Rubenia Banegas and her two children, ages 12 and 17, live in the Sulaco Valley, home to indigenous and mestizo communities known as “the home of the quail,” an area known as the Cono, Yoro, and Iota. Since the installation of the irrigation system in Sulaco, the production that Rubenia’s family will achieve in August can give them access to food, surpluses for marketing, and seeds for their next planting.

In addition, this irrigation system aims to improve the way agricultural products are produced and marketed, establishing a partnership between producers in the supply chain in order to meet the demands of the commercial food market, in addition to producing food of higher quality and value.

In order to make farmers more efficient and productive in the appropriation of this model, Rubenia, like her neighbors, seeks to improve their family income, which includes production, productivity, marketing, and management of environmentally friendly agricultural practices applied to production.

A strategic ally
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“Now I will be able to produce all year round on my plot for food security and income for my family thanks to the new irrigation system installed on my plot as part of the Low Irrigation Agricultural Development Program (PDABR),” commented Rubenia, representing the excitement of the local people.

The program, in addition to promoting the homestead low-irrigation drip irrigation systems that irrigate Rubenia’s plot and those of her neighbors, with technical assistance and complementary productive practices at the plot level, with the objective of improving efficiency and optimal productivity, as well as the social and economic benefits.

"When we were told about the program, we were thrilled and when it was implemented in July and the rains didn’t stop believing. We are always happy and grateful producer, Rubenia Banegas.

The program provides support to improve producers’ family income, as well as guidance in the production and management practices of the crops grown, which will be complemented with support in the preparation and implementation of annual production plans and access to credit from financial institutions.