

## Safe Water Program – Summary Report for 2020

This has been an unusual year since Bob Wiens did not travel to Colombia for the first time in 20 years. Fortunately, Ivan Castro and Rocio Robayo (Fdn Red Proyecto Gente or FRPG) were available represent CAPD, provide information to many new and existing organizations and to support various BioSand Filter projects, many in a virtual manner.

Regarding physical activities in January, February, and March

- Onsite training and evaluation of a rural Cartagena project serving 47 families. FRPG had trained an NGO called AGAPE and this was a follow-up visit.
- FRPG served 10 families in Viota, Cundinamarca with plastic filters along with training and all other aspects of follow-up.
- Physical Meetings with ILSA (co-financing pending), Alcaldia de Sogamoso (3 demo filters installed later), state rep for Meta (wants to install 110 plastic filters, starting with 1 demo filter in Villavicencio), Campesinos and vendors from Cerro de Guadalupe near Bogota (co-financing proposal submitted).

Regarding virtual activities after lockdown

- Development of COVID protocols for group meetings.
- Development of a simplified RISK table for water quality. This will be used by implementers in evaluating potential project areas.
- Using CAWST materials for validating competencies, FRPG worked virtually with many community promoters to evaluate their depth of knowledge. Attendees receive a diploma which gives each person a sense of achievement and provides other project implementers with confidence in their abilities. In some cases, physical materials were sent to participants and then WhatsApp was used for communication.
- Many virtual Validation of Competencies for Community Coordinators from various projects nation wide over the course of several months.
- Development of 4 informational documents to help 4 distinct groups (mayors, planners etc) understand the new Alternative Regulations that permit municipalities to finance, install and monitor household filter systems.
- Development of an instruction document that acts as an assembly guide to families buying plastic filters.
- Virtual meetings with Rotary clubs on various topics – Nuevo Ibague, Armero.
- Purchase and logistics for components (4 filters) used in a co-financed project in Palermo (Rotary Club of Barranquilla)
- Assistance to the municipality of Sogamoso in water quality testing of the 3 demo filters installed a couple months earlier. Sogamoso intends to finance and implement a pilot project serving 30 families.
- Several follow up meetings with organizations in process of doing co-financed projects with CAPD – IMCA (Valle), HOLCIM (Boyacá), ILSA etc.
- Development of contracts for HOLCIM and ILSA projects.

- Presentation to CONDESAN, an international organization working in the Andean region on adaptation to climate change. They are considering a project to serve 16 families near lake Tota, municipality of Aquitania (Boyacá).
- Purchase and packaging of materials for 10 plastic filters in each of Choco and Tumaco. This is a future project given risks involved in travel.
- Presentation to small group from Parques Nacionales Naturales.
- Virtual training meetings for new installer, coordinator, and promoters in Rotary Club of Ipiales.
- Training sessions for Fundacion Argos , Fundacion Celsia and 3 related organizations who wish to conduct a pilot project in Tolima. This training of approx. 20 staff lasted several hours over a couple days. This will be a collaboration with the Rotary club of Nuevo Ibague and FRPG, serving 50 families in 2 communities. CAPD will supply steel molds and pay for some of FRPG training time.
- Presentation to staff of the municipality of Ulloa (Valle de Cauca), followed by a proposal for a pilot project.
- Virtual meeting of several hours where 20 people from 10 Rotary Clubs exchanged experiences in doing projects. CAPD paid for FRPG professional facilitation time. Well received by all.
- Collaboration with a group from Netherlands who have adapted a UV light sanitizer to go on the exit pipe of the CAPD plastic filter, eliminating the use of chlorine for disinfection. CAPD supplied the materials for 2 filters and the FRPG time. Filters are destined for Leticia (Amazonas).

Compiled by Bob Wiens from monthly reports submitted by FRPG.