

Agriculture Farm-to-Market Access Program

Why Agriculture?

Agriculture makes up 23% of Guatemala's GDP and employs 39% of its workforce. Friendship Bridge currently has 3,500 clients in the agriculture sector, and many of these clients are subsistence farmers with low harvest yield and value. Without the tools to produce more and sell their yield, these clients are often unable find solutions to poverty.

What does it involve?

Financial products adapted to the unique needs and requirements of the agriculture sector

Operating capital to allow clients to acquire agricultural inputs for production, invest in better equipment and supplies, hire workers, and/or diversify their income

Training and technical assistance provided by Friendship Bridge and its partners to educate clients about best agricultural practices

Risk mitigation services to protect against risks associated with agriculture

Business assistance and value chain services to help develop business partnerships and link clients to new markets

Long-term goals

- Bolster *sustainable agriculture practices* among small-scale farmers
- *Raise income* for rural, impoverished agrarian families
- Create *self-reliant community* agriculture groups
- *Drive economic development* in entire communities using Friendship Bridge's proven lending and education model



The Agriculture Farm-to-Market Access Program aims to prepare clients to become interdependent, pooling resources to create sustainable agricultural operations with linkages to other actors in the agriculture sector.

Problem: Clients in the agriculture sector require well-designed credit products and advanced training to grow their businesses.

Solution: Create a new credit product, offer technical training to increase agriculture production, and work with agricultural clients to access new markets.

Learn more at
www.friendshipbridge.org.

Friendship Bridge
405 Urban St.
Suite 140
Lakewood, CO 80228

(303) 674-0717