

Basic Information

Grant title

Safe Water Access Rural Cuscatlán, El Salvador

Type of Project

Humanitarian Project

Address community needs and produce sustainable, measurable outcomes

Primary Contacts

Name	Club	District	Sponsor	Role
Reggie O'Brien	Vail	5470	Rotary Club	International
Victor PINEDA	San Salvador Cuscatlán	4240	Rotary Club	Host

Committee Members

Host committee

Name	Club	District	Role
Claudia Reyes de Villatoro	San Salvador Cuscatlán [Rotary Club]	4240	Secondary Contact
Ivo Osegueda Costte	San Salvador Cuscatlán [Rotary Club]	4240	Secondary Contact

International committee

Name	Club	District	Role
Tom Dumler	Vail [Rotary Club]	5470	Secondary Contact International

Do any of these committee members have potential conflicts of interest?

A conflict of interest occurs when someone is in a position to make or influence a decision about a grant or award that could benefit them, their family, their business, or an entity in which they serve in a paid or voluntary leadership or advisory position.

For each Rotary member who serves on the grant committee, list all relationships that the member has with any scholarship recipients, cooperating organizations, project vendors, or other individuals or organizations that will benefit from the grant.

There is no conflict of interest between any Rotarian and any vendors, organizations or other individuals that will participate in the Global Grant.

Next, list all relationships that district officers and other members of the sponsor clubs or districts (other than the members of the grant committee) have with any award recipients, cooperating organizations, project vendors, or other individuals or organizations that would benefit from the grant.

There are no relationships between the sponsor/district clubs and any of the beneficiaries other than those potential fellowships due to the progress of the grant.

Project Overview

Tell us a little about your project. What are the main objectives of the project, and who will benefit from it?

The objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Circuit Rider Program are to improve the health and livelihoods of 25 rural communities in Cuscatlán Norte district and San Vicente Sur Region of El Salvador by eliminating waterborne disease and providing sustainable access to safe drinking water, focusing our work on a local and national level to align with SDG 6: This project will span three years to approximately 25,000 individuals throughout out 25 rural communities in El Salvador ensuring safe, available locally operated, and sustainable management of water for all. Through the innovative market-based Circuit Rider Model, rural communities have access to safe drinking water, creating economic opportunities for individuals and improving health, allowing children to attend school, parents to be present for work, and communities to thrive.

Areas of Focus

Which area of focus will this project support?

Water, sanitation, and hygiene

Measuring Success

Water, sanitation, and hygiene

Which goals of this area of focus will your project support?

Facilitating universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water; Improving community hygiene knowledge, behaviors, and practices that help prevent the spread of disease; Strengthening the capacity of governments, institutions, and communities to develop, finance, manage, and maintain sustainable water and sanitation services;

How will you measure your project's impact? Find tips and information on how to measure results in [the Global Grant Monitoring and Evaluation Plan Supplement](#). You need to include at least one standardized measure from the drop-down menu as part of your application.

Measure	Collection Method	Frequency	Beneficiaries
Number of people with access to improved sources of drinking water	Testing	Every month	2500+
Number of communities with a functioning governance committee in place	Surveys/questionnaires	Every month	2500+
Number of communities utilizing a tariff/usage fee structure	Surveys/questionnaires	Every year	2500+
Number of individuals trained	Surveys/questionnaires	Every month	2500+

Do you know who will collect information for monitoring and evaluation?

Yes

Name of Individual or Organization

Cova

Briefly explain why this person or organization is qualified for this task.

Cova is creating Central Americas largest water quality database through mWater. Cova circuit riders gather water quality data daily from communities. All data is organized and shared with local government who in turn use these numbers to help plan and prioritize future water projects and allocate resources.

Location and Dates

Humanitarian Project

Where will your project take place?

City or town

Cuscatlán

Province or state

Country

El Salvador

When will your project take place?

2025-01-01 to 2027-12-31

Participants

Partners (Optional)

List any other partners that will participate in this project.

Rotarian Participants

Describe the roles and responsibilities that the host and international sponsors will have in this project. Please be specific. Which sponsor will receive and manage the grant funds?

Cova USA, Cova El Salvador, Rotary Vail, and Rotary San Salvador Roles:

Rotary Vail:

1. Disburse monies for the project to Cova Agua USA based on requests made by Cova
2. Review all receipts for funding requests
3. Communicate reports to Rotary International
4. Be the liaison between Cova El Salvador, Cova USA, Rotary Vail, Rotary San Salvador, and Rotary International
5. Prepare all legal documents for Grant administration
6. Market project in newsletter communications and social media
7. Share program updates to Rotary international

Cova USA/Cova El Salvador:

