

## Delegation Itinerary

The NICCA/Food First Delegation to Nicaragua will consist mostly of visits to communities and homes of people who live and work in agricultural communities in the beautiful mountains of the Department of Matagalpa in north-central Nicaragua. They are participants in a diversity of successful *Campesino a Campesino* (Farmer to Farmer) sustainable agriculture projects, sponsored by UNAG (the National Union of Farmers and Ranchers). There will be many opportunities for discussion with women leaders and participants in these projects. Other meetings will be with local community officials, national and local UNAG leaders, and government ministries to gain a picture of the broad effort to alleviate hunger in Nicaragua.

### Itinerary

Sunday, March 25: Arrive at airport and transfer to hotel.

Monday, March 26. Morning in Managua.

Visit to the national office of UNAG for a meeting with the President of UNAG.

Visit to the Agricultural Ministry.

Afternoon in Managua.

Visit to the CIPRES office to meet with people associated with the international Via Campesina movement to discuss its activities in Nicaragua.

Late afternoon travel to Department of Matagalpa, town of San Ramon. Stay at Sueño de la Campana Guesthouse.

Tuesday, March 27. Morning in Matagalpa.

Meeting with UNAG Matagalpa.

Afternoon.

Visit to a coffee processing plant, Beneficio SolCafe, to learn about dry processing of coffee.

Wednesday, March 28. Visits to the communities of Cerro Grande and La Reyna. We will visit sustainable agriculture projects supported by NICCA. Discussion of community-based tourism.

Thursday, March 29. Visit to the community of Yasica Sur. We will visit coffee farms and learn about wet processing of coffee. Discussions will include crop diversification, honey filtration and marketing problems.

Friday, March 30. Visits to the communities of Wabule, Mil Bosque, and El Horno.

Discussions will concern a campesino micro business; seed banks; environmental problems stemming from a hydroelectric plant.

Saturday, March 31. Visit to the Bio-Reserve of Tisey-Estelí in the Department of Estelí. We will learn about grassroots community tourism projects initiated by campesinos. Also discuss organic methods of growing local potatoes and apples.

Sunday, April 1. Visit to the community of San Dionisio. We will have a meeting with the mayor's office, with the local Campesino a Campesino project, and with the local Casa Materna (a community house for pregnant women).

Monday, April 2. Visit to the communities of Piedra Larga and Corozo. We will meet with youth who direct and carry out an agroecology program.

Tuesday April 3. Final meeting with UNAG in Matagalpa to answer any questions and say good-bye. Return to Managua.

Wednesday, April 4. Final goodbyes. Delegation leaves Managua.