### ORGANIC FARMING AND GREEN BUILDING AT LAKE CHAPALA

**CASE STUDY PROJECT:** Rancho La Salud (Certified Organic)

**LOCATION:** Ajijic-San Juan Cosala corridor, north shore Lake Chapala

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farmed Surface</td>
<td>0.5 Hectareas</td>
<td>0.5 Hectareas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crop</td>
<td>Cucumber</td>
<td>Cucumber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenhouse</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>120,000 usd</td>
<td>10,000 usd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs</td>
<td>40,000 usd</td>
<td>20,000 usd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yield/yr</td>
<td>180,000 kgs</td>
<td>45,000 kgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>100,000 usd</td>
<td>30,000 usd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profits</td>
<td>60,000 usd</td>
<td>10,000 usd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payback</td>
<td>2-3 years</td>
<td>Immediate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Consumption</td>
<td>1,000 m³/yr</td>
<td>18,000 m³/yr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Compared to Conventional Farming:**
- **Investment:** 12x
- **Costs:** 4x
- **Yield/yr:** 18x
- **Sales:** 3.3x
- **Profits:** 6x
- **Payback:** 18x
- **Water Consumption:** 3.3x
RANCHO LA SALUD’s new endeavor: Organic Farming Technology Transfer to GREEN Building project at Lakeside.

BCS-OKO Garantie GmbH guidelines:
1. Non-toxic inputs & supplies
2. Composting & Re-cycling
3. Water Efficiency
4. Accountability

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Criteria:
1. Innovation & Design Process
2. Location & Linkages
3. Sustainable Sites
4. Water Efficiency
5. Energy & Atmosphere
6. Materials & Resources
7. Indoor Environmental Quality
8. Awareness & Education

LESSONS LEARNED

• Emphasis on Self-sufficiency
• “Listen” to Nature (local flora & fauna)
• Avoid dependency on subsidies (private or public)
• Embrace third-party inspections
• Accept eco-friendly technology
• More Transformational vs Transactional Learning
• Follow your heart but consult with your head