FINANCING AGREEMENT

The Financing Agreement between the European Commission and the beneficiary countries was signed on December 21st 2006 and came into force on January 18th 2007.

GOALS

The EURO-SOLAR Programme is a pioneering initiative from the European Commission’s EuropeAid Cooperation Office at world level.

The main goal of the Programme is to foster the use of renewable energy as a driver of human development in Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru, the eight poorest countries in Latin America.
SPECIFIC GOALS

The Programme involves the installation of 600 generating kits (91 in Ecuador) using 100% renewable energy sources that consist of photovoltaic panels and the following devices:

- 5 laptop computers
- 1 multifunctional device (printer and scanner)
- 1 projector
- Apparatus necessary for satellite internet access and IP voice telephony
- Water purifier
- Refrigerator
- Battery charger

EURO-SOLAR is an integrated programme that includes training villagers in the management and maintenance of the equipment and support for the beneficiaries in the development of basic services in the areas of education, health and information technologies, as well as fostering productive activities.
EURO-SOLAR BENEFICIARY COMMUNITIES

- Guatemala: 117
- El Salvador: 48
- Ecuador: 91
- Perú: 130
- Honduras: 68
- Nicaragua: 42
- Bolivia: 59
- Paraguay: 45

600 beneficiary communities
GENERAL INFORMATION

From the Energetic System

Photovoltaic System: 1100 watts
Regulator: 50 A, 24 watts
Invertors: 350 & 1300 watts, 120 volts
Battery Bank: 1000 Ah, 24 Volts

Priority in terms of equipment:
1) Telecommunications equipment, 1 light bulb at info centre, 1 light bulb in the control room and a computer,
2) 4 computers & 2 light bulbs at Info centre,
3) Equipment for Health centre & 2 light bulbs for school,
4) A multi functional equipment and a projector
5) Rest of light bulbs for school and,
6) An external Reflector
STEPS

Identify regions and beneficiary communities (finalised).

Installation and infrastructure fully operative, housing both IT and health equipment (Finalised and in the process of winding up the project).

Supply and installation of technological kits to implement educational, cultural, productive/social and communication services and applications in the health sector. (hired. Execution by the European Community underway)

Implementation of the Programme, training and development and process of evaluation and follow up underway.

(European Community and MEER have started to act upon these initiatives to reach the objective)

Exchange of good practices.
The EURO-SOLAR programme in Ecuador relies on the funding of Euros 4,360.083 of which Euros 3,450.083 come from the European Community and 910,000 from a local /domestic counterpart. The duration of the programme is 48 months (42 months dedicated to the operative phase and 6 months for closure) this, in accordance with the Financing/Funding Agreement. The Euro-Solar financing programme’s Addendum is currently under review for signature. The latter is expected to have an increase in its budget, hand in hand with the 9 months extension added to the project. The estimated value in Euros, on behalf of the European Community is Euros 3,773.512 and Euros 1,020.571 from the local counter part.

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<th>Of another kind</th>
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<td>Operational expenses</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>522.670</td>
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EXECUTION PERIOD

- 57 months (51 months in the operational phase and 6 for the closure phase).
- Starting date: 18-01-2007
- Ending date: 18-09-2011

PERCENTAGE OF PROGRESS

- 46%
IMPACTO ESPERADO

Las sinergias originadas al combinar el acceso a la energía eléctrica y las telecomunicaciones como motor de desarrollo, plantean altas posibilidades de disminuir la brecha de capacidad de gestión existente, brindar información y conocimiento a la población de las comunidades beneficiarias y dotar de una herramienta de apoyo mutuo entre ellas.

Se pretende lograr la sostenibilidad económica a partir de la generación de ingresos mediante la utilización de los servicios de TIC's tales como: internet, telefonía, cursos de computación, excepcionalmente venta de productos con comunicación por la Red, venta de agua purificada y proyección de videos recreativos y culturales, entre otros.

Todo esto se conseguirá fomentando que los beneficiarios se apropien del Programa una vez que identifiquen su importancia como una herramienta para el desarrollo y crecimiento.

RECOPILACIÓN DE INFORMACIÓN

Luego se llevó a cabo un programa de visitas a cada comunidad, donde se expusieron los objetivos, requerimientos, acciones principales y compromisos que se espera que la comunidad cumpla para participar. Adicionalmente, la visita sirvió para recopilar información geográfica, socio-económica y técnica, previamente definida, necesaria para seleccionar a las 91 comunidades y crear una base de datos que constituya la línea base de los indicadores de evaluación y seguimiento.

Finalmente, se desarrolló la metodología de selección de las 91 comunidades beneficiarias a partir de parámetros excluyentes, competitivos y participativos que fue adaptada para las condiciones aplicables al caso ecuatoriano y fue presentada a la Delegación de la CE para su aprobación.

