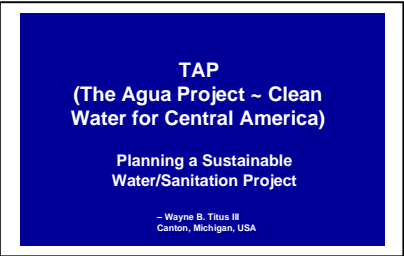
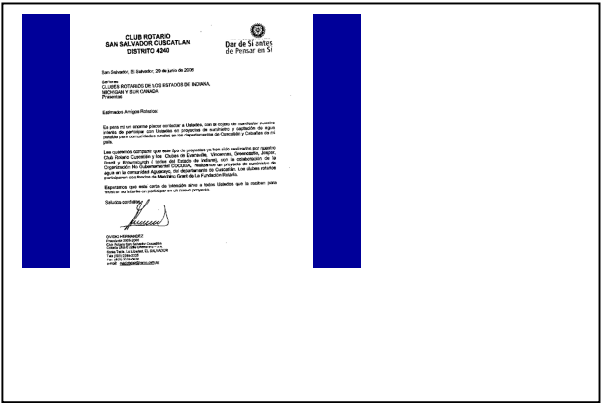


Water & Sanitation Breakout Session #1		
SELECTED PANELISTS: Charlene Hewat, Dr. Edward Kairu, Sandra Forster, Wayne Titus.		
TAP (The Agua Project ~ Clean Water for Central America) – Wayne B. Titus III		
Planning a Sustainable Water/Sanitation Project		
The Future Vision implies a change from project to program focus. Individual projects will be an integral component of wholistic programs. Rotarian responsibilities will change from a specific activity e.g. drilling a well, to delivering sustainable balanced outcomes of better health, less poverty and higher incomes. This implies there must be more emphasis on the human dimension in our programs-empowering the community, training in self-sufficiency and behavior change.	<div>1) Introduction -- Wayne Titus is a member of the Rotary Club of Canton, Michigan. He has recently returned from leading a delegation trip of Rotarians and non-Rotarians to El Salvador, this past January and is returning there next month. In January, the delegation inaugurated what we believe is the first community-wide solar-powered pump and chlorination potable water system in El Salvador.</div> <div>2) Wayne is a Certified Public Accountant and owns his own fiduciary Wealth Management firm, which... He travels to El Salvador once or twice a year, and has been doing so since beginning his involvement working with poor and marginalized communities in El Salvador in 2003. The sustainable projects and the underlying processes that he will speak he refers to collectively as "T.A.P." which stands for "The Agua Project, Clean Water for Central America".</div>	<div>Intro slide, this one or one developed by committee.</div> <div></div>
3) (4 minutes) Project	4) Bonjour, Hello and of course, Hola!	



description (how the project was chosen, was a needs assessment completed, how did you go about selecting Rotary partners, and how did you establish the project objectives)

- 5) As important background, In June 2006, I received a letter from Ovidio Hernandez, a Rotarian in El Salvador from District 4240, requesting our assistance on implementation of potable water projects in areas of Cuscatlan and Cabanas, El Salvador. This initial request grew into TAP. TAP began as a collaborative partnership of Rotary clubs and Districts from North and Central America from Michigan, Ohio, Ontario and Indiana (from Districts 6400, 6630, 6580 and 6380) partnering with Club Rotario Cuscatlan and given broad-based support from local and international Rotary clubs, outside organizations and collaboration between multiple Districts and District financial support, we’ve been able to accomplish implementation of sustainable potable water systems. Specifically, the objectives of TAP are to provide “sustainable, community-wide, potable water utility systems”.
- 6) When establishing TAP, we changed our way of thinking and acting. Our initial focus and objective was to develop and implement a repeatable process that we thought would work best, rather than beginning with selection of a specific project, which is typically the first thing accomplished. Our thoughts were that we didn’t really care “where” the project occurred, but that most importantly, it had to be sustainable. Consequently, the first step for us was to identify local and international partners that espoused these same principles and to open a dialogue with those partners and the communities they served.



