

Partner Profile: AHSETFIN



Photos courtesy of AHSETFIN



In Honduras, as of 2021, 71 percent of women and 73 percent of low-income adults lacked access to formal financial services.¹ Meanwhile, water shortages are common in the capital, Tegucigalpa: The head of the Honduran water and sewer authority (SANAA) described the situation as a “humanitarian crisis.” The situation is projected to worsen due to climate change.²

Asociación Hondureña para el Desarrollo de Servicios Técnicos y Financieros (AHSETFIN) is a nonprofit microfinance organization in Honduras and a partner in Global Partnerships’ Women-Centered Finance with Education and Clean Water initiatives.³

WHO IS SERVED:

AHSETFIN currently serves over 11,000 clients and their families in southern and central Honduras: Tegucigalpa, Comayagüela, Choluteca, Danlí, Comayagua, Siguatepeque, and La Esperanza. 67 percent of their clients are women, 38 percent live in rural areas,⁴ and most have limited access to clean water.⁵

WHAT IS DELIVERED:

Clients of AHSETFIN are provided with working capital loans, alongside financial

education geared to the clients’ level of experience with using and repaying loans. About 40 percent of clients access financing as part of a group loan, allowing for access to credit without credit history or traditional collateral.

In addition, a small but growing number of clients of AHSETFIN’s new water program in Tegucigalpa can finance the purchase of a certified 10,000 liter water tank with warranties and technical assistance for the installation and construction of the proper infrastructure to support the tank in the client’s home. For these households, safe water storage reduces the risks of water contamination and makes efficient use of the limited water supply given by the municipality in Tegucigalpa which may otherwise only be available two or three times per month, depending on the neighborhood.⁶

WHY IT IS IMPACTFUL:

As a result of the loans and financial education provided by AHSETFIN, clients have been able to plan their

finances more effectively. A 2022 impact survey of AHSETFIN’s clients found that 74 percent of respondents reported increased business income, and 77 percent reported an increased ability to achieve their financial goals.⁷ This increased income can enable greater economic security for clients and their families. In the same study, 88 percent of AHSETFIN’S clients reported that their quality of life had improved since working with AHSETFIN.⁸

Households that participate in the water tank program can keep potable water distributed by the municipality for the days that water does not flow to their neighborhoods. The commonly used alternative is recycled containers with no filters or other safeguards to keep the water potable, so AHSETFIN’s tanks can significantly improve health and safety for clients and their families.

1. “The Global Findex Database.” *The World Bank*, 2021. <https://globalfindex.worldbank.org>.

2. Xilotl, Montserrat. “How Forests and Young People Are Solving Honduras’s Water Crisis.” *United Nations Development Program*, September 7, 2023. <https://www.undp.org/stories/how-forests-and-young-people-are-solving-hondurass-water-crisis>.

3. AHSETFIN was a current borrower of Global Partnerships Social Investment Fund 6.0, LLC and Global Partnerships Impact-First Growth Fund, LLC as of March 31, 2024.

4. Data as of March 31, 2024, as reported by AHSETFIN.

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Due Diligence visit to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, GP staff, 2023.*

7. *Based on responses from 250 AHSETFIN clients in a 2022 study by 60 Decibels, Inc.*

8. *Ibid.*