INTERNAL STRUCTURE

ER - SEREE Management
Coordination and Support in Energetic Aspects

MEER – Social Communication Management
Communicational Coordination and Support

Technical Assistance management
SOCOIN

CNC Management
SEREE

National Coordination Hub (CNC)
- Person in charge
- Chief of Technical Assistance
- Administrator
- Coordination of Community Work
- Assistant

FODETEL Coordination and Support in Telecommunications

Follow up Committee Inter-Institutional Coordination and Support
- Health Department/Ministry
- Department/Ministry of Education
- CONELEC
- FAE
- PetroAmazonas
El Programa EURO-SOLAR en Ecuador, cuenta con una financiación de € 4.360.083,00 con un aporte de la Comunidad Europea de € 3.450.083,00 y € 910.000,00 de la contraparte nacional. La duración del programa es de 48 meses (42 meses de fase operativa y 6 meses de cierre) de acuerdo al convenio de financiación.

### RUBROS

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<th>Total (€)</th>
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<td>3. OBRAS</td>
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<td>5. TOTAL</td>
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INFRASRUCTURE WORKS –CONSTRUCTION CHARACTERISTICS

Current Progress Percentage:
- 100% in 59 communities

Current Progress Percentage:
- 100% in 32 communities
INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS FOR ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS
Pañacocha Community

Current Progress Percentage:
- 100% in 33 communities
INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS FOR ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS
Sani Island Community

Estimated conclusion date:
- January 2010
Construction of towers and supports for the photovoltaic modules

Supply and Putting into effect of the Technological Kits

• Acquisition of Equipment in process
• Civil Works initiated
• Technological Kits expected in November
  (it is MEER’s responsibility to free merchandise and deal with the nationalisation processes)
• it is estimated that by May 2010, equipment will be installed and tested.
GRACIAS

IMPACTO ESPERADO

Las sinergias originadas al combinar el acceso a la energía eléctrica y las telecomunicaciones como motor de desarrollo, plantea altas posibilidades de disminuir la brecha de capacidad de gestión existente, brindar información y conocimiento a la población de las comunidades beneficiarias y dotar de una herramienta de apoyo mutuo entre ellas.

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Revisión de los procesos de Selección

Visibility and diffusion of Good Practices
Identification of Regions and beneficiary Communities in the Programme
Implementation of the Training and Development Programme
Creation of CNC and Institutional activation
Installation and operability of equipment
Ratification of Budget Committee and availability of budget
BASIC CONCERNS REGARDING SUSTAINABILITY: ECUADOR

GENERAL FACTS

Sufficient financial sustainability in the Rural Communities (RC) in order to guarantee the operation, its maintenance and control of systems.

There should be an organizational structure, more so in the RC in order to guarantee service sustainability.

Existence of an external entity which should offer support and follow up to all RC. Initially it could be made up by The State however, the RC could also participate, due to the fact that the RC know their current state of affairs, concerns, problems and solutions.

Existence of an adequate and efficient mode of Q&A in response to the communities.

Existence of sufficient monitoring and evaluation in order to guide the functioning/operability of the programme in the communities.
BASIC CONCERNS REGARDING SUSTAINABILITY: ECUADOR

LEGAL AND ORGANISATIONAL ASPECTS

Verify that within the community, they have a judicial conformation so as to enable the transfer of goods.

Should that not be the case, find mechanisms to grant that organisation judicial acknowledgement.

Support the Local Community Organisations (LCO) in the selection of Members for the Community Management Committee (CGC), so that the process is uniform, so that it promotes participation and so that proposals come from within the communities.

Undertake remote monitoring of concerns which may arise once the action phase of the programme is implemented, impacting judicial concerns.
BASIC CONCERNS REGARDING SUSTAINABILITY: ECUADOR

TECHNICAL ASPECTS

Adequate training on how the equipment works and its corresponding maintenance processes.

A hands-on training methodology has been selected, whereby the equipment supplier will teach the members of the Community Management Committee for as long as the equipment is being installed in the community.

Have mechanisms and action plans at hand to monitor and evaluate training.

Establish an on-line support link to address the concerns raised by members of the Community Management Committee, to address problems that may arise with the execution of the systems.
SOCIAL ASPECTS

Sufficient training in administrative chores, in legal, tax, accounting and IT matters.

Create incentives for the trainers/teachers so that they may be able to continue with their training at the RC, thereby guaranteeing continuity and their permanence in the community.

Create initiatives to develop productive development initiatives, capable of improving the income of the adult population, having undertaken prior research of their local capacity, which may be channelled by the services provided by the kit which was provided to the community.

Find additional support to the Local Community organisations from within NGOs, universities and foundations, etc.

On-line and on site Monitoring during an adequate period of time, in order to evaluate the Community Management Committee’s functioning/management capacity.
BASIC CONCERNS REGARDING SUSTAINABILITY: ECUADOR

ECONOMIC ASPECTS

Communities will benefit from the MINTEL-CNT Agreement which grants free of charge access to telecommunications during the first 5 years.

Work with the community so that its population may provide income needed for the feasibility/operability of the technological kits. Request a fee for the services provided by the equipment to the community.

Have a database of productive aspects of interest to the community and those which foster the use of telecommunications, so that the community may benefit from the information provided.
BASIC CONCERNS REGARDING SUSTAINABILