

COPAN TRIP 2023



To visit the IPA projects in the villages IPA supports around Copan, Honduras



Our Presentation in Four Parts:



1. A brief video overview of IPA
2. A update on the Five Villages supported by this Club and its Members
3. One program we look to expand
4. The experience of the co-pilot



THE TEAM ON THE GROUND

CINTHIA, MAURICIO,
JOSUE



PART 1. of the visit



To visit the villages sponsored by our Club and Club Members accompanied by Duane Clark

We currently support Five villages, and an additional 25 club members support individual students

I'm proud to report that these five schools were the best kept schools I visited during the entire trip this year.

The teachers take pride in their schools, and by the time we left all our schools had teachers in place.

The children were all in uniform and all books, desks and chairs were in good condition.



PROJECTS COMPLETED IN OUR VILLAGES THIS YEAR





Carrasalito 1

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This is a school we have done a lot for in the past few years including classroom expansion, new tank and repairs to the Pilas and a computer lab. This year we painted the school and laid a new floor in the Kinda.

And now the computers are operating with WIFI to follow.



Ingenious



This village is in serious jeopardy of losing their water source due to the sale of the source spring and the new owner who is uncooperative. We did a 'Raise the Paddle' for this two years ago and have been working through a number of issues since.

Had meetings with the Municipal Mayor and Water Engineers.

We gave them a time limit to accept a plan or we will find another use for the funds.

This village lives up the the line
"Whiskey is for drinking, water is for fighting!"





El Cesne



This year completed a rebuild of the Kinda, and were lucky to be there for the opening. Replacing wood and adobe walls with concrete block, and laying a new floor.



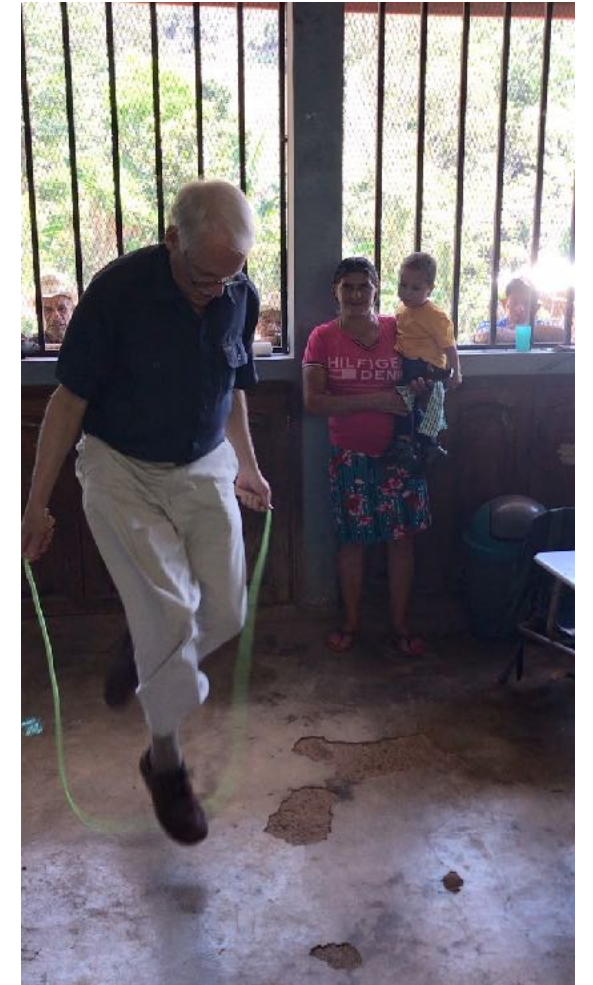


El Eden



Painting the school and began helping them begin a water project.

This school produced its first University Student this year!





El Chorreron

This was a new village for us this year.

With a District Grant we started a project finishing a Kinda which was started by the Municipality two years ago and never completed and we will add two latrines for that location. When that is completed we will begin a rebuild of the current Primary school, replacing the walls and floor as we did in El Cesne.



PART 2. To visit villages in the Rapid Development Program

The program is based on a Swiss program and the objective is to address all the issues at the root of poverty at one time, including: education, sanitation, economy, healthcare, water.

We have been using a matching Rotary Global Grant to conduct this program in a number of villages over the past six years.

This program has had many great successes offering significant improvements to their lives, along with a few components coming up short of expectations.

The grant expires in November so the big question this year was **where do we go from here?**

Going forward we have decided on a plan using district funding (less cumbersome to manage) and take the programs that work well out to other villages, phasing them in year by year rather than all at once. The first of these will be establishing VSLA's as a foundation to build from.

