

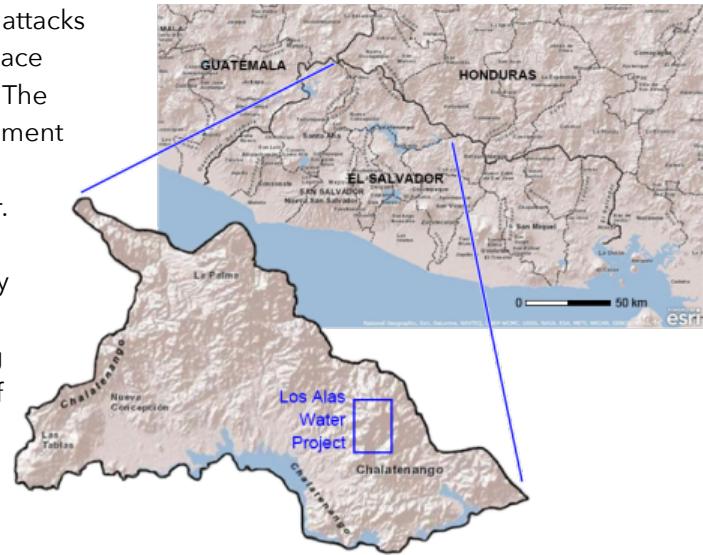
# Los Alas Clean Water Supply, El Salvador



## THE NEED

The four communities—Los Alas, El Caulote, La Loma, and Las Minas—are subsistence farming hamlets. Situated in the department of Chalatenango, a hilly northern region bordering Honduras, the area was especially targeted by government army attacks during the Salvadorian Civil War from 1979 to 1992. After the peace accords of 1992, many residents resettled into the communities. The department's physical remoteness and the lack of urban development have discouraged capital investments in potable water supply structures by ANDA, the dominant service provider in El Salvador.

Despite very limited financial resources, every hamlet has a highly organized and effective elected organization responsible for the administration of potable water services, including implementing repairs and additions to the existing systems. Even so, the lack of assistance from their municipalities left the communities unable to fund a large implementation to keep up with their water needs.



## PROJECT SCOPE

The hilly region, with large elevation changes, of Chalatenango makes a gravity-fed potable water system feasible. To build a reliable, sufficient and uncontaminated supply of potable water for in-home use, the Project consists of four main components:

- Construction of a spring box system to capture water from two groundwater spring sources;
- Construction of five storage tanks: one each in Los Alas, El Caulote and La Loma, and two in Las Minas;
- Construction of a 6.8-km long conduction line from the spring box to each community's storage tank; and
- Renovations and additions to existing distribution lines to deliver potable water to within 20-m of each house in each community.

## FUNDS NEEDED

\$140,000 to improve 1,190 lives in four communities

## FUTURE INVOLVEMENT

EWB-Chicagoland Professional Chapter plans to travel to the project site and inspect the current water system and the spring box that was constructed in 2013. Construction of the first of five storage tanks is planned for late 2015 or early 2016. Please visit our chapter website at <http://ewb-usa-chicago.org> to find out how to get further involved!



### About Engineers Without Borders USA

EWB-USA is a nonprofit humanitarian organization established to support community-driven development programs worldwide through partnerships that design and implement sustainable engineering projects. Over 12,000 EWB-USA members, comprised of professional and student engineers or other disciplines, work with local communities and NGOs in over 45 developing countries around the world on projects such as water, renewable energy, sanitation and more. EWB-USA has touched the lives of more than one million people. For more information visit [www.ewb-usa.org](http://www.ewb-usa.org).