325 Carretera Interamericana | La Democracia | Huehuetenango | 137 | 24 | 161 | 437 | 72 | 509 |
| 6 | <i>Cooperativa Agrícola Integral Pena Roja</i> | Aldea Pena Roja | La Libertad | Huehuetenango | 66 | 15 | 81 | 222 | 45 | 267 |
| 7 | <i>Cooperativa Agrícola Integral Hoja Blanca</i> | Aldea Hoja Blanca | Cuilco | Huehuetenango | 48 | 14 | 62 | 136 | 42 | 178 |
| 8 | <i>Cooperativa Agrícola de Servicios Varios Agua Dulce</i> | Aldea Agua Dulce | Cuilco | Huehuetenango | 51 | 2 | 53 | 124 | 6 | 130 |
| 9 | <i>Cooperativa integral Agrícola Cocolense</i> | Aldea Cocola Grande | Santa Eulalia | Huehuetenango | 74 | 10 | 84 | 84.73 | 8.9 | 93.63 |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|---|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 10 | Cooperativa Agrícola Integral La Nueva Union | Cabecera municipal de Santa Cruz Barillas | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 45 | 9 | 54 | 152 | 22.6 | 174.6 |
| 11 | Grupo Pre cooperativo La Nueva Providencia | Aldea La Providencia | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 23 | 4 | 27 | 14.7 | 3.7 | 18.4 |
| 12 | Grupo Pre cooperativo Laguna Maxbal | Aldea San Jose Maxbal | Santa Cruz Barillas | Huehuetenango | 24 | 3 | 27 | 32.5 | 4.1 | 36.6 |
| 13 | Cooperativa Agrícola de Servicios Varios Chojzunil | Aldea Chojzunil | Santa Eulalia | Huehuetenango | 89 | 32 | 121 | 128.16 | 31.28 | 159.44 |
| 14 | Cooperativa Integral Agrícola Union Coataneca | Aldea San Jose Pueblo Nuevo | San Sebastian Coatan | Huehuetenango | 35 | 11 | 46 | 44 | 6.35 | 50.35 |
| 15 | Grupo Precooperativo Pananchilac | Aldea Pananchilac | Santa Eulalia | Huehuetenango | 15 | 5 | 20 | 5.61 | 1 | 6.61 |
| 16 | Cooperativa Integral Agrícola el Porvenir | San Marcos Huista. | Jacaltenango | Huehuetenango | 300 | 79 | 379 | 385 | 73 | 458 |
| 17 | Cooperativa Integral Agrícola Axola | Aldea Petatan | Concepcion Huista | Huehuetenango | 94 | 18 | 112 | 98 | 5 | 103 |
| 18 | Cooperativa Integral Agrícola Teogal | Caserio Teogal, Aldea San Martin | Todosantos Cuchumatan | Huehuetenango | 18 | 3 | 21 | 20 | 2 | 22 |
| 19 | Cooperativa Integral Agrícola Río Limon | Buenos Aires | Union Cantinil | Huehuetenango | 29 | 6 | 35 | 35 | 2 | 37 |
| 20 | Grupo pre cooperativo San Andres | San Andres Huista | Jacaltenango | Huehuetenango | 35 | 5 | 40 | 25 | 3 | 28 |
| 21 | Cooperativa Integral Agrícola San Jose | Caserio la Plata | San Jose El Rodeo | San Marcos | 48 | 11 | 59 | 51.82 | 13.74 | 65.56 |
| 22 | Cooperativa Agrícola Integral Nuevo Progreso | Cabecera municipal de Nuevo Progreso | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 60 | 8 | 68 | 70.56 | 9 | 79.56 |
| 23 | Cooperativa Integral Agrícola La Esperansita | Comunidad Agraria La Esperanza | El Rodeo | San Marcos | 27 | 14 | 41 | 30.91 | 13.43 | 44.34 |
| 24 | Cooperativa Integral Agrícola 21 de Octubre | Caserio Tojoj | San Pablo | San Marcos | 32 | 19 | 51 | 45.28 | 24 | 69.28 |
| 25 | Cooperativa Integral Agrícola La Bendicion | Aldea Tocache | San Pablo | San Marcos | 14 | 8 | 22 | 58.76 | 9.18 | 67.94 |
| 26 | Cooperativa Integral Agrícola Comunidades Unidas | Aldea El Naranjo | San Rafael Pie de la Cuesta | San Marcos | 28 | 4 | 32 | 93.83 | 5.52 | 99.35 |
| 27 | Cooperativa Integral Agrícola Riveras del Cabuz | Aldea El Matazano | San Pablo | San Marcos | 16 | 5 | 21 | 30.92 | 30.22 | 61.14 |
| 28 | Cooperativa Agrícola Integral San Pablo | Cabecera municipal de San Pablo | San Pablo | San Marcos | 55 | 8 | 63 | 125.78 | 13.83 | 139.61 |
| TOTALS | | | | | 2,307 | 517 | 2,824 | 4171.56 | 670.85 | 4,842.41 |

- FEDECOAG added three new grower groups to the 19 horticulture organizations working with RVCP. Of the 22 groups benefitting from the Project (15 in Huehuetenango and seven in San Marcos), ten are co-ops and 12 are associations. Membership totals 2,193 producers, of which 1,543 (70%) are men and 650 (30%) are women. Producers are growing potato (for seed, as well as consumption), snow pea, sweet pea and lima bean crops on a total of 572 hectares. A portion of the crop is sold on the local market, while some is marketed through agro-export companies. Table 4 summarizes the information on producer groups.

Table 4
RVCP/FEDECOAG Producer Groups in Huehuetenango and San Marcos for FY2015

| No. | Nombre | Dirección | Municipio | Departamento | Cantidad de Agricultores | | | Area en Ha. | Cultivo | Producción en quintales |
|----------------|---|---|------------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| | | | | | Hombres | Mujeres | Total | | | |
| 1 | COOPERATIVA AGROPECUARIA Y DE S. V. NUEVA ESPERANZA R. L. | San Sebastián H. | San Sebastián H. | Huehuetenango | 121 | 30 | 151 | 8.01 | Arveja dulce | 1,779.59 |
| | | | | | | | | 3.97 | Arveja china | 904.44 |
| 2 | ASOCIACIÓN DE AGRICULTORES TINECOS -ADAT- | Aldea San Martín | Todos Santos | Huehuetenango | 89 | 18 | 107 | 12.68 | Haba | 2,843.35 |
| | | | | | | | | 14.71 | Papa | 9,635.00 |
| | | | | | | | | 1.43 | Arveja china | 309.45 |
| 3 | ASOCIACION DE DESARROLLO INTEGRAL COMUNITARIO DE LA REGION NORTE DE HUEHUETENANGO -ICUZONDEHUE- | Aldea San Francisco Las Flores | Chiantla | Huehuetenango | 117 | 53 | 170 | 4.13 | Arveja china | 748.62 |
| | | | | | | | | 6.94 | Papa | 3,999.00 |
| | | | | | | | | 0.98 | Haba | 53.00 |
| 4 | COOPERATIVA INTEGRAL DE AHORRO Y CREDITO LA NUEVA ESPERANZA R. L. | Aldea Chicoy | Todos Santos | Huehuetenango | 119 | 21 | 140 | 41.88 | papa | 31,213.00 |
| 5 | ASOCIACIÓN DE COMUNIDADES RURALES PARA EL DESARROLLO INTEGRAL -ACORDI- | Canton Santo Domingo, Aldea La Capellanilla | Chiantla | Huehuetenango | 45 | 59 | 104 | 11.52 | Papa | 750.00 |
| 6 | COOPERATIVA AGRICOLA DE SERVICIOS VARIOS LOS CUCHUMATANES R. L. | Aldea Chuscaj | Chiantla | Huehuetenango | 28 | 2 | 30 | 1.47 | Arveja china | 451.00 |
| 7 | COOPERATIVA INTEGRAL AGRICOLA PAQUIXEÑA CUCHUMATECA R. L. | Canton Calvario, Aldea Paquix | Chiantla | Huehuetenango | 113 | 22 | 135 | 55.9 | Papa | 8,795.00 |
| 8 | ASOCIACIÓN DE DESARROLLO INTEGRAL UNION TODO SANTERA -ADINUT- | Canton Calvario | Todos Santos | Huehuetenango | 99 | 67 | 166 | 128.93 | Papa | 19,370.00 |
| 9 | ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL DESARROLLO DE LA JUVENTUD -ADESJU- | Chiantla | Chiantla | Huehuetenango | 84 | 57 | 141 | 24.11 | Papa | 5,991.00 |
| 9 | COOPERATIVA AGOPECUARIA Y DE SERVICIOS VARIOS SAN BAROLO R. L. | Aldea Los Regadios | Chiantla | Huehuetenango | 91 | 26 | 117 | 6.38 | Arveja dulce | 1,588.16 |
| | | | | | | | | 2.25 | Arveja china | 596.62 |
| 11 | ASOCIACIÓN DE MUJERES EN ACCION SOLIDARIA -AMAS- | Aldea Quilincó | Chiantla | Huehuetenango | | 74 | 74 | 2.46 | Arveja dulce | 863.00 |
| | | | | | | | | 1.54 | Arveja china | 501.00 |
| | | | | | | | | 0.63 | Papa | 264.00 |
| | | | | | | | | 0.09 | Haba | 24.00 |
| 12 | ASOCIACION DE CAMPESINOS FORESTALES -ADECAF- | Canton Buena Vista, Aldea Chichim | Todos Santos | Huehuetenango | 57 | 10 | 67 | 43.75 | Papa | |
| 13 | COOPERATIVA INTEGRAL DE AHORRO Y CREDITO EL ALTIPLANO MAM R. L. | Canton los Calmo, Aldea Chimal 1 | Todos Santos | Huehuetenango | 45 | 22 | 67 | 16.52 | Papa | |
| 14 | ASOCIACION DE SILVICULTORES ASILVO CHANCOL | Canton 7 pinos, Aldea Paquix | Chiantla | Huehuetenango | 115 | 19 | 134 | 50.13 | Papa | |
| 15 | COOPERATIVA INTEGRAL AGRICOLA JOYA HERMOSA, R.L | Aldea Chimentoro | Chiantla | Huehuetenango | 84 | 19 | 103 | 2.37 | Papa semilla | 835.00 |
| | | | | | | | | 12.1 | papa | 4,543.00 |
| 16 | COOPERATIVA AGRICOLA INTEGRAL 10 DE ABRIL R.L | Aldea San Sebastián | San Marcos | San Marcos | 108 | 21 | 129 | 29.58 | Papa | 10,915.00 |
| | | | | | | | | 1.07 | Haba | 82.00 |
| 17 | COOPERATIVA AGRICOLA INTEGRAL EL PARAÍSO R.L | Aldea La Freternidad | Tejutla | San Marcos | 85 | 22 | 107 | 29.64 | Papa | 7,508.00 |
| 18 | ASOCIACIÓN DE DESARROLLO INTEGRAL DE TEJUTLA -ASADIT- | Aldea San Isidro | Tejutla | San Marcos | 19 | 9 | 28 | 6.43 | Papa | 2,659.00 |
| | | | | | | | | 0.45 | Arveja china | 132.00 |
| 19 | ASOCIACIÓN DE AGRICULTORES, PRODUCTORES DE SEMILLA DE PAPA Y DEMAS SEMILLAS CONEXAS PARA LA PRODUCCION AGROSILVOPASTORIL DE OCCIDENTE EL ESFUERZO | Aldea San Andrés Chápil | San Pedro Sac. | San Marcos | 14 | 13 | 27 | 6.9 | Papa | 4,138.00 |
| 20 | COOPERATIVA INTEGRAL DE PRODUCCION ARTESANAL SAN PEDRO UNIDO R.L | Local No.62 y 62A, Centro Comercial No.2 zona 1 | San Pedro Sac. | San Marcos | 19 | 15 | 34 | 5.98 | Papa | 4,105.00 |
| 21 | ASOCIACIÓN DE DESARROLLO INTEGRAL DE SIBINAL -ADIS- | Sibinal | Sibinal | San Marcos | 24 | 63 | 87 | 2.5 | Papa | 1,341.00 |
| | | | | | | | | 2.92 | Haba | 137.55 |
| 22 | ASOCIACIÓN SAN JOSÉ LAS ISLAS | Aldea San José Las Islas | San Marcos | San Marcos | 67 | 8 | 75 | 4.33 | Arveja china | 654.00 |
| | | | | | | | | 14.02 | Arveja dulce | 2,870.95 |
| | | | | | | | | 11.83 | Arveja criolla | 1,493.39 |
| | | | | | | | | 1.47 | Papa | 806.00 |
| TOTALES | | | | | 1,543 | 650 | 2193 | 572 | | 132,899.12 |

The following chart summarizes the total area being cultivated in Year Three by 22 RVCP horticulture producer groups.

| Crop | Area (in hectares) |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Sweet Pea | 30.87 |
| Snow Pea | 19.57 |
| Conventional Pea | 11.83 |
| Lima Bean | 17.74 |
| Potato | 489.62 |
| Potato for Seed | 2.37 |
| Total | 572.00 |

- ARTEXCO worked with 25 handicraft producer groups, of which two are co-ops, five are associations and 18 groups are working on their legal personhood. The organizations had 934 members during FY2015 of which 902 (97%) are women and 32 (3%) are men. The organizations are distributed among 30 communities from seven municipalities in Huehuetenango (Cuilco, La Democracia, San Sebastian Huehuetenango, Todos Santos Cuchumatan, Concepcion Huista, Chiantla and Jacaltenango) and three municipalities in San Marcos (San Miguel Ixtahuacan, San Lorenzo and Sibinal). Table 5 summarizes information on the organizations.