1. Administer and implement Rotary project
2. Cova USA receives and manages funding from Vail Rotary and transfers to Cova El Salvador.
3. Provide necessary financial reports to Rotary Vail and Rotary San Salvador for approval
 - a. Submit all receipts for financial reporting
4. Market project in newsletter communications and social media
5. Compile all necessary reporting documents to present to Rotary Vail, Rotary San Salvador, and Rotary International.
6. Be the liaison between Cova, Rotary San Salvador, and Rotary Vail
7. Market project in newsletter communications and social media

Rotary San Salvador:

1. Review and approve all financial documents before Cova USA submits to Rotary Vail
2. Confirm Cova USA has received funding from Rotary Vail and transferred funding to Cova El Salvador
3. Review and approve all program completion reports
4. Go on-site to see community installation and community beneficiaries
5. Market project in newsletter communications and social media

Describe how the partnership between the host and international sponsors was formed. What agreement have the sponsors made toward ensuring that the project will be implemented successfully? How will they manage any challenges that arise throughout the project?

Cova is a nonprofit organization with more than a decade of experience in interventions to provide access to safe drinking water. It is the only manufacturer of drinking water chlorinators in the region, and they have created the only national network for the distribution of chlorine to rural communities.

Knowing the power of data and information, Cova has maintained a detailed database of all historical water quality testing which is commonly referenced and analyzed by country officials. The Cova has created the region's largest water quality database using the cloud-based mobile data collection system mWater to gather information from the field. During the time of the product/service implementation our team performs the survey using their smart phone which can be used without cell service to capture survey questions, record the GPS coordinates, take photos/video of the beneficiary, implementation as well as measure critical water quality data. With the automation and linking this data to online platforms, the data can further be utilized to increase public health. The data results allow us to present them in a manner appropriate for our partners and

supporters and help us measure and report our impact This customer feedback tools have been critical in helping our organization provide the correct resources to our beneficiaries. These results are shared with Ministries of Health to provide governmental support and policy changes in the management of rural water systems. Cova staff aggregate and report all water quality activities transparently through the real-time cloud-based platform mWater.

Vail Rotary has successfully worked with and implemented previous projects in the region with Cova.

Budget

What local currency are you using in your project's budget?

The currency you select should be what you use for a majority of the project's expenses.

Local Currency	U.S. dollar (USD) exchange rate	Currency Set On
USD	1	03/10/2024

What is the budget for this grant?

List each item in your project's budget. Remember that the project's total budget must equal its total funding, which will be calculated in step 9. Project budgets, including the World Fund match, must be at least 30,000 USD.

#	Category	Description	Supplier	Cost in USD	Cost in USD
1	Training	Training in Administration of Water Systems - 25 communities	Cova	3780	3780
2	Training	Training in Operation and Maintenance-25 communities	Cova	4620	4620
3	Training	Training in Plumbing-25 communities	Cova	3080	3080
4	Training	Training in water rate calculation-25 communities	Cova	4760	4760
5	Training	Training in Chlorination-25 communities	Cova	4900	4900
6	Equipment	Water analysis x 25 communities (before installation): Pathoscreen, Bacteriological, Arsenic, Total Iron, Conductivity, pH, temperature, Turbidity, Nitrates, Nitrites, Fluoride	Cova	4200	4200
7	Equipment	Water analysis x 25 communities (in 6 months): Pathoscreen, Bacteriological, Arsenic, Total Iron, Conductivity, pH, temperature, Turbidity, Nitrates, Nitrites, Fluoride	Cova	4200	4200
8	Equipment	Water analysis x 25 communities (in 12 months) Pathoscreen, Bacteriological, Arsenic, Total Iron, Conductivity, pH, temperature, Turbidity, Nitrates, Nitrites, Fluoride	Cova	4200	4200

9	Equipment	25- ADEC in-line chlorinator	Cova	5040	5040
10	Supplies	Calcium Hypochlorite Tablets	Cova	672	672
11	Equipment	25- Chlorimeter	Cova	784	784
12	Supplies	Blister of DPD 1 Tablets (reagent to measure chlorine level)	Cova	1344	1344
13	Personnel	ADEC Chlorinator Installation and Calibration	Cova	5880	5880
14	Supplies	Chlorine supply for initial inventory	Cova	2380	2380
15	Training	Training, monitoring and technical assistance for 3 years	Cova	25200	25200
16	Personnel	Supervision and training during the project	Cova	2828	2828
17	Operations	Cost Contingency for increased supply costs	Cova	3500	3500
18	Monitoring/e valuation	Program M&E	Cova	3700	3700
			Total budget:	85068	85068

Supporting Documents

- El_Salvador_Global_Grant_Budget.xlsx

Funding

Tell us about the funding you've secured for your project. We'll use the information you enter here to calculate your maximum possible funding match from the World Fund.

