


Fund for Gender Equality

GENERAL PROGRAMME INFORMATION				
Project Information				Ecuador
Project Name	Governability and Institutionalization of a Focus on Equity and Gender in the Cuenca District			Programme Type: Catalytic
Lead Org	Fundacion Waaponi			Grant ID: 1197
Co-lead Org				
Thematic Area(s)	Political Empowerment			
Thematic Sub Area(s)	Decision-Making (Increase women participation at local level) and Gender Responsive Budget Monitoring			
Grant Amount	\$489,657	Grant Start Date	December 18, 2009	
Additional Gov't Funding		Grant End Date	December 31, 2011	
Total Budget	\$489,657			

Partner Agencies	
Government	
Civil Society	

Programme Summary
In order to promote gender equality standards within decision-making bodies, particularly within rural governing boards, the programme builds upon existing social networks linked to rural communities, using them to disseminate information and catalyze momentum for progress towards gender equality.

DETAILED PROGRAMME INFORMATION				
Contribution to Law(s)				
Name of Law	Law Type	Year Implemented	Type of Contribution	Expected Level of Contribution (High or Low)
Local Development Plans	Local Development Plans	2011	Gender Mainstreaming	High
Local Rules and Regulation on Budgeting	Rules and Regulations	2008	Gender mainstreaming	High

General Programme Goal
Strengthen the democratic participation of women in rural areas of the Canton in the processes carried out by rural parishes and the Municipality of Cuenca.

Expected Programme Outcomes
Outcome 1: Canton rural women's demands are incorporated into Strategic Plans 2011-2020 of 11 parishes from the Canton of Cuenca, in a participatory process of construction up to May 2011.
Outcome 2: At the end of the project, the Municipality of Cuenca has strengthened gender mainstreaming in its planning and budgeting processes.

Main Achievements
The programme has concluded the design and implementation of a baseline study of 21 rural parishes and the preparation of guidelines for the development of Development Plans and Land Demarcation (including the elaboration of gender sensitive indicators, a baseline study of the situation of local government employees, and a mapping exercise to learn more about women's organizations in the area).
The programme has conducted an intensive training programme for 118 local government officials and 400 local women in areas such as gender analysis, planning and budgets, leadership, communication skills, cultural diversity and social inclusion, participation and equality. The programme has forged strong alliances with local governments on how to mainstream gender at the local level, leading to the signing of a Cooperation Agreement Framework between the programme and the Municipality of Cuenca.

As a result, the programme has succeeded in finalizing 9 out of 11 Women's Agendas which were produced through a participatory process in order to fully reflect women's demands. These Women's Agendas are expected to be adopted in 11 Strategic Local Plans and in 5 local projects.

Key Highlights

The formation of strong alliances with local governments to effectively succeed in gender mainstreaming local plans and budgets, with deep involvement of women through participatory committees.