



SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A world of solidarity in a cup of coffee

Cooperative culture and aggregation in the small coffee producers supply chain in Central America and Africa (there is parallel project in Uganda)



COUNTRY
Nicaragua



BENEFICIARIES
1.400



METHOD
Capacity Building /
Training

LOCAL PARTNERS	UCA - Santa Maria de Pantasma Chapter.
INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS	CO.IND
FUNDING AGENCIES	ANCC-COOP
STARTING DATE	January 2008
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	24 months
DESCRIPTION	By creating and reinforcing the cooperatives of coffee and promoting a sustainable and gender-based development model, the project involved 1.400 people, considering the families of the members of UCA cooperatives, 278 members of the 9 basic cooperatives; the 121 board members of these cooperatives; their 20 administrative directors and union directors.
OBJECTIVES	This project contributed to the consolidation of a sustainable development model based on gender equality in the Santa Maria di Pantasma Municipality, reinforcing the organizational processes of local cooperatives and promoting social and production processes that involved the most vulnerable workers in the fields.
ACTIVITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforcement of the commercial structure of UCA Pantasma, through strengthening of procedures and reinforcement of logistic structures, in order to allow the Cooperative Workers' Union to operate directly on national and international markets without mediation. This action aims to increase both the efficiency of the direct sales of coffee with CoInd, and savings on the enormous costs of intermediary speculation • Production and sales of UCA coffee within the Coop distribution system in Italy • Implementation of the actions necessary for Transfair certification • Creation of a UCA loan department which will manage a cooperative credit fund • Purchase of a tractor to improve logistic capabilities in the harvest of coffee and grains • Enlargement of "drying courtyards" and a warehouse with silos for the storage of coffee and grains • Implementation of a promotional campaign for organic coffee targeting members of the cooperatives involved in the project