

2005-2010

Proyecto Agua Para Todos Informe de cierre de proyecto



**Acuerdo multisectorial para el desarrollo de servicios básicos sostenibles
en agua y saneamiento en Cochabamba – Bolivia”**



Cochabamba, agosto de 2011

Presentación

¿Qué es el Proyecto Agua Para Todos?

El Proyecto Agua Para Todos (**APT**) es una alianza multisectorial, creada en la ciudad de Cochabamba, el año 2005, con el objetivo de facilitar el desarrollo de servicios básicos sostenibles para poblaciones periurbanas del Municipio de Cochabamba.

Esta alianza está conformada por:



¿Cuál es la Forma de trabajo?

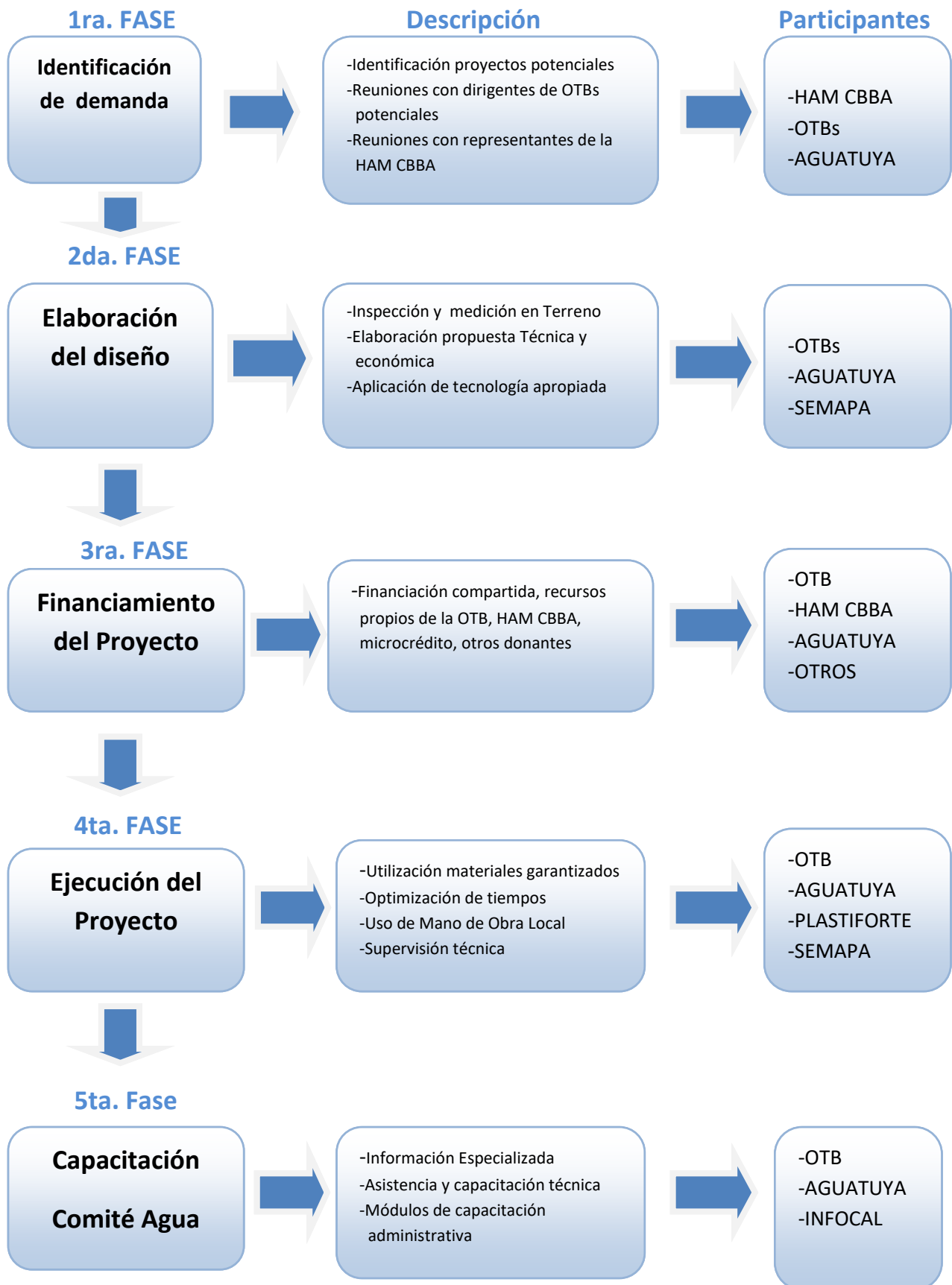
Mediante este acuerdo interinstitucional denominado “Proyecto Agua Para Todos”, primeramente se identifica la demanda de agua en las zonas periurbanas del Municipio de Cochabamba, para posteriormente priorizar la ejecución del proyecto. Este es el primer paso para la construcción de sistemas descentralizados de distribución de agua en las comunidades (barrios) de bajos ingresos. AGUATUYA trabaja con la comunidad en el desarrollo de cada proyecto, desde el diseño hasta la implementación, con un enfoque de demanda y con alta participación por parte de la comunidad.

