



# PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 12, 2008

2008-020

U.S. Agency for International Development

Strategic Development Office (503) 2501-3471

U.S. Embassy Public Affairs Section (503) 2501-2471

Email: [kazucena@usaid.gov](mailto:kazucena@usaid.gov)

<http://www.usaid.gov/sv>

<http://elsalvador.usembassy.gov/>

## **MEDICAL COVERAGE IS EXPANDED FOR LOCALS IN THREE MUNICIPALITIES IN USULUTÁN**

**SAN SALVADOR**– The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through its Health and Education Program, announced today the expansion in the medical coverage which currently has 14 health units in the municipalities of Berlin, Alegría and Mercedes Umaña in Usulután.

This project is the result of a private-public alliance between USAID, through Aliances El Salvador which is ran through the U.S. organization Research Triangle Institute (RTI) and LaGeo Company, through FundaGeo. USAID model to establish private-public alliances contributes to the expansion of the impact in the cooperation for the development that the U.S. Government provides. This is achieved when resources, experience and private sector creativity take part in this cooperation.

Under this alliance a total of \$264,989 have been distributed as follows: USAID, \$73,420; LaGeo, \$146,889 in kind and cash; Health Ministry and Public Welfare \$44,680.00 to support activities that expand the medical coverage with an emphasis in disease prevention, nutrition and personal hygiene.

A medical team will visit different health units located at the geothermal field Berlín, various Alegría municipalities, Berlín and Mercedes Umaña, Usulután residents. Benefiting 11,441 people in 1,910 households.

As part of their duties, the team will focus on the importance of people's responsibilities in relation to health care, as well as the necessary habits to promote individual's health.

The project's inauguration act took place at El Calvario Health Unit, El Zapotillo, Alegría (Usulután), presided by Berlin's mayor, Rafael Humberto Rodríguez; Dr. David Losk, from USAID; LaGeo, social projects coordinator; Oscar Salvador Valler, representative of the Ministry of Public Health and Public welfare the eastern region country and the Director of Aliances El Salvador, Verónica Olivares, amongst other attendees.

###