



Seeds of Promise,
Harvests of Hope



Accelerating transformation for 50,000 people

Dear Agros International Donors

As Agros International celebrates its 40th anniversary in 2024, we are not merely commemorating the past; we are igniting a new era of ambition and purpose.

For four decades, we have remained firm in our commitment to serving the most vulnerable and following the teachings of Jesus. Yet, as we reflect on our past achievements, our vision extends beyond the horizon, fueled by a renewed sense of purpose. Inspired by our founder, Skip Li, and his tireless advocacy for landless farmers, we now embark on a bold mission:

to impact the lives of
50,000 individuals
by our 50th anniversary.

This audacious goal represents our dedication to fostering lasting change and nurturing flourishing communities across Central America

Our journey to this point has been marked by your incredible support and generosity. Over the past four decades, your contributions have fueled our growth and enabled us to reach new milestones. It took us 30 years to reach our first 10,000 beneficiaries, but thanks to your support, we doubled that figure from 10,000 to 20,000 in just six years. Now, as we embark on the next phase of our journey, we are determined to impact the lives of 30,000 more people in a quarter of the time it took us before.

This acceleration is a testament to the effectiveness of our programs and the dedication of our donors. With each donation, you are helping us sow the seeds of hope and prosperity, which will eventually blossom into a bountiful harvest for the communities we serve. Your continued support is not only appreciated but essential as we strive to achieve our new goal of reaching 50,000 lives by our 50th anniversary. But don't take this goal lightly; it is not just about reaching more families in need than ever; it's about partnering with you to provide them with true lasting and profound transformation.





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On this 40th anniversary, we are thrilled to announce the launch of the **Seeds of Promise, Harvest of Hope** fundraising campaign, which aims to secure the funding needed to make this vision of accelerated impact a reality. We hope your hearts will be filled with enthusiasm for the opportunity you have to make possible to provide hope to those who are now broken and in need.

The Seeds of Promise, Harvest of Hope campaign is an open invitation to join us on this transformative journey. Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of thousands of people, providing them with the tools and resources they need to build a prosperous future for themselves and their families. Thank you for your ongoing support your generosity has been the cornerstone of our journey, enabling us to transform the lives of countless families across the region.

Before I introduce our vision for 2024, let me report back on the promises we made to you on last year's Vision Report.



**IN 2023, WE INTRODUCED TWO PIVOTAL INITIATIVES
AIMED AT EXPANDING OUR IMPACT AND EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES:**

- The La Bendicion Harvest of Hope Center
- The Women's Entrepreneurial Fund.

These initiatives have exceeded our expectations, empowering farmers and entrepreneurs alike to build sustainable livelihoods and break the cycle of poverty.

The La Bendicion Harvest of Hope Center has evolved into a thriving agricultural hub, equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and resources to support transform subsistence farmers into successful market effective agribusiness owners. Since its inception, the center has provided comprehensive training in modern farming techniques, affordable financing, access to markets, and ongoing mentorship to rural families who now see for the first time in their lives that their hard effort finally pays off.



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La Bendicion hub is one of its kind, but with your support we will establish at least two more Harvest of Hub Centers in the next five years.

We believe that women are unstoppable, and investing in them will always deliver the highest social returns. This is why over the last year we prioritized the expansion of the Women's Entrepreneurship Fund (WEF) which today benefits more than 1200 rural business women in the farthest and hardest to reach areas of Guatemala. Witnessing the spirit and determination of these women is humbling. Their effort is the best antidote to immigration, their success keeps families prosperously together. Stay tuned, as I will be sharing in upcoming communications much more about these exceptional women!



HOW ABOUT OUR VISION FOR 2024?

As part of our Seeds of Promise, Harvest of Hope campaign, Agros will go deeper into the WEF to provide tailored services for women producing traditional Mayan textiles and to engage the rural youth. It breaks my heart to walk entire villages where only elders, women and children remain. This mass exodus is destroying the social fabric of entire regions. The consequences of breaking families will resound for generations.



We are actively organizing these skilled Mayan artisans to collaborate, enhance their sewing abilities, and break free from the grip of local intermediaries known as “patrones/owners” who exploit their labor. Through the WEF, we will empower these women to increase productivity and collectively seek direct market opportunities. Many of these women shoulder the responsibilities of running their households single-handedly, as their husbands have migrated away, leaving them to care for their villages, children, and elders. Moreover, numerous families are grappling with the heartbreaking reality of chronic

malnutrition among their children. The urgency forces us to act and act promptly.



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Similarly, we recognize the critical need to address the plight of the youth. To ensure they remain in and thrive in their communities, we are expanding WEF initiatives and crafting specialized services to foster viable and modern agribusinesses and entrepreneurship opportunities for this important segment of population who is driven to migrate searching for hope. We have achieved success with similar programs in Nicaragua and are committed to replicating this success in Guatemala.

Esteem donor, partner and friend, the Seeds of Promise, Harvest of Hope campaign marks a pivotal moment for our ministry. We need your support, urge you to amplify your generosity and stand firm in your belief in Agros' mission. Let your hearts be guided by the grace of solidarity that God instills within us.

PROVERBS 19:17: “Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.”

With deep appreciation and gratitude,

Alberto Solano
PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGROS INTERNATIONAL

