

EC Partners

Verein zur Förderung der Städtepartnerschaft Kreuzberg – San Rafael del Sur

Centro de Desarrollo Rural (CEDRU),
Centro de Salud de San Rafael y Masachapa

Facts and Figures

- EC contribution: €400 000 (74% of the total)
- Duration: 2006 - 2008
- Beneficiaries: 2 317 small scale farmer beneficiaries (49.5% women).
- Area covered: Region of San Rafael del Sur



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Food security

Fighting hunger and empowering women in Nicaragua

The project PISA gives special attention to women and children

"This project has enabled the community people to unite their strengths in order to care for the well-being of the population while promoting the participation of the most vulnerable groups of women and children. Men and women are now more organised"

Eng. Rafael Silva, coordinator for the agricultural sector



Context

In the region of San Rafael del Sur in Nicaragua, the vulnerability of the rural population to food shortage is very high. The situation of women and children is of great concern. This part of the population was taken into special consideration by the project due to their vulnerability regarding food and nutrition.

Objectives

- To encourage food and nutritional security by promoting sustainable development within the rural sector.
- To promote food and nutritional security with special focus on the nutritional well-being of pregnant, nursing mothers and children under the age of five years old.

Impact

- 4 499 persons were trained in 171 workshops on health, hygiene at home, healthy eating and agroecology.
- Improvement of infrastructure in basic health services and purchase of basic equipments.
- Training of national NGO CEDRU. Specialists and developers participated in six training events.

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Migdalia de los Milagros Gutiérrez, promoter in the community of Los Córdoba

"Thanks to the project "Supporting the Integral Promotion of food and nutritional security (PISA)", women are now better organised than before, when men were the only ones participating in the meetings and workshops and were the ones in charge of the projects.

"The technicians explained to us that it was important to get involved and have a more influential role, I decided that I would be more active. During the project's presentation meeting, I was elected to be my community promoter, which involves organisational work and implementing the project.

"Initially I was a bit scared to get so deeply involved in the kind of tasks that men would normally take care of. However, with the backing of my husband, family and the community I managed to take up this new challenge with great confidence.

"I learned many new skills and also had the opportunity to demonstrate the abilities I have gained to others, which was very rewarding.

"Pregnant women and young children now go to the health care centre more than ever before and we are all better informed about our health, preventing sicknesses and nutrition.

"Thanks to the project, women have made themselves heard. We have taken up vital positions in the development of our community. Plenty of women, who benefited directly from the project, are now more involved and have managed to improve their households situation and through more dialogue between them and their husbands".



Women are now better organised