Una vez definido el diseño de la red de agua, la propuesta técnica y económica, propuesto por AGUATUYA, el siguiente paso es la determinación del financiamiento, en el cual juega un papel fundamental la Honorable Municipalidad de Cochabamba, quien puede asignar fondos de Participación Popular con autorización de la OTB beneficiada. También puede asignar fondos provenientes de otras fuentes dependiendo de la situación financiera del proyecto.

Los miembros de las OTB'S participan activamente en la construcción de la infraestructura y en la inversión para cubrir los costos. AGUATUYA, diseña y construye las redes de agua y facilita el acceso al financiamiento del proyecto como la capacitación a los nuevos comités de agua.

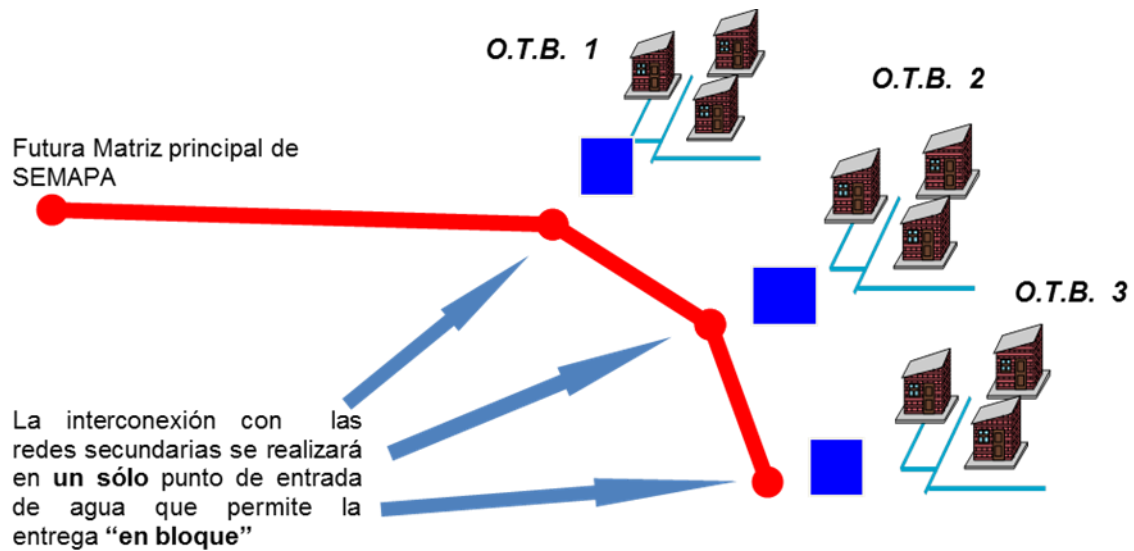
La construcción de los sistemas de agua se lleva a cabo bajo la supervisión técnica de SEMAPA. Las redes secundarias comienzan a funcionar de inmediato con fuentes de agua alternativas, para ser interconectadas con SEMAPA en una segunda fase.

Forma de trabajo



¿Cuál la perspectiva a futuro del Proyecto Agua Para Todos?

AGUATUYA trabaja en el diseño y desarrollo de redes secundarias de distribución de agua potable, para las OTB's asentadas en zonas periurbanas del Municipio de Cochabamba, asegurando que los sistemas construidos puedan ser interconectados con SEMAPA en el futuro.



