

Food security

Agricultural rehabilitation in provinces most affected by hurricanes Ike and Paloma in Cuba

"The impact of the project is visible. Production in the previous year was of 169 000 litres of milk. To date, production has increased to more than 225 000 litres. The hurricane caused a delay of almost two years in our level of production growth, and the project is helping us to recover."

Guillermo Suárez Álvarez, President of Cooperative Antonio Maceo



EC Partners

Project leader:
Fundación Intermon
OXFAM

European Partners:
ACSUR and
MUNDUBAT

Cuban partners: ANAP,
ACPA and ACTAF

Facts and Figures

- EC contribution: €2,2 million (100% of the total)
- Duration: 2009- 2010
- Beneficiaries: 596 876 people



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Context

Hurricanes Gustav, Ike and Paloma hit Cuba between August and November 2008 damaging or destroying over 500 000 houses, causing the temporary evacuation of many Cubans. Damages and losses were estimated at almost USD 10 billion. The hurricanes also destroyed vast amounts of crops, and significantly damaged the agricultural productive capacities throughout the country. The European Commission decided to focus on the recovery of livelihoods, notably through the rehabilitation of productive capacities in local agriculture.

Objectives

- Rehabilitation of productive capacities in agriculture in the provinces of Camagüey, Las Tunas and Granma.

Impact

- The project worked with 78 cooperatives within 10 municipalities, benefiting 596 876 inhabitants of the three provinces.
- There was a 10% of increase in milk and meat production in the 78 cooperatives.
- The levels of crop production have improved in order to increase availability in the agricultural markets of the 10 municipalities of the project.
- The local capacity to manage and reduce vulnerability to hurricanes has improved.

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From disaster to recovery

"The day the hurricane hit us, this looked like the Sahara desert. Hurricane Ike passed nearby and destroyed almost all our production. It took away the roof of the dairy and also damaged all the walls. With this project, we tried to recover ourselves and now we are producing more than initially thought."

Manuel Godinez, Economist at the UBPC Jorge Osvaldo Galindo.



Protected cultivation area