#	Source	Details	Amount (USD)	Support*	Total
1	Cash from Club	Vail [Rotary Club]	7,500.00	375.00	7,875 .00
2	Cash from Club	San Salvador Cuscatlán [Rotary Club]	100.00	5.00	105.00
3	Cash from Club	Omaha-Suburban [Rotary Club]	5,100.00	255.00	5,355 .00
4	Non- Rotaria n contrib utions with NO match from TRF	Warren Hill - Member of Club 1535	5,100.00	255.00	5,355 .00
5	Cash from Club	North Colorado Springs [Rotary Club]	5,000.00	250.00	5,250 .00
6	Cash from Club	Boulder [Rotary Club]	4,200.00	210.00	4,410 .00
7	District Designa ted Fund (DDF)	5450	4,000.00	0.00	4,000 .00
8	District Designa ted Fund (DDF)	5470	14,375.00	0.00	14,375 5.00

*Whenever cash is contributed to the Foundation to help fund a global grant project, an additional 5 percent is applied to help cover the cost of processing these funds. Clubs and districts can receive Paul Harris Fellow recognition points for the additional expense.

How much World Fund money would you like to use on this project?

You may request up to 14,700.00 USD from the World Fund.

Funding Summary

	DDF contributions:	18,375.00
	Cash contributions:	21,900.00
	Financing subtotal (matched contributions + World Fund):	40,275.00
	Non-Rotarian contributions with NO match from TRF:	5,100.00
	Total funding:	45,375.00
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	Total budget:	85,068.00

Sustainability

Humanitarian Projects

Project planning

Describe the community needs that your project will address.

Safe and accessible drinking water is a fundamental human right. Unsafe, inaccessible drinking water is one of the greatest threats to human health and is responsible for over 3.4 million annual deaths worldwide, including children. These deaths could be avoided if the risk factors associated with unsafe drinking water were addressed.

Drinking water contamination is endemic in Central America. When it is not fatal, unsafe drinking water makes families sick, and misses school or work, resulting in an underproductive workforce, high healthcare costs, and significant economic repercussions for entire communities and the country.

Rural community-run drinking water systems in Central America frequently cannot provide reliable, microbiologically safe, and sustainable water service over time. Aging infrastructure, intermittent service, inadequate water treatment, and water quality monitoring, insufficient maintenance, and poor financial management are common issues in rural community water systems. This results in the delivery of unsafe drinking water and waterborne disease outbreaks in rural communities and limits long-term sustainability. Most community water systems lack filtration or chlorination capabilities, and the community water board typically does not have the capacity to maintain or operate their water systems resulting in unsafe drinking water conditions. Without safe drinking at home, in places of work, and at schools, it is disproportionately harder to lead safe, productive, healthy lives.

Studies have shown that over 50% of international unsupported community water system projects fail within five years of construction, and an estimated 95% of water systems fail within 20 years without post-construction support because communities lack sufficient operational, technical, and financial capacity to operate and maintain a water system properly. A published study at the University of North Carolina measuring the benefits of our Circuit Rider post-construction support in Central America demonstrated extremely positive impacts and results in improved community drinking water quality, financial management, better technical capacity, and a higher prevalence of household metering. Communities with Circuit Rider support had significantly less microbiological water contamination and invested substantially more in treatment and repairs than comparable communities without the support of a Circuit Rider. This suggests better maintenance and operation and long-term sustainability. (Circuit Rider post-construction support: improvements in domestic water quality and system sustainability in El Salvador Georgia L. Kayser, William Moomaw, Jose Miguel Orellana Portillo, and Jeffrey K. Griffiths. <http://iwaponline.com/washdev/article-pdf/4/3/460/384962/460.pdf>)

Due to the importance and significant impact of safe drinking water, the project is expected to directly impact 25 communities in the Municipality XXXX and will serve XXXX communities and XXX of people.

Cova works directly with rural community water boards in El Salvador. These community water boards consist of elected volunteer leaders from the community tasked with operating their water utility to provide safe drinking water to their community members. Most community board members have no water experience and limited knowledge of operating procedures. While individuals have a right to safe drinking water and prioritize their efforts as best they can, they have limited resources available, and the ministry of health has a limited bandwidth to support them. This project will address the following community needs:

1. Contaminated drinking water in 25 communities in the municipality of XXX, El Salvador.
2. Lack of water treatment in the drinking water systems of the 25 communities.
3. Lack of community resources, education, and training on the benefits and importance of safe drinking water.
4. Lack of community water board (CAPS) organization to effectively oversee the water system and ensure CAPS has the necessary equipment, tools, and education to properly maintain the community water system safely based on the government guidelines.
5. Financial unsustainability of the CAPS to maintain the supply of chlorine needed to support continuous safe water.
6. Lack of financial resources to plan for repairs necessary to maintain the water system and a reserve for emergencies.

How did your project team identify these needs?

Our project team identified the needs for safe water solutions through a combination of extensive experience, community visits, and collaborative partnerships. Cova's more than a decade of work in rural water systems has demonstrated that communities are not resistant to chlorination due to lack of knowledge or interest; instead, they face economic barriers, such as insufficient resources for installation, continuous training, and maintaining a reliable chlorine supply. Specific insights were gathered from a site visit conducted by Rotarian Reggie O'Brien in El Salvador, where she observed firsthand the challenges and gaps in water safety practices. Additionally, Cova staff conducted field water safety testing to better understand local water quality issues and the needs for sustainable interventions. Our collaboration with organizations like Vail has strengthened our approach, as our ongoing water projects and established, trust-based relationships ensure effective communication, shared goals, and the long-term success of our initiatives.

