

 **Agalta Valley** **March 2024**

19% of children under five years of age in this region are affected by stunting



This rises to a staggering 33% in the poorest households



36% of children under five in this region have anaemia

[Source Info](#)

What's been achieved so far?

Thanks to the tireless work of [Honduras Outreach International \(HOI\)](#), together with the charity, [OneEgg](#), nutrition levels are improving.

HOI is a faith-based organisation committed to improving health, education and agricultural development. It operates its own school, aptly named Hope School, and four health clinics serving 33 communities and it provides training so that people can set up small, agricultural businesses. Meanwhile, OneEgg's mission is simple: to get eggs to children and its inspiring work spans eight different countries.



In 2018, the two organisations launched the 1000 Days of Life programme. Now reaching 54 families in the Agalta Valley, pregnant mothers receive one egg a day per family member for 1000 days of life – around the time that the child reaches its third birthday.

Monthly health and growth checks take place by the HOI's medical and nutrition team. Crucially, a control group means that comprehensive research can be undertaken to understand the programme's impact.

99% of children in the programme are now at an adequate weight and height for their age while families report they have more energy.

Scaling up

Following a visit last summer, the IEF knew the programme could reach even more families.

A small-scale egg farmer called Claudio supplies the eggs. He currently has 400 eggs in a modest barn. Thanks to mentoring from Paul Pressley – the former Executive Vice President of US Poultry and Egg Association, Claudio is now ready and well positioned to scale up operations to help meet local demand for eggs.

IEF had planned to help Claudio double his egg production, but, during our February 2024 visit, we knew we could achieve something even greater...

So, what are we doing?



Firstly, we are constructing a brand-new commercial layer barn to grow the 1000 Days of Life programme to reach at least 100 families. It will also provide eggs to local mission groups and Hope School, with sufficient additional egg production to sell locally.



We're also building a small 200 layer barn and 200 broiler barns at Hope School to help provide further training to students in poultry production and animal husbandry. It will also supply chicken and eggs to the school, both valuable protein sources.



Finally, we want to train and equip some of the backyard egg farmers in the area and support them to develop small-scale, commercial businesses. This will further help increase local supply and encourage entrepreneurship.

This project marks the start of the IEF's work in Latin America, building on its experience working in countries across Africa.



Our partners

This project will only be possible thanks to the generosity of our partners.

- Keith Heeringa of Heeringa Construction is donating labour for the build of the layer barn.
- H&N is kindly donating the first flock.
- HATO Agricultural Lighting is providing professional lighting.
- Versova for providing Bruce Dooyema's technical expertise
- Big Dutchman providing housing equipment at a reduced cost with IEF funding the remainder.
- The local mayor is hugely supportive and is contributing towards the construction costs.



Could you join us in improving the lives of people living in Honduras?

Contact Cassy@internationaleggfoundation.com