

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME	Guatemalan Book Project
DATE OF REPORT	11/18/23
PROJECTED DATE OF COMPLETION	01/01/25
PROJECT MANAGER	Alekhyaa Nelluri

Commented [JA1]: Please add the correct date - Mrugank

PROJECT STATUS

OVERALL PROJECT STATUS	IN PROGRESS – 40%	
SUMMARY	<p>Despite several roadblocks along the way, The Guatemalan book project has reached an overall completion rate of 40%. The first round of collecting books has been successful, and the first shipment is currently enroute to Guatemala on the Golden Pacifica cargo ship. Despite initial success, a critical juncture has been reached, and the book shipment is currently on hold due to emerging geopolitical tension. A powerful union known as the National Change Union (NCU) is at odds with President Rodrigo Chaves Robles, and the NCU is retaliating against him by disrupting port operations via the "longshore men unions". In turn, the first and future book shipments may be delayed unless the dispute has reached a resolution. The consulting team has developed a strategy to circumvent the issue and have provided practical solutions to continue progress.</p>	
ROADBLOCKS & RESPONSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <u>(1) Book Collection Reduction</u>: Reduction in book collection due to online/digital book retailers- <u>(2) Reduced Foot Traffic</u>: Major book chain establishments experiencing reduced foot traffic- <u>(3) Warehouse Storage Bankruptcy</u>: Current storage facility has filed for bankruptcy.- <u>(4) Book Condition and Content</u>: Received an influx of old and used books lacking "adequate content".- <u>(5) Book Collection Reduction</u>: Met first target but starting to lose traction on meeting 500K books- <u>(6) Shipping Costs</u>: Increased shipping costs due to risks associated with pirate raids off the coast of Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- (1) Pivot to major retail stores such as Walmart and other alternative stores with significant traffic with repeated business.- (2) Obtain exposure at book signings and events. Increase exposure by reaching out to school reading programs and other reading programs.- (3) Use Contingency fund to relocate books to a separate storage facility 20 minutes away.- (4) Got involved with CODE called International Book Bank. Develop a system to sort books that allowed Guatemalan organizations to see what books they would receive before they are sent over.- (5) Reach out to businesses who want to remove excess books in their inventory that are not selling.- (6) Reach out to companies who are willing to fund large shipments to and in return receive a tax break to meet additional costs.
RECOMMENDATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <u>Submit Exemption</u>: Submit a request for a cargo exemption to the Guatemalan Port Authority since books are considered resource for humanitarian purposes.- <u>Request En-route Storage</u>: Pay an additional storage fee to keep containers on the Golden Pacifica or at the U.S. port- <u>Re-route Another Port</u>: Request transfer to Puerto Cortes in Honduras located approximately 50 miles east of Puerto Barrios. Pay for additional shipping fee and additional fuel costs (2 additional hours) to ship to separate cities.	

PROJECT DETAILS

COMPONENT	STATUS	OWNER / TEAM	NOTES
First Round of Book Collection	UP TO DATE		
Second Round of Book Collection	HOLD		
Third Round of Book Collection	HOLD		
Fourth Round of Book Collection	COMPLETE		
250K Total Books Delivered to Guatemala	IN PROGRESS		
500K Total Books Delivered to Guatemala	UP TO DATE		
750K Total Books Delivered to Guatemala	HOLD		
1M Total Books Delivered to Guatemala	HOLD		
\$50K Project Funds Accumulated	COMPLETE		
\$100K Project Funds Accumulated	COMPLETE		
\$150K Project Funds Accumulated	IN PROGRESS		
\$200K Project Funds Accumulated	UP TO DATE		
6 - Month Impact Survey	HOLD		
12- Month Impact Survey	UP TO DATE		
18 – Month Impact Survey	UP TO DATE		
24 – Month Impact Survey	UP TO DATE		
Develop Book Tracking System	COMPLETE		

References (Convert into MLA Format):

- [1] [The urgency of reading: books in humanitarian emergencies - World | ReliefWeb](#)
- [2] [Dumping Knowledge: The reality of large-scale book donations to Africa — savannah ruth lucas](#)