ACCESS TO HEALTH IN RURAL AREAS
MEDICAL CARE, TRAINING AND PREVENTION USING ICTs
TulaSalud shows how access to health in isolated rural communities in Guatemala can be improved by using Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) alongside flexible and horizontal multi-actor partnership models.

**ACTORS INVOLVED**
- Health Department of Alta Verapaz
- Ministry of Public Health
- Coban National School of Nursing
- Coban Hospital
- The Tula Foundation
- Tulasalud

### TELE EDUCATION

Training of nursing technicians and assistants in rural communities in coordination with the Coban Nursing School.

- **1,282** Nursing technicians, assistants and graduates certified via distance training.
- **37** Remote training centers.
- **35** Teachers involved in distance training.

**Between 2008 and 2012 the FCs at Tulasalud carried out:**
- **116,275** Medical consultations.
- **6,783** Check-ups for pregnant women.
- **2,014** Emergency transfers.

### TELE MEDICINE

A community tele-facilitator (FC) attends to patients.

- **195** FCs have a cell phone and cater for.
- **710** Rural communities.

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### PREVENTION

Through the X’beil li Kawial initiative, female community leaders train young adolescents in health promotion and prevention.

- **98** Female leaders trained, who, in turn, have trained:
- **750** Adolescents in health issues and life projects.

### SUSTAINABILITY

**Operating costs**
By the end of 2013, the public health system will incorporate the FCs and begin covering their operational costs.

- In 3 years, the health system will cover the cost of 1,176 terminals.

**Enrollment fee**
The fee paid by the pupils allows for the sustainability of the training courses.

**External Support**
Cooperation agencies such as the Tula Foundation provide financial stability until the project is institutionalized.

- **860** qualified nursing assistants.
- **76%** Working, the majority, in the public health system.

### MODEL EXTENSION

- **Funding in 2013**
- The Government is setting up a nutritional surveillance model using mobile phones in 8 departments.

**ALTA VERAPAZ, GUATEMALA**
- **78%** live in rural areas.
- **1/3** births attended by healthcare personnel.
- **268** women die for every 100,000 live births.
- **1/50** children do not reach the age of 5.
- **89.6%** poverty rate.
- **46.7%** extreme poverty rate.