How were members of the benefiting community involved in finding solutions?

Members of the benefiting community play a crucial role in finding solutions for safe drinking water. Community water boards and local residents identify safe drinking water as essential for maintaining their health and actively seek support from Cova to address these needs. Community members collaborate with Cova Circuit Riders, drinking water experts, and leaders of local organizations who visit the communities multiple times. Together, they assess the water challenges, plan strategies for effective implementation, and provide training on the importance of safe drinking water. This inclusive process ensures that community members are engaged in every step, fostering a sense of ownership over the technology solutions. Cova's approach emphasizes long-term, community-focused development that empowers beneficiaries to take charge of their water systems, helping them lift themselves out of poverty and ensuring sustainability.

How were community members involved in planning the project?

Community members are actively involved in planning the project by working alongside Cova Circuit Riders, drinking water experts, and leaders from local organizations. They participate in multiple discussions and meetings within their communities to identify specific needs related to safe drinking water. Community members contribute valuable insights that shape the project strategies, ensuring that the solutions are culturally relevant and practical. They also collaborate in designing the implementation plan, provide feedback, and receive training to better understand the importance of safe drinking water. By engaging in these planning activities, community members help ensure the project's relevance and sustainability, fostering a sense of shared responsibility and ownership.

Project implementation

Summarize each step of your project's implementation.

Do not include sensitive personal data, such as government ID numbers, religion, race, health information, etc. If you include personal data, you are responsible for informing those whose personal data is included that you are providing it to Rotary and that it will be processed in accordance with Rotary's [Privacy Policy](#).

#	Activity	Duration
1	Increase the number of communities with access to safe drinking water	6 months
2	Improve drinking water quality by launching Cova circuit rider model in 25 new communities. 1. perform baseline water quality testing of the communities drinking water to include.: water quality analysis, water flow rates, and water system infrastructure.	6 months
3	Install water chlorinators in 25 communities without treatment in place	6 months
4	Implement monthly community water quality testing to 25 community water systems and report monthly to circuit riders to be uploaded into mWater.	12 months
5	Provide on-site Circuit Rider support and training in topics focused on the technical side of water system operation: Repairing water and sanitation systems and providing instruction on disinfection procedures, source water protection, and water quality sampling and monitoring protocols, as well as advice on upgrading and expanding water services. Technical training is designed for local water system operators, such as plumbers and operation and maintenance technicians.	12
6	Provide on-site Circuit Rider support and training in topics focused on water supply protection to ensure long term water supply. Topics include training the water boards and community on water source protection, including a physical barrier or fence around the water source, establishing watershed reforestation, and in ideal cases, installing household water meters to incentivize water conservation as well as identification of system leaks.	12 months
7	Provide on-site Circuit Rider support and training on the Operation and Maintenance on the water system. Topics include: creating an operation and maintenance plan, water quality sampling and monitoring protocol, and expert advice on expanding water services.	12 months
8	Provide on-site Circuit Rider support and training on plumbing needs of the water system. Topics include: training operators on drinking water systems repairs and troubleshooting.	12 months
9	Provide on-site Circuit Rider support and training on water treatment. Topics include: education about water-borne illnesses and the need for water treatment, proper handwashing, treatment options, an in-line chlorinator, and purchasing chlorine tablets.	12 months
10	Provide on-site Circuit Rider support and training on Financial Management. Topics include training community water boards on user water fee setting and collection, basic accounting and bookkeeping, financial transparency, water system operating costs, and the importance of building a reserve for emergencies.	12 months
11	Provide on-site Circuit Rider support and training on Administrative Management. Topics to include: educating and organizing community water boards, empowering women in key leadership roles within the water board, ensuring transparency to the community, and promoting safe water handling and hygiene practices.	12 months
12	Implement water quality monitoring in these 25 communities through Cova's proven Circuit Rider model. The Circuit Riders will provide water quality monitoring, education, and technical assistance through monthly visits to rural communities	12 months

13	Establish chlorine tablet distribution networks in these 25 communities to ensure communities have sustainable and ongoing access to safe water.	12 months
14	Facilitate learning and knowledge exchange with multisector stakeholders and community leaders to promote and strengthen proper hygiene within rural communities	12 months
15	Train communities on how to provide self-testing and self-reporting of water quality to ensure access to safe drinking water.	12 months
16	Leverage real-time reporting of community water quality and public health through the cloud-based mobile data collection system, mWater.	12 months
17	Conduct annual community evaluations to assess the water system infrastructure, water board operation, and management. The data will be collected through an in-depth categorization tool, creating a scorecard and road map for community operations to qualitatively improve the utility's functionality	12 months
18	maintain a community water system reliability rate of greater than 96%	12 months

Will you work in coordination with any related initiatives in the community?

