



# Water Source

THE NEWSLETTER OF AGUA PARA LA VIDA

N ° 9

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## PRESENTATION

For 26 years, Agua Para La Vida has been bringing water and sanitation projects to rural Nicaraguan communities.

Each Project is one part potable water, one part sanitation, one part hygiene and one part reforestation in the area of the water source.

Our NGO also has a school that prepares young people to be rural water and sanitation technicians.

## PROJECTS IN PROGRESS- 2013

Yaulí .  
(Jicaró, Nueva Segovia)

San Matías (Esquipulas)

Palan Bilampí  
(Río Blanco)

El Quebracho  
(Estelí) Continua en 2014.

## COMPLETED PROJECTS-2013

La Chocolate (San Ramón)  
El Varillal (El Jicaró)  
Walana (Río Blanco)

## 2013— Some accomplishments

- 267 families given access to potable water
- 280 families helped to build latrines
- 280 families educated about hygiene and health
- 443 schoolchildren educated about environmental and family health
- 7 CAPS (Potable Water and Sanitation Committees) of current projects given workshops on administration, gender equality, and sanitary maintenance of the system
- 88% of CAPS of past projects in Río Blanco given workshops on the Ley 722 (a law granting recognition to nongovernmental committees like CAPS) and in the administration of the water system
- Participated in events including NICARAGUASAN, Feria del agua (Water Fair), Mesa redonda Mujer (Women's Round Table), Diplomado de Agroforestería con NITLAPAN (NITLAPAN Agroforestry Certification), and others.
- ETAP (Potable Water Technical School) opened its doors to a new generation of students.
- Bonds strengthened with other similar organizations and institutions.
- Continued the radio program "Manteniendo un ambiente saludable" (Maintaining a Healthy Environment). produced by our Health Promoters for Radio Musún.
- Our General Director, Mr. Gilles Corcos, visited.



Comunitarios de San Matías felices con su puesto de agua.

## Water and Sanitation Projects- 2014

1. San Francisco - Kuskawas de Rancho Grande Matagalpa
2. Valle de Casas in San Dionisio, Matagalpa
3. Phase I of projects in the communities of Wany, Santa Fe, Danly and Hormiguero in the Municipio de Siuna
4. El Quebracho, Estelí, begun in 2013, will continue in 2014 with the support of the Rotary Club and Agua Para La Vida.

## Projects under Study and Planning- 2014

Calderón, Municipio de Paiwas, El Zarzal de San Dionisio, La Ceiba y San Diego, in El Jicaró.

## Meet the Nicaraguan APLV Board



The Nicaraguan Board of Agua Para La Vida is made up of. . .

**President: Aynn (Anita) Setright.** Anita is the Academic Director of SIT Study Abroad-Nicaragua and a professor at UNAN-Managua; she is currently completing her doctorate in Social Sciences. Anita is from the U.S., but has lived in Nicaragua for nearly 30 years. She worked on some of the first projects of Agua Para la Vida in the 1980s when she was the Coordinator of the Cristo Rey Project in Río Blanco, Matagalpa.

Members of the General Assembly and the Board of Directors, along with some other team members and Mr. Gilles Corcos (Founder and General Director of APLV).

**Legal Advisor: Lucía Aguirre,** representative of a Swiss development NGO (Swissaid en Nicaragua). She is a psychologist with broad experience with NGOs and water projects. Lucia knew the founders of Agua Para la Vida in the 1970s and has worked with APLV since its foundation in 1987.

**Secretary: Martha María Espinoza Ruiz,** independent consultant in water and environmental sanitation, with more than 30 years of experience at both the domestic and international levels. An agricultural engineer by trade, she holds postgraduate degrees related to water at several universities, including a master's degree in Geology with a focus on Water Resource Management and Hydrogeology. She has worked with Agua Para La Vida on its projects since 2006.

**Treasurer: Martha Chavarría.,** an accountant and business administrator. Martha has spent 25 working with domestic and foreign NGOs, which has given her a rich body of experience in social cooperation and community living. Martha has been in contact with APLV for about 10 years and appreciates the opportunity to join our communal effort.

**Spokesperson: Felipe González Pallais,** a civil engineer with more than 10 years of experience with projects related to water and five years of work with ENACAL in project design and planning. Felipe has a master's degree in Water Resources and another in Hydroinformatics, both of which he uses in his work as a hydrosanitary, hydraulic, and hydrologic engineer,

## A Letter to our Donor Friends

Dear donors,

It has been another successful year here at Agua Para La Vida. In the last 12 months, 6 projects (Walana el Achioté, El Varillal, La Chocolatea, Palan Bilampí, San Matías, Yaulí and the latrine project for El Quebracho in Estelí), have been turned over to their communities. In addition, we continue to support APLV's existing projects, of which there are now 76.

Each person we help is an individual with their own history, and these people see a real and integral change in their daily lives.

Don Leonardo Torres Cruz from the community of Yaulí, an old man who lives alone and has special needs, is blind; he tells us: **"I got lost several**

**times when I went down to the river to bathe, my friends found me and helped me return home; now I have potable water at my own house, thanks to God and to the generosity of the donors I no longer have to go out and expose myself to the dangers of the street.**

Doña Genara Zamora (q.e.p.d)

**unfortunately passed away while the water project in Bilampí was being finished, but she left happy at having her dream realized: potable water in her community, which is an inheritance for her children and grandchildren.**

Doña Salvadora Martínez from the community of **San Matías** showed us that **anything can be accomplished with perseverance.** Her house is 700 meters

**from the main water line, meaning that she needed 400 additional meters of pipe (by policy, APLV only provides up to 300 m.). She has few resources, but she did not let this beat her; she was loyal in attending all assemblies and meetings scheduled for the project, and she sought help from the municipal government of Esquipulas with the support of APLV and the CAPS of her community. She is very grateful now and between smiles says: "What better Christmas present is there?"**

Without your help and generosity, the change in the lives of the people we help would not be possible. We would like to extend to you our sincerest thanks. Many thanks for being friends of Agua Para La Vida.



Don Leonardo Torres



Doña Salvadora, happy with her water post.



Doña Genara and her husband cleaning in front of their house



## Agenda January –March 2014

- Visits from:
  - Representatives of FEMSA - Coca Cola (January 9–11)
  - Wisconsin Ophthalmological Brigade (January 27-31).
  - Thierry Sciary, representative of Res Publica in France (January 22-31).
  - Commission Meetings of the Nicaraguan APLV Board of Directors (February 6-10)
  - Meeting of the Board of Directors (February 13)
- Annual Meeting of the APLV team (January 16-17).
- Inauguration of the projects in Yaulí and San Matías (January 28 and 29)
- Beginning of the project in Valle de Casa, San Francisco Kuskawas, February 2014.



### OUR DONORS



**AGUA PARA  
LA VIDA  
ETAP-APLV**



We wish our "Friends",  
"Donors" y "Collaborators"  
Merry Christmas and a New  
Year full of blessings.  
May peace and prosperity reign  
in your homes and may success  
define your 2014.

