

Emergency Proposal amid COVID-19 pandemic

Background

Informal settlements located at the riverbanks of the Paraguay River in the capital city of Paraguay, Asuncion, are the largest in the country. These neighborhoods are named *Bañado Norte* and *Bañado Sur*, and have a very complex dynamic from the urban, environmental and social point of view. The inhabitants of these neighborhoods are characterized for not having formal tenancy of their property, and precarious or partial access to basic services (water, sanitation, electricity, and others)¹. It is estimated that approximately 20% of the population living in Asuncion, are residing in these neighborhoods².

In Habitat for Humanity Paraguay, we are looking to reduce the number of COVID-19 infections in families located in the *Bañado Norte*. We aim to achieve this through the installation of public hand washing stations. These stations will be located in community kitchens, health units and high transit spots around the neighborhood. Additionally, we will reinforce hygiene patterns of behavior that will allow raising community awareness to fight the spread of COVID-19, this action will be accompanied with the delivery of hygiene kits for the neighborhood.

Objective

- Mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in communities with high level of overcrowding
- Sensitize and modify behavioral and hygiene patterns

Impact

- Each hand washing station installed will improve 150 people hygiene conditions.
- Diminish the risk of COVID-19 spread in the community

Actions

- Installation of public hand washing stations in community kitchens, health units and high transit spots around the neighborhood.
- Delivery of kits for the use and maintenance of hand washing stations (hand soaps, alcohol gel, bleach, hand paper towel, trash can bag)
- Dissemination of awareness materials
- Participation and accompaniment of community leaders

¹ Informe Nacional del Paraguay, ONU Habitat (2016). Disponible en: <http://habitat3.org/wp-content/uploads/National-Report-LAC-Paraguay-Spanish.pdf>

² Jose Galeano Monti. Territorios de Exculsión Social. (2015)

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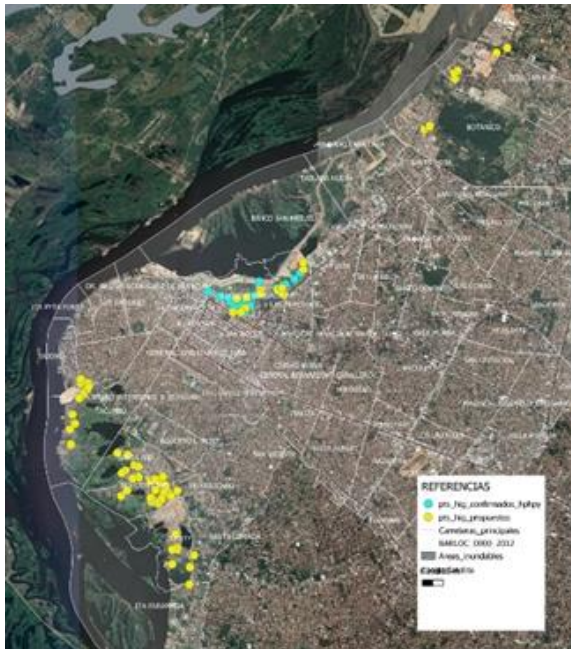
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Budget

Item	Cost per Unit	What is included
Hand washing stations	USD 227	Installation of hand washing stations + hygiene kits for one month + awareness materials distributed in the community

Map of Bañado Norte



Installation of hand washing station

Hand washing stations are pedal operated with an integrated trashcan, paper-roll holder, board displayer and an installation point to place a safety padlock. The water connection will be done directly through a community tap using a flexible hose. The drainage of soapy water is filtered through a degreaser and a pre-fabricated septic tank that is connected to another flexible hose that takes it to the closer water drainage or sewage. The installation is made by the community leaders with the monitoring from Habitat for Humanity Paraguay.

Conditions

- Availability of a community tap and drainage
- Availability of a person responsible of its maintenance
- Prioritization by population density and health space or food delivery

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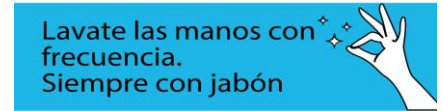
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Annex - Images



Hand washing stations prototype



Todo lo que tocas puede estar infectado. Cuidate. Evita contagiarte y contagiar a tu familia.



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Awareness materials



Handover of hand washing stations to community leaders

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