Table 5
RVCP/ARTEXCO Producer Groups in Huehuetenango and San Marcos for 2015

| | Organization | Location | Municipality | Province | Members (Men) | Members (Women) | Total Members |
|---|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 | <i>Cooperativa la Jacaltequita</i> | Canton Parroquia | Jacaltenango | Huehuetenango | 0 | 227 | 227 |
| 2 | <i>Cooperativa Estrella de Occidente</i> | Todos Santos Cuchumatan | Todos Santos Cuchumatan | Huehuetenango | 2 | 37 | 39 |
| 3 | <i>Asociacion ADAIN</i> | Aldea Chalhuitz | Todos Santos Cuchumatan | Huehuetenango | 2 | 53 | 55 |
| 4 | <i>Asociacion ADICA</i> | Aldea Chexap | San Sebastian Huehuetenango | Huehuetenango | 11 | 25 | 36 |
| 5 | <i>Asociacion ADISAM</i> | Santa Maria | Sibinal | San Marcos | 8 | 14 | 22 |
| 6 | <i>Cooperativa SOSICOR R.L.</i> | Caserio Corinto | Cuilco | Huehuetenango | 0 | 26 | 26 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| 7 | <i>Cooperativa T-Xejoj R.L.</i> | Aldea T-xejoj | San Sebastian Huehuetenango | Huehuetenango | 0 | 25 | 25 |
| 8 | <i>Grupo Mujeres Unidas</i> | Aldea San Jose Ixcunen | La Democracia | Huehuetenango | 0 | 45 | 45 |
| 9 | <i>Grupo Flor Petateca</i> | Aldea Petatan | Concepcion Huista | Huehuetenango | 0 | 33 | 33 |
| 10 | <i>Asociacion "Tejiendo El Futuro"</i> | Canton Norte aldea San Jose Ixcunen | La Democracia | Huehuetenango | 0 | 10 | 10 |
| 11 | <i>Grupo Secheu</i> | Aldea Secheu | Concepcion Huista | Huehuetenango | 0 | 33 | 33 |
| 12 | <i>Grupo Baljetre</i> | Aldea Baljetre | San Miguel Ixtahuacan | San Marcos | 0 | 36 | 36 |
| 13 | <i>Grupo Chexap</i> | Aldea Chexap | San Sebastian Huehuetenango | Huehuetenango | 0 | 26 | 26 |
| 14 | <i>Grupo Oxbe</i> | Aldea Oxbe | La Democracia | Huehuetenango | 0 | 69 | 69 |
| 15 | <i>Grupo Nuevo Amanecer</i> | Caserio La Ventosa | Todos Santos Cuchumatan | Huehuetenango | 0 | 36 | 36 |
| 16 | <i>Grupo Piol</i> | Aldea Piol | San Sebastian Huehuetenango | Huehuetenango | 0 | 25 | 25 |
| 17 | <i>Grupo Nuevo Progreso</i> | Los Ramos | Nuevo Progreso | San Marcos | 0 | 26 | 26 |
| 18 | <i>Asociacion CHICALUM</i> | Chichalum | Chiantlla | Huehuetenango | 2 | 13 | 15 |
| 19 | <i>Grupo Pueblo Viejo</i> | Pueblo viejo | San Sebastian Huehuetenango | Huehuetenango | 0 | 26 | 26 |
| 20 | <i>Islam-toril</i> | Islam | Cuilco | Huehuetenango | 0 | 11 | 11 |
| 21 | <i>Asociacion TANMA WITZ</i> | Centro | Todos Santos Cuchumatan | Huehuetenango | 7 | 16 | 23 |
| 22 | <i>Flor de Concepcion</i> | Centro | Concepcion Huista | Huehuetenango | 0 | 44 | 44 |
| 23 | <i>Grupo Buena Vista</i> | Buena Vista | La Democracia | Huehuetenango | 0 | 19 | 19 |
| 24 | <i>Grupo Toj-Pac</i> | Toj-Pac | Sibinal | San Marcos | 0 | 12 | 12 |
| 25 | <i>Grupo Mujeres Batanecas</i> | Puente Aguilar | San Sebastian Huehuetenango | Huehuetenango | 0 | 15 | 15 |
| TOTAL | | | | | 32 | 902 | 934 |

- FUNCAFE met and surpassed the target to increase membership for FY2015 to benefit 5,000 families through the component on Food Security and Nutrition (SAN in Spanish). ANACAFE, FEDECOAGUA, FEDECOAG and ARTEXCO joined efforts to increase the number of families benefitting from RVCP SAN activities.

SAN beneficiary families are distributed within 185 communities, most of which are in remote areas at a distance from urban centers. Although the families are not necessarily the most impoverished in the areas (seeing as they are involved in economic activities that provide some subsistence income), they all have in common minimal years of schooling and limited access to health, education and transportation services.

- FUNDASISTEMAS coordinated efforts among 18 technicians from ANACAFE, FEDECOCAGUA, FEDECOAG and ARTEXCO to implement SIDEM within 47 producer organizations (30 in Huehuetenango and 17 in San Marcos). Moreover, FUNDASISTEMAS technicians continued to validate the SIDEM methodology through the Community Association for Integrated Development in Tejutla (*Asociación de Desarrollo Integral Comunitario Tejutla* –ADICTA in Spanish), San Marcos. Said organization is comprised of 586 horticulture producers.
- The salient points from the socio-economic context in which RVCP is implementing activities are summarized below:
 - Members of coffee producer organizations are low income. Most of their earnings come from the sale of agricultural products, where coffee represents between 80-90% of the products they sell. A very minor percentage of the members supplement their income by offering their labor on coffee plantations in the vicinity. Most coffee producers in the RVCP target area are illiterate, with little schooling, and are further constrained by the lack of job opportunities.
 - Public education services in most of the RVCP communities in Huehuetenango and San Marcos, are limited to primary school. Electricity is not available in 100% of the communities and 70% of the roads are difficult to traverse year round –further increasing transportation costs to take agricultural products to market or to bring in crop supplies.

3. Implementation Obstacles and Mitigation Measures

- Coffee growers current income levels precluded any additional investments in their plantations seriously damaged by coffee rust disease (*Hemileia vastatrix*), nor in those plantings slowly recovering via renovation techniques using disease-resistant varieties. RVCP worked to mitigate the situation by providing members with coffee seedlings to renew and repopulate areas (tissue management techniques).
- Most coffee producer groups are low income and unable to complete agricultural practices in a timely manner. This leads to decreased productivity. RVCP technicians mitigated the situation by working with producers to access available sources for financing.
- Seismic activity continued in San Marcos throughout 2015 damaging infrastructure, roadways, offices and homes in general and several coffee processing facilities, as follows: a warehouse operated by Cooperativa San Pablo, wet mills operated by three co-ops (La Esperansita, 21 de Octubre and San Pablo). Some of the members' homes were also damaged. The circumstances weighed heavily on the individuals working/living in the RVCP target area and constrained the Project's ability to organize large meetings.

- Severe weather affected RVCP activities as summarized below.
 - Hailstorms in the highlands of San Marcos and Huehuetenango greatly damaged potato and snow pea crops. Producers worked quickly to minimize the damage by applying fungicides and foliar fertilizers to encourage regrowth and mitigate financial losses.

Nevertheless, the hail forced producers from *Asociacion San Jose Las Islas* in San Marcos, to take losses on their snow pea crops and replant their land with seed provided by the agro-export company that buys their crop.

- Dry spells caused severe damage to potato crops (withering, parched soil, stunted growth and weak root, stalk and foliage) along with increased pests and disease. At the time of this writing, technicians are yet unable to estimate total losses.
- Drought affected family garden plots in San Miguel Ixtahuacan, San Marcos and in La Libertad, Huehuetenango. As a result, members from RVCP organizations cut back on their participation in scheduled activities.

The Project is working on mitigation efforts as follows:

- FEDECOAG worked with producers to share information on climate change as provided by INSIVUMEH, CONRED and CAAT. The additional information will assist producers in planning their next plantings based on weather forecasts (prolonged dry spells) to extend their water resources and schedule watering to avoid crop damage.
- FUNCAFE met with local authorities and organizations that manage water resources to propose including producer groups as beneficiaries in projects working on access to water resources. In addition, the Project met with the World Food Program to propose including some communities in their strategy to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition.
- FUNCAFE implemented activities to distribute sand filters to re-use water (communities in La Libertad, Huehuetenango).
- Excessive precipitation in the lowlands of San Marcos affected family garden activities and limited the participation of families in educational workshops. FUNCAFE technicians worked to mitigate the obstacle by erecting simple awnings to protect the gardens. As a result, gardens are recovering and families plan to share and replicate the structures with RVCP support.

Heavy rainfall also affected wet mill processing and drying. FEDECOCAGUA technicians took measures to mitigate the problem by procuring nylon sheeting and setting up ventilation systems to deter mold and fermentation.

- Market prices for potato crops saw a sharp drop in recent months and affected producer household income levels. In light of the situation, FEDECOAG technicians are encouraging

growers to diversify their crops on a small scale and sell smaller amounts on the local market to avoid intermediaries.

- Some members from RVCP producer organizations in San Marcos and Huehuetenango speak one of the Mayan languages, which limited the ability of Project technicians to communicate effectively. The Project effectively remedied the situation by using other members of the grower groups as interpreters.
- There are a number of issues this period taking place within the RVCP target area that did not respond to mitigation measures. They include prolonged dry spells, as well as public demonstrations and roadblocks on major highways. The former constrained RVCP technical assistance to horticulture producers, fertilization programs and plantation renewal using disease resistant coffee plants. Despite these setbacks, the Project will continue to move forward next period and reschedule all activities.

4. Activities and Results Progress

4.1 General Activities

- The following section summarizes ANACAFE activities to implement RVCP in San Marcos.
 - a. **Coordinated Activities to Increase Producer Income.**
 1. Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

The Project continued to coordinate efforts with CRS technical staff implementing the Cafe Verde Project in Nuevo Progreso. As a result, 381 members from ten organizations benefitted as follows:

 - Conduct an observation tour for 30 producers on coffee plantation management.
 - Provide GTQ83,608 to procure traps, provide soil samples, maintain nurseries, set up composting and purchase seeds for fruit trees providing temporary shade and/or income diversification.
 - Provide GTQ160,000 to establish nurseries.
 - Finance two modules of the certification course on modern coffee production taught by ANACAFE technicians.
 - Participate in a workshop on interpreting data, management and efficient use of soil nutrients taught jointly by CRS and ANACAFE and funded by the former.
 2. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA)

Coordinate efforts with MAGA field agents in Nuevo Progreso to train producers on adding value to macadamia nuts by producing hair care products. The training was offered to the members and wives from two co-ops (Nuevo Porvenir and Nuevo Eden). As a result, beneficiaries acquired new skills to increase family income.
 3. Thousand Day Window Food Security Program (SEGAMIL) and Caritas
 - SEGAMIL and Caritas field personnel in San Marcos participated in the ANACAFE certification course on modern coffee production with special emphasis on coffee seedlings and nurseries.

- In an effort to avoid duplication of efforts, RVCP coordinated meetings and field visits to identify 142 producers working with both projects.
- The Project followed up with coffee growers from four communities participating in a project to support producers affected by coffee rust disease in Tajumulco and Sibinal, San Marcos. RVCP plans to assist said producers to establish themselves as a GAT so as to further participate in Project activities.

b. Technical Training on Safe Use and Management of Chemicals

RVCP technical personnel participated in a training course on the safe use and management of pesticides offered by AGREQUIMA to facilitate tools that enable compliance with the USAID approved Environmental Mitigation Plan for the Coffee Value Chain.

c. Fertility Mapping and Geo-referencing

RVCP used the ArcGIS tool to map soils based on community boundaries and aerial photographs together with geo-referencing for soil samples taken in communities within the municipalities of Nuevo Progreso, Sibinal and Tajumulco. CRS financed the lab analysis. As a result, the Project has 510 maps on soil fertility and areas designated for further fertilization or soil amending. The maps are available by community in geo.pdf format with data for each sample.

As a data base, this enables RVCP to have specific information on the members in each producer group, as well as on their communities. Geo-referenced data is available in .kmz format that enables users to visualize the data with the coordinates using Google-compatible platforms (Earth, Earth Pro, Maps, ArcGIS). The tool will become the basis for future RVCP mapping and surveys conducted by USAID/MEP.

e. Field Day at El Zapote, San Miguel Ixtahuacan.

The Project organized a field day activity on June 11, 2015 in El Zapote, San Miguel Ixtahuacan, San Marcos to benefit 700 coffee growers. The purpose of the activity was to exchange experiences among members from GAT La Lima and producers from San Miguel Ixtahuacan, Sipacapa and Huehuetenango. The activity provided an excellent opportunity to showcase RVCP results in the subjects of productive tissue management, integrated pest and disease management, safe use and management of pesticides, soil conservation, entrepreneurial development and food safety and nutrition.

f. Agriculture Promoters

In order to support the efforts of RVCP technical personnel, the Project hired 16 agriculture promoters to work with the 43 producer groups.

- RVCP/ANACAFE technicians in Huehuetenango completed the activities summarized below.
 - In coordination with the ANACAFE Marketing and Communications Department, RVCP prepared two producer groups (ASODIET and ASDEFLO) to participate in business roundtables and set up initial contacts for future trade through coffee exporters.
 - RVCP organized two field day activities to train coffee producers on integrated management for coffee rust disease, plantation renovation and wet mill processing to ensure coffee bean

- quality. The activities benefitted 1,218 producers (571 from Union Cantinil and 647 from Santa Cruz Barillas).
- RVCP coordinated efforts with the Italian donor agency to support three organizations (Cooperativa Esquipulas in La Libertad, Asociacion ASDEFLOL and Asociacion ASODIETT in Todos Santos Cuchumatan) by providing hand tools (pruning shears, saws, cutters and files) together with seeds for disease resistant coffee varieties (villa sarchi). As a result, growers set up a nursery of 30,000 seedlings to benefit the associations in Todos Santos Cuchumatan. The in-kind donation is the equivalent of GTQ 25,056.
 - The Project coordinated efforts with the German donor agency to support organic coffee production by members from Cooperativa Rio Azul. The effort included a donation of construction material to set up a bio-factory and procure supplies for bio-fermentation equipment that aids in fertilization and pest/disease control.
 - A total of four agricultural advisors and 20 agricultural promoters participated in a workshop on establishing and managing supplies for bio-factories to fertilize organic coffee grown in La Democracia, Huehuetenango.
 - The Project took delivery of a consultancy report on strengthening knowledge on soil conservation as a measure to mitigate climate change. In addition, the Project used the “learn by doing” methodology to then train producers from 30 organizations. Furthermore, the Project set up demo plots on 13.28 hectares to showcase soil conservation techniques.
 - RVCP funded the participation of two coffee producers and the ANACAFE Regional Coordinator to participate in an international coffee fair in Japan (SCAJ). Their participation allowed growers to promote high quality coffee and set up direct contacts with roasters and importers that may ultimately increase their sales and revenue..
 - Post-harvest technicians participated in training activities on electromagnetic commands, measuring equipment used in wet mill processing and techniques to estimate construction material. Agricultural technicians participated in training on the safe use and management of pesticides taught by AGREQUIMA specialists at Buena Vista, San Sebastian, Retalhuleu.
 - FEDECOCAGUA completed the activities summarized below.
 - Hire 20 para-technicians (local technical advisors) responsible for the following duties:
 - schedule meetings between producer groups/association boards and technical staff
 - set up field visits to members and provide logistical support for field activities, training events, tours and large assemblies (including follow up)
 - replicate training activities on integrated crop management
 - plan technical assistance visits to demonstrate methods
 - monitor compliance with certification requirements
 - verify plantations and wet mills used by members to ascertain compliance with improvement recommendations for sustainable production.

The additional staff hired will benefit 2,253 producers from 17 organizations located in Huehuetenango and San Marcos.

- FEDECOCAGUA held its annual general assembly on April 24, 2015 with the participation of co-ops from Huehuetenango and San Marcos that benefit from RVCP. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss and approve important issues, including one to conduct a needs analysis to plan for the FAIRTRADE award (productivity and coffee quality). This reinforces and underscores the importance of RVCP activities in regard to FLO fair trade certification.
 - RVCP worked with FEDECOCAGUA organizations certified as FLO Fair Trade (15 of the 36 are RVCP beneficiaries) to complete their development plans and ensure that any prize money is effectively invested to increase productivity and coffee quality.
 - The Project organized a training activity from May 27-29, 2015 in Quetzaltenango on mitigation measures and climate change adaptation. A total of 12 technicians and para-technicians working with grower groups in Huehuetenango and San Marcos attended the training.
 - The Project organized a field visit on May 20, 2015 to Cooperativa Cocolense in Santa Eulalia, Huehuetenango. The visit provided an opportunity for representatives from USAID Economic Growth and Development Office, ANACAFE, RVCP UIP and FEDECOCAGUA to observe RVCP results and progress.
 - As part of the RVCP Environmental Evaluation, the Project organized a field visit to Cooperativa San Jose El Orebro in La Libertad, Huehuetenango.
 - In coordination with FEDECOCAGUA and the Walter Matter Company, Tully's Coffee auction held in Japan in March 2015 provided the setting for five of ten RVCP organizations in Huehuetenango to receive prizes for their coffee totaling US\$ 10,000.
 - To reach RVCP targets, the Project provided coffee seedlings, machinery and equipment to producer organizations, including the following:
 - humidity and temperature gauges
 - BRIX gauges
 - pH measuring equipment
 - environmentally-friendly de-pulping equipment
 - movable drying surfaces
 - portable generators
 - screens
 - integrated wet mill systems
 - gasoline or electric power washers for wet mills
 - dryer tumblers
 - metal shelving
- FEDECOAG completed the activities summarized below.

