



*CoCoDA and the Rotary Club of Danville, IN
Proudly Present*

The Virtual 2021 Central American Sun and Water Conference

April 17-18, 2021





COME TO LEARN, BE INSPIRED AND EMPOWERED

A virtual gathering of Central American community leaders and North American supporters to explore the incredible potential of using solar power to bring clean, affordable and sustainable water to rural Central Americans.

THE NEED

Since 2000, Companion Community Development Alternatives (CoCoDA) has been partnering with Central American communities, local NGOs, Rotary International, local Rotary Clubs and the Washington Ethical Society in building potable water systems.

While there has been significant progress, potable water continues to be a challenge in Central America. At present, about 88% of Salvadorans and 68% of Nicaraguans have access to clean water.

Unfortunately, those still without access to clean water live largely in rural villages where the pumping of water is required.





In 2010, CoCoDA and our US and Central American partners created one of the first solar-powered community water systems in Zacamil Dos, El Salvador.

This project reduced the cost of water by more than 50% and enabled the village to expand and sustain their water system.

In 2017, CoCoDA launched the Sun and Water Initiative which replicated this approach.

This initiative raised or leveraged over \$180,000, constructed three projects serving nearly 1000 people and demonstrating that solar power can save Central America communities \$2500 each year.

The 2021 Central American Sun and Water Conference will highlight what we've learned about solar-powered water systems, connect Central American community leaders with North American supporters and introduce two shovel-ready, solar-powered water projects in need of funding in 2022.



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Two days of live interaction with leaders in El Salvador and Nicaragua as well as the staff and engineers of CoCoDA.
- A virtual tour of the Zacamil Dos solar-powered water project.
- Two sessions on the advantages of solar power, best practices in system management and water system sustainability by Ryan Zaricki, Solar Engineer.
- Opportunities to interact and develop international partnerships and collaborations.

(All conference sessions and events will be bilingual with interpreters available.)

REGISTRATION LINK

CONFERENCE LOGISTICS

EXPECTATIONS

It is assumed that all participants either represent a community targeted for a solar-powered water system or an organization committed to financially supporting this effort. Targeted communities will commit to raising 20% of the project budget. Supportive organizations will leave the conference with packets designed for fundraising and grant writing.



CONFERENCE SITES

Salvadorans will gather at El Centro de Arte para La Paz in Suchitoto, El Salvador. Nicaraguans will gather at the MCN offices in Somoto, Nicaragua. North Americans will participate by Zoom link. All three groups will be connected via Zoom.

COST

Transportation and lunch costs for Central American participants will be covered.

North American participants are asked to pay a \$20 conference registration fee.

REGISTRATION LINK



PROGRAM

SATURDAY APRIL 17TH

TIME

- Central American Coffee Hour 9:00 a.m.
- Conference Welcome and Orientation 9:30 a.m.
- Introductions 10:00 a.m.
- SESSION ONE: ADVANTAGES AND BEST PRACTICES IN SOLAR POWERED WATER SYSTEMS 11:00 a.m.
- Lunch Break Noon
- Virtual Site Visit of Zacamil Dos with Q and A 1:00 p.m.
- How has Water Changed Your Community: Panel Discussion of Central American leaders 2:00 p.m.
- Closing Remarks 3:00 p.m.

SUNDAY APRIL 18TH

TIME

- Central American Coffee Hour 9:00 a.m.
- Conference Welcome and Impressions from the first day 9:30 a.m.
- Virtual Walk of Death 9:45 a.m.
- SESSION TWO: SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES WITH SOLAR POWERED WATER SYSTEMS 10:00 a.m.
- Community Project Presentations 11:00 a.m.
- Lunch Break Noon
- Break Out Sessions for Q and A with each project's community leaders 1:00 p.m.
- Next Steps 2:00 p.m.
- Pledging by North American Supporters 2:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION LINK



For more information, contact

info@cocoda.org

REGISTRATION LINK