OTBs beneficiadas con el Proyecto Agua Para Todos

Desde el año 2005 al 2010

Nº	Proyectos Vigentes	Distrito	Comuna	Número	ESTRUC. FINANC.	DEL PROYECTO SEGÚN CONTRATO		Fecha de
	Nombre del Proyecto:			de	Aporte H.A.M.	Contraparte O.T.B.	TOTAL	inicio de
				Viviendas	en Bolivianos Bs	en Bolivianos Bs.	en Bolivianos Bs.	Obras
1	Ticti Sud	8	Alejo Calatayud	151	71,575.70	165,385.75	236,961.45	19/11/2005
2	El Jardin	5	Alejo Calatayud	64	187,110.00	0.00	187,110.00	29/12/2005
			TOTAL AÑO 2005	215	258,685.70	165,385.75	424,071.45	
3	Central Itocta	14	Valle Hermoso	238	66,100.00	365,494.12	431,594.12	02/04/2006
4	Universitario Bajo	5	Alejo Calatayud	160	169,900.00	171,490.70	341,390.70	23/04/2006
5	k'ara K'ara	9	Itocta	306	82,700.00	582,406.77	665,106.77	12/08/2006
6	La Campana	3	Molle	88	119,918.00	8,643.06	128,561.06	27/10/2006
			TOTAL AÑO 2006	792	438,618.00	1,128,034.65	1,566,652.65	
7	Bella Vista	14	Valle Hermoso	99	105,700.00	99,962.74	205,662.74	25/03/2007
8	Eduardo López (1)	5	Alejo Calatayud	170	222,451.20	0.00	222,451.20	03/06/2007
9	San Joaquín (2)	5	Alejo Calatayud	128	217,802.16	0.00	217,802.16	03/06/2007
10	Lacma Cerro Blanco (3)	5	Alejo Calatayud	98	249,117.00	0.00	249,117.00	03/06/2007
11	Interconexión (1,2,3)	5	Alejo Calatayud		450,990.72	9,396.48	460,387.20	03/06/2007
12	La Vertiente	3	Molle	200	187,572.00	31,599.86	219,171.86	26/09/2007
			TOTAL AÑO 2007	695	1,433,633.08	140,959.08	1,574,592.16	
13	Villa Urkupiña	14	Valle Hermoso	284	99,800.00	336,087.48	435,887.48	08/06/2008
14	Integración	14	Valle Hermoso	70	46,982.00	107,690.20	154,672.20	02/01/2008
15	Caico Alto (fase 1 y 2)	9	Itocta	44	45,700	1,130	46,829.84	19/02/2008
16	Nuevo Milenio	14	Valle Hermoso	103	82,098.00	93,543.75	175,641.75	10/10/2008
17	Lomas de Pagador	14	Valle Hermoso	90	92,071.00	113,152.35	205,223.35	10/10/2008
			TOTAL AÑO 2008	591	366,651.00	651,603.62	1,018,254.62	
18	Gualberto Villarroel	14	Valle Hermoso	136	168,905.00	120,000.05	288,905.05	18/01/2009
19	Maica Sud	9	Itocta	36	45,100.00	52,614.00	97,714.00	12/01/2009
20	Lazo Rancho	9	Itocta	80	43,330.00	26,766.00	70,096.00	20/03/2009
21	Higuerani	9	Itocta	120	54,600.00	62,654.00	117,254.00	05/04/2009
22	San Nicolás-Villa de Oropeza	9	Itocta	97	89,000.00	167,267.02	256,267.02	26/07/2009
23	Incacollo	11	Adela Zamudio	24	114,800.00	3,010.10	117,810.10	07/11/2009
24	Bello Horizonte (1 ra. Fase)	14	Valle Hermoso	88	173,002.00	405.13	173,407.13	05/03/2009
25	Solterito Alto (*)	11	Adela Zamudio	103	200,100.00	0.00	200,100.00	05/06/2009
26	Maica Central	9	Itocta	343	411,000.00	360,800.10	771,800.10	30/06/2009
27	Maica Quenamari (*)	9	Itocta	46	60,000.00	123,970.86	183,970.86	15/04/2009
			TOTAL AÑO 2009	1,073	1,359,837.00	917,487.26	2,277,324.26	
28	Hornoni Pampa	13	Tunari	38	139,500.00	0.00	139,500.00	19/01/2010
29	Alto Porvenir (*)	14	Valle Hermoso	68	181,495.00	0.00	181,495.00	15/01/2010
30	COBOL (*)	9	Itocta	163	140,400.00	247,491.92	387,891.92	25/02/2010
31	Juan XXIII (*)	4	Molle	237	439,441.10	120,000.00	559,441.10	11/05/2010
32	Baños Ecológicos Higuerani	9	Itocta	20	246,600.00	93,358.00	339,958.00	05/03/2010
33	Bello Horizonte (2da. Fase)	14	Valle Hermoso	60	307,600.00	0.00	307,600.00	20/07/2010
			TOTAL AÑO 2010	586	1,455,036.10	460,849.92	1,915,886.02	
			TOTALES	3,952	5,312,461	3,464,320	8,776,781	

