



# Strengthening Rural Water Systems in Honduras

*Building national strategies. Equipping local professionals. Expanding safe water access.*

Global Water Center equips leaders to build sustainable water solutions. In Honduras, more than 1.5 million people still lack access to safe drinking water. Meeting this need requires strengthening local systems and supporting the community-based water boards that deliver essential services.

## Laying the Groundwork for Sustainable Water Systems

Global Water Center and Agua Pura para el Mundo (APPM) partnered with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to strengthen Honduras' rural water sector through collaboration, research, and system-wide capacity building. Together, we have:

### Assessed Rural Water Board Capacity

A survey of **151 water boards across 31 municipalities and 18 states** identified gaps in knowledge, skills, and system management. The findings were documented in a detailed national report.

### Mapped Existing Training and Support

Through interviews with nonprofits, government agencies, and educational institutions, we assessed the training and technical support available to rural water boards. This work produced 11 case studies, a summary table, and a report highlighting key trends and opportunities.

### Developed a Roadmap for Professionalization

In March 2025, a sector-wide event was hosted at the IDB office in Tegucigalpa. **Representatives from 24 organizations worked together** to review the findings and shape a national plan for strengthening rural water systems. The finalized plan outlines key action steps to address capacity gaps and professionalize the sector.





## Next Steps

With the plan finalized, the next phase is engaging key stakeholders and starting implementation. Success will require strong collaboration among government ministries, educational institutions, municipalities, nonprofits, and donors — **creating a model that can be adapted across Latin America.**

### Why It Matters

- Water systems are overseen by community-based water boards, who often lack the capacity to manage them effectively.
- Rural water boards have limited access to training, coordination, and technical guidance.
- Many systems fail over time due to limited capacity and planning.
- This initiative will lead to **stronger systems and more skilled professionals** across Honduras and throughout Latin America.




### Meet Our Partners

- **Agua Pura para el Mundo (APPM)**  
APPM is a Honduran nonprofit with over 15 years of experience in safe water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). They lead WASH programs and guide in-country assessments and stakeholder engagement for this initiative.
- **Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)**  
The IDB is the leading source of development financing in Latin America and the Caribbean. It brings funding, technical expertise, and convening power to support stronger national strategies and cross-sector collaboration.

## Let's Move Forward Together

Global Water Center is committed to strengthening the rural water sector in Honduras by equipping local leaders and supporting sustainable systems. This work is laying the foundation for lasting change. Join us in building the systems and leadership needed to ensure safe water for every community.



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