

## **Acción Ciudadana para la Educación, la Democracia y el Desarrollo (ACCEDDE)**



**Abstract:** Over five years, work in six municipalities of Jalisco, Mexico (Cuquio, Ixtlahucan del Rio, Ameca, Cocula, Amacueca, and Techaluta) to strengthen the capacity of local groups and municipal authorities to jointly plan, manage resources and promote collaboration that improves rural economic and social development, to mobilize nearly \$30 million in bank credit and foundation funds on behalf of small-scale farmers, as well as to provide credit and marketing services to 2,000 agricultural producers.



### **Organizational Background**

A regional, non-profit, civil association legally constituted in 1995

### **Organizational Mission**

Support the integral development of low-income people and their communities in the State of Jalisco by providing training, technical assistance, and resources to community groups and municipal leaders in the areas of (1) municipal development, (2) consolidation of economic and social community organizations, (3) popular education, and (4) planning and design of public policies and programs.

ACCEDDE has trained municipal leaders and supported municipalities in the establishment of associations of community organizations. ACCEDDE has effectively mobilized and managed a credit program for low-income agricultural producers in the region. ACCEDDE has developed strong relations with municipal and state level government agencies, the Banco de Mexico, and over ten private companies.

**Project Description**

- (1) Promote economic development in the target communities by:
  - Mobilizing and channeling marketing and production credit to 2,000 small-scale farmers, members of 54 rural producer groups
  - Supporting the construction and support of the operation of three storage warehouses
  - Carrying out market analysis studies
  - Supporting small-scale producers in the formation of 12 new rural producer societies
  - Training members of producer groups in administration and production techniques
  - Helping coordinate bi-monthly meetings of producer groups to develop production-related projects
  - Managing a credit fund to leverage a 10-to-1 contribution from the Banco de Mexico-FIRA program to provide loans for productive projects and rural producer groups
  
- (2) Support socio-political development by providing institutional strengthening and training to second-level associations of producers and agricultural producer groups which formed a part of a community finance institution.
  
- (3) Support technical education and regional integration through a series of regional and inter-regional meetings between community organizations, second-level organizations, and national producer groups.
  
- (4) Promote sustainable agricultural practices by providing training meetings on sustainable agriculture, establishing experimental farms, planting organic coffee, planting trees as windbreaks, and producing brochures on alternative agriculture.
  
- (5) Improve municipal management and planning by:
  - Carrying out participative strategic planning workshops between municipal leaders and associations of community groups
  - Providing training sessions to local governmental authorities in project design, resource mobilization and management, participative planning, and conflict resolution
  - Sponsoring annual forums to exchange information on municipal plans
  
- (6) Promote citizen participation by sponsoring workshops to strengthen existing associations of community groups and sessions to constitute new associations.
  
- (7) Promote learning and dissemination on community development issues through the presentation of workshops on social communication in municipal planning and training courses in social communication strategies, the production of radio and television programs and news bulletins, and the facilitation of town-hall style meetings between various community entities.

## Cooperativa "El Ceibo", Residuos Sólidos Urbanos (El Ceibo)



**Abstract:** Over two years, consolidate and expand a recycling operation in the Buenos Aires neighborhood of Palermo, train members and partners in all aspects of recycling, finance equipment for better collection of sorted materials and more efficient overall operations. The project will improve the standard of living of approximately 200 beneficiaries and 3,800 Palermo residents and will indirectly benefit many others residing in the neighborhood.



### **Organizational Background**

A grassroots, membership organization, legal status in 1989

### **Organizational Mission**

Focus on community-based solutions to housing, education, health services and employment using three active committees: micro-enterprise development, dissemination and operations.



**Project Description**

The project will directly improve the standard of living of approximately 200 El Ceibo-RSU recyclers and family members and will create jobs for new members. The approximately 3,800 new clients will directly benefit from access to El Ceibo-RSU's efficient waste collection services. The increased supply of recyclables will benefit buyers of plastic, glass, paper, cardboard and aluminum. The project will strengthen El Ceibo-RSU's planning, administration and monitoring.

The project will provide a replicable model for curbside recycling in other Argentine communities.

(1) Consolidate and expand the recycling operation in Palermo

(2) Train El Ceibo-RSU members and partners in all aspects of recycling

(3) Purchase equipment to improve collection of sorted materials and overall efficiency

(4) Train El Ceibo-RSU members in efficient waste collection, equipment operation, sorting, storage, hygiene standards and marketing

(5) Finance a study to study the supply and demand of recyclables as well as comparative market advantage and disseminate findings.

(6) Offer recyclers' children between the ages of 15 and 25 hands-on and classroom training in environmental education and dissemination.

(7) Train members of neighborhood associations and other groups in environmental awareness.

(8) Design educational posters and leaflets and conduct exchange programs. It will hold at least four events for an estimated 90 representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the media. Its updated Web site will include project results.

## **Corporación para el Desarrollo de los Recursos Naturales Renovables (CEDERENA)**



### **Abstract**

Over three years, implement a program with the Municipality of Pimampiro, northern Ecuador) to reverse the environmental degradation of the area by enabling 450 small-scale farmers to implement soil conservation practices, organic farming techniques, watershed rehabilitation, and sustainable forest management, and by generating new sources of raw materials for economic opportunities. Project activities will also strengthen Municipal Environmental Unit staff and promote exchanges/dialogue among key stakeholders.

### **Organizational Background**

Non-profit, professional membership organization (agronomists, foresters, economists, engineers, sociologists), legally incorporated in 1994

### **Organizational Mission**

Promote environmentally sound agricultural production alternatives to the harmful practices presently being utilized in local communities by providing research and analysis on environmental issues, as well as technical assistance and training.

### **Project Description**

Over a three-year period CEDERENA, the Municipality of Pimampiro, and the *Programa de Desarrollo Forestal Campesino* will work in a coordinated effort to implement a natural resource and watershed management program that will protect crucial sources of water for the municipality's citizens while creating new economic opportunities and promoting partnerships between principal stakeholders.



Although this project was initially proposed as a conservation campaign that relied on the technical expertise of water and forestry technicians, it has become obvious that the element most essential to project success is the ability of staff to negotiate with beneficiaries and partners in order to reach consensus and establish agreements.

- (1) Staff, train, and operationalize an office within the municipality called the Environment and Tourism Unit (ETU) which will coordinate and manage environmental programs.
- (2) Enable rural communities to undertake a variety of activities that will re-establish forested watershed areas throughout the *cantón*, revitalize the soil through conservation and organic farming practices, and generate new economic opportunities.
- (3) Provide extension services to local communities through a through the ETU community promoter to implementation a Community Forest Plan and work with individual families in soil conservation practices and organic gardens.
- (4) Organize local participation in training activities, interchanges between communities, field trips to visit the work of groups in other regions of the country, and gatherings to receive feedback and conduct beneficiary evaluations.
- (5) Establish a tree nursery in each of the participating communities that will be used to reforest watershed areas, reduce damage to erosion prone slopes and gullies, shade and protect existing streams and water sources, and generate new sources of raw material for economic opportunities.
- (6) Facilitate negotiation between farmers, water consumers and municipal officials.