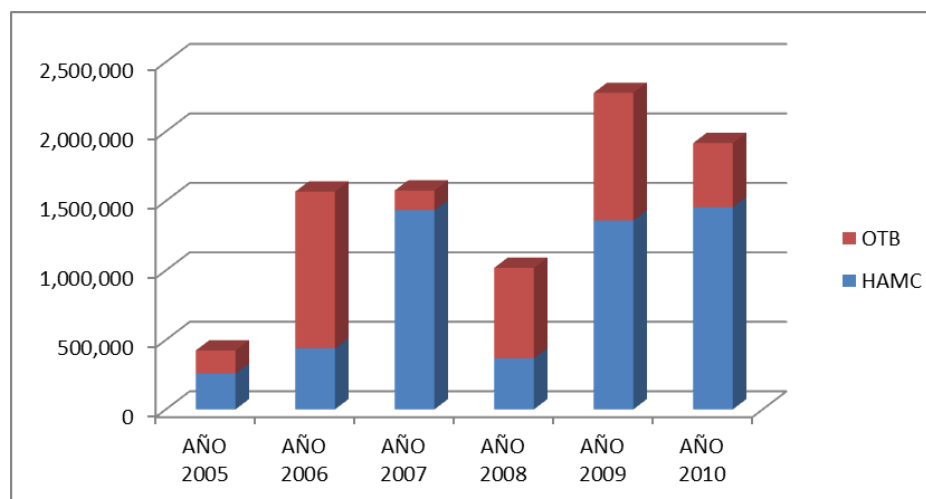
Resultados (2005 – 2010)

La inversión y la población beneficiada por el “Proyecto Agua Para Todos” por Distrito del Municipio de Cochabamba, se reflejan en el siguiente cuadro:

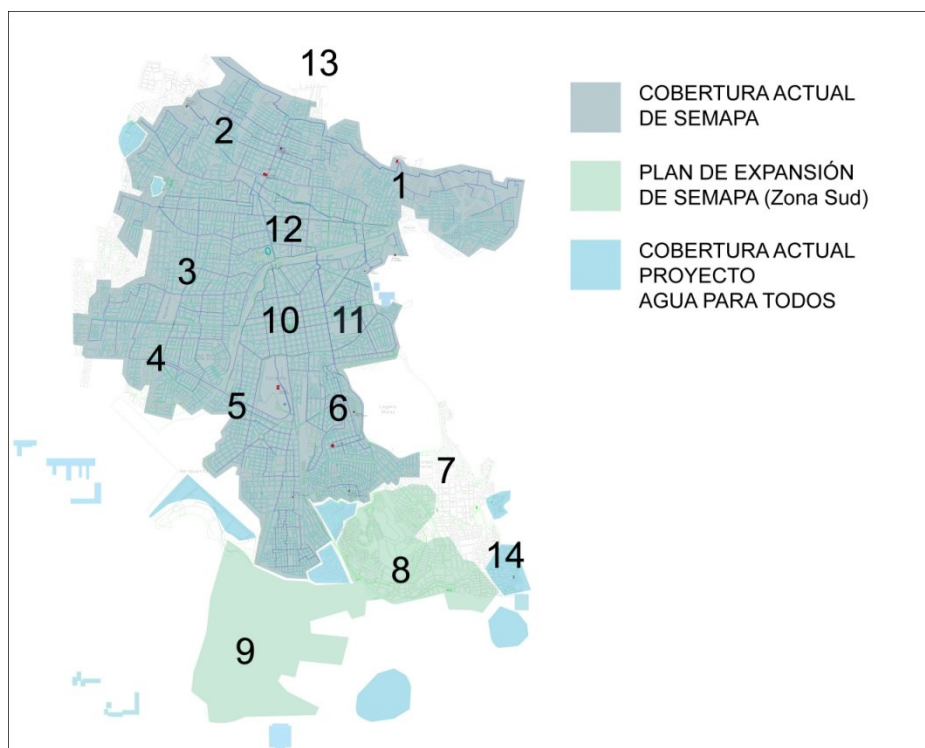
AÑO		DISTRITO								TOTALES	
		3	4	5	8	9	11	13	14		
2005	Total Inversiones Bs.			187,110	236,961				0	424,071	5%
	Nº de OTB's Beneficadas			1	1	0			0	2	
	Nº de Viviendas Beneficiadas			64	151	0			0	215	
2006	Total Inversiones Bs.	128,561		341,391		665,107			431,594	1,566,653	18%
	Nº de OTB's Beneficadas	1		1		1			1	4	
	Nº de Viviendas Beneficiadas	88		160		306			238	792	
2007	Total Inversiones Bs.	219,172		1,149,758					205,663	1,574,592	18%
	Nº de OTB's Beneficadas	1		4					1	6	
	Nº de Viviendas Beneficiadas	200		396					99	695	
2008	Total Inversiones Bs.					46,830			971,425	1,018,255	12%
	Nº de OTB's Beneficadas					1			4	5	
	Nº de Viviendas Beneficiadas					44			547	591	
2009	Total Inversiones Bs.					1,497,102	317,910		462,312	2,277,324	26%
	Nº de OTB's Beneficadas					6	2		2	10	
	Nº de Viviendas Beneficiadas					722	127		224	1,073	
2010	Total Inversiones Bs.		559,441			727,850		139,500	489,095	1,915,886	22%
	Nº de OTB's Beneficadas		1			2		1	2	6	
	Nº de Viviendas Beneficiadas		237			183		38	128	586	
TOTALES	Total Inversiones Bs.	347,733	559,441	1,678,258	236,961	2,936,889	317,910	139,500	2,560,089	8,776,781	100%
	Nº de OTB's Beneficadas	2	1	6	1	10	2	1	10	33	
	Nº de Viviendas Beneficiadas	288	237	620	151	1,255	127	38	1,236	3,952	
	Porcentaje inversiones %	4%	6%	19%	3%	33%	4%	2%	29%	100%	
	Porcentaje OTB's Beneficadas	6%	3%	18%	3%	30%	6%	3%	30%	100%	