- Coordinate efforts with USDA to follow up and evaluate phytosanitary issues affecting garlic crops and RVCP producers in Chiantla, Huehuetenango. To this end, USDA funded an expert to assess the problem and identify a fungus (*Sclerotium sepivorum*) causing the disease. In addition, the expert will provide a management plan to control the disease.
- The Project worked with USDA to organize a visit to FEDECOAG by members of the U.S. National Potato Council. The visit provided an opportunity to exchange information on seed production both in Guatemala and the U.S.. RVCP participated in a symposium and field tour to observe potato seed production in Denver, Colorado.
- The Project provided FEDECOAG technicians with field equipment (measuring tapes, tensiometers, GPS, clinometers, peachimeters and levels) to enable them to improve their technical assistance to horticulture producers.
- The Project coordinated efforts with *Asociacion de Organizaciones de los Cuchumatanes* (ASOCUCH) to add three new horticulture organizations as RVCP beneficiaries, as well as to add RVCP organizations to efforts to sell potato crops through COMECSA (ASOCUCH trade organization) .
- The Project coordinated efforts with AGREQUIMA to schedule training modules on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) for potato producers from *Asociacion San Jose Las Islas* and *Cooperativa San Pedro Unido*.
- FEDECOAG set up an experimental station for horticulture production in Chiantla, Huehuetenango that enables them to implement new technology (such as greenhouses/macro tunnels, drip irrigation and ferti-irrigation) for new crops under controlled conditions. The station is designed to enable RVCP producer groups in Huehuetenango to acquire additional knowledge about infrastructure, management plans, alternative production, costing, quality control and projected yields for tomato, bell pepper, jalapeno and cucumber crops.
- ARTEXCO completed the activities summarized below.
 - Appropriate signage for the headquarters of all 25 handicraft producer groups working with RVCP (including 500 plastic stools for use during large meetings).
 - Coordinate efforts with the National Co-op Institute (INACOP in Spanish) to provide advisors for RVCP producer groups interested in establishing themselves as co-ops. The Project will continue to provide support in complying with necessary requirements to move forward.
 - Organize the first regional handicraft expo in Huehuetenango to exchange experiences among producers and RVCP promoters. A total of 37 artisans from 16 producer groups in Huehuetenango participated in the event.

4.2 Components

4.2.1 Component 1: Improved Competitiveness along the Value Chains

- **ANACAFE (Coffee Value Chain)**

- **Increased Coffee Production**

RVCP technical assistance this period was a key factor in seeing producers from the 43 groups working with the Project in San Marcos take in yields of 1,594,200 pounds of parchment coffee from 1,568.04 hectares. This year's harvest amounted to an average productivity of 1,017 pounds of parchment coffee per hectare (as compared to 286 pounds of parchment coffee per hectare from last year's harvest).

Producers from the 39 organizations working with the Project in Huehuetenango had yields of 6,872,300 pounds of parchment coffee –amounting to 2,400 pounds of parchment coffee per hectare (equal to 96% of the target of 2,500 pounds of parchment coffee per hectare). The Project training program for RVCP members contributed significantly to these results. RVCP organized 51 training events to benefit 1,077 producers (806 men and 271 women).

- **Plantation Renewal**

RVCP technical assistance to benefit 1,565 producers (1,107 men and 458 women) in San Marcos resulted in a total of 218.39 hectares of renewed coffee plantations (107.45 hectares were renewed through tissue management with an investment of GTQ775,879 and an additional 110.94 hectares were totally replaced requiring an investment of GTQ3,882,900). The Project contributed to the effort by providing 200,000 plants resistant to coffee rust disease.

A total of 1,692 producers (1,288 men and 404 women) in Huehuetenango renewed 166.72 hectares using *caturra*, *catuai* and *sarchimor* varieties. This amounts to a 303% increase over the Project target of 55 hectares. RVCP contributed to the effort by providing 150,000 plants, while producers invested resources in the amount of GTQ7,152,288.

- **Improved Post Harvest Management**

The Project completed the following activities in San Marcos.

- A total of 201 technical assistance visits to support small-scale producers in maintaining machinery, equipment and infrastructure for their wet mills. Technicians also worked on maintaining hand-operated de-pulping equipment while monitoring quality and tracking management plans for by-products from wet mill processing (pulp and waste water).

Training was a fundamental component of all technical assistance visits to increase knowledge base and exchange experiences to improve wet mill processing. To that end, technicians organized 44 training events and workshops. A total of 816 small-scale producers benefited from training on (1) diagnosing, maintaining and adjusting de-pulping equipment; (2) quality assurance in wet mill processing; (3) waste product management, and (4) occupational safety.

Technicians also offered three certification courses on wet mill processing for a total of 66 participants from 11 organizations (*Cooperativa Entre Rios, Cooperativa La Igualdad,*

Asociacion Nuevos Horizontes, APECAFORM, Cooperativa Nuevo Eden, Cooperativa Nuevo Porvenir, Cooperativa Flor del Cafe, GAT La Lima, GAT La Pena, GAT Siete Platos and GAT Legal).

- Given that high quality is key to marketing Guatemalan coffee, but circumstances, weather and agricultural conditions vary from one harvest to the next, the Project continued to work with RVCP producer groups to monitor coffee quality –with special emphasis on wet mill processing.

Producers learn to distinguish coffee quality and notice their production and processing techniques so as to make timely adjustments to avoid the problems that will affect quality (including the effect of weather conditions, pests and disease).

In working with producer groups to monitor quality during the wet mill processing stage for the 2014/2015 harvest, technicians took 185 samples, of which 60% resulted in Strictly Hard Bean, 20% as Semi-hard Bean, 12% as Hard Bean, 5% as Extra Prime and 3% as Prime. Cupping results are as follows: 53% produced clean cups, 9% were fruity, 15% were harsh, 12% were winey, 4% were sour, 4% were over fermented, 1% was moldy and 2% were other..

- The first Regional Tasting Competition took place this period with the objective of identifying the coffees most representative of the various regions in Guatemala. In the case of Region I, the purpose was to identify the best beans produced in the Volcanic San Marcos area. The event also provided an opportunity to acknowledge the effort of producers during post-harvest processing based on high standards for quality and food safety. A total of seven RVCP organizations participated in the competition (*Asociacion de Caficultores Miguelenses, Asociacion Flor del Cafe, Asociacion de Pequeños Productores Agricolas Comunidades Unidas – ACIPACU, Asociacion de Pequeños Productores de Cafe de Liberacion –APECAFEL, Asociacion de Pequeños Productores Organicos Mayas Mames – APECAFORM, Asociacion de Pequeños Productores Agricolas Entre Cerros – APPAECE and GAT El Cafetalito*).

As part of the activities to celebrate Coffee Producer Day this period, prizes were awarded during the regional tasting competition for Volcanic San Marcos to the following producers: Ancelmo Orozco (first place), Agapito Orozco (second place) and Marcos Juarez (third place). All three are members of *Asociacion de Pequeños Productores Agricolas Entre Cerros (APPAECE)*.

- The Project worked on improving quality and food safety during wet mill processing by procuring 20 semi-integrated de-pulping machines to the organizations listed below.
 1. *Cooperativa Integral Agricola Entre Rios*
 2. *Asociacion Civil de Pequeños Agricultores Comunidades Unidas-ACIPACU*
 3. *Asociacion Nuevos Horizontes*
 4. *Grupo de Amistad y Trabajo Mujeres con Esencia de Cafe*
 5. *Asociacion de Pequeños Caficultores Mayas Mames -APECAFORM*
 6. *GAT La Lima (Asociacion de Caficultores Miguelenses)*
 7. *Cooperativa Nuevo Porvenir*
 8. *GAT Nuevo San Luis*

9. *GAT El Cafetalito*
10. *Asociacion de Pequeños Productores de Cafe Entre Cerros – APPAECE*
11. *GAT El Renacimiento*
12. *GAT Emprendedores*
13. *Empresa Campesina Asociativa Emanuel*

- The Project worked with six organizations that share wet mills (*Cooperativa Nuevo Porvenir, Cooperativa Nuevo Eden, ACUPDIC, Cooperativa La Igualdad, Asociacion Flor del Cafe and Asociacion de Desarrollo Integral Buenos Aires –ADIBA*). Efforts included procuring tool boxes and gauges to ensure preventive and correct maintenance of machinery used for wet mill processing.
- The Project provided humidity detectors to ensure optimum drying and quality assurance to *Cooperativa Nuevo Porvenir, GAT Nuevo San Luis, APECAFARM and ACMI*.
- To ensure good practices throughout wet mill processing, 150 members from RVCP target organizations are treating waste water and coffee pulp. In addition, 90 members are re-using waste water to produce organic fertilizer, while 124 members are depositing the waste water in filtration tanks. Generally speaking, coffee producers are making good use of pulp for earthworm production and composting.

The Project completed the following activities in Huehuetenango.

- Provide technical support to remodel 15 wet mills operated by RVCP organizations together with 60 hand-operated mills. The remodeling efforts will contribute to appropriate management of coffee waste products.
- In order to increase efficiency and ensure quality, technicians completed 238 technical assistance visits to assess wet mill processes and waste product management.
- Technicians worked to monitor coffee bean quality during harvest season (January through April). To this end, they took 86 samples of parchment coffee for testing at regional labs and ANACAFE headquarters to detect and correct any defects in the beans. This is expected to result in better quality beans and increased sale prices.

Test results for the 2014/2015 harvest reveal that 85% of the samples are Strictly Hard Bean, 12% are Hard Bean and 3% are Semi Hard Bean. Cupping results show that 71% of the samples yielded a clean cup. An additional 17% of the cups had a fruity defect (de-pulping timing), 6% of the cups were harsh (harvesting unripe beans) and 6% of the cups were winey (overripe beans). The parameters will enable technicians to recommend corrective measures.

– **Employment Generation**

Coffee producers from 43 RVCP groups in San Marcos created 851 jobs to harvest and renew plantations (674 during harvest and 176 for plantation renewal). Similarly, RVCP producer groups in Huehuetenango created 2,908 new jobs.

– **Technical Assistance for Improved Practices and Technology**

The 43 RVCP producer groups working with ANACAFE technicians in San Marcos saw 1,593 producers improve their productive practices on 1,303.21 hectares. In Huehuetenango, 2,636 producers from the 39 RVCP organizations implemented improved practices on 2,109.78 hectares of coffee plantations. The practices improved through RVCP assistance include:

1. soil and foliage analyses;
2. fertilization and soil amendments;
3. irrigation ditches;
4. live barriers;
5. demonstration plots;
6. planting crates;
7. contour planting;
8. shade management;
9. terracing;
10. productive tissue management;
11. integrated coffee borer disease management;
12. integrated coffee rust disease management, and
13. plantation renewal.

▪ **FEDECOCAGUA (coffee value chain)**

– **Increased Yield**

RVCP producer groups working with FEDECOCAGUA on 4,346.7 hectares in San Marcos and Huehuetenango produced yields from the 2014/2015 harvest amounting to 10,579,814 pounds of parchment coffee (the equivalent of 8,138,318 pounds of export quality beans. Average yield was 2,434 pounds of parchment coffee per hectare. Nevertheless, it must be noted that crop forecasts indicated that about 20% of total production (2,115,963 pounds of parchment coffee) is sold by producers through third parties rather than through their organizations. With that additional data, technicians estimate that average yields were more likely to have been 2,622 pounds of parchment coffee per hectare.

– **Plantation Renewal**

RVCP technical assistance for FY2015 benefited 1,977 producers (1,582 men and 395 women) from target organizations in San Marcos and Huehuetenango to renew 363.33 hectares of plantations using varieties resistant to coffee rust disease (*sarchimor* and ANACAFE 14). Producers invested at total of GTQ12,716,550 (averaging GTQ35,000/hectare) while the Project contributed in kind with nursery plants.

– **Improved Post-harvest Handling**

RVCP provided technical assistance to remodel a shared wet mill facility operated by Cooperativa San Jose in San Jose El Rodeo, San Marcos. The mill is used to process coffee berries into parchment coffee for 50 members (50,000 pounds of parchment coffee throughout the harvest season).

RVCP delivered 124 hand-operated wet mills and seven semi-integrated wet mills that will improve coffee quality and ensure responsible management of waste products (pulp and wastewater). Furthermore, RVCP worked in Huehuetenango to provide technical assistance that improved 307 hand operated mills for more efficient water use and waste product handling.

To complement the above efforts, RVCP set up 534 holding tanks to manage waste water produced by growers from *Cooperativa Tajumuco* (227), *Cooperativa San Pedro Necta* (40), *Cooperativa San Jose El Obrero* (220) and *Cooperativa Todosantera* (47).

– **Employment Generation**

RVCP producer groups generated 4,476 jobs (3,580 filled by men and 896 by women) to harvest 10,579,814 pounds of parchment coffee.

– **Improved Technologies or Practices**

RVCP provided technical assistance to 1,977 coffee producers (1,582 men and 395 women) to implement improved technologies or practices on 1,758 hectares of coffee plantations, as follows:

- soil management;
- shade management appropriately adapted to climate change;
- productive tissue management;
- plantation renewal using improved varieties (seedlings and nurseries)
- coffee nutrient plan;
- weed control;
- integrated pest and disease management, and
- water conservation.

▪ **FEDECOAG (horticulture value chain)**

– **Controlled Conditions**

Technicians implemented 206 macro-tunnel greenhouses to benefit 186 vegetable producers (134 men and 52 women) from 19 organizations using productive technology under controlled conditions on 1.47 hectares. Producers are growing tomatoes, bell peppers, lettuce, tomatillo, potatoes, jalapenos and flowers.

– **Improved Technologies or Practices**

- The Project worked with 430 growers (370 men and 60 women) from 12 organizations in Huehuetenango and San Marcos planting 37.36 hectares with snow pea, sweet pea, lima bean and potato crops. Technicians provided instruction on the use and handling of yellow traps to control pests –including white flies and trips. RVCP provided the traps to implement this practice and ensure that growers effectively monitor their crops to reduce the incidence of disease, greatly reduce the use of pesticides and minimize their production costs.
- The Project provided technical assistance to 1,338 horticulture producers (908 men and 430 women) from seven organizations to work on managing plant stumps over a total of 185.22

- hectares. To avoid traditional practices of burning vegetation, technicians provided instruction on how to incorporate the matter into the soil.
- Technicians set up 274 biodeps for seven producer groups in San Marcos and Huehuetenango to benefit 274 producers (202 men and 72 women). The structures are required to triple wash used pesticide containers and spray equipment to avoid environmental contamination and harm to human health.
 - The Project provided technical assistance to 744 producers (473 men and 271 women) from five organizations to build compost bins. Organic fertilizer reduces the need for chemical products with less impact on the environment and lower production costs.
 - Technicians set up drip irrigation systems on 2.3 hectares of family garden plots to make more efficient use of water resources and benefit 348 producers (207 men and 141 women) from groups in San Marcos and Huehuetenango.
 - RVCP provided technical assistance to 186 producers (134 men and 52 women) from 19 organizations to implement controlled conditions (macro-tunnels) on 1.47 hectares. This enables the producers to grow crops year round, improve and maintain quality and yields with subsequent improvements in market prices.
 - Technicians promoted genetic improvements on pea crops by replacing native varieties with a hardier variety known as Greenty. This will benefit 147 producers (114 men and 33 women) from three organizations working on 19.20 hectares. In addition, technicians promoted the use of certified potato seed to ensure plants that are free of viruses and pests to provide increased yields.
 - Technicians promoted the use of live and still barriers for soil conservation on 20.08 hectares worked by 134 producers (101 men and 33 women) from four organizations. The measures will improve the availability of nutrients and avoid soil erosion.
- **Employment Generation**
Project activities led to 846 new jobs this period (575 filled by men and 271 by women) as a result of the need for 217,278 man/days in production and harvesting processes for snow peas, sweet peas, lima beans and potatoes, plus 2,756 man/days to process sweet peas.
 - **Export Crops**
RVCP assistance to 582 producers (437 men and 145 women) from seven organizations yielded sweet and snow pea crops suited for export markets (peas planted on 62.27 hectares, plus lima beans on 17.75 hectares). The crops were exported through intermediaries (Agro San Juan, Grupo CEIS and SIESA).
 - **Processing for Value Added**
Cooperativa San Bartolo added value to sweet and snow pea crops by classifying and processing 239,354 pounds. A total of 106 women were employed for the task.

