

CARE Proposal

I am recommending to the COG that for the next two years that we support the Country of Honduras. Honduras has a devastating problem with deforestation and **their new government which took power in 2021 has already in place measures to combat climate change and preserve forests.** I view this as very encouraging. However in Northern Honduras regional areas deforestation has contributed to burning of wood for cooking of food. Heat waves, flooding and droughts all pose a threat to the livelihoods of rural agriculture areas. I witnessed this in Haiti a number of years ago, preparing meals over an open campfire each and every day.

An alternative option is bio-gas from waste products such as pig manure. In these rural small communities that is readily abundant. Pig manure can be converted into safe gas for cook stoves through a process known as anaerobic digestion, during which bacteria break down organic material in a sealed vessel call a biodigester. It is simple and productive and has proven to be low-cost. Currently pig manure is deposited into the environment generating pollution and wasting a potentially important resource. By adopting this program opportunity we help with a heat source and help with cleaning of the environment.

With the support of MD 19 Lions,I CARE intends to implement the following activities.

Construction of 20 biodigesters with their respective ovens that will be installed in the selected homes.

Carry out an environmental education campaign involving households that are part of the Nutriendo el Futuro Schools and children project.

Carry out reforestation campaigns involving the population in the selected communities, using native plants from each region.

Conduct training for the families that will be building the biodigesters.

Raise awareness about the experience and make the main impacts visible.

Conclusion

Creating better opportunities for rural farming families in Northern Honduras urgently requires addressing the causes of climate change. That is a complex and long-term challenge, but a relatively

simple step is to reduce the burning of wood as a household fuel, substituting biogas.

Experience has

shown that rural communities can readily produce clean biogas by processing organic waste such as

pig manure using biodigesters – a simple, sustainable technology. With support from Multiple District

19 Lions we will be able to introduce this technology to four communities in Northern Honduras, not

only bringing immediate benefits to the selected families but also showcasing the technology in a

manner that we hope will promote its wider adoption. We hope you will consider this important project..

Bob Yeoman
U.S. CARE Rep.