	<p>7) We chose to work with Community Companion Development Alternatives from Indiana (known as CoCoDA) and with "CRC", "ADES" and "REDES", local Salvadoran, non-profit and non-governmental organizations. The reason we chose to begin working with CoCoDA was that they were founded in 1992 and has been actively working in El Salvador since this time. CoCoDA's mission is to primarily cooperate in democratic, community-based economic and social development in Central America. CoCoDA already had connections with CRC, ADES and REDES and these NGOs had been serving these local Salvadoran communities since 1982.</p> <p>8) As Rotarians, for most of us, our involvement in Rotary culminates in service to others. My observation of behavior in North America is that we act out and provide this service mostly through principles of charity. We identify a specific need and we deliver a solution with no cost to the beneficiary, then, we move on to the next project. This is, of course, very generous. I believe that many of us miss out on a larger and more meaningful opportunity for service. If we change our thought about what it means to serve, even just slightly, and establish our process and actions based on principles of solidarity instead of charity, our service focus changes greatly. Let me provide an example of what I mean. During my delegation trip this past January, I was listening to a presentation by a friend of mine, Rolando Gonzalez. Rolando is an engineer by profession and works with REDES, another of the partner-NGOs we work</p>	<p>No slide</p>
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	<p>with in El Salvador. Rolando was sharing his observations on the success of past projects with my delegation. He was contrasting those projects which utilize principles of solidarity versus those implemented utilizing principles of charity. His observation was that the immediate outcome of each of the projects was generally the same. However, the long-term sustainability differed greatly. He reasoned that this was due to the differences between these two approaches. "For most people, Charity" he said, "is giving of their leftovers". "Solidarity is to recognize that we are all equal, that we can learn from each other, that we have a responsibility for each other, around the world, and that when we work to establish fairness and recognize equality in our relationship, we truly become friends." It is interesting to me, how much of the 4 way test I heard in that one sentence. I know that this man is not a member of Rotary, but there is no question, he is a Rotarian in spirit. In establishing TAP, We entered into relationship with the people of these communities of El Salvador before we implemented any projects. To enter into relationship is to accompany others. To befriend. To more deeply explore the issues faced by others. To better understand the differences and cultural diversity and needs of the communities we work in. Acting out our Rotary principles in this way allows us to work together as equal partners with these local partners and communities with whom we wish to work with in solving complex issues and to more readily recognize and</p>	
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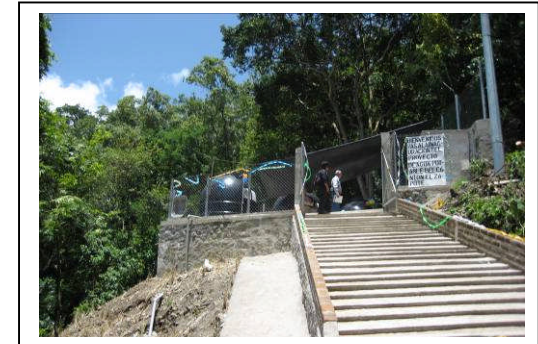
	identify possible opportunities to sustain these projects over long periods of time.	
9) (4minutes) Planning for community engagement and approach. How did your project develop the long term project support and operations by the community leaders. How did you factor in the village priorities, cultures and the capacity of the village to help construct and manage the project for the sustainable future?	<p>10) In planning for community engagement, we rely on CRC and CoCoDA to help us identify a number of communities in the area that were without potable water. We sponsor meetings between communities with completed projects and prospective water project communities. This allows the sharing of experience and best practices and sets appropriate levels of expectations in regards to project structure, implementation issues and effort. Holding these discussions in this manner allows for consideration of the cultural aspects of the area where we are working. Our role during this process is to encourage development of segregated leadership between community and water utility, and to facilitate and support their ongoing conversation and discussions amongst their own communities and between existing project communities. They teach each other in the context of their culture and we learn from it.</p> <p>11) Participation in a project is democratically determined by the community and acceptance of the potential project <u>must</u> be unanimous by the village general assembly. A discussion of priorities occurs and development of village input is determined prior to establishing the final project plan. In one case, during the opening stages of general assembly meetings, we delayed establishment of a project as it became apparent that the village could not agree on their own</p>	 



priorities or level of participation.