Yes

Briefly describe the other initiatives and how they relate to this project.

Cova's other initiatives focus on collaboration with the Ministry of Health to enhance community health and water safety. These initiatives include providing technical support, monitoring water quality, and gathering data through the Cova Circuit Riders. This data is organized and shared with local governments to assist in planning and prioritizing future water projects. By convening 'Mesas de Agua' or water groups that include local government, private organizations, and NGOs, Cova facilitates discussions on priorities and resource allocation. These efforts directly relate to the project by strengthening partnerships, leveraging resources, and ensuring that safe drinking water solutions are integrated into broader public health strategies, creating a cohesive approach to improving community well-being.

Please describe the training, community outreach, or educational programs this project will include.

The training part of this project is the most critical component and will produce long-term sustainable results. Cova will work with several community members to ensure they are well trained in the water utility system's operation, maintenance, and financial oversight. This in-depth training will be followed by continuous monthly monitoring, and additional training will be provided through the proven Circuit Rider model. Phase one of the training module is the initial Water Board training. These training sessions last approximately four hours and comprise no more than 25 community members, including the Water Board President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Plumber. This in-depth training followed by monthly monitoring and additional training to re-enforce the behavior change is the most effective method of ensuring that community water is continuously safe to drink and is working correctly. We have discovered that after two to three years of training and monitoring, the community has all the skills and resources necessary to sustainably operate its water system and enforce behavior changes within the community to reduce waterborne diseases. One of the most critical factors for the long-term success of rural water systems is the continual post-construction technical support. Cova has found that more than 90% of water systems within the communities we serve are fully operational. Our programs yield such results due to the community investment and interactions with our Circuit Riders during the training and monthly visits. Studies have shown that over 50% of international unsupported community water system projects fail within five years of construction, and an estimated 95% of water systems fail within 20 years without post-construction support because communities lack sufficient

operational, technical, and financial capacity to operate and maintain a water system properly. Outside technical post-construction support is needed to properly manage a water system and troubleshoot issues that arise within the community.

Cova's post-construction training program focuses on building the institutional capabilities of community water boards to run their drinking water systems by providing on-site support and training in critical areas:

1. **Technical Capacity:** training operators on drinking water systems repairs, providing instruction on disinfection procedures, source water protection, and water quality sampling and monitoring protocols, as well as advice on upgrading and expanding water services. Technical training is designed for local water system operators.
2. **Financial Management:** training community boards on user water fee setting and collection, basic accounting and bookkeeping, financial transparency, water system operating costs, and the importance of building up a reserve for emergencies (like the 2020 hurricane)
3. **Administrative Management:** training and organizing community water boards, empowering women in key leadership roles within the board, ensuring transparency to the community, and promoting safe water handling and hygiene practices.
4. **Water Supply Protection:** training the water board and community on water supply protection, including a physical barrier or fence around the water source, establishing watershed reforestation, and in ideal cases, installing household water meters to incentivize water conservation identification of system leaks.

Please see the attached training manual for in-depth information on Cova training and support provided to communities before and after the installation of the chlorinator.

How were these needs identified?

These needs were identified through a comprehensive understanding of the challenges that rural communities face in operating and maintaining their water systems. Cova's experience has shown that post-construction technical support is essential for the long-term success of water projects. The training component of the project was deemed critical based on studies indicating that over 50% of international, unsupported community water systems fail within five years of construction, with an estimated 95% failing within 20 years. This high failure rate is often due to a lack of technical, operational, and financial capacity within the community.

To address these challenges, Cova developed a detailed training program, which includes initial Water Board training sessions that last approximately four hours and involve up to 25 community members, including key leadership roles such as the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Plumber. These training sessions are followed by continuous monthly monitoring and additional instruction through the proven Circuit Rider model. The training covers technical capacity, financial management, administrative management, and water supply protection.

Through years of working in rural areas and interacting closely with community members, Cova has learned that communities need ongoing, practical training and monitoring to develop the necessary skills and resources. This structured and sustained approach ensures behavior changes are reinforced, resulting in a successful transition to community-led, sustainable water system management. The effectiveness of this method is evident, with more than 90% of water systems in Cova-supported communities remaining fully operational, demonstrating the impact of thorough and continuous training and support.

What incentives (for example, monetary compensation, awards, certification, or publicity), will you use, if any, to encourage community members to participate in the project?

To encourage community members to participate in the project, Cova will utilize a combination of non-monetary incentives, focusing on recognition, capacity building, and empowerment. These incentives include:

Certification and Recognition: Community members who complete training programs will receive certificates acknowledging their expertise and commitment to maintaining safe drinking water systems. This certification serves as both a personal achievement and a public recognition of their valuable contributions, enhancing their leadership roles within the community.