Cuadro Comparativo Inversiones por Año Proyecto Agua Para Todos 2005 -2010

(Cifras expresadas en Bolivianos)



Cobertura de agua potable distribuida por red en el Municipio de Cochabamba



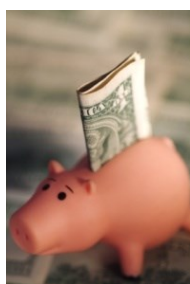
Fuente: Elaboración Propia, información proporcionada por SEMAPA, H. Alcaldía Municipal de Cbba. y Programa Agua Tuya

Proyecto Agua Para Todos: Logros a la fecha

Síntesis del impacto económico y social del Proyecto Agua Para Todos a noviembre del 2010:

Inversión Total [USD]	1,174,506
Inversión Total por la Comunidad (aporte propio OTBs) [USD]	485,379
Inversión Total por el Municipio [USD]	689,127
Número total de Proyectos entregados (OTBs) [USD]	33
Promedio de inversión total por Proyecto (OTB)	35,591
Número total de hogares beneficiados	3,952
Promedio inversión total por hogar [USD]	297
Promedio inversión directa pagada por la comunidad [USD/vivienda] [incluye aporte de otros donantes]	122
Total personas beneficiadas (prom. 5.7 hab./casa)	22,526
Prom. inversión total per cápita [USD]	52
Longitud total de tuberías instaladas [m]	96,688

Beneficios para los usuarios del proyecto Agua Para Todos:



**Ahorro
para el
usuario**

Situación inicial:

Costo del agua de cisterna en turril: 20 Bs/m³

Con Proyecto APT (comité independiente abastecido por carro cisterna):

Costo del agua en el domicilio: 10-12 Bs/m³ **(-50%)**

Con interconexión a SEMAPA:

Costo del agua en el domicilio aprox. : 5 Bs/m³ **(-75%)**

Proyecto Agua Para Todos: Logros a la fecha

El premio SEED

El 2005 el Proyecto APT ganó el premio SEED Awards por ser nominado y elegido como uno de los cinco proyectos ganadores en todo el mundo. Ver publicación:

<https://www.seed.uno/enterprise-profiles/water-for-all>
(ver certificado premio SEED en Anexo 1)



Atención en Comunas

- Implementación de una oficina de coordinación/enlace en dependencias de la Comuna Valle Hermoso/Zona Sur.
- Implementación de un sitio web de fácil acceso (www.aguatuya.org)



Reuniones de Coordinación

La reunión de presentación del Reporte Agua Para Todos 2007, sirvió para lograr el acercamiento entre los tres aliados principales: H.A.M.C., SEMAPA y AGUATUYA, cuyas reuniones sostenidas permitieron identificar y viabilizar muchos de los proyectos ejecutados a la fecha.



Capacitación de Comités

AGUATUYA, en noviembre de 2009, firma un convenio con la Fundación INFOCAL con la intención de crear una instancia permanente para la formación técnica y administrativa a los comités de agua conformados una vez concluido el proyecto de agua potable.



