

Pinalito, Dominican Republic For Community

Sanitation



CHAPTER

Harvard University Chapter

PROJECT TYPE(S)

Water Supply

PROJECT ADOPTION DATE

June 2007

PROJECT PHASE

Assessment

DIRECTLY AFFECTS

100

INDIRECTLY AFFECTS

200

FUNDS NEEDED

\$

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THE NEED

Currently, the main source of water for the community is a contaminated river. A large number of community members suffer from water-borne illnesses, suggesting these two issues are linked. A community well in Pinalito contains two pumps—a submersible pump inside the well and another in series at ground level. The water from this well was distributed several areas around the community for use by the members. The pumps are currently broken, so the community is left only with the contaminated river water, which has led to serious health issues in the community.

PROJECT SCOPE

Our chapter plans to assist the community in repairing its water supply. This includes fixing the pumps in the well to improve reliability and assessing the quality of the well water. There is a chance that the groundwater source might be unsanitary, so we will analyze the water's condition and examine ways to make the water suitable for drinking/general use. We will also ensure the water system has sufficient capacity to meet community water consumption needs. Finally we will help educate members of the community about water quality and sanitation.

FUTURE INVOLVEMENT

We will remain involved in Pinalito beyond our initial assessment and implementation—both to monitor the current project and to investigate future prospects in Pinalito. We plan to monitor the water supply to ensure it is properly functioning and being appropriately maintained. Future prospects in Pinalito beyond this project include construction of a road and housing improvements.

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

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