Leadership Roles and Empowerment: By involving community members, particularly women, in key leadership positions within the water boards, the project helps build their capacity and empowers them to take

ownership of the water systems. These leadership roles come with increased respect and influence in the community, encouraging active participation.

Skills Development: Participation in the project offers community members valuable technical, financial, and administrative skills that improve their personal and professional development. These new skills can enhance their employability and capacity for future leadership in both water system management and other areas.

Long-term Community Benefits: The sustainable, self-sufficient operation of the water system will provide long-term health, economic, and social benefits to the community, making their involvement in the project intrinsically rewarding. The sense of ownership and responsibility over the water system strengthens their commitment to its success.

These non-monetary incentives help ensure that community members remain engaged and motivated, fostering a sustainable, community-driven approach to managing water resources.

List any community members or community groups that will oversee the continuation of the project after grant-funded activities conclude.

After the grant-funded activities conclude, the continuation of the project will be overseen by the Community CAPS (Community Water Boards). These boards are elected by the community members every two years and are responsible for ensuring the ongoing operation and maintenance of the installed water systems. The CAPS members will manage the water systems, ensuring that the community continues to have access to safe drinking water.

Cova has successfully implemented this model in rural communities in Honduras, Nicaragua, and El Salvador, where years of capacity-building efforts have led to highly functioning water systems. This success allows Cova to gradually transition out of direct involvement, knowing that the community, with the oversight of the CAPS, is well-equipped to sustain the water systems independently. While Cova will continue to monitor the community's water quality, the CAPS will take the lead in the long-term governance and maintenance of the systems, ensuring their continued success and sustainability.

Budget

Will you purchase budget items from local vendors?

Yes

Explain the process you used to select vendors.

The process used to select vendors for the project prioritizes local suppliers to support the community and ensure cost-effectiveness. For example, when acquiring materials for the prefabrication of chlorination devices, Cova will engage local hardware suppliers to obtain competitive bids for the necessary materials. This approach allows Cova to source the most cost-effective and appropriate materials for the project while supporting the local economy. By working with local vendors, Cova ensures that the project remains aligned with its goals of sustainability and community development, while fostering long-term partnerships with trusted suppliers.

Did you use competitive bidding to select vendors?

Yes

Please provide an operations and maintenance plan for the equipment or materials you anticipate purchasing for this project. This plan should include who will operate and maintain the equipment and how they will be trained.

The operations and maintenance plan for the equipment and materials purchased for this project centers on ensuring the long-term functionality and sustainability of the water system with minimal maintenance requirements. The key components of the plan are as follows:

1. Operation and Maintenance Responsibility:

*The community plumber will be responsible for inspecting the chlorination device every three days to ensure that the chlorine levels in the tank and in the homes are appropriate.

*The Water Board members, who have been thoroughly trained by Cova's Circuit Riders, will oversee the routine checks and ensure that the system operates smoothly on a day-to-day basis.

2. Training:

*Cova Circuit Riders will provide in-depth training to the Water Board members, focusing on routine inspection, maintenance tasks, and troubleshooting.

*The training will include how to test the water for chlorine levels using a field test and how to address any issues that arise.

*Over the first 2-3 years, the Circuit Riders will continue to monitor and support the community through monthly training sessions to reinforce best practices and ensure the community can manage and maintain the water system independently.

3. Ongoing Support:

*While the community will take on the primary responsibility for operating and maintaining the water system, Cova Circuit Riders will provide continued technical support and training, ensuring that the community has the necessary skills to manage the system effectively.

*After the initial 2-3 years, Cova will gradually reduce direct involvement, but will continue to monitor the water systems and provide support when needed to ensure long-term sustainability.

This plan ensures that the community is well-equipped to manage and maintain the water system, with clear responsibilities and ongoing training to address challenges as they arise.

Describe how community members will maintain the equipment after grant-funded activities conclude. Will replacement parts be available?

After the grant-funded activities conclude, community members will be fully responsible for maintaining the equipment. Cova ensures that all community members, particularly the Water Boards, are thoroughly trained in operating and maintaining the water systems. In the event of a malfunction, the Water Boards are equipped with the knowledge to carry out the required repairs. All necessary materials for repairs, including parts for the chlorination device, are readily available at local hardware stores, ensuring that communities can access the resources needed to address most issues independently.

If the Water Board is unable to resolve a problem, Cova's Circuit Rider program provides an additional layer of support. Cova's trained water technicians will be available to inspect the water systems and make any necessary repairs. This ongoing support ensures that, even after the grant-funded activities end, the community will have the expertise and resources to maintain the equipment and address any challenges that arise.

If the grant will be used to purchase any equipment, will the equipment be culturally appropriate and conform to the community's technology standards?

Yes

Please explain.