FEDECOAG technicians procured 700 plastic baskets so that producers from Cooperativa San Bartolo could reduce crop damage from mechanical processing, handling and transportation. Technicians also provided four stainless steel tables for use at the processing center. To further the efforts, RVCP trained female employees and supervisors on good manufacturing practices.

– **Partnerships**

The Project coordinated efforts with *Asociacion de Organizaciones de los Cuchumatanes (ASOCUCH)* to enable RVCP producer groups to sell their potato crop through the ASOCUCH trade organization --COMECSA. In addition, technicians coordinated efforts with agricultural export companies (AGRO SAN JUAN, MAYAPAC, GRUPO CEIS and SIESA) to plan future crops using harvest cycles to optimize export windows (including management, fertilization and pest and disease control plans).

Table 6
Results Summary for RVCP Component 1

| Component 1: Improved Competitiveness along the Value Chains | | | | |
|---|------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
| – FY2015 Results Summary | | | | |
| Targets for the Coffee and Horticulture Value Chains | | | | |
| Description | Life of Project | FY2015 Target | FY2015 Results | FY2015 Progress % |
| Coffee | | | | |
| Total 100 lb. sacks of parchment coffee per hectare | 25 | 20 | 22 | 110% |
| Total number of producers investing in coffee plantation renewal | 2,253 | 1,038 | 5,234 | 504% |
| Total area (in hectares) with renewed coffee plantations | 1,397 | 665 | 641 | 96% |
| Total number of wet mills new or modified to comply with standards for efficient water use and waste water disposal | 16 | 2 | 17 | 850% |
| Total number of new or remodeled hand-operated mills this quarter suited to appropriate handling of by-products | To Be Determined | 96 | 388 | 404% |
| Horticulture | | | | |
| Total number of horticulture producers implementing controlled conditions (greenhouses, macro-tunnels) | 90 | 100 | 186 | 186% |
| Total hectares planted with crops in controlled conditions (greenhouses, macro-tunnels)* | 3 ha | 2.6 | 2.07 | 80% |
| Export crops promoted | 1 | 1 | 3 | 300% |
| Crops with intermediate or final processing | 5 | 1 | 1 | 100% |

| | | | | |
|---|--------|-------|-------|------|
| Number of chains between small scale producer organizations and other stakeholders along the horticulture value chain | 10 | 7 | 4 | 57% |
| Overall: | | | | |
| Number of jobs created as a result of RVCP assistance* | 33,528 | 7,489 | 9,081 | 121% |

4.2.2 Component 2: Broadened Participation in Value Chains

- **FUNCAFE**

- **High School Pilot Program (graduates specializing in coffee or horticulture production)**

High School Degree plus Certification in Coffee Production

A total of 13 students graduated in November 2014 as the first class of high school students with a certification in coffee production. RVCP provided scholarships for each student and 100% of the graduates are currently employed and contributing to household income. The Project provided scholarships in 2015 for 30 students, 20 of which are juniors and ten who will graduate at the end of the current school year.

FUNCAFE has monitored the studies program to ensure compatibility and coordination with the school. In addition, the Project coordinated efforts to ensure that the ten graduates completed their internships as a requirement for graduation.

FUNCAFE completed the process to expand the education model specializing in coffee production for replication in other rural communities. FUNCAFE expects to use its own resources in 2016 to begin replication of the program in Barberena, Santa Rosa, and with RVCP support, to expand as well to San Rafael Pie de la Cuesta, San Marcos.

High School Degree plus Certification in Horticulture

The Project launched an education program in 2015 for the children of horticulture producers offering two options: (1) high school degree plus certification in horticulture offered by Del Valle University at its Highlands Campus, and (2) certification course in entrepreneurship and innovation offered through the HELVETAS FORJA Program. To this end, FUNCAFE completed the selection process for both to then offer scholarships to 12 students for the high school program (two years) and 11 students for the certification course (ten months).

- **ANACAFE (Coffee Value Chain)**

- **Financing**

The Project worked with producers in San Marcos to complete applications and credit contracts (considering interest payments) for five organizations (*Asociacion Civil de Pequeños Productores*

Agricultoras Flor del Cafe, Asociacion de Desarrollo Integral Buenos Aires -ADIBA, Asociacion Civil de Pequeños Productores Agrícolas Comunidades Unidas – ACIPACU, Asociacion de Caficultores Media Cuesta and Cooperativa Integral Agrícola Entre Ríos). The producer groups received financing (a loan in the case of one organization and loans and crop advances for the remaining three) from *Manos Campesinas* for a total amount of GTQ1,450,000. The financing will benefit 161 producers.

– **Local Government Support**

The municipal government in San Miguel Ixtahuacán continued to provide financial support for producers from *Asociacion de Caficultores Miguelenses (ACMI)* as the legal organization that encompasses a number of GATs --*La Lima, Legual, La Pena* and *Siete Platos*. The support falls within the framework of an agreement signed between the local government and ANACAFE. RVCP worked during FY2015 to budget the necessary supplies in compliance with the technical specifications of ANACAFE's Agricultural Management Program. In addition, the Project procured machinery for coffee roasting and grinding. Total financial support amounted to GTQ 750,000.

– **Leveraged Resources**

RVCP worked in San Marcos to support organizations in drafting productive projects, budgets, regulations and policies, registration processes and improving accountability. Efforts resulted in leveraged resources as follows:

- Funds in the amount of GTQ2, 511,710 from the National Program for Reparations to *Cooperativa Integral Agrícola Flor del Cafe* to purchase seedlings, spraying equipment and supplies.
- The MAS FRIJOL Program provided members of GAT Sipacapa with 750 pounds of black bean seed for improved varieties that can be planted side by side with coffee. The seed is valued at GTQ11,250.
- The National Electrification Institute invested GTQ275,000 to install electricity in Nuevo Eden.
- *De la Gente* Coffee provided a total of GTQ8,000 to maintain coffee seedlings owned by *Asociacion de Campesinos Unidos por la Paz y el Desarrollo Comunitario – ACUPDIC*.
- The municipal government in San Miguel Ixtahuacán provided GTQ750,000 to procure agricultural supplies and coffee roasting and grinding machinery to benefit members of several GATs (*La Lima, La Pena, Legual* and *Siete Platos*) that comprise *Asociacion de Caficultores Miguelenses*.
- The Cafe Verde Project implemented by Catholic Relief Services provided GTQ243,608 so that ten organizations in Nuevo Progreso could acquire yellow traps for coffee borer pests, as well as seeds for fruit trees as shade. In addition, the funds will go toward soil sampling, nursery maintenance and compost bins.

RVCP worked in Huehuetenango with 61 members (55 men and 6 women) from ASDEFLO and ADESC to obtain bank financing (BANRURAL) in the amount of GTQ1,550,000 for their coffee crops. In addition, AIDEC worked with Counterpart International to obtain GTQ36,080 to purchase agricultural supplies for integrated management of coffee rust disease.

Furthermore, RVCP coordinated efforts with the Italian donor agency in support of Cooperativa Esquipulas (La Libertad) and ASDEFLO and ASODIETT (Todos Santos Cuchumatán) to procure saws, pruning shears, sharpeners and other tools. The Project also worked with organizations in Todos Santos Cuchumatán to provide seeds of a coffee varietal (*sarchi*) to establish a 30,000-seedling nursery valued at GTQ25,056.

- **FEDECOCAGUA (coffee value chain)**

- **Increased Access to Financing**

RVCP worked in Year Three to benefit 2,672 producers (2,185 men and 487 women) who received financing from FEDECOCAGUA as crop advances totaling GTQ42,319,256.

- **Leveraged Resources**

The Ulrich Gurtner Kappler Foundation (FEDECOCAGUA's social component) provided RVCP producer groups with a grant in the amount of GTQ594,561. Of this amount, GTQ234,000 went to fund technical assistance (para-technicians and internal inspectors); GTQ32,900 went to fund training; GTQ49,000 was used to remodel waste water deposit tanks; GTQ81,800 to repair water treatment plants; GTQ150,000 to build a coffee storage facility; GTQ 38,202 for management support on traceability and industrial safety, and GTQ8,659 for an internal audit of certification requirements.

In addition, Utz Certified and CCC CA (a confederation to which FEDECOCAGUA is affiliated) provided GTQ120,000 to install three pilot projects using flexible bio-digesters for waste water management (two for *Cooperativa San Jose El Obrero* and one for *Cooperativa Nuestro Futuro*).

- **FEDECOAG (Horticulture Value Chain)**

- **Financing**

RVCP worked with 476 horticulture producers (366 men and 110 women) to file credit requests with 13 organizations (eight co-ops and five associations) to request financing for a total of GTQ4,116,567 for potato, snow pea, sweet pea and lima bean production.

In addition, 174 producers from three co-ops in San Marcos (*Cooperativa El Paraiso*, *Cooperativa 10 de Abril* and *Cooperativa de Produccion Artesanal San Pedro Unido*) together with two associations in Huehuetenango (*Asociacion El Esfuerzo* and *Asociacion de Desarrollo Integral Comunitario de la Region Norte de Huehuetenango –ICUZONDEHUE*) received funding from the land lease program (*Programa de Arrendamiento de Tierras –FONTIERRAS*) in the amount of GTQ448,050. Of the total amount, GTQ365,400 was provided in loans together with GTQ82,650 in grant funds. Funding amounts to a total per family of GTQ 2,100 in loans and GTQ475 as grant money.

- **Partnerships between Small-scale Producer groups and Savings and Loan Organizations**

RVCP worked to set up an alliance between *Cooperativa 10 de Abril* and ASADIT whereby the co-op approved and disbursed loan funds in the amount of GTQ50,000 for the association to use for potato crops (benefiting nine producers).

Horticulture groups set up alliances with ag-export companies that resulted in financing available for their members. The funding is provided as agricultural supplies for snow pea, sweet pea and lima bean crops.

– **Leveraged Funding**

FEDECOAG financially strengthened *Cooperativa El Paraiso* in Aldea Fraternidad, Tejutla, San Marcos through the use of a financial stabilization fund with a grant in the amount of GTQ150,000.

▪ **ARTEXCO (Handicraft Value Chain)**

– **Local Government Support**

The municipal government in Cuilco, Huehuetenango supported ARTEXCO RVCP activities by providing commercial space for use by *Cooperativa SOSICOR, R.L.* for the sale of handicrafts. At the time of this writing, the Project is awaiting a copy of the agreement signed by the mayor.

– **Local Development Support**

The Community Development Council (*Consejo Comunitario de Desarrollo -COCODE*) in Aldea T-xejoj, San Sebastian, Huehuetenango is participating in ARTEXCO activities with the group of local artisans to encourage members to promote handicrafts from their region.

Table 7
Results Summary for RVCP Component 2

| Component 2: Broadened Participation in Value Chains | | | | |
|---|------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
| FY2015 Targets | | | | |
| Description | Life of Project | FY2015 Target | FY2015 Results | FY2015 Progress % |
| Total number of partnerships between producer groups and savings and loan organizations as a result of Project coordination, assistance or support this period | 12 | 6 | 2 | 33% |
| Total number of partnerships between producer groups and government entities (municipalities, ministries, public entities) as a result of Project coordination, assistance or support this period | To be Determined | 4 | 3 | 75% |

| | | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------|-------------|------|
| Total number of partnerships between producer groups and private sector entities (companies, business associations, foundations, NGOs, etc.) as a result of Project participation | 23 | 3 | 5 | 167% |
| Total number of producers receiving financing (loans, advances, etc.) as a result of Project coordination, assistance or support this period* | 9,000 | 2,200 | 3,403 | 155% |
| Total funding received by producers this period (\$1.00 = GTQ7.80) | To be Determined | \$ 5,144,936 | \$6,351,504 | 123% |
| Total number of organizations with women and youth in decision-making positions | 40 | 59 | 94 | 159% |
| Total number of agreements with municipal governments to support producer organization activities | 4 | 1 | -- | 0% |
| Total funds leveraged and invested in Project activities (in GTQ) | Q24,000,000 | Q7,421,110 | Q4,108,563 | 55% |
| Total number of COCODES and/or COMUDES working with the Project | 45 | 27 | 31 | 115% |
| Total number of producer organizations that increased membership as a result of RVCP strengthening activities. *Result reviewed and modified in July 2014 | To be Determined | 44 | 60 | 136% |
| Total number of individuals graduated/trained at high school level with specialized studies in coffee and horticulture production | 120 | 13 | 13 | 100% |
| Total number of individuals graduated/trained at middle school level with specialized studies in coffee and horticulture production | | 60 | 63 | 105% |

4.2.3 Component 3: Improved Agricultural Productivity

- **ANACAFE (Coffee Value Chain)**

- **Technical Assistance on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs)**

ANACAFE technicians in San Marcos completed 528 technical assistance visits, while 15 agricultural promoters completed 5,040 follow up visits to implement GAPs as follows:

- **Fertilization and Soil Amendments**

- Using the results from 88 soil samples processed by the ANACAFE Soil Lab, RVCP completed fertilization programs.
 - The Project prepared soil fertility maps for six organizations in Nuevo Progreso, Tajumulco and Sibinal.
 - Work with 645 producers on applying fertilizer and using soil amendments on 409 hectares of coffee plantations.

- **Genetic Improvements**

- Prepare 14 programs to produce nursery seedlings.
 - Complete three programs on plantation renewal.
 - Renew 110.94 hectares using varieties resistant to coffee rust disease (*catimor*, *sarchimor* and ANACAFE 14).
 - Distribute 200,000 nursery seedlings (*catimor* varietal) to support producers from 23 organizations in renewing aging or unproductive plants.
 - Distribute 70,300 *sarchimor* seedlings donated by Nestle Guatemala to benefit 363 producers from 18 organizations.
 - Provide technical assistance to produce 401,350 coffee seedlings.
 - Procure 650 pounds of seeds (*sarchimor*: 250 pounds, ANACAFE 14: 375 pounds, and *marsellesa*: 25 pounds) for nursery plants.
- **Integrated Pest and Disease Management**
 - Prepare and set 4,750 traps to control coffee borer beetle over 280 hectares of coffee plantations worked by 505 producers.
 - Prepare 21 plans on integrated coffee rust disease management. To that end, the Project procured 40 mechanical sprayers for use by 23 organizations to set up spraying brigades.
 - Apply fungicide on 580 hectares of coffee plantations.
 - Apply shade management techniques on 2,079.38 hectares.
- **Productive Tissue Management**
 - Prepare and implement 23 productive tissue management programs.
 - Manage 107.45 hectares worked by 934 producers through selective pruning.
- **Plantation Renewal**

Work with 631 producers to renew 110.94 hectares, while 934 producers renewed 107.45 hectares using tissue management.
- **Safe Use and Handling of Pesticides**
 - Deliver and distribute 115 sets of personal protection equipment procured by RVCP (boots, gloves, goggles, masks, caps, pants, shirts, etc.).
 - Establish 84 warehouses to safely store pesticides.
 - Set up 285 bio-deps to dispose of waste water after rinsing spraying equipment.
 - Set up 194 bins to dispose of empty chemical containers.

