Our Mission
To improve drinking water quality through innovative research, knowledge transfer, open source engineering and design of sustainable, replicable water treatment systems.

Our Partners
The strength of AguaClara lies in its partnerships. Our Honduran partner is Agua Para el Pueblo (APP), an NGO that has specialized in building small-scale water supply systems since 1984. APP selects the communities that our project works with, supervises construction, and provides long-range technical support.

Our Cornell home in Civil and Environmental Engineering provides talented and motivated students, superb research facilities, and a commitment to applying our wealth of resources to practical problems.

To Donate
The AguaClara project depends on grants and donations from foundations and individuals as well as support from Cornell University. Project funds are used to build water treatment plants in Honduras, to support Cornell interns in Honduras, to research and develop an improved flocculation design, to create the design algorithms for the plants, and for project management.

We invite you to help the Sanjuan Fund support AguaClara. Send a note with a reference to “Sanjuan Fund support of AguaClara” along with your check to:

AguaClara
220 Hollister Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853

For More Information
Visit the project website:
http://aguaclara.cee.cornell.edu

Or Contact:
Monroe Weber-Shirk
AguaClara Project Coordinator
mw24@cornell.edu (607) 255-8445

Cornell Students
“Working on the Ojojona water treatment project this semester has been a crash course both in terms of the breadth of material learned, and the skills acquired in working as part of a large team. The weekly meetings ... have continued to fuel my enthusiasm for this project, and my hopes for a long term greater good that can result from it.”
— Shada El-Sharif
The Technology Choices

The three main strategies used to provide communities with clean drinking water on the market now are municipal scale water treatment plants (like AguaClara), expensive bottled water, and low cost point of use systems that can be used to produce small amounts of clean water. A cost analysis reveals that a family of 6 would pay more for 2 liters per day per person using point of use systems than they would using an AguaClara municipal system for all their water.

Open Source Engineering

We are dedicated to providing open access to all of our design work using web based design tools. This commitment to open source engineering will make it possible for engineers with internet access to rapidly design a water treatment plant given a design flow rate and a few additional parameters.

The AguaClara Technology

The AguaClara technology is an adaptation of conventional water treatment that is used in the U.S. to produce drinkable water from surface waters. Of the typically used processes: flocculation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection, AguaClara uses all except filtration to producing clean drinking water without electricity.

The AguaClara team has developed improved meters for adding alum & chlorine solutions in the treatment plant. These metering devices are gravity powered and rely on a simply float valve and calibrated flow control device.