

## New Clinic (Phase II) Up-date

Bureaucracy is Bureaucracy! It does not matter whether you are in Honduras or in the US. The US, through one of its “assistance programs” has mandated that the country must comply with the provisions of the United Nations Millennium Goals, if some of the loans our government is providing to this nation are to be forgiven. Consequently, we are now jumping through additional administrative hoops than would have been required previously. To comply with the newest laws, SATC needs to provide for soil and ecological impact surveys and to provide assurances through studies, certifications and appropriate equipment utilization that our clinic operation and construction phases will not contaminate the site or create refuse. Much of the surrounding area is already under pressure from rubbish, contaminated water, free range cattle, waste disposal and tree removal for firewood.

On our last visit, we met with an established architect, who besides designing buildings and drawing plans, had a working knowledge of the myriad of legal requirements and surveys. Together, we did a site inspection, envisioning the type of facility we anticipate building. We are fortunate that our property is situated in a flat valley between two rivers, with excellent drainage and the siting of buildings and access roads on the property will not require any tree removal.



To our list of items needed for the first phase of construction, we added the purchase of a electrical generator and two - preferably three transformers. For a dependable supply of quality water, we will have to drill a well – maximum depth of 350 ft at a cost of \$8.00 US per foot plus the addition of pump and purification system. From the start of

construction, the projected time until completion is eight months – that is of course assuming we are in complete compliance and that there will be no bureaucratic snafus.

SATC is in the process of identifying a special administrator to oversee construction of the clinic. Ideally, the candidate must be bi-lingual, have construction experience, possess an understanding of cross cultural differences and demonstrate an ability to work with diverse groups of people such as laborers, professionals and government administrators. That person is expected to report to SATC on all matters involving the construction site and to remove the hurdles that inevitably will arise until the facility is completed.