

Improving Nursery Technology and Infrastructure for Suyapa, Honduras Forix Foundation Interim Report

*Presented by Trees, Water & People
February 6, 2025*

With generous support from the Forix Foundation, TWP and our community partner, COEAS, at Refugio de Vida Silvestre Suyapa (RVSS), have made important modifications to the entrance to the reserve's nursery. These improvements not only facilitate logistics when receiving and loading plants, but also provide a better impression on visitors and future potential donors.

In December 2024, the community used four contractors (including architect and engineer services) and four volunteers for the construction work. Installation required adding new foundation and walls, and installing irrigation pipes that will greatly improve seedling health and better assist staff and volunteers who tend to the plants.



RVSS Nursery project improvements included installing pipes for the nursery irrigation system.



The entrance construction is complete, and these improvements have streamlined and organized the process of loading and unloading plants, ensuring that the estimated 50,000 plants that arrive and leave here each year do so in perfect condition. This is crucial to maintain the quality and health of the plants throughout the process. The improved infrastructure allows for more effective and timely management of plant production and distribution during the reforestation season, ensuring that we can meet the demand for plants necessary for these activities. Additionally, improved access also makes it easier to receive and store donations of trees and other plants, contributing to our reforestation and nursery growth efforts. Installation of the water tanks and water pump is underway now, and it will be installed before seedling care begins for the 2025 planting season.



Water tanks, the water pump (above) and other supplies have all been purchased and are ready for installation in the area pictured below.





Future Expectations

Propagation of Local Plants: With the improved infrastructure and installed irrigation, the nursery will be better equipped to propagate local plants necessary for reforestation, contributing significantly to local ecosystem conservation and recovery efforts.

Recovery of Endemic Species: A long-term objective is the recovery of endemic species that are at risk. With the improved nursery, COEAS will be able to dedicate more resources and space to the propagation and conservation of these vital species.

Environmental Education: The nursery will also serve as an educational center for the community with workshops and educational programs on conservation, reforestation and plant care. Education is vital for bringing greater community awareness and participation, not only for the community of Suyapa, but for surrounding communities and visitors from all over Honduras.

Collaborations with Institutions: COEAS aspires to collaborate with schools, universities and environmental organizations to promote research and education in botany and ecology to form a network of support and shared knowledge.

Self-sustainability: With more efficient operation and improved infrastructure, the nursery will be part of the overall vision for RVSS to generate the resources necessary for its own maintenance and expansion, achieving long-term self-sustainability.

Nursery Renovation Project Budget

Income

Forix Foundation gift USD \$5,000.00

Exchange rate (11/1/24) 24.9786

Total received (Hondura Lempira): HNL \$124,893.00

Expenses

Exchange rate (11/1/24) 24.9786

Volunteer Hours: USD \$480.41 (HNL\$12,000.00)

Labor: USD \$1,785.53 (HNL \$44,600.00) (receipts attached)

Materials: USD \$3,214.69 (HNL \$80,298.42) (receipts attached)

Total expended: USD \$5,480.63 (HNL\$136,898.42)