RVCP technicians in Huehuetenango completed 348 technical assistance visits to coffee producers implementing good productive practices as summarized below.
 - **Seedlings and Nurseries**

This activity included preparing seedlings and nurseries using improved seed for drought and disease resistant plants (ANACAFE 14, *sarchimor* and *catimor*). In addition, technicians worked with producers to set up nurseries using *caturra*, *catimor*, *bourbon*, *sarchimor* and *catuai* varietals to be planted in new areas or to repopulate established plantations.
 - **Tissue Management**

Technicians continued to provide training on productive tissue management to ensure renewed growth and optimal production. In addition, the training covered techniques to manage regrowth after pruning to ensure more vigorous plants.

- **Shade Management**

The Project worked with producers on correct techniques for shade control to optimize sunlight conditions and improve yields. This practice also helps control pests and disease.

- **Fertilization and Soil Amendments**

The Project worked on soil and foliar fertilization together with amendments based on results from lab analysis to ensure optimal fertilization of coffee plants. RVCP technical assistance to producers conveyed the concept of a well-nourished plant being more resistant to pests and disease.

- **Integrated Pest and Disease Management**

Project technicians worked with producers to take samples in the field and correctly identify pests, disease and symptoms. This activity ensured that producers can apply the appropriate cultural or biological controls before resorting to chemicals to fight pests and disease.

Technicians also used the opportunity to check settings on spraying equipment to ensure appropriate application of fungicides (spraying and dosing plus the use of personal protection equipment).

- **Weed Control**

Use techniques to control weeds throughout plantations (hoeing, cutting) ensuring that coffee plants do not compete for sunlight, nutrients or water or be exposed to weeds hosting pests or disease.

- **Organic Material and Waste Produce Management**

RVCP provided technical assistance to treat and manage coffee pulp for composting (fertilize soils and reduce spending on chemicals).

- **Safe Use and Handling of Pesticides**

The Project provided technical information and hands-on training for safe use and handling of pesticides, with special emphasis on: (a) the importance of using personal protection equipment to avoid harm, and (b) the need to triple wash containers and be mindful of how to use and manage pesticides. Training participants received visual material to post as reminders on spraying and triple washing.

- **Climate Change**

The Project worked in San Marcos as summarized below.

- **Soil and Water Conservation**

Over the reporting period (Year Three), RVCP implemented the use of ditches (45.75 hectares), live barriers (63.63 hectares), crates (94.21 hectares), contour planting (10.94 hectares) and terracing (72.83 hectares).

- **Soil Conservation Structures**

Rural Coffee Training Centers (*Centros Rurales de Capacitacion en Cafe* -CERCAFE) provided land for 131 demonstration plots on soil conservation over an area of 25.81 hectares. The plots demonstrated at least three soil conservation practices (live barriers, individual or continuous terraces, ditches, absorption wells and crates).

- **Crop Waste**

Growers produced 422,800 pounds of fertilizers by composting, using earthworms, bokashi, etc. to take advantage of nutrients in waste water and coffee pulp.

- **Waste Water**

Technicians worked with producers from *Cooperativa La Igualdad* and *Asociacion Flor del Cafe* to install water recycling systems in their wet mills. This saves water resources (use about 300 liters for every 100 pounds of parchment coffee processed versus the use of 3,500 liters for every 100 pounds of parchment coffee milled conventionally). This is the equivalent of a 91% reduction in water used for wet milling.

RVCP worked in Huehuetenango on training and demonstrations to implement soil conservation structures through a consultancy on strengthening knowledge on soil conservation practices to mitigate climate change. Technicians used the “learn by doing” methodology and set up 38 demonstration plots for the members of 30 organizations. As a result, growers are applying soil conservation and protection measures on 13.28 hectares (crates, ditches, infiltration wells, individual and continuous terracing, live and still barriers).

- **Mitigate Climate Change**

- **Reforestation**

The Project worked in San Marcos to set up 40 hectares of coffee plantations in an agroforestry system with 8,800 shade trees (*gravilea* and *inga*) together with lumber species native to the region around San Miguel Ixtahuacan. In addition, technicians worked on taking advantage of byproducts from shade and tissue management as fuel wood (subsequently reducing deforestation).

The Project worked on reforestation by engaging the Dutch donor agency (Pur Project) to donate 66,637 cedar, mahogany and hackberry trees for lumber extraction to coffee producer organizations (ASOPERC, ADESC, ASOCUC, ASODIETT and ASCAFCA).

- **Waste Disposal**

The Project trained producers in San Marcos to set up 154 bins to dispose of plastic and glass waste.

- **FEDECOCAGUA (Coffee Value Chain)**

- **Technical Assistance on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs)**

RVCP technical assistance to 18 organizations working with FEDECOCAGUA resulted in sustained international certification processes after applying GAPs, good practices for processing coffee to

ensure high quality and using good management practices to comply with national and international standards.

RVCP worked with the co-ops that have more than one certification, as follows: a total of 17 co-ops have FLO Fair Trade Certificates, of these seven are also UTZ certified and C.A.F.E. Practices certified by STARBUCKS. The latter also acquired strategic status following external audits and are paid a bonus of US\$5.00 for every 100 pounds they export. In addition, two of the co-ops certified by FLO Fair Trade are also certified by Rainforest Alliance. Furthermore, seven of the 18 co-ops are certified organic by USDA NOP for the U.S. market, by the EU for the European market and by JAS for the Japanese market.

In sum, coffee production with one or more certifications totals 8,583,000 pounds of parchment coffee grown by 2,291 members on a total of 3,928.45 hectares.

Over the reporting period, the Project worked with them on compliance with GAPs and good management practices so that two co-ops (Cocolense and San Jose) could obtain FLO Fair Trade Certificates. The Project expects that the external audits will take place early in the first quarter of RVCP Year Four.

GAPs promoted by RVCP among the 28 organizations and adopted by producers include soil management, weed control, shade management with climate change adaptation, productive tissue management, plantation renewal using improved varieties, nutrient planning, integrated pest management and water conservation.

– **Climate Change Adaptation**

- RVCP organized 14 training events to raise awareness and develop plans to mitigate, adapt and be resilient in the face of climate change. A total of 571 producers participated in the training (451 men and 120 women).
- The Project organized 26 events on integrated pest and disease management for a total of 1,154 participants (984 men and 170 women).
- Technicians offered 24 training events on soil management for 804 participants (662 men and 42 women).
- The Project organized two training workshops on biodiversity and efficient water use for 255 producers (197 men and 58 women).
- Technicians organized five training events on efficient and appropriate use of chemical fertilizers and soil amendments for 365 participants (304 men and 61 women).
- RVCP offered seven events of use and appropriate management of organic fertilizers for 280 participants (208 men and 72 women).
- Technicians offered 20 training events on soil sampling for 502 participants (459 men and 43 women).
- The Project set up 22 events on shade management for a total of 663 participants (611 men and 52 women).
- RVCP organized two events on improved varieties resistant to coffee rust disease for a total of 239 participants (209 men and 30 women).
- Technicians offered eight workshops on building bio-deps for 102 producers (81 men and 21 women).

As a result of the training activities, producers implemented the following:

- 283.55 hectares using soil conservation structures in productive areas worked by members from 28 organizations;
- 163 hectares using improved weed control to counteract the loss of soil and reduce the use of herbicides;
- 317 hectares using shade management with native trees and shrubs as part of the agro-forestry systems;
- 363.33 hectares under renovation with improved varieties resistant to coffee rust disease (sarchimor and ANACAFE 14);
- 597.52 hectares using integrated pest and disease management with no pesticide use;
- 197.18 hectares using technical nutrition plans based on soil analyses,
- 3.35 hectares using water conservation (a total of 18,840 linear meters planted with native shrubbery).

RVCP implemented the activities summarized below in efforts to ***mitigate climate change***.

- Set up three pilot bio-digesters to control greenhouse gases emissions while also avoiding contamination of water sources and creating a supply of cooking fuel.
- The 28 participating organizations completed 512 soil analyses and results became the basis for fertilization plans while making appropriate use of any chemical fertilizers.
- The Project set up eight training activities on appropriate management of pesticide containers for 84 participants.
- The Project planned 13 events on the use and responsible management of pesticides and dangerous chemicals with a total of 1,733 participants (1,344 men and 389 women).
- Technicians prepared 18 training events on managing wastewater with the participation of 876 producers (752 men and 124 women).

- **FEDECOAG (Horticulture Value Chain)**

- **Technical Assistance on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs)**

- The use of organic fertilizers including those based on a variety of livestock manures enabled producers to improve soil conditions and increase availability of nutrients.
- Training and field sessions on the use and handling of plant material turned into the soil before planting enables producers to reduce burning and improve the availability of nutrients.
- Train producers in the use of personal protection equipment when applying pesticides so as to avoid harm to human health.
- Set up bio-deposits to triple-wash containers and spraying equipment to avoid environmental contamination and harm to human health.
- Promote the use of yellow traps for pest control. The traps facilitate monitoring and identifying crop pests for decision making.

- Training and field sessions on use and handling of natural pesticides to minimize the use of chemicals. Field sessions covered the use of natural insecticides based on garlic, chili, onion and rue to control trips, fleas, moths and white flies in potato, pea, lima bean and other vegetable crops.
 - Join efforts with USDA and Agro-Expertos to train producers in Huehuetenango on integrated pest and disease management for potato crops.
 - Work with AGREQUIMA to train producers in San Marcos on GAPs, including use and management of spraying equipment. AGREQUIMA is also working with RVCP on setting up bins to triple wash and dispose of empty pesticide containers.
- **Technical Assistance and Support for using Irrigation**
- The Project provided technical assistance and training to producers for more efficient irrigation and maintenance of water sources –including best time of the day for watering, intervals, types and use of sprayers, types and use of hoses, pH gauges plus devices to monitor temperature, humidity and water quality.
 - Technicians included drip irrigation systems for controlled growing conditions under macro-tunnels and in family gardens for appropriate water use and efficient fertilization.
 - Use drip irrigation to promote alternative crops such as tomato, bell pepper, jalapeno pepper, lettuce, tomatillo and cucumber.
- **Greenhouse Production**
- A total of 1.47 hectares of bell pepper, potato, tomato and lettuce crops (as well as flowers) are being produced under controlled conditions in 56 macro-tunnels (3.4 meters by 21 meters). The crops are new alternatives that enable growers to improve quality and yields during market windows (at higher prices) or take advantage of year-round harvests.
- Macro-tunnel greenhouses enabled growers to harvest 88,080 pounds of tomatoes, 3,130 cucumbers, 58,688 bell peppers, 280 pounds of tomatillo, 300 pounds of Derbi beans, 90 dozen heads of broccoli, 9,733 pounds of potatoes and 180 bunches of onions. From an initial investment of GTQ158,050, producers earned revenues of GTQ268,905.35 for a gross profit of GTQ110,855.35.
- **Climate Change Adaptation**
- The Project provided technical assistance to 186 producers to grow vegetable crops under controlled conditions in macro-tunnels with subsequent reductions in water consumption for irrigation.
 - RVCP technical assistance to 348 horticulture producers to implement drip irrigation systems on 2.3 hectares for more efficient water use.

- Improve soil conservation by working with 134 producers from four organizations to implement live and still barriers on 20.08 hectares.
- **Climate Change Mitigation**
- A total of 1,338 producers tilled plant waste into the soil over 185.22 hectares to avoid burning and the subsequent emission of greenhouse gases.
 - Work with FUNCAFE to promote the use of fuel wood efficient clean stoves to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce fuel costs and conserve forests.

Table 8
Results Summary for RVCP Component 3

| Component 3: Improved Agricultural Productivity – FY2015 Targets | | | | |
|---|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Description | Life of Project | FY2015 Target | FY2015 Results | FY2015 Progress % |
| Number of GAPs promoted | 10 | 10 | 10 | 100% |
| Number of good practices promoted to adapt to climate change | 6 | 6 | 6 | 100% |
| Number of horticulture producers using irrigation system | 1,800 | 1,200 | 348 | 29% |
| Producer investment levels to renew coffee plantations (in GTQs) | To be Determined | Q7,000,000 | Q. 15,499,298 | 221% |
| Total number of organizations with management positions on payroll | 30 | 20 | 32 | 160% |
| Total number of organizations beginning capital accrual programs | 10 | 26 | 36 | 138% |

4.2.4 Component 4: Increased Trade and Expanded Markets

This Component was eliminated from the original proposal and is not covered by the Cooperative Agreement between USAID and the Consortium.

4.2.5 Component 5: Increase Food Production and Improve Food Use

▪ Participants in Training on Child Health and Nutrition

At the time of this writing, FUNCAFE completed training of 11,772 participants in RVCP activities. Of the total participants, 7,430 (63%) were women and 4,342 (37%) were men. Total participation surpassed the RVCP five-year target of 10,000 participants. Of the total trained, 5,925 individuals (1,878 men and 4,047 women) trained in food security and nutrition, while 3,250 participants (1,569 men and 1,681 women) received training on family gardens. A total of 2,597 individuals (895 men and 1,702 women)

completed training on sexual and reproductive health. It is important to note that the participation of women in each of the workshops has consistently increased since the Project began. This is indicative of their increased knowledge and empowerment in regard to food security and nutrition.

▪ **Child Health and Nutrition Training**

A total of 2,079 members completed workshops on food security and nutrition together with 1,403 members trained on family gardens and 487 members trained on sexual and reproductive health. Participants increased their knowledge and are more aware of issues that are key to improving hygiene and nutrition.

FUNCAFE technicians organized participatory workshops using the “learn by doing” methodology to encourage participants to get involved to facilitate learning. Technicians note that families are improving their cleanliness and dietary habits.

Mothers learned about how to provide a varied diet, how to tailor nutrients according to age, how to breastfeed exclusively until the age of two and how to nourish school-aged children. Technicians provided information on food groups and nutrients, as well as on how to prepare foods and add them to the diet. The workshops also included the participation of men to raise awareness about the need to invest in better nutrition for children under two, pregnant and lactating mothers (the groups most vulnerable to chronic child malnutrition).

▪ **Children Benefitting from Health and Nutrition Activities**

A total of 17,814 children (9,180 boys and 8,634 girls) benefited directly and indirectly from activities under the RVCP food security and health component. Of these, 9,440 children (4,816 boys and 4,624 girls) are the offspring of members that participated in educational workshops and receive support under the SAN component. Another 8,374 children (4,364 boys and 4,010 girls) are reached through SAN activities offered in schools.

Although the SAN component does not include specific activities for the children of members, they benefit by having increased access to better foods (vegetables from the gardens), clean water, less indoor air pollution in their homes and better hygiene and dietary practices.

At the school level, the Project is complementing activities by preparing school meals using produce from the gardens, improving access to clean water by using filters and increasing knowledge of hygiene and dietary habits.

