Journeyman International
Senior Project Report

MISSION TWENTYFIVE35
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

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Abstract

The Santiago Agriculture and Water Company will partner with the Amoveo Group and Mission TwentyFive35 in order to bring healthy and sustainable solutions to the overall project region known as “El Cibao” in the Dominican Republic. This facility focuses on the revitalization of the community with educational facilities like libraries, a greenhouse, and agricultural landscaping. The project navigates the trials and complications often encountered with foreign humanitarian work by providing a rough construction schedule, budget, and analysis reports necessary to understand the project hazards.
Background

The Library project is one of the many facilities that is designed using natural elements and bringing them in. The building serves as a place for students and community centers to go and read books that they otherwise would not have access to. The goal of the community center is to provide sustainable resources and facilities that will help the community in its growth and independence. The architecture of the building reflects the cultural heritage of the population. Some of the main materials used consist of wood, clay, and palm tree leaves.

The library has an awesome layout that allows for technical and vocational training for those that have a desire to read and learn more. The space is 400 SF and has a station for quick consultations and an area where people can enjoy more time diving into various books that will be made available by donations. Below is a plan view of the libraries layout for better understanding.

The outside of the library will feature light designs on the exterior walls to contrast the roof design. In preparing a budget for this project I developed a conceptual estimate based on rough USD pricing and what could be expected in the Dominican Republic. Because access to materials and other well documented data that we are accustomed to in the USA is lacking, rough ideas were used in order to capture cost and schedule. The process is a new one for me because I was never exposed to various construction methods as far as collecting data for accuracy and precision with very little resources.

In addition to trying to understand the implications of a schedule and budget, it was also a struggle to analyze the potential hazards associated with the structure and its construction. The biggest worry is natural disasters that affect the area. Because of the
location, the Dominican Republic is susceptible to many variations of storms. Hurricanes, earthquakes, and tropical storms greatly affect the region. In order to mitigate risk and danger associated with that we need the structure engineer to design a facility to the best of their ability that will save lives in these horrific events. Additionally, trying to mitigate risk of labor shortages is a rough sell. The strategy of approach should be to gain enough material and labor to supply the project in phases.

In conclusion, the project was a very eye-opening experience. I have always wanted to use my knowledge in construction to do humanitarian work. I believe the exposure that Journeyman International has given me will serve to benefit me in any future endeavor. I understand the complexity that it takes in order for these projects to be built and I have a deeper compassion for those that need these facilities all over the world.