



## Experience of FUNDESYRAM - Foundation for Socioeconomic Development and Environmental Restoration in San Pedro Puxtla- El Salvador

**Background:** In the San Pedro Puxtla municipality there are several communities without access to quality water. As a consequence, women and their children who are responsible for supplying and managing household water have to walk long distances, which exposes them to various social risks and means a heavy time burden.

The **solution** was to implement a rainwater collecting system and reuse waste water with the use of a biofilters.

### Description of the experience

The first step in the project implementation was the creation and training of community water and sanitation committees, to ensure the sustainability of the project. After having created and trained these community committees, community rainwater harvesting systems were installed. In addition, biofilters were installed to reuse the waste water that was used for daily household activities, and the community members were trained in growing their own vegetables with the use of the filtered wastewater in order to produce vegetables and fruits in their home patios and increase their food sovereignty.



### Other characteristics

#### IMPACTS

- Improved access to water in the dry season
- The risks and workload associated with obtaining water have been reduced
- People can cultivate vegetables with the reuse of wastewater

#### CHALLENGES

- The lack of land tenure in many communities makes it difficult to install rainwater harvesting systems
- Many people do not have a latrine system

#### LESSONS LEARNED

- Rainwater harvesting systems allows for an improved access and provision of water for families
- Community-level organization is a key factor for success

**Sector:** Rural Development - Natural Resource Management

**Period:** 2018-2020

**Additional material:** [http://y2u.be/zMv\\_ViqliT4/](http://y2u.be/zMv_ViqliT4/)  
[www.fundesyram.info](http://www.fundesyram.info)

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