

# Semillas Guias: Lead With Seeds

## Honduras

Youth Agricultural and School Educational Programming



***A project to foster sustainability through holistic agriculture and agro-forestry practices, serving as a model for Barrio Cacao youth and their families in the surrounding communities.***

Barrio Cacao borders the town of Santa Rita in north central Honduras. Most jobs are in the agricultural industry. Many children in the barrio do not have access to junior high schooling which greatly reduces future opportunities. By empowering youth and adults through education and hands-on learning, this project seeks to improve everyday living conditions and provide positive change for the future.





## Educational Resources

- 35 acres of mixed hillside forests and arable land for training and demonstration of sustainable agro-forestry practices.
- A multi-purpose building built by Lead With Seeds that accommodates classroom learning and community events.
- Partnership with the Department of Forestry which supplies materials and training for regional reforestation projects.
- Support from Edmonton and Honduran based Rotary Clubs.
- A local bilingual community liaison and Project Manager.
- Partnership and support from the Municipal government and the Department of Education in Santa Rita.
- A junior high computer assisted learning curriculum supported by a Canadian and Honduran based NGO.



**Continuing Project Initiatives: Together with partnerships established with the Honduran Departments of Education and Forestry, the Municipal Government of Santa Rita, Canadian Rotary Clubs and Edmonton Spanish bilingual schools.**

**1. Providing access to farm land for teaching sustainable agricultural skills:**

Locals can come to the farm and learn how to grow sustainable crops and revenue generating trees such as citrus, pimienta (all spice), cacao (chocolate) as opposed to clearing forested areas for livestock and mono cultural.

**2. Providing access to Junior High instruction for the community:**

☑ Local youth and adults can attend and graduate accredited Honduran Junior High schooling using a computer assisted learning program (CAL) designed by a Canadian NGO that has been used successfully in other regions of Honduras. Hundreds of students in Honduras have graduated from this program.

**3. Building elementary school relationships between Honduras and Canada:**

Lead With Seeds connects local elementary schools with an Edmonton Spanish bilingual school that interact by letter writing. School supplies and clothing are collected and brought to Honduras. Local students will complete grade six and some will move on to our junior high school.

**4. Infrastructure Improvements:**

Continue to assist the Municipality with local road and water supply projects. LWS has assisted with improvements to 1 km of roadways and water projects for irrigation and housing needs.

**5. Reforestation:**

Land is allocated to the growing from seed a variety of indigenous trees that are dedicated to protecting watersheds and reforesting clear cut areas. The Department of Forestry provides training and materials to our staff who grow and nurture the seedlings until ready for replanting. Annually LWS can grow and supply between 15 – 18,000 trees each year. All planting is done by local community members and students from elementary level to university.

**6. Low Income Housing:**

Develop a plan to build up to 10 family homes that can be supported by proceeds from the land and allow each family to eventually earn title and ownership.

For further information, please contact: Lead With Seeds ( Semillas Guias )

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