CELA – Network of Climate Change Technology Transfer Centres in Europe and Latin America

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The EU-LA cooperation programme ALFA III – Building the Future on Education

- **Cooperation programme** between the European Union (EU) and Latin America (LA) that promotes Higher Education as a means of social and economic development and struggle against social inequality

- Third phase €75 million (2007-2013) funds 51 projects involving 494 institutions – 153 from the EU and 341 from Latin America.

- Two pivotal guidelines:
  - To improve the quality of higher education and facilitate access for all, especially vulnerable groups;
  - To contribute to the process of regional integration in Latin America;

- **51 projects managed and implemented by HEIs** in both regions through networks.
Higher education institutions (HEI) as important actors for tackling socio-economic challenges of climate change:

- they build research capacity
- they provide consultancy and technology transfer
- they offer professional education of future generations of employees + entrepreneurs

HEI offer solutions, but are constrained by the following:

a. Lack of capacity to capitalize on scientific and technological research results
b. Missing market-oriented research and educational approaches
c. Weak links of LA research with business and private sector
d. Limited co-operation with research and teaching institutions from other regions (e.g. Europe).
CELA focuses on the specific area of **Climate Change - adaptation and mitigation** are vital for the sustainable socio-economic development of Latin America

**Core objectives:**

1. **Improve** the quality of research and technology transfer of LA universities

2. **Strengthen** the role of LA HEIs in the sustainable socio-economic development in the respective regions

3. **Foster** sustainable research and technology transfer cooperation between HEI in LA and the EU

➔ CELA’s contribution is also towards reducing poverty through capacity-building and creating knowledge networks among Climate Change actors
THE CELA PROJECT

Approach

- **Assessment** of needs of Climate Change information & training needs among universities, businesses, governments and the civil society

- **Capacity-building** programme tailored to specific needs

- Accompanying **Network** of 6 Climate Change Technology Transfer Centres

- **Pilot projects** in Bolivia, Guatemala, Nicaragua & Peru

- **Sound information, dissemination & networking.**

  All results fully accessible beyond project end: [www.cela-project.net](http://www.cela-project.net)
RESULTS (2010-2013)
Vast range of outputs – deliverables fulfilled

- Transnational survey of Climate Change Information Needs conducted
- Network of Climate Change Transfer Centres established in Bolivia, Estonia, Germany, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru
- Transnational Climate Change Technology Transfer Strategy developed
- Pilot projects:
  - Bolivia: “Lifelong Learning Centre” for sustainable forestry
  - Peru: Monitoring of Water Quality at Napo River
  - Nicaragua: Modelling the River Tamarindo
  - Guatemala: Flood-risk management of River Coyolote
- >24 Capacity-building seminars and >18 networking events held
- Final recommendation report produced!

- Vast representation and promotion at conferences, workshops, meetings, online and in the media, with a wide CELA Network has been set-up and will continue even after the project completion.
THE CELA PROJECT
Our Partners – key to project success

The **CELA partnership** comprised the following HEIs:

- Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, **Germany**
- Tallinn Technical University, **Estonia**
- Universidad Galileo, **Guatemala**
- Universidad Católica Boliviana, **Bolivia**
- Universidad de Ciencias Comerciales, **Nicaragua**
- Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, **Peru**
**Conclusions**

1. **Universities** hold a key to disseminate knowledge and expertise to build/strengthen adaptive capacity in the Latin American region and beyond.

2. **Fostering international technology transfer** may build and increase capacities in the climate change sector.

3. **Inclusive networks** which allow TT between various parties may represent an important mechanism for transfer processes.

4. The **CELA project** can serve as a best practice example for a transnational approach linking LA and Europe, and HEI with government, businesses and the civil society (quadruple helix).
Contact

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