12) The general assembly for each village schedules work to be performed by the village population, typically during non-farming seasons so there is no conflict between subsistence of their families and implementation of the project. Additionally, the general assembly determines division of labor by family. If a family is physically unable to participate, there are roles and responsibilities to fulfill in support of others that are not physically laborious. Beyond the critical engineering and planning, which are all performed with indigenous engineers, these projects are almost entirely supported by the supervision and the work of the village themselves. If necessary, easements are obtained prior to project start-up, granting legal access throughout the community to each home. The General Assembly elects representatives from their population that then are responsible to preside over this newly, legally formed and recognized non-governmental organization, their own public utility. The separation from the Village Council accomplishes an important segregation of duties, as their only responsibilities are to maintain and operate the utility, including collections of fees for system use and accounting and producing financial reports, all for the good of the village. Thus the village maintains the biggest stake in sustaining the ongoing operations of the utility, and is familiar in how the project is constructed and operated.



13) We require that all projects include installation of water meters for each home. We see this as a crucial component of each project in regards to sustainability. Each home must pay for "use" of the system so that the project may be maintained and sustained. Each community determines the "cost" of this use through their governing, democratic general assembly. Typically, costs for projects operated by electrical power are more expensive to the local population on an ongoing basis, and thus our push for solar power. As an example, of three projects in operation, the electric powered, charges \$1/ month for 6 cubic meters, and an additional cost per additional cubic meter. They currently have a balance on deposit of over \$7,000. This is remarkable, and encouraging, as this project has been in operation for almost 5 years. They can afford to replace a pump, immediately, should the existing pump fail. In contrast, the project dedicated in July 2008, requires NO electricity, and is totally gravity fed. Consequently, their charges for use of the system were much less, a flat fee of \$0.15 per cu/meter. In 15 months, they accumulated almost \$725, and had already used funds for repairs that they needed to make to the water storage platform above the village.




<p>14) (4 minutes) What does your project plan include for on-going monitoring program by the involved Rotary Clubs for five or more years to ensure sustainability.</p>	<p>15) We believe that the combination of a separate governing structure of the utility establishes a level of "stewardship" and fiduciary responsibility by the community water utility board, and the implementation of water meters supports sustainability. However, the most important aspect of ongoing monitoring through delegations to these project sites once or twice a year are of utmost importance. We visit these communities, regularly, and meet with water utility boards during these visits where we review financial and water quality reports. We engage in dialogue, in conversation, as friends do. Participating in these delegations and visiting these project sites and communities ensures a continued sense of solidarity and responsibility for all involved. These visits also provide ongoing opportunities to interview communities and perform needs assessments where we are considering implementing new projects.</p>	<p>16</p> 
<p>17)</p>	<p>18) Our next project is different than our first few projects in that it will provide potable water for two communities from the same source of water. We have developed engineering estimates that indicate that a water supply in one community has enough water to feed both communities. One "new" and unique aspect of this project is the combination of water systems between neighboring villages that govern themselves independently. The village with the existing water supply determined for themselves that access to water is a "human right" and that since they had more water than</p>	

is required by their village population, that the excess should be shared and available for others of the neighboring village. The joint Village Councils have determined that representation from each village should be elected to a "combined" Water Council to govern the project once the project moves forward. We anticipate that this model will work to reduce potential future conflicts over water resources that may have otherwise arisen in the future.

19) Three important principles... to remember, identify partner relationships that observe principles of solidarity with the communities they serve, develop and implement repeatable processes and projects within communities that are well organized and structured and that desire deeper relationships based on these same principles of solidarity. Finally, and most importantly, regularly visit these communities, as friends do.

20) A little about this photo. This is my friend, Ovidio Hernandez. He is the Rotarian that invited us to join with him in these projects in 2006. He experienced a massive stroke in 2007 which left him paralyzed on his right side and without speech. Ovidio didn't let the stroke keep him from his Rotary work. This photo was taken during the dedication of the solar powered project in January 2010. Ovidio made the difficult journey from the city into the countryside to attend this event. He is an inspiration.



	<p>21) Finally, I'd like to leave you with these parting thoughts.</p> <p>We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.</p> <p>We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.</p> <p>We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.</p> <p>This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the God's grace to enter and do the rest.</p> <p>We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.</p> <p>22) TAP is judiciously expanding this partnership with Rotary clubs from other states, provinces and from around the world, and are hopeful to eventually expand to other areas of need in Central America. We need your considered assistance to continue to accomplish these goals.</p>	
23) Panelist will then participate in Q/A		

session.		
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