Tojquia, Guatemala
August, 2010

FogQuest & Round Square Schools International



August 2010 was an eventful month for the fog collection project in Tojquia. FogQuest members Melissa Rosato and Fernanda Rojas led the 2010 Guatemala Round Square team of 21 participants which included students, teachers and a medic for a 2 week working trip. A lot got accomplished: 5 LFCs and new tanks were installed solving the water shortage issue for another 5 families, 2 SFCs were relocated, a small weather station was also mounted and various water samples for isotopic analysis were taken.

Interested inquirers from two neighbouring villages paid us a visit to discuss future possibilities. Fernanda then conducted a more extensive walkabout evaluating the topography and meeting people from the 5 hamlets surrounding Tojquia. With the generous work of medic Rod Jordan, a clinic day was organized and 60 villagers were seen, many leaving with a new pair of donated sunglasses/reading glasses.



The last day was marked in a special way, the first celebration of successes to date was organized and included speeches of goodwill, a competitive soccer game, BBQ mutton from the region, a piñata for the kids, a live marimba band and dancing, all accompanied by bouts of thick fog to add to the atmosphere. To complete the trip, a sign detailing the project was mounted near the entrance to Tojquia. But perhaps most exciting of all, several days after our group left, the men of Tojquia constructed the 35th LFC successfully on their own, marking significant achievement in the complete technology transfer and capacity building this project has striven to foster in a collaborative manner with each member of the association Mam Ma Qosquix of Tojquia.















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Round Square: Liz Gray (UK), David MacLellan (Canada), Sarah Gibb (Canada), Rod Jordan (UK), Summar Aubrey (USA), Matthew Dickenson (UK), Ali Best (UK), Vivienne Rumpeltin (Germany), Anna Zubrod (Germany), Viktoria Pioch (Germany), Clarissa Kayser (Germany), Jessica Cross (UK), Nicholas Curnow (UK), Daniel Wetherell (USA), Ben Krause (Germany), Simon Gall (Germany), Hayley Boothe (Canada), Hilary Stone (Canada), Megan Sidran (USA), Jessie Ralph (USA), Faith Memmo (USA), Ray Mennin (USA).

