

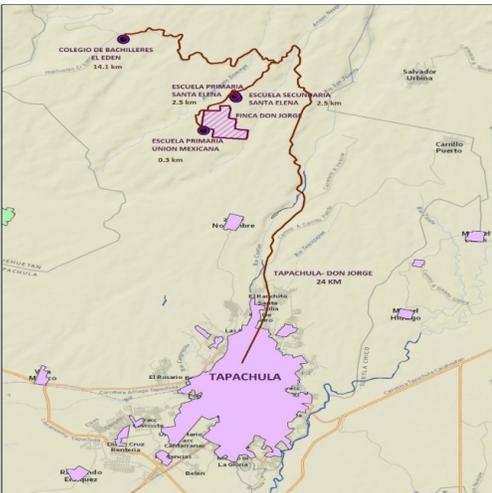
Grow Your School

Union Mexicana, Chiapas

"Grow Your School" is a new project of the ECOM Foundation anticipated to be launched this year, in partnership with Lucila Aguilar Arquitectos. The aim of the project is to renovate and improve the extremely poor conditions (pictured to the left) of an existing primary school located in Union Mexicana, Chiapas serving four communities along the well-known "Ruta del Cafe" in Chiapas (map bottom left). This primary school currently supports 25 students, with one teacher providing live instruction.



What is particularly exciting about this project is that the renovation and new construction activities will utilize an innovative construction methodology using locally-sourced bamboo as the primary construction material. The idea evolved from a pilot project called "Grow Your House" carried out by Lucila Aguilar Arquitectos, in conjunction with Agroindustrias Unidas de Mexico S.A. de C.V. and Agroindustrias Unidas de Cacao S.A. de C.V, that provided four new homes constructed of bamboo for local farmers who were impacted by the 2017 earthquakes. Here is a link to a documentary video that tells more about this predecessor pilot project, and the significant benefits realized from a bamboo, modular construction approach. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mtjqq2iPZgQ&feature=youtu.be>



As highlighted in the video, the construction methodology does not require specialized labor, thus the beneficiary communities of "Grow Your School" will be integrated in the construction process. This is an extremely desirable component of the project as it not only provides capacity building by training the community members in bamboo conservation and construction techniques, but inherently makes the beneficiary communities integral stakeholders, thereby contributing to the long term success of the project.

Pictured below is the design of the proposed new addition to the school facilities. Additionally, the classroom will be furnished with new desks and chairs and equipment to enhance the learning environment. By providing the tools and opportunities for a better future we will enable enhancement of a community by creating an adequate learning center. The ECOM Foundation is grateful to all of the people who are dedicating their time, energy and resources to help bring this project to fruition.



If you haven't already..

Follow us

on

Instagram

@ecom.foundation