Convenios Internacionales

La gestión realizada por AGUATUYA, permitió el acercamiento de ONU-HABITAT, quienes en marzo de 2009, suscriben un convenio interinstitucional con la H.A.M. de Cochabamba, con RM 5174/2009, para la construcción de una Planta de tratamiento de aguas residuales y baños ecológicos



Incursión en Saneamiento Ecológico

La necesidad de encontrar alternativas tecnológicas innovadoras en el campo del saneamiento básico, en el Municipio Cochabamba, hizo que AGUATUYA busque las mejores opciones en este campo, como respuesta a esta necesidad se realizaron estudios para la construcción de plantas de tratamiento descentralizadas y baños ecológicos. Ver publicación: <https://www.aguatuya.org/docs/inf-ECOSAN-final.pdf>



Proyecto Agua Para Todos: Fortalecimiento Institucional

AGUATUYA, uno de los miembros fundadores del Proyecto AGUA PARA TODOS, por la trayectoria ejercida en el campo del acceso al agua y saneamiento básico, decide convertirse en una Fundación especializada en apoyar proyectos de agua para consumo humano y saneamiento básico en áreas periurbanas de los Municipios de Cochabamba. Es de esta manera que en noviembre del año 2008, obtiene su personería jurídica como FUNDACIÓN. Este hecho constituye en una fortaleza más para el Proyecto AGUA PARA TODOS, debido a que a través de la FUNDACION AGUATUYA podrá canalizar fondos de la cooperación e invertirlos en proyectos de investigación y desarrollo así como apoyo técnico para asegurar la sostenibilidad de los proyectos implementados hasta la fecha.

Proyecto Agua Para Todos: Reconocimiento institucional

2006: Premio internacional THE SEED AWARDS, premio otorgado a proyectos innovadores en el campo del desarrollo sostenible que contribuyen positivaal logro de los objetivos de desarrollo del milenio. Este premio es auspiciado por el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD), La Unión Internacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (UICN) y Unión Internacional para la Conservación del Medio Ambiente (UNEP)

2006: Se presentó la experiencia de AguaPara Todos durante el Foro Mundial del Agua en México en la presentación denominada: Soluciones innovadoras para provisión de agua en zonas peri urbanas pobres.

2009: Gustavo Heredia es contratado por el Instituto del Banco Mundial como consultor internacional para participar de un taller organizado por el Programa para mejorar la transparencia, el acceso a la información y la rendición de cuentas en el sector de agua y saneamiento en Honduras y Nicaragua

2010: Se presentó la experiencia de Agua Para Todos en el taller nacional sobre arreglos institucionales en Saneamiento Básico organizado por PROAPAC/GTZ y el SENASBA.

2010: Presentación de la experiencia Agua Para Todos en el taller internacional realizado en Paris Francia sobre enfoques innovadores para mejorar el acceso a servicios básicos en zonas peri urbanas de las ciudades. Organizado por HYSTRA Itnl. La experiencia está en proceso de publicación.

2011: Como parte de un estudio de caso realizado en cinco ciudades de Latinoamérica realizado por la institución BPD (Building Partnerships for Develompen – una institución sin fines de lucro de Inglaterra). El documento titula: La Alianza Agua Para Todos: un modelo para replicar.

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ANEXOS

ANEXO 1

Core Partners



Channel
Coordinators



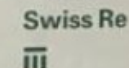
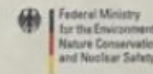
seed awards 2005 WINNER

"Agua para Todos", Bolivia

Has been selected for its entrepreneurship and
outstanding potential to contribute to sustainable development.

Presented on the occasion of a Gala Ceremony to celebrate the winners during the
13th Meeting of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development
New York, USA, 20th April 2005

Supporters



Achim Steiner
Director General
IUCN-The World Conservation Union

Shoji Nishimoto
Assistant Administrator
United Nations Development Programme

Klaus Töpfer
Executive Director
United Nations Environment Programme



seed initiative

supporting entrepreneurs for environment and development

Core Partners



Channel Coordinators



Supporters



Swiss Re

From Cows to Kilowatts and Berries into Businesses—Winners of the First *Seed* Awards Announced

New York, 20 April 2005 - An environmentally-friendly way of growing rice and a project to cultivate a highly versatile berry found at the roof of the world are among the winners of a new sustainable development award.

They are joined by a community-based marine protected area in the Indian Ocean, an innovative water supply scheme in Latin America and a power-plant in West Africa that turns cattle waste into energy.

The five winners of the Supporting Entrepreneurs for Environment and Development (*Seed*) Initiative awards will be honoured in a special ceremony in New York.

It will take place on 20th April 2005 during the 13th Session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

The winners were selected from a pool of over 260 entries from 66 countries, representing 1,200 organisations.

They were chosen for their potential to advance sustainable development in their communities and contribute to the UN's Millennium Development Goals.