▪ **Children under Five benefitting from Health and Nutrition Activities**

At the time of this writing, a total of 3,252 children (1,658 boys and 1,594 girls) under five were benefitting directly and indirectly from activities under the RVCP SAN component. Of these, 2,333 (1,202 boys and 1,131 girls) reside in RVCP target municipalities in Huehuetenango, while 919 children (456 boys and 463 girls) live in San Marcos. The parents or guardians (grandparents) participated in educational workshops and are trained in healthy eating, the care of children under two, exclusive and continued breastfeeding and other issues to enhance child health and nutrition.

FUNCAFE technicians monitored communities in September 2015 and found that 95% of the homes implemented health and hygiene practices as recommended and the children show signs of good health.

- **Family Gardens**

By the end of the reporting period, 4,500 families are tending their vegetable gardens while an additional 619 are in training. Families report bringing in their crops and using vegetables in their daily meals to diversify their diet. Nevertheless, since residences are scattered and families harvest their produce at different times, technicians find it difficult to quantify and monitor crops. FUNCAFE confirmed crops including radishes, carrots, beets, chard, peppers of various types, cucumbers and cabbages. Families took the initiative and used their own resources to also grow native plants, herbs and tubers in their vegetable gardens.

The small scale of family gardens only allow for growing produce for a single family, thereby promoting consumption at home. Nevertheless, some families are finding crops that can be easily marketed in their communities (cabbage, bell pepper and cucumber).

FUNCAFE technicians are training producers to clear their plots, design their plantings, shade and crops using bio-intensive agriculture techniques. Severe weather (floods and droughts) in some RVCP target areas discouraged some families from participating. Nevertheless, technicians offered alternatives to adapt to climate conditions such as the use of awnings or sand filters together with drip irrigation for more efficient water usage.

- **School Gardens and Training**

RVCP Year Three produced a total of 432 teachers and 8,374 students (4,364 boys and 4,010 girls) at 114 schools trained and supported (seeds) to establish school gardens. Of these, 51 have drip irrigation systems installed, water purification filters and fuel wood efficient stoves in use, together with tools required to tend the gardens.

Schools are using produce from their gardens for student meals. Some schools, such as those in El Arenal and La Estancia in San Miguel Ixtahuacan, San Marcos have been awaiting the expected support for school meals from the Ministry of Education since last August. Fortunately, the produce from vegetable gardens has been available and parents and teachers provided resources to fence in the garden. In fact, schools in Plan de Villa Nueva (in Tajumulco, San Marcos) and El Matazano (in San Pablo, San Marcos) invested to procure plastic sheeting to protect their plants during the rainy season.

The Project faced a challenge in setting up the gardens when suitable land was unavailable. To remedy the problem, FUNCAFE technicians set up vertical gardens and, in some instances, parents provided space on their own land for the school gardens.

In addition, the Project reports that school gardens have evolved into virtual learning laboratories where teachers and children can go from theory to practice and stimulate learning. FUNCAFE considers this as a foundation for sustainability when members of the community can learn to grow their sustenance at a very young age and develop new technologies to improve production.

- **Health and Nutrition Training for Primary School Teachers**

The Project worked during the 2015 school year to support 432 teachers through training workshops on health and nutrition. Teachers also participated in workshops to establish school gardens. Teachers indicated that the workshops are very conducive to them increasing their knowledge base on health and nutrition and enabling them to relate the program content to the practice.

- **Water Purification**

RVCP implemented activities during Year Three to provide 5,090 families with water filters. In addition, the families received training on three different methods to purify water in a rural environment (chlorination, boiling and SODIS). There is significant research on the effectiveness of each of the three methods.

Technicians monitored activities and found that 100% of the families are using one or more methods to purify their water (the most prevalent method used in the water filter, followed by boiling and chlorination). Technicians found that 85% of the families are using and maintaining their filters correctly.

As a result of additional training and education processes to reinforce the correct use of the filter or the use of alternative methods, more than 95% of the participating families are free of diarrheal disease. Technicians found incidents of diarrhea in the homes where families are participating in SAN activities, but compared to RVCP baseline data and UNICEF reports, the incidence of diarrhea among children under five has decreased significantly over the past five years.

FUNCAFE organized expos and field days to promote the sale of replacement cartridges for the water filters. In addition, it used its own resources to facilitate access to replacement cartridges at their branch offices in San Marcos (San Jose El Rodeo and San Miguel Ixtahuacan) and Huehuetenango (Santa Cruz Barillas, La Democracia and Jacaltenango). Technicians confirmed that 20% of the families already had to replace the cartridge using their own resources and 100% of the families are aware of the fact that they will have to invest in a replacement cartridge in a year's time.

A few of the families that could not budget for a replacement cartridge opted to boil their water following FUNCAFE recommendations provided during training.

- **Fuel wood Efficient Stoves for Schools and Residences**

RVCP activities during Year Three provided improved stoves to 1,165 families and 51 schools. The families were selected using criteria to prioritize those with the greatest need. The families and schools now have conditions in place suitable for improved food preparation. Studies reveal a 100% reduction in CO₂ in the kitchen and other indoor areas of the home and also show a decrease in the number of suspended particles from burning firewood.

RVCP monitored families to find that they achieved savings of approximately 0.93 cords of firewood every month. This is the equivalent of a 61.35% savings in their monthly spending. In monetary terms, a family has annual savings of about GTQ1,674 (based on an average cost of GTQ150 for a cord of wood in San Marcos or Huehuetenango).

FUNCAFE took feedback from the user families and engaged the companies selling improved stoves to work on improving quality, design and effectiveness of the prototypes they distribute in rural areas. As a result, two new prototypes are available on the market and one of these is already being used by RVCP.

- **Community Outreach and Communication**

FUNCAFE designed recipes for school meals. Following MINEDUC review and approval, the Project printed 1,000 copies to distribute among the 114 schools working with RVCP.

In addition, the Project shared the education material for SAN workshops with community organizations and provided training for their local staff to cover most of the key principles.

Further to the effort, FUNCAFE provided assistance to design teaching handbooks for on setting up school gardens. The Project plans to go through the U.S. Embassy to share the draft with MINEDUC as a means to standardize nationwide implementation of school gardens and ensure that teachers have access to reference material.

FUNCAFE technicians participated in a number of fairs on SAN issues promoted by a number of municipal committees on food security and nutrition (*Comites Municipales de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional* –COMUSAN in Spanish), by the USAID MasFrijol Project and by PCI.

FUNCAFE technicians also participated in RVCP activities, including two coffee production expos and six field days to promote good SAN practices. Participants numbered between 600 and 1,200 individuals involved in the coffee value chain, but local authorities and stakeholders from the RVCP target area also attended.

Table 9
Results Summary for RVCP Component 5

| Component 5: Increased Food Production and Improved Food Use | | | | |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Description | Life of Project | FY2015 Target | FY2015 Results | FY2015 Progress % |
| Total number of participants in training activities on child nutrition and health (targets modified using FtF Indicator 3.1.9-1) | 35,000 | 10,000 | 11,772 | 118% |
| Total number of children benefitting from health and nutrition activities | 15,000 | 5,000 | 17,814 | 356% |
| From previous total, children under five | 1,500 | 1,500 | 3,252 | 217% |
| Total number of family gardens to increase availability of foods over the reporting period | 5,000 | 1,500 | 1,907 | 127% |
| Total number of schools using food and nutritional security practices for their students | 60 | 60 | 114 | 190% |
| Total number of schools using an improved fuel wood stove to safely prepare students' meals | 60 | 60 | 51 | 85% |
| Total number of families drinking safe water | 5,000 | 1,500 | 2,650 | 177% |
| Total number of families using improved fuel wood stoves to safely prepare meals | 1,500 | 500 | 626 | 125% |

4.2.6 Component 6: Improved Handicraft Value Chain

▪ **Technical Assistance Plans**

As a result of SIDEM training (Step by Step with the Artisan), a total of 15 handicraft organizations completed their respective assistance plans with support from FUNDASISTEMAS technicians and a consensus-building process within their organizations. By implementing said plans, RVCP expects to see the organizations strengthened to ensure sustainability.

▪ **Investment and Entrepreneurial Development Plans**

Indicative of the success of handicraft production in the RVCP target area, Cooperativa SOSICOR, R.L. completed its business plan (showing behavioral change among the 26 members) after actively participating in strengthening workshops provided by ARTEXCO.

▪ **Business Administration Training**

In order to develop and strengthen management, commercial and administrative skills within handicraft producer organizations, ARTEXCO trained 920 artisans. Of these, 888 (96.5%) are women and 34 (3.5%) are men. Said results allowed the Project to meet 89.58 % of the FY2015 target and 51% of the target for the five years in the life of the project.

The activities that contributed to the above results are summarized below.

1. Leadership Training and Technical Assistance

To ensure access to a marketing channel for products made by each of the handicraft groups, the Project worked this period to provide tailored technical assistance (78 sessions) to 20 artisan leaders (15 women and five men) from ten groups. As a result, five groups registered as small-scale taxpayers and participated in Project training as well to prepare them to file their returns and comply with legal requirements.

ARTEXCO continued to raise awareness on fiscal issues stemming from an informal economy and trade traditionally prevalent in rural areas. The Project worked diligently to shift into a more formal economy despite resistance, distrust and bad experiences in the past. The situation is further aggravated by the rate of illiteracy prevalent in the population, also contributing to a reluctance to sign paperwork. In addition, individuals are reluctant to invest time, resources and effort in paperwork and other requirements. In addition, they perceive the formal economy as one that immediately costs them loss of revenue when they pay taxes. The issue of migrating from the informal to the formal economy is very complex, but of great importance –hence the Project efforts to raise awareness.

2. Training and Technical Assistance to Members:

Members:

At the beginning of the reporting period, ARTEXCO worked with 18 groups that lacked legal personhood, leading the Project to begin by training 654 individuals on the need for legal standing as co-ops or associations. The training covered the topics listed below.

- Philosophical principles
- Types of co-ops and/or associations
- Legal hierarchy
- Organizational structure

- By-laws
- Budgeting and planning
- General assemblies
- Co-operative integration
- Internal controls
- Corporate processes

Leadership and Focus Groups:

In order to promote and establish legal organizations, the Project provided tailored assistance to 110 artisans with 118 technical assistance sessions in FY2015. As a result, artisans organized into one association and two co-ops (pending registration by INACOP). Furthermore, 15 additional groups launched capital accrual programs with a total of GTQ21,775 in member contributions.

- **Training on Best Productive Practices**

To improve productivity and quality of handicrafts, ARTEXCO trained 325 artisans (320 women and five men) and reached 34.21 % of the FY2015 target or the equivalent of 18% of the total five-year target. To that end, the Project organized workshops of the topics as summarized below.

1. Basic production costs, quality of materials, design and innovation for handicrafts and increased productivity. The workshop included 45 artisans using the “learn by doing” methodology. In order to ensure that leaders could replicate the content within their organizations, the Project distributed 1,000 copies of a pamphlet on basic costs and quality.
2. Foot loom weaving: In order to ensure that 43 artisans (38 women and five men) in leadership positions within 14 organizations could improve productive practices, the Project set up 40 internships within ARTEXCO co-ops. Participants participated in the two-week internship to improve their theoretical and practical understanding on the use of foot looms. The Project contracted six handicraft specialists from ARTEXCO co-ops to run the workshops. Participants committed to replicating the training with the artisans from their respective organizations. As a result, 130 artisans learned to use foot looms. ARTEXCO leveraged the process by following up with the artisans trained in the technique. To that end, two experts provided feedback to seven groups of artisans.

To properly equip the organizations that successfully completed the training, RVCP purchased 100 foot looms this period together with the necessary accessories. ARTEXCO has provided the organizations with 40 fully-equipped foot looms (20 in FY2014 and 20 in FY2015) to benefit 60 artisans from 14 groups. Foot looms reduce production time from three months to seven days. The remaining foot looms are in the process of being manufactured and will be delivered in FY2016.

3. The Project worked to improve productivity using back strap looms. RVCP provided 118 artisans with full sets of back strap looms to replace their equipment (obsolete material, in appropriate or not suited to the task). An additional 382 back strap looms are currently being manufactured for delivery in FY2016. ARTEXCO further trained 17 artisans from the Petatan group to weave shawls (in high demand).

4. The Project improved productivity by implementing wrist looms. RVCP worked with 50 weavers from three organizations this period to provide them looms to weave bracelets in less time and using standard measurements.
5. The Project worked to improve productivity by procuring foot looms, spindles and combing equipment for wool. To increase productivity in working with wool, RVCP donated 20 spindles and 20 combers to benefit 40 producers from two groups. The tools enable artisans to spin and comb the wool (very high market demand).
6. The Project worked to increase productivity among potters. RVCP benefitted 40 artisans from two pottery groups by providing each group with five kilns to increase productivity and improve quality. The kilns are still drying and will be ready as soon as the Project schedules the workshops on their use. ARTEXCO also scheduled a workshop on innovative pottery techniques for 13 potters from the Baljetre group.
7. The Project worked to improve productivity in the use of sewing machines. To improve innovation in handicraft production, ARTEXCO procured 50 embroidery machines and will take delivery in FY2016.

RVCP investment in procuring the equipment listed above totals GTQ1,751,789.31.

- **New Product Design and Production**

ARTEXCO designers and Casa Cotzal (RVCP consultants) came up with 132 new products to showcase the skills and traditions of artisan groups and take advantage of market trends. The product designs closely tracked international and domestic trends for Christmas (red and blue) collections, baby accessories and buff. The Project worked to present the products at the NY Now, Tendence and New World Craft fairs.

Artisans produced a total of 3,114 products this period, promoted, and sold 2,980. In addition, artisans completed market research and found four new potential products (bracelets, scarves, fabric and shawls).

- **New Handicraft Markets**

Domestic:

1. The Project worked with Walmart, CEMACO, Siman and Novica to promote handicrafts produced by RVCP artisans for total sales of GTQ30,000. ARTEXCO used the opportunity to position the Kult brand.
2. The Project worked to help artisans participate in several fairs (Centro Comercial Pradera Xela, Fashion Show Antigua Guatemala, Centro Comercial Cayala, Xelajues, Apparel Sourcing Show

and CNMC Expo). As a result, artisans completed sales for GTQ6,742.33 and positioned by ARTEXCO Kult brand.

3. Artisans participated in the New World Craft Fair (most important event at the domestic and regional level) and promoted products by RVCP artisans for the third consecutive year, while positioning the Kult brand.

As reported last period, the Project had contacted an international client that placed two large orders for a total of 995 belts. This led to continuous production of the article and guaranteed income for the artisans. The final sale amounted to GTQ114,425 to be reported next period following deliveries scheduled for November 2015 and January 2016. In addition, the Project has leads on 23 possible clients, nine of which are requesting products from RVCP artisans.

International:

1. RVCP contracted a consultancy in January 2015 with Casa Cotzal to deliver technical assistance to ARTEXCO and support in new product design plus access to domestic and international markets. Casa Cotzal began by completing a diagnostic assessment of 11 handicraft organizations working with RVCP to assess potential in meeting international and domestic market demands for quality. The consultancy then provided product designs promoted and sold at NY Now (Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, New York, August 14-18, 2015). As a result, the new designs were well received and 25 potential customers expressed interest. Casa Cotzal will follow up with the buyers.
2. ARTEXCO participated in additional international events (*Mostra Internazionale dell' Argianato*, Florence, Italy; NY Now in New York and Tendence in Germany). Artisans sold GTQ11,895 at the first event and contacted 36 potential buyers at the second event while positioning their products for the European market. They sold products in the amount of €213.50 and found the handicrafts produced by RVCP artisans to be well received.

