



Results and Testimonies

Pedro TziRax from Seaxpens San Pedro Carchá A.V. says that earlier the land situation was uncertain and therefore permanent crops could not be grown. In addition one did not know, which one's own plot was. This at times created conflicts between families. Now everyone is really owner of their plot.

Don Pedro emphasises: *“We have understood that by diversifying our crops we can produce enough food for our family. We do not now depend on a single crop and soon we shall be able to sell the surplus and generate some income.”*

The wife of Don Pedro Tzi, **Dona DomingalcalSeb**, said that she could never have imagined that her husband, her sons and her daughters could grow vegetables like cabbages and carrots. *Before they only bought them on the market or in the village in small quantities. It is important for this family to see that all the children plant their own share and do not depend on their parents but begin to cultivate the earth themselves.*

Dona Tomaso Cho of the hamlet Repollal I, Purulha, Baja Verapaz says that before the project had started her family had suffered greatly. She had been cooking on a campfire or on the ground. This gave her back pain and made the family sick because of the smoke, and lots of firewood was used.

“Earlier we suffered a lot from the shortage of water in this community. Most of the families had to get up at four o' clock in the morning to go and fetch water. They suffered from shortage of food as they had no work and also did not know how to use the soil during the months of October, November and December. 50% of the men had to seek work on the big farms for coffee and cardamom outside the municipality. They returned after 24 to 30 days with their money to buy the basic grains.” During the process of the project with TzuulTaq'a, my children had the opportunity to benefit from the training sessions for the treatment of the soil, the water and the wood. Through their participation we have managed to implement a plot suited for the cultivation of vegetables. This helps to guarantee sufficient food and to improve the life of the family. Of the carrots 25% is for our consumption and 75% is for sale. We have a firewood saving stove now. I now make tortillas and cook other food at the same time. This saves firewood and avoids the felling of trees in the community. It should

be mentioned, that families who had failed to work and contribute their labour in the field activities still received the same support.”