



CoCoDA, Rotary Club of Indianapolis and the West Foundation
Proudly Present...

The 2017 Central American Sun and Water Conference

***October 27-29, 2017
In Suchitoto, El Salvador***



A gathering of Central American community leaders
and North American supporters to explore the incredible potential
of using solar power to bring clean, affordable and sustainable water
to rural Central Americans.

***Come to learn and be inspired
Return home empowered***

Conference Details

Since 2000, Companion Community Development Alternatives ([CoCoDA](#)) has been partnering with Central American communities, local NGOs, Rotary International and the Washington Ethical Society in building potable water systems. While there has been significant progress, potable water continues to be a challenge in Central America. At present, about 88% of Salvadorans and 68% of Nicaraguans have access to clean water. Many of these water systems use a gravity feed system to distribute water. Unfortunately, those still without access to clean water live largely in rural villages where the water source is at a lower elevation than the village. These projects require the pumping of water, which often increases the expense of that water to unsustainable levels.

In 2010, CoCoDA created – in collaboration with a local NGO and the village of Zacamil Dos - one of the first solar powered community water systems in El Salvador. This project reduced the cost of water by more than 50% and enabled the village to expand and sustain their water system. After considerable fine tuning, we believe this model has tremendous potential for long term sustainability and economic empowerment. **The 2017 Central American Sun and Water Conference will highlight the best practices in solar powered water projects, connect Central American community leaders with North American supporters and introduce five shovel-ready, solar powered water projects.**

Conference Highlights

- Three days and two nights in beautiful colonial Suchitoto
- Wonderful Salvadoran food
- Three one hour sessions on advantages of solar power, best practices in system management and water system sustainability led by North and Central American experts.
- A visit, tour and lunch at the Zacamil Dos solar powered water project
- Optional cultural, historical and technical tours on Saturday afternoon
- Opportunities to interact and develop international partnerships and collaborations

(All conference sessions and events will be bilingual with interpreters available for the entire conference.)

Conference Logistics

Expectations: It is assumed that all North American participants represent some group or entity and that participants will commit to raising funding for one or more of the projects upon their return.

Cost: Lodging and food has been generously provided for all conference participants. Transportation costs for Central American participants will be reimbursed. North American participants are only responsible for their airfare (usually about \$600).

Arrival/Departure: The conference begins at 6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 27th and ends at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 29th. Please arrive at the San Salvador airport by 4 p.m. on Oct. 27th. Transportation will be provided from and to the airport.

Conference Site: Our conference host will be the [Centro Arte Para La Paz](#) in Suchitoto, El Salvador, which is about ninety minutes from the San Salvador airport.

Lodging: Lodging will be in local hostels and hotels within walking distance of the conference site with electricity, showers and single beds. Most participants will share a room or bathroom with others.

Food: Meals will be supplied by local vendors and include typical Salvadoran dishes. With advance notice, some special dietary needs can be met.

Internet Access: The Centro Arte Para La Paz and many local hotels and restaurants have free internet access. Phone access is available, but can be expensive.

Weather: October is usually mild in El Salvador with temperatures in the 80s and afternoon rains.



2017 SUN AND WATER CONFERENCE
REGISTRATION FORM

Name (as it appears on passport): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____ (Non-University e-mail preferred)

Passport Number: _____ Country of issue: _____

Date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY): _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____

Expiration Date (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

(WARNING: If the expiration date is within six months of departure, the passport must be renewed)

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Health Issues:

Allergies:

Dietary Issues:

Spanish Fluency?

None Beginner Intermediate Fluent