The Standard Coffee Economy before VSLA



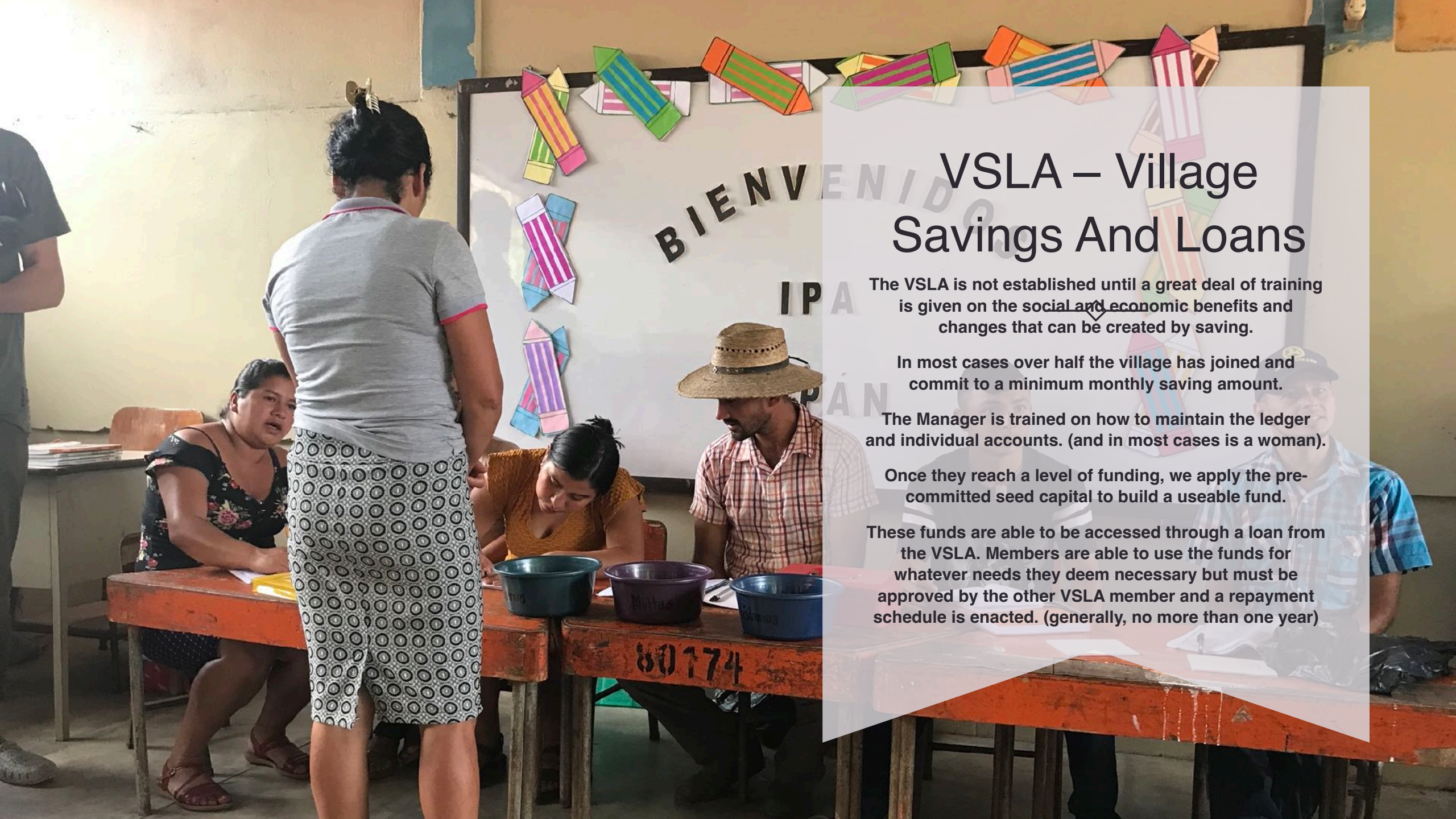
Previously village income came from the two month Coffee harvest both from crops owned by villagers (usually a half acre or less) and payment for picking for larger producers. The whole family takes part.

During the rest of the year they day labor for a dollar or two per day cleaning road sides or fixing roads or bridges.

This money was usually spent by **the men** within a couple of months of the harvest leaving the family in poverty until the next harvest.

The concept of saving just doesn't exist.





VSLA – Village Savings And Loans

The VSLA is not established until a great deal of training is given on the social and economic benefits and changes that can be created by saving.

In most cases over half the village has joined and commit to a minimum monthly saving amount.

The Manager is trained on how to maintain the ledger and individual accounts. (and in most cases is a woman).

Once they reach a level of funding, we apply the pre-committed seed capital to build a useable fund.

These funds are able to be accessed through a loan from the VSLA. Members are able to use the funds for whatever needs they deem necessary but must be approved by the other VSLA member and a repayment schedule is enacted. (generally, no more than one year)



VSLA – Loan uses



Health care. Many women have stated how much better they feel about having a fund for emergency health care needs. (they live remotely)

Home repairs most have been desperately poor and their homes have received little attention.

Business startups. Agricultural businesses and villages based startups have been successful. General stores, pig business, egg business, vegetable operations.

This year the perfect storm, low coffee prices, high fertilizer prices. Loans will help keep them in business. 1% vs 6%

In the future, education loans for Trade Schools (\$500/year), village and School repairs. Seed and trees for gardens.

All leads to economic self sustainability



Other programs we will introduce in time include

Training a Healthcare Volunteer, putting a nurse in the village

Home Gardens, providing both benefit to diet and expanded income.

Startup and agricultural training and support

Continued support in sanitation and water upgrades

Continued Education support

Theme:

*A High School education is the Ticket out of the village into a job,
Trade School or University*

**Average advancement in other schools for the three Muni's
we work in, 10% go to middle school, 2% finish Middle
School and some won't go on to high school.**

**70% of our school students go to Middle school 76% of
those go onto high school**

Rotary Sponsors 5 Trade School Students

Rotary Sponsors 36 University Students

