



Annual Community Development

Report

La Samaria & FairTSA

2021-2022

Small farmers and workers are at the heart of FairTSA Fair Trade certification. Through community development projects and capacity building we are facilitating a direct impact on the agricultural communities that grow and process our food.

La Samaria

La Samaria is a FairTSA certified banana producing company in Colombia, which is one of South America's leading banana producers. It is also one of the most biodiverse countries in the world. In countries such as Colombia Fair Trade is of specific importance due to significant poverty, a high crime rate, and an array of militant groups, which threaten especially Afro-descendants and Awá Indigenous people.

2021-2022: Rebuilding Worker Housing, Water Purification and New Classroom

Worker Housing

La Samaria started working with FairTSA in 2021 and created several different projects. This was possible because La Samaria had its own internal worker support system in place even before joining



FairTSA. They started with three separate initiatives. This includes a water purification system, a housing improvement program with community kitchen, and a new classroom project for worker children. The detailed projects include direct and effective efforts to improve the daily lives of their workers. The conditions of the local housing stock for workers are often unsafe, with defects such as unsafe electrical wiring, simple mud walls and leak-prone

roofing. The picture above depicts one of the new houses built during the project.

The new housing was partially built by the workers themselves, with materials provided by the project and skilled workers employed for special tasks such as roofing, water piping, electric work, the construction of facades and terracing.

Water Purification

At the same time a water purification system safe for human consumption was designed and built. This project not only provides easier access to a basic living necessity, but it also strengthens the workers' skills in self-



Water Plant in Progress

management and creates responsible management positions. It provides safety for immune sensitive groups such as children and elderly. It is also the first time that access to clean water will be readily available to over a thousand inhabitants of the local community.



Woman getting safe drinking water

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New Classroom

The need for a new classroom was one of the foremost concerns voiced during a need assessment session. Therefore, a completely new, spacious, and well-equipped classroom was built to afford the workers' children the same opportunities as children in larger cities. The classroom and the unveiling ceremony with celebration are depicted below.