Yes, the equipment purchased with the grant will be culturally appropriate and conform to the community's technology standards. Cova prioritizes working with local communities to ensure that the equipment aligns with their needs, skills, and existing infrastructure. The equipment, such as the chlorination devices, is designed to be simple to operate and maintain, taking into account the community's resources and familiarity with technology. Additionally, the equipment will be chosen for its durability and ease of repair, with all

necessary components being accessible at local hardware stores. This ensures that the technology is not only appropriate for the community's context but also sustainable in the long term, allowing for continued use without the need for specialized external support.

After the project is completed, who will own the items purchased by grant funds? No items may be owned by a Rotary district, club, or member.

The fixed investments in the drinking water systems will be owned by the communities and managed by the community water boards.

Funding

Does your project involve microcredit activities?

Have you found a local funding source to sustain project outcomes for the long term?

Yes

Please describe this funding source.

Cova's goal is to provide long-term sustainable development to rural communities aimed at improving the standard of living, poverty reduction, increased educational and economic opportunities, and access to safe sustainable water. With the three years of investment in this program, the fourth year of support can be sustained entirely with the communities' support, providing a financially viable and sustainable model. This program investment requires multiple years to build up the capacity of the communities and the health department and a plan in year four to operate sustainably without outside funding. Professionalized maintenance services can continue to be maintained. Still, with the economies of scale and model optimization, Cova Circuit Riders can provide technical assistance to up to four districts, with the costs wholly covered through the chlorine tablet sales, requiring no outside funding to continue.

Will any part of the project generate income for ongoing project funding? If yes, please explain.

Yes, rural drinking water systems are sustained by the monthly fees paid by each of the families in the communities. Financing for the chlorine, future operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement activities of the chlorinator depends on these revenues.

Supporting Documents

- [Circuit_Rider_Study-El_Salvador-Kayser.pdf](#)
- [Cova_Chlorinator_Tech_Doc_-_English.pdf](#)
- [Cova_Strategic_Plan_2024-2026.pdf](#)
- [Manual_de_Administración.pdf](#)
- [Manual_de_Cloración.pdf](#)
- [Manual_de_Fontanería.pdf](#)
- [Manual_de_Tarifa.pdf](#)

Authorizations

Authorizations & Legal Agreements

Legal agreement

Global Grant Agreement - to be authorized by the primary contacts and club presidents (or DRFC chairs if district-sponsored)

This Global Grant Agreement (Agreement) is entered into by The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International (TRF) and the grant sponsors (Sponsors). In consideration of receiving this Rotary Foundation Global Grant (Grant) from TRF, the Sponsors agree that:

1. All information contained in this application is, to the best of our knowledge, true and accurate.
2. We have read the Terms and Conditions for Rotary Foundation Global Grants (Terms and Conditions) and will adhere to all policies therein.
3. The Sponsors shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Rotary International (RI) and TRF, including their respective directors, trustees, officers, committee members, employees, agents, associate foundations and representatives (collectively Rotary), from and against all claims, including but not limited to claims of subrogation, demands, actions, damages, losses, costs, liabilities, expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees and other legal expenses), awards, judgments, and fines asserted against or recovered from Rotary arising out of any act, conduct, omission, negligence, misconduct, or unlawful act (or act contrary to any applicable governmental order or regulation) resulting directly or indirectly from a Sponsor's and/or participant's involvement in grant-funded activities, including all travel related to the grant.
4. The failure of the parties to comply with the terms of this Agreement due to an act of God, strike, government regulation, war, fire, riot, civil unrest, hurricane, earthquake, or other natural disasters, acts of public enemies, curtailment of transportation facilities, political upheavals, civil disorders, outbreak of infectious disease or illness, acts of terrorism, or any similar cause beyond the control of the parties shall not be deemed a breach of this Agreement. In such an event, the Agreement shall be deemed terminated and the Sponsors shall refund to TRF all unexpended global grant funds within 30 days of termination.
5. TRF's entire responsibility is expressly limited to payment of the total financing amount. TRF does not assume any further responsibility in connection with this grant.
6. TRF reserves the right to cancel the grant and/or this Agreement without notice upon the failure of either or both of the Sponsors to abide by the terms set forth in this Agreement and the Terms and Conditions. Upon cancellation, TRF shall be entitled to a refund from the Sponsors of any global grant funds, including any interest earned, that have not been expended.
7. The laws of the State of Illinois, USA, without reference to its conflicts of laws principles, shall govern all matters arising out of or relating to this Agreement, including, without limitation, its interpretation, construction, performance, and enforcement.
8. Any legal action brought by either party against the other party arising out of or relating to this Agreement must be brought in either, the Circuit Court of Cook County, State of Illinois, USA or the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, USA. Each party consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of these courts, and their respective appellate courts for the purpose of such actions. Nothing herein prohibits a party that obtains a judgment in either of the designated courts from enforcing the judgment in any other court. Notwithstanding the foregoing, TRF may also bring legal action against Sponsors and/or individuals traveling on grant funds in any court with jurisdiction over them.
9. This Agreement binds and benefits the parties and their respective administrators, legal representatives, and permitted successors and assigns.
10. If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
11. Sponsors may not assign any of their rights under this Agreement except with the prior written consent of TRF. Sponsors may not delegate any performance under this Agreement without the prior written consent of TRF. Any purported assignment of a Sponsor's rights or delegation of performance without TRF's prior written consent is void.