They are living proof that, through partnerships between communities, non-governmental organizations, businesses and public authorities, innovative and novel solutions for delivering sustainable development and sustainable livelihoods can be born and fostered.

All winning projects have the potential to be replicated in similar areas around the globe, helping to address a multitude of issues in the developing world.

Environmentally-Friendly Rice

Farmers in Asia and East Africa are partners in an initiative to boost rural incomes through the marketing of indigenous and environmentally-friendly grown rice varieties.

Commercial rice cultivation in the developing world is becoming increasingly questionable as a result of low market prices and the financial and environmental costs of using chemicals and fertilizers

Conventional methods of rice production are also extremely water intensive.

Some farmers in Cambodia, Madagascar and Sri Lanka have turned to a production method known as the 'System of Rice Intensification' or SRI.

It involves an a la carte menu of actions including when to plant out seedlings, weeding regimes and the spacing of plants, which can be adapted to local conditions and indigenous rice varieties.

Small rural producers who are taking part are achieving water savings of up to 50 per cent and increased yields of up to 100 per cent.

This is because SRI, promoted by a collaborative effort between Cornell University, several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and local communities, works without flooding rice paddies and results in stronger plants that need less chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

Rice produced in this way commands higher prices. The trick is to empower and assist producers to exploit and benefit from these premium prices in local and international markets.

This new project, which has brought together research institutes from the United States and Cambodia and farmers organizations, is pooling experiences and skills to develop strong marketing programmes.



Export markets in Europe and North America are also being explored possibly using, in some cases, certification schemes like Fair Trade.

The *Seed Award* for this winning partnership is generously sponsored by Swiss Re, Switzerland.

Berries into Businesses

Seabuckthorn is a deciduous shrub that is common in the Himalayas.

It has a highly developed root system that binds soils on fragile slopes. The presence of a natural seabuckthorn 'forest' can decrease monsoon-related loss of topsoil by 30 percent.

The plant also has a wide range of commercial applications which are beginning to be exploited by commercial companies in countries like India.

The berries are highly nutritious and yield juice, as well as oils for cosmetics and traditional medicines. The leaves are also used in traditional medicines, as well as for livestock fodder, and the branches can be used for firewood.

The international HimalAsia Foundation together with local Tibetan cooperatives and a family of traditional medical practitioners are developing a sustainable programme for cultivating and marketing seabuckthorn and other medicinal plants for the local and international market.

In doing so, they are not only developing sustainable livelihoods for local people, but playing an important role in conserving biodiversity in this Himalayan mountain area.

Plans for the future include expanding on three existing seabuckthorn nurseries, training locals in the extraction and preparation of juice and helping to broker fair business relationships between international companies and local communities.

Indian Ocean Wonderland

An estimated 11.5 per cent of the Earth's land surface is now held in protected areas but only about one half per cent of the world's seas and oceans enjoy the same rights.

The 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development's Plan of Implementation called for the establishment of representative network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

An experimental, community-led, scheme in Madagascar aims to be one of these light-houses by illuminating how partnerships between local people, research institutes and NGOs can deliver marine conservation and sustainable livelihoods.

The project, focused around the 1200-strong community of Andavadoaka, is balancing the needs of local fishermen and protection of the area's important coral reefs.

Eco-tourism is also being promoted as a way of generating income for conservation work, diversifying the local economy and to reduce the pressure on fish stocks.

It is hoped that the experiences from this project will act as a blueprint for similar projects in other regions.

Water for All

Access to clean water is an emotive issue in developing countries and sometimes leads to civil unrest and major social problems. The Millennium Development Goals call for a halving of the level of people without access to fresh water and sanitation and this project directly addresses this aim.

The 'Agua Para Todos' initiative in Bolivia has found a way of solving the seemingly intractable problem of who pays for secondary water networks, i.e. delivering water from the municipal supplier's main pipe to the consumer.

Under the project, a consortium of local communities, an NGO and a pipe manufacturer is building water distribution systems in coordination with the municipal water company in Cochabamba, each connecting between 100 and 500 poor households.



The costs are being met by the communities concerned through a micro credit scheme, repayable within a year.

Five pilot projects are under way, already halving the cost of water for 3,000 people in Cochabamba. Ambitious plans currently under development would provide 17,000 connections serving 85,000 people over the next five years.

Cows to Kilowatts

Effluents and waste products from abattoirs are a problem for human health and the environment across the developing world.

A project being piloted in Ibadan, Nigeria, is turning these wastes into energy to generate income for poor urban communities and reduce the gases linked with climate change.