In addition, contacts made at the Tendence Fair in Germany requested price quotes as summarized in the following table.

| Cant. | Producto | Código | Período de venta | Precio unidad | Total |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------|------------------|---------------|------------|
| VENTAS | | | | | |
| 26 | Pulseras | ARJ-006 | 29/08 al 2/09 | 1.00 € | 26.00 € |
| 1 | Clutch | 1-1-1332 | 29/08 al 2/09 | | 20.00 € |
| 2 | Billetera Güipil | ARPC-057 | 29/08 al 2/09 | 18.50 € | 37.00 € |
| 1 | Chakte | ARPC-013 | 29/08 al 2/09 | 27.50 € | 27.50 € |
| 1 | Bolsa rayas negras | ARCC-013 | 29/08 al 2/09 | 18.00 € | 18.00 € |
| 2 | Bolsa Güipil | ARPC-018 | 29/08 al 2/09 | 30.00 € | 60.00 € |
| 1 | Porta Ipad | ARCC-009 | 29/08 al 2/09 | 25.00 € | 25.00 € |
| | | | | | |
| | TOTAL | | | | 213.50 € |
| COTIZACIONES | | | | | |
| 10 | Bolsas Campo de Güipil | ARPC-018 | 29/08 al 2/09 | 30.00 € | 300.00 € |
| 50 | Porta Ipad | ARCC-009 | 29/08 al 2/09 | 20.00 € | 1,000.00 € |
| 1000 | hacky-sacks | ----- | 29/08 al 2/09 | 2.00 € | 2,000.00 € |
| 14 | Güipiles | ----- | 29/08 al 2/09 | 30.00 € | 420.00 € |
| 100 | Cinchos | ARPC-019 | 29/08 al 2/09 | 15.00 € | 1500.00 € |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | 5,220.00 € |

3. Technicians worked to update, maintain and position the website. This period, ARTEXCO procured a digital catalog (see <http://www.kultbyartexco.com>) to showcase six collections with 45 products branded by Kult. The tool is important for promoting handicrafts on domestic and international markets.

▪ **Net Annual Income per Producer from Handicraft Sales**

This period, 325 artisans produced and sold 3,114 handicrafts (bracelets, shawls, pottery, *guipiles*, bags, fabric, belts and crochet appliques). Each artisan invested GTQ 588.66 and sold products for a total revenue of GTQ735.83 for gross income of GTQ147.17.

▪ **New or Additional Investment**

ARTEXCO worked this period to increase investments in handicrafts by GTQ1,962,762.30 as summarized below.

1. Artisans procured supplies in the amount of GTQ 47,233.
2. The Ministry of Economy provided ARTEXCO with a grant of GTQ112,989.99 to support participation in the handicraft fair in Florence, Italy.
3. Casa Cotzal donated eyeglasses for producers from *Cooperativa La Jacaltequita* valued at GTQ750.
4. CONFECOOP provided a revolving fund of GTQ50,000 for working capital.
5. RVCP procured tools for handicraft groups valued at GTQ1,751,789.31.

▪ **Employment Generation**

RVCP handicraft organizations created 29.5 jobs (27 filled by women and 2.5 filled by men). A total of 325 artisans contributed to the creation of these jobs equivalent to 3.5 hours a day to produce 3,114 handicrafts.

- **Sales**

Revenue from handicrafts produced by RVCP artisan groups totaled GTQ239,144.85. Of this total, GTQ11,895.05 is revenue from international sales at the event in Florence, Italy.

Table 10
Results Summary for RVCP Component 6

| Component 6: Improvements to the Handicrafts Value Chain FY2014 Targets | | | | |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Description | Life of Project | FY2015 Target | FY2015 Results | FY2015 Progress % |
| Total number of individuals trained in business administration | 1,800 | 305 | 920 | 302% |
| Total number of individuals trained in best productive practices | 1,800 | 930 | 325 | 35% |
| Total number of new handicraft products designed and produced | 5 | 3 | 132 | 4400% |
| Total number of new markets for handicrafts explored* | 4 | 2 | 4 | 200% |
| Total sales this period (US\$I=Q7.80) | To be Determined | \$ 300,671 | \$30,660 | 10% |
| Additional net annual income per producer from handicraft sales (US\$I=Q7.80) | \$ 1,000 | \$ 212 | \$ 19 | 9% |
| Number of producers participating in sales | | | 325 | |

4.3 Cross-cutting Issues

4.3.1 Gender

- ANACAFE worked with producer organizations in San Marcos where women make up 25% of the membership (up from the previous year's 23%). During RVCP Year Three, a total of 211 women joined one of 27 small-scale producer organizations. The Project reports that GAT *Mujeres con Esencia de Cafe*, in Chanchicupe, Tajumulco, is comprised entirely of women (19).
- The Project coordinated efforts with staff from the Ministry of Agriculture to offer a workshop in Nuevo Progreso, San Marcos on manufacturing hair care products from macadamia nuts. The workshop extended to members and spouses from two co-ops (*Nuevo Porvenir* and *Nuevo Eden*). Participants acquired new skills that enable them to diversify their household income.

- The Project worked to organize the Fourth Annual Competition for Women in Coffee Grafting during the month of April 2015. A total of 12 women from five producer groups in San Marcos entered the competition. In addition, 126 other women (spouses or daughters of members) participated in the process to produce tissue-grafted nursery plants.
- Huehuetenango:
 - A total of 760 women are members of producer organizations (about 29% of total membership) and some are in leadership or board positions. In addition, there are 196 women from Santa Cruz Barillas, Union Cantinil, San Antonio Huista, Jacaltenango and Concepcion Huista that are registered in groups in the process of being established as GATS, co-ops or associations.
 - RVCP launched processes to organize women entrepreneurs from several organizations (*Cooperativa Rio Azul* (in Jacaltenango), *Cooperativa San Antonio* and ADICEP (in San Antonio Huista), *Asociacion Union de Pequeños Caficultores –UPC-* (in La Libertad), *GAT Buenos Aires* and ADESC (in Union Cantinil), *Bitenam* (in Concepcion Huista), ASOPERC (in Cuilco), ASPROARG and *GAT Centro Jolontaj*, *San Jose Jolontaj*, *Nueva Providencia*, *San Francisco Jolontaj*, *San Jorge*, *Blanca Flor* and *Nuevo Amanecer Momonlac* (in Santa Cruz Barillas) around ten productive projects. The women entrepreneurs are setting up corn mills, bakeries (three) and coffee wet mills/roasting facilities (four). The women running bakeries participated in training sessions on business administration, entrepreneurship and bread making.
 - There are one or more women in board positions in several organizations (UPC, GAT Buenos Aires, ADICEP, BITENAN, *Cooperativa Rio Azul*, *Cooperativa Nuevo Amanecer* y *GAT Momonlac*).
 - Over the course of six events, 118 members (both men and women) from producer organizations participated in training on the subjects of gender equality, integrated participation and opportunities, entrepreneurial organization and gender.
- There are a total of 517 women (about 18% of total membership) in the 28 organizations working through FEDECOCAGUA. In addition, 46 of the female members are in board or leadership positions. The 517 female members grow coffee on a total of 670.85 hectares, with yields of 1,639,850 pounds of parchment coffee (the equivalent of 1,256,038 pounds of green coffee). Out of the total female membership in the organizations, 334 women participated in technical training and 395 implemented good productive practices on a total of 351 hectares.
- Across all the RVCP technical assistance and training activities promoted by FEDECOAG, technicians are equitable in their attention to both women and men. In addition, women are given access to financial and technical services offered by their organizations in conditions equal to those offered men.
- FUNCAFE works on gender issues using a comprehensive and inclusive approach. Although there are some training activities designed specifically for women, men are not excluded from participating. The same applies to any activity designed specifically for men. Project records show that there is an average participation of 63% women and 37% men in activities on food security, nutrition, sexual and reproductive health and family gardens.

- A total of 97% of the membership in handicraft organizations working with the Project through ARTEXCO are women. In order to strengthen gender issues and promote citizen participation this reporting period, the Project organized two training events (one each in Huehuetenango and San Marcos) using the Gender Methodological Guidance developed by ARTEXCO. As a result of the training, 37 women from nine organizations graduated in the first class and later participated in three workshops on citizen participation that ARTEXCO designed to promote female leadership within COCODEs and COMUDEs.
- ARTEXCO forged an alliance with the National Council for Female Co-op Members (CNMC-CONFECOOP in Spanish) to lead a systematic training process offered by the Latin American School for Female Co-op Members to benefit 40 women from two RVCP handicraft groups. CNMC-CONFECOOP funded the cost of two facilitators and RVCP financed the participation of artisans.

4.3.2 Environmental Mitigation

- RVCP worked through ANACAFE to organize 76 training events on mitigating and adapting to climate change. A total of 1,477 producers participated in the activities.
- ANACAFE worked with coffee producer organization in Huehuetenango as summarized below.
 - Schedule 32 training activities on resilience in the face of climate change, safe use and handling of pesticides, maintaining and setting spraying equipment. A total of 719 producers (571 men and 148 women) participated.
 - The Project distributed 50 sets of spraying equipment including personal protection equipment and 15 motor-operated sprayers to RVCP organizations that participated in the fungicide brigades to control the damage from coffee rust disease.
 - The Project built a demo biodep at each of the producer organizations as part of the efforts to raise awareness regarding care with pesticide residue that harms human health and contaminates water sources.
 - Schedule 18 training events on rational water use.
 - Procure 58 environmental de-pulping devices for members from various organizations.
 - The Project provided technical assistance on post-harvest techniques at 1,300 wet mills to ensure that small-scale producers make efficient use of water resources and appropriately handle sub-products from wet mill processing.
 - Provide technical assistance that resulted in the production of 150,000 pounds of organic fertilizer from pulp and waste water.
 - Organize 18 training events on shade management for coffee plantations. A total of 270 growers participated and learned about the advantages of shade planting (bio-diversity, conservation, sustainability of ecosystems, etc.). As a result of the training, growers implemented shade planting on 1,724 hectares as instructed.
- FEDECOCAGUA completed environmental mitigation activities in compliance with the USAID-approved Environmental Mitigation Plan for the Coffee Value Chain. RVCP submits a separate report.

- FEDECOAG provided technical assistance and support to 190 members from *Cooperativa 10 de Abril* (in San Marcos) and *Asociacion AMAS* (in Huehuetenango) to reforest 4.02 hectares with pine, cypress and eucalyptus trees.

In addition, FEDECOAG published and distributed newsletters to RVCP horticulture producer organizations with information on mitigation measures when planning their crops. The newsletters are produced by FEDECOAG's *Centro de Generacion y Analisis para el Diseno y Apoyo Tecnico* (CAAT in Spanish).

- FUNCAFE works on the food security and nutrition component using clean technology with low environmental impacts. Most of the activities are small scale to minimize environmental impact within the communities. The activities are summarized below.
 - **Family and School Gardens:** Developed using bio-intensive agricultural methods “to produce more in less space while remaining environmentally friendly.” No chemicals are used and resources available in the communities are used for organic pesticides and fertilizers. Producers participate in training on soil conservation and crop rotation and learn to use drip irrigation to conserve water and improve quality.
 - **Fuel wood Efficient Stoves:** This activity ensures reduction in fuel wood for cooking purposes. Project expects to see annual reductions of around 13,000 m³ of fuel wood. The improved stoves improve combustion, while reducing the levels of CO₂ from indoor air pollution.
 - **Water Filters:** The use of water filters provides clean water without requiring fuel wood for boiling drinking water. The filters are made from recyclable material and do not contain dangerous toxins. A total of 5,090 families are now using water filters and the Project estimates that they are purifying about 9,289 m³ of water on an annual basis without the need for firewood or gas (this is the equivalent of five liters of water per family, per day).

4.3.3 Entrepreneurial Development

- ANACAFE San Marcos:
 - **Organizational Aspects**
Out of the total 43 organizations working on the Project through ANACAFE, three are Type A, 16 are Type B and 24 are Type C.
 - **Legal Status**
In support of the decision made by its members, RVCP provided ECA Nueva Escocia with technical assistance to become an integrated agricultural co-operative.
 - **SIDEM Implementation**
The 41 organizations working with RVCP have all implemented one or more SIDEM phases (it is particularly noteworthy that the new GATs completed the phase on Governance).
 - **Management Practices**

In working toward entrepreneurial development, RVCP provided the organizations with 118 training activities on best management practices for 2,104 participants. The Project also provided three certification courses on effective organizational management for 449 participants (primarily members of boards, oversight committees and trade promotion committees).

- **Updated Accounting Records**
Out of the 43 organizations RVCP works with on the Project, 17 have legal status with accounting records that are current to September 30, 2015 and compliant with international financial standards.
- **Increased Membership**
A total of 11 producer organizations increased their rolls by 256 new members.
- **Capital Contributions**
Asociacion de Desarrollo Integral Buenos Aires, Asociacion Civil de Pequeños Productores Agrícolas Flor del Café, Cooperativa Integral Agrícola Entre Ríos and GAT Mujeres con Esencia de Café launched new capital accrual programs. In addition, ACMI (legal representative for four GATs: *La Lima, Legual, La Pena* and *Siete Platos*), increased working capital through member contributions totaling GTQ401,000.
- ANACAFE Huehuetenango:
 - **Organizational Aspects**
Of the 39 organizations working through ANACAFE, five are Type A, 12 are Type B and 22 are Type C.
 - **SIDEM Implementation**
RVCP assistance included 1,284 field visits to support producer organizations in implementing at least one SIDEM phase. The effort to implement SIDEM extended to training 20 members in board positions from *Cooperativa Esquipulas, UPC, ADICEP, ASOPERC, AIDEC, ASDEFLO, ASCAFCA, BITENAM, GAT Cipresales* and *GAT Buenos Aires*.
 - **Management Practices**
As a result of RVCP assistance on organizational strengthening, 23 producer organizations improved management practices in the areas of financial management, strategic planning, marketing and sales. In addition, seven organizations include management positions on their payrolls and 12 organizations have at least one female in a decision-making position.
 - **Updated Accounting Records**
As a result of RVCP technical assistance, 13 organizations have their accounting records up to date.

- **Increased Membership**
ADIESTO increased its rolls by 438 new members.
- **Capital Contributions**
As a result of RVCP technical assistance, 11 organizations launched capitalization programs.
- FEDECOCAGUA:
 - **Organizational Aspects**
FEDECOCAGUA works with eight Type A organizations, 11 that are Type B and nine that are Type C.
 - **SIDEM Implementation**
A total of 26 organizations completed the phase on Governance, five have completed the phase on Management Strengthening, four completed the phase to strengthen Associative Trade and one completed the phase on Business Strengthening and Community Outreach.
 - **Capital Contributions**
 1. *Cooperativa Nuevo Progreso* in San Marcos is collecting rental income from a real estate property.
 2. During their General Assembly, members of *Cooperativa Nueva Union* in Barillas, Huehuetenango voted to authorize a contribution of GTQ10 for every hundred pounds of parchment coffee.
 3. During their General Assembly, members of *Cooperativa Cocolense* in Santa Eulalia, Huehuetenango voted to authorize a contribution of GTQ10 for every hundred pounds of parchment coffee.
- FEDECOAG:
 - **Organizational Aspects**
Based on current diagnostics, eight organizations are Type B and 11 are Type C. The three organizations that recently joined the Project are pending results from the diagnostics to determine their classification.
 - **Legal Status**
Each of the 22 horticulture producer organizations working on RVCP through FEDECOAG already had legal status when starting the Project. Nevertheless, RVCP worked with each to provide fiscal and legal support to ensure compliance with tax and other government obligations.
 - **SIDEM Implementation**
In light of the fact that many of the aspects for each phase overlap, the Project is working with all of the organizations to implement SIDEM phases simultaneously.