12. TRF may assign some or all of its rights under this Agreement to an associate foundation of TRF. TRF may delegate any performance under this Agreement to an associate foundation. Any other purported assignment of TRF's rights or delegation of performance without the Sponsors' prior written consent is void.

13. Sponsors will comply with all economic and trade sanctions, including those implemented by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) of the United States Department of Treasury, and will ensure that they do not support or promote violence, terrorist activity or related training, or money laundering.

14. This Agreement constitutes the final agreement between the parties. No amendment or waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall be effective unless it is in the form of a writing signed by the parties.

15. Rotary may use information contained in this application and subsequent reports for promotional purposes, such as in Rotary magazine, in Rotary Leader, on rotary.org and on social media. For any and all photographs submitted with any application or follow-up report, the Sponsor hereby grants to Rotary an unlimited, perpetual, worldwide right and license to use, modify, adapt, publish, and distribute the photograph(s) in any media now known or hereafter devised, including but not limited to, in Rotary publications, advertisements, and Websites and on social media channels. The Sponsor represents and warrants that (a) each adult appearing in the photograph(s) has given her/his/their unrestricted written consent to the Sponsor to photograph them and to use and license their likeness, including licensing the photograph(s) to third parties, (b) the parent or guardian of each child under age 18 or each person who lacks legal capacity appearing in the photograph(s) has given unrestricted written consent to the Sponsor to photograph the child or individual and to use and license their likenesses, including licensing the photograph(s) to third parties, and (c) it is the copyright owner of the photograph(s) or that the copyright owner of the photograph(s) has given the Sponsor the right to license or sublicense the photograph(s) to Rotary.

16. Privacy is important to Rotary and any personal data that the Sponsor shares with Rotary will only be used for official Rotary business. The Sponsor should minimize the personal data of Grant beneficiaries that it shares with TRF to only personal data that TRF specifically requests. Personal data that is shared with TRF will be used to enable the Sponsor's participation in this Grant process, to facilitate the Sponsor's Grant experience and for reporting purposes. Personal data provided to TRF may be transferred to Rotary service providers (for example, affiliated entities) to assist Rotary in planning Grant-related activities. By applying for a grant, the Sponsor may receive information about the Grant and supplementary services via email. For further information about how Rotary uses personal data, please contact privacy@rotary.org. Personal data provided to TRF or collected on this form is subject to [Rotary's Privacy Policy](#).

17. The Sponsors agree to share information on best practices when asked, and TRF may provide their contact information to other Rotary members who may wish advice on implementing similar activities.

18. The Sponsors will ensure that all individuals traveling on grant funds have been informed of the travel policies stated in the Terms and Conditions and have been made aware that they are responsible for obtaining travel insurance.

19. To the best of our knowledge and belief, all relationships between grant committee members, district officers, and other members of the sponsor clubs or districts and any scholarship recipients, cooperating organizations, project vendors, or other individuals or organizations that will benefit from the grant have been disclosed in this application. Except as disclosed here, neither we nor any person with whom we have or had a personal or business relationship will benefit or intends to benefit from Rotary Foundation grant funds or have any interest that may represent a potential conflicting interest. A conflict of interest occurs when someone is in a position to make or influence a decision about a grant or scholarship that could benefit them, their family, their business, or an entity in which they serve in a paid or voluntary leadership or advisory position.

Primary contact authorizations

Global Grant Agreement - to be authorized by the primary contacts and club presidents (or DRFC chairs if district-sponsored)

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District Rotary Foundation chair authorization

I hereby certify that this global grant application is complete, meets all Foundation guidelines, is eligible for funding, and that the sponsoring club and/or district is qualified.

All Authorizations & Legal Agreements Summary

Primary contact authorizations

Name	Club	District	Status
Reggie O'Brien	Vail [Rotary Club]	5470	
Victor PINEDA	San Salvador Cuscatlán [Rotary Club]	4240	

District Rotary Foundation chair authorization

Name	Club	District	Status
Samuel Kevan	Delta [Rotary Club]	5470	
Alexei Oduber Burillo	Panamá Nordeste [Rotary Club]	4240	

DDF authorization

Name	Club	District	Status
Mike Klingbiel	Denver Southeast [Rotary Club]	5450	
Tamara Fennell	Highlands Ranch [Rotary Club]	5450	
Samuel Kevan	Delta [Rotary Club]	5470	
Whittney Smythe- Smith	Redlands (Grand Junction) [Rotary Club]	5470	

Legal agreement

Name	Club	District	Status
Claudia Reyes de Villatoro	San Salvador Cuscatlán [Rotary Club]	4240	