The project treats the abattoir wastes and turns them into a 'bio-gas' suitable for cooking and other uses. A further by-product is agricultural-grade fertilizer.

The partnership behind the project claims their bio-gas is significantly cheaper than current, commercially available, liquefied gases.

The scheme will cover its costs and become profitable in three years and has a fifteen year life expectancy.

Notes to Editors

Press conference and Award Ceremony

A press conference with Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director of UNEP, Achim Steiner, Director General of IUCN and the Awards winners will take place in the UN press centre at 11am.

Journalists and photographers are invited to the Award Ceremony: 8pm, Wednesday 20th April, Metropolitan Café, 959 1st Avenue (between 52nd and 53rd streets, a few blocks from the UN building).

Further information and photographs

Further information about the projects and photographs of the winning projects are available at www.seedinit.org/media

Quotes from the Chair of the Judges and supporting organizations

Nitin Desai, former Secretary General to the World Summit on Sustainable Development and chairman of the international jury:

"Sustainability as a process requires responsibility (for the impact of our actions on others and on nature), partnership and innovation. I congratulate the *Seed Award* winners and also the other finalists who are showing us how all three can be brought together in practice. This is the real promise of the partnerships that we endorsed at the Johannesburg Summit."

Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP):

"The time for talking is over the time for action is now. If we are to deliver sustainable development, achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and overcome poverty we need partnerships. Partnerships between people, NGOs, private businesses, local authorities, governments and the United Nations.

UNEP's motto is environment for development. These *Seed* winners are living proof of what can be done if we harness the most powerful assets we have – human creativity, ingenuity and imagination. I look forward to seeing these projects mature and replicated across the globe for the sake of the environment, for the sake of sustainable livelihoods."



Achim Steiner, Director General, IUCN – the World Conservation Union

“Through the *Seed Initiative*, we recognize the tremendous potential of communities, business, governments and NGOs to find solutions to challenges in sustainable development by working together. Ecosystems cannot be considered separate from the people they support. These partnerships create opportunities for merging environmental and social benefits with economic returns.

In the coming years, *Seed* will work closely with the winners – to support the partnerships, learn from their experiences and spread the results of that learning to help multiply these practical models. Through our collective networks, we will nurture this inaugural class of award winners and future entrepreneurs in their efforts to find innovative solutions to local challenges.”

Shoji Nishimoto, Assistant Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

“The *Seed Awards* show that local entrepreneurship and creativity have the potential to deliver development results that not only promote sustainability, but also generate incomes and drive economic growth. Through their dedication and innovation, the winners and nominees provide a powerful body of evidence that much progress towards the MDGs is likely to be lead from the bottom up. To help realize the potential of local entrepreneurs, the international community must take inspiration from these examples of innovation to find equally creative ways of helping to scale-up and support this valuable work.”

Jürgen Trittin, Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), Germany

“Looking back at the first steps of the *Seed Initiative*, we were eager to see whether our idea of creating an award for sustainable development partnerships would stand the “test of reality”. But after the official launch during the World Economic and the World Social Forum at the beginning of last year and the inaugural call for submissions, the feedback was so overwhelming, and the quality of submissions so high that we all knew we were on to something important.

This experience clearly demonstrates that people working in NGOs, businesses, education, local government, foundations and elsewhere are not simply waiting to engage when governments develop programmes for implementing sustainable development. Without question: Partnerships are not a panacea that will solve all problems of sustainable development. But they hold certain promises. The *Seed* partnerships demonstrate that they can bring local drive, innovation and new resources to bear on pressing issues.”

Paula Dobriansky, Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs, United States

“Partnerships, such as *Seed*, are vital to helping local communities improve the quality of their citizens’ lives and can make an important contribution to our efforts to achieve development goals. The five winners we recognize tonight exemplify the fresh new approach to sustainable development launched at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. Step by step, public-private partnerships such as these are having tangible results as we work globally to alleviate poverty.”

About the *Seed Awards*

The *Seed Initiative* (Supporting Entrepreneurs for Environment and Development) aims to understand, inspire, support and develop the capacity of locally-driven entrepreneurial partnerships to contribute to the delivery of the Millennium Development Goals and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

The initiative focuses on ‘business as unusual’ – innovative action delivering real solutions through project cooperation among small and large businesses, local and international NGOs, women’s groups, labour organisations, public authorities and UN agencies, and others working in the field of sustainable development.

The biennial *Seed Awards* is an international competition to find the most promising new locally-driven, entrepreneurial partnerships for sustainable development.

The Initiative is a partnership between IUCN – The World Conservation Union, UNEP and UNDP, along with GPPI and Partnerships Central. It is supported by the governments of Germany, the United



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