Nevertheless, a group of 18 organizations have made significant progress in implementing the phases on Governance and Management Strengthening.

– **Management Practices**

A total of 19 organizations (seven co-ops and 12 associations) improved management practices as summarized below.

▪ **Organizational Aspects:**

- are familiar with and can complete procedures with the Ministry of Government;
- updated organizational charts;
- implement and apply membership policies;
- are familiar and can analyze by-laws;
- identify and apply shared values;
- board members committed to fulfilling duties;
- modify by-laws, and
- board members use position descriptions and handbooks to fulfill their duties.

▪ **Management Aspects:**

- keep appropriate records for credit files;
- prepare, review and implement credit recovery plans;
- regularly review compliance with other institution requirements;
- use tools implemented to control credit;
- draft annual work plans;
- draft and present annual reports;
- monthly updates of accounting records;
- produce financial analyses on a regular basis;
- use legal recourse to collect accounts receivable;
- apply policies and regulations;
- balance accounts and statements;
- identify and manage productive projects;
- produce minutes or aide memoires on agreements reached,
- balance cash and bank accounts.

– **Accounting and Fiscal Issues**

- Reconcile balances among accounting records;
- updated taxpayer certification (RTU);
- procedures with Tax Administration Agency (SAT in Spanish) and other government agencies to update records;
- use SAT portal to file tax returns, and
- request annual review of tax obligations.

– **Updated Accounting Records**

RVCP worked with 17 organizations (nine co-ops and eight associations) to update their accounting records.

- **Capital Contributions**
Ten organizations increased their working capital through profits from productive activities. The increased capitalization took place in compliance with by-laws through general assemblies. In addition, FEDECOAG contributes capital to affiliated co-ops as grants of GTQ150,000 for seed capital.
- **Women and Youth in Leadership Positions**
A total of 12 out of the 22 horticulture organizations working with RVCP have women (30) in decision making positions (board positions).
- ARTEXCO:
 - **Organizational Aspects**
ARTEXCO works with 25 handicraft organizations of which ten are Type B (during the previous fiscal year, only two organizations were Type B) and the remaining 15 are Type C.
 - **Legal Status**
As a result of RVCP technical assistance, *Grupo Artesanal Canton Norte* acquired legal status as *Asociacion Tejiendo el Futuro*.
 - **SIDEM Implementation**
A total of 22 out of the 25 organizations working on RVCP through ARTEXCO implemented SIDEM phases on Governance and Associative Trade. The remaining three organizations are undergoing the diagnostic.
 - **Improved Management Practices**
As a result of 145 workshops and 22 technical assistance visits, a total of 21 organizations completed comprehensive diagnostic together with 15 assistance plans, ten with mission and vision statements, twelve with internal trade systems, ten with organizational charts, three with regulations and four began the process of analyzing by-laws.
 - **Updated Accounting Records**
As a result of RVCP technical assistance, six of the 25 producer organizations have updated accounting records.
 - **Management Positions**
As a result of RVCP activities, *Cooperativa Estrella de Occidente* reactivated operations and has a manager on payroll. The same applies to *Cooperativa La Jacaltequita*.
 - **Capital Contributions**
As a result of RVCP assistance, 17 organizations launched capitalization programs through member contributions. Current contributions total GTQ21,775.

- FUNDASISTEMAS completed the activities summarized below.
 - **SIDEM Implementation**
 - The Project made significant headway using the electronic learning platform designed for RVCP Entrepreneurial Development technicians. The Project also made progress on the SIDEM on-line certification course backed by Del Valle University (UVG in Spanish). The alliance between FUNDASISTEMAS and UVG for the certification course included a public event attended by representatives from UVG, USAID, RVCP/UIP and FUNDASISTEMAS. The initial training took place on October 8, 2015 at the UVG Highlands Campus with the participation of 40 RVCP technicians on entrepreneurial development.
 - The Project drafted, published and printed 186 sets of teaching materials on SIDEM training and transfer. In addition, the Project provided additional material on the correct application of SIDEM phases within producer organizations.
 - The Project moved forward on validating SIDEM, both through the process led directly by FUNDASISTEMAS, as well as through the processes led by technicians from ANACAFE, FEDECOCAGUA, FEDECOAG and ARTEXCO to implement SIDEM in their respective producer organizations.
 - **SIDEM Implementation**
 - The Project completed 18 workshops to transfer the methodology to technicians from ANACAFE, FEDECOCAGUA, FEDECOAG and ARTEXCO using an on-site SIDEM training program. In addition, the Project schedule four training workshops with managers, accountants and board members from co-ops in Huehuetenango and San Marcos that are members of FEDECOCAGUA.
 - RVCP provided assistance to 17 technicians working with 41 producer groups on SIDEM implementation. Of these, FUNDASISTEMAS technicians completed field visits to 33, while using a document review process to assess with the other eight groups. Out of the 41 organizations, 14 work with FEDECOCAGUA, 15 work with FEDECOAG and 12 with ARTEXCO. The Project will begin working with the groups under ANACAFE early next quarter.
 - **Trade Strategy**
 - The Project worked on conceptualizing an investment or impact fund, as well as a trade platform as a communication tool for stakeholders in the fund. In addition, the Project completed the terms of reference to contract (Ocre, S.A.) a trade strategy.

The proposed impact fund would benefit three distinct groups (beginner, intermediate and advanced). The groups would consider sectorial inclusion

ranging from agricultural to commercial with several options for working capital, such as incentives, risk capital and credit.

- Set up the structure and organizational chart for the impact fund and validate the prototype. During the ANDE Global Conference in Glen Cove, New York, FUNDASISTEMAS found it could have a greater probability for success by holding an impact and investment fund fair in Guatemala. FUNDASISTEMAS opted to build a system accelerator for impact enterprises (SAEI in Spanish) that will enable it to offer impact funds to RVCP producer organizations.
- The Project completed an operational understanding of a SAEI that details the economic and financial context for RVCP producer organizations in Guatemala.

To ensure that the SAEI can fulfill its objectives, the Project designed the structure and services (various organizations to study and find growth opportunities). The Project will later provide assistance to the producer organizations in completing their business plans and making arrangements to assess and rate their risk.

- As part of the process for a SAEI, FUNDASISTEMAS registered as a member of the ANDE-Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (global organization of organizations developing entrepreneurship in emerging markets). The Network provides entrepreneurial and financial support to small businesses and growth businesses that produce positive economic, social and environmental impact in developing countries.
- FUNDASISTEMAS Executive Director and Director of Operations participated in an experience exchange in Bolivia on managing investment and entrepreneurial financing for agricultural enterprises. The event provided an opportunity for FUNDASISTEMAS to identify opportunities for alliances or partnerships in support of similar endeavors in Guatemala.
- The Project schedule approximately 12 meetings with financial institutions (banks, microfinance organizations and second-tier lenders), rating agencies, investment funds and individuals from the financial system, micro-credit sector, credit bureaus and social development specialists.

– **Traceability**

- The Project designed a prototype for a financial market based on traceability to provide buyers with quality assurances (to be promoted by SIDEM).

FUNDASISTEMAS signed a confidentiality agreement and scheduled meetings with ANACAFE, UIP, GMCR-KEURIG Sourcing and VERITE officials to draft a preliminary proposal for a traceability component. The proposal is based on a mutual understanding on the minimum evaluation and quality compliance standards as required by the market. The proposal seeks to provide the buyer

with quality assurances through improved quality, reduced transaction costs and an impact on the producers' quality of life through fair trade improvements.

The meetings provided an opportunity to discuss the scope of the 2020 Sustainability Program with CMCR-KEURIG seeking prosperous communities, a resilient supply chain and sustainable products. In addition, participants reviewed the scope of discussions between GMCR and ANACAFE during the recent meeting of SCAA (Specialty Coffee Association of America) in Seattle, Washington.

- The Project worked with the Director of Technical Assistance at FEDECOCAGUA to discuss potential traceability programs that may differ from the needs assessment produced by ANACAFE.

– **Entrepreneurial Indices**

- FUNDASISTEMAS took delivery of a consultancy by Food Sustainable Laboratory to establish entrepreneurial indices proposed to track progress in implementing each of the five SIDEM phases.
- The Project hosted consultants from Food Sustainable Laboratory and participated in five distance meetings to define and develop strategic criteria for SIDEM methodological assistance at the next level. The Project found a need to develop material with more depth for producer organizations that are more advanced. To that end, the Project is working on content for next-generation handbooks or instruments.
- FUNDASISTEMAS participated in the First Latin American Forum on SME Financing (FINPYME) in Colombia on September 21-22, 2015. The Forum provided an opportunity to better understand the financial services that agricultural SMEs require to promote growth and diversify income.

4.3.4 Financial Services

- As a result of RVCP technical assistance, *Manos Campesinas* approved credit requests submitted by five organizations working through ANACAFE in San Marcos (*Asociacion Civil de Pequeños Productores Agrícolas Flor del Café* for GTQ600,000, *Asociacion de Desarrollo Integral Buenos Aires –ADIBA* for GTQ100,000, *Asociacion Civil de Pequeños Productores Agrícolas Comunidades Unidas –ACIPACU* for (GTQ100,000, *Asociacion de Caficultores Media Cuesta* for GTQ50,000 and *Cooperativa Integral Agrícola Entre Ríos* for GTQ100,000. The organizations plan to use the funds to provide members with loans to purchase supplies or as crop advances.

4.3.5 Communications

- The RVCP UIP redoubled efforts to implement the communication strategy on development and a social marketing approach (*Comunicacion para el Desarrollo y Enfoque de Mercadeo Social*).
- FUNCAFE completed the activities summarized below.
 - ***Nuestro Diario***: Following USAID approval of the contents, the newspaper published (nationwide circulation of 50,000) two articles on food security and nutrition activities to assist schools and families within the RVCP target area.
 - **Facebook**: FUNCAFE published 36 posts on its Facebook page pertaining to RVCP activities with a reach of 15,000 followers. FUNCAFE posts daily.
 - **Institutional Newsletters**: The Project completed 28 newsletters to inform on RVCP food security and nutrition activities. The newsletters get distributed to members of FUNCAFE, donor organizations, the business sector and government organizations. The content is also published on social networks and on the FUNCAFE website. The Project estimates that approximately 400 organizations see the newsletters.
 - **Working Groups on Communications**: FUNCAFE began participating as a member of the USAID Working Group on Communications to work in concert on social communication for behavioral change. The group shares information on food security and nutrition activities and behavioral change as promoted by RVCP and also contributes key messages on nutrition.

4.3.6 Coordination with Local and National Governments (Political Dialogue)

- ANACAFE worked in San Marcos as summarized below.
 - In support of joint efforts between the community of Nuevo Eden and *Cooperativa Integral Agricola Nuevo Eden* to install electrical power valued at GTQ275,000. Members of the co-op contributed with GTQ13,000.
 - *Cooperativa Integral Agricola Nuevo Eden* and the local COCODE worked together with the municipal government in Nuevo Progreso and DEOCSA to install electrical power to benefit 13 families in the community.
 - *Cooperativa Integral Agricola Nuevo Porvenir* worked with the local COCODE and the municipal government in Nuevo Progreso to improve roadways and access to the community.
 - As part of the technical cooperation agreement signed between the municipal government in San Miguel Ixtahuacan and ANACAFE, *Asociacion de Caficultores Miguelenses* (ACMI) continued to receive local government funding to establish or maintain coffee plantation. To this end, RVCP provided assistance to prepare budgets based on the technical specifications under the ANACAFE Agricultural Management Program. The local government procured fuel-powered spraying equipment and coffee roasting and grinding machinery. Total funding in 2015 provided by the local government amounts to GTQ750,000
 - The Project organized five training activities on citizen participation in local government for 85 members of producer organizations. The purpose of the training was to convey how a COCODE operates and encourage members to take an active role.

- FUNCAFE worked on activities to link RVCP to local and central government efforts as summarized below.
 - Participate on the municipal commissions for food security and nutrition (COMUSANs in Spanish) with five municipalities in San Marcos and Huehuetenango in efforts to building capacity within COMUSANs to address issues pertaining to chronic child malnutrition.
 - Participate in the Alliance for Nutrition comprised of 21 private sector organizations. The group worked on completing a survey on the current status of first-tier health services. The results were published in print and digital media. In turn, the Ministry of Health approached the Alliance to share its improvement plan for first-tier health services, including an urgent nationwide vaccination campaign for children under five.
 - Continue representing the private sector on the National Health Commission to address issues pertaining to first tier health services at the community level.
 - Complete joint efforts with Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to assign temporary nursing staff. To strengthen efforts by the Ministry of Health in 2015, a total of 17 nurses were assigned to work in San Marcos and 47 were assigned to Huehuetenango in the same municipalities prioritized by RVCP.

5. Coordination, Cooperation and Exchange Mechanisms with other Institutions Working on Feed the Future (FtF)

- RVCP continued to participate in meetings of the Central Coordination Committee and the Departmental Coordination Committees for Huehuetenango and San Marcos, a USAID initiative to promote greater cooperation among projects under the Western Highlands Integrated Program (WHIP).
- RVCP continued to coordinate efforts with the USAID Masfrijol Project as stipulated in the MOU signed on January 28, 2015. This reporting period, the efforts benefited more than 1,000 families through the distribution of improved black bean seed modified to the environmental conditions prevalent in RVCP target areas. MASFRIJOL trained FUNCAFE technicians to provide assistance to selected families on agricultural practices for the crop and food preparation based on black beans. FUNCAFE assisted the effort by distributing the seed and providing technical follow up in the field.
- RVCP continued to coordinate activities in San Marcos with the CLUSA/USAID NCBA Cooperative Development Program as to the names and contact information for coffee producer groups that could begin work with said project following quick diagnostics. FUNCAFE and CLUSA agreed to begin activities in Shanshegual, in San Miguel Ixtahuacan. The Project worked to gather information for the CLUSA baseline.
- FUNCAFE began to coordinate efforts with SEGAMIL. As a first step, technicians identified shared project coverage for eight communities in San Marcos. Technicians then worked to avoid duplication of efforts by identifying those families benefiting from both RVCP and SEGAMIL

activities. Technicians also exchanged work methodologies to find complementary efforts and draft a joint work plan to share with USAID.

- ANACAFE continued coordination efforts in San Marcos with the Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Cafe Verde Project to benefit 381 members from ten organizations in Nuevo Progreso.
- ANACAFE also coordinated efforts in San Marcos with a project implemented by SEGAMIL and Caritas to combat coffee rust disease in *Tajumulco* and *Sibinal*.
- In working on food security and nutrition, FUNCAFE coordinated complimentary activities with NutriSalud, PCI, CRS and PASMO. The Project also worked with the USAID/Devtech M&E Project to improve monitoring and evaluation. To this end, the Project is working in a pilot community to develop joint M&E plans. MEP will train FUNCAFE technical staff and provide logistical support to collect data, then monitor and evaluate impacts.
- FUNDASISTEMAS received support from the USAID Farmer to Farmer Program in providing two specialists on oyster mushrooms. In this regard, the Project hosted a visit by the National Coordinator and the Global Coordinator for the Program to monitor progress and assess impacts.

6. Certifications

This report certifies that:

- All training activities have been reported this period as required by TRAINET.
- The Project has complied with environmental mitigation measures as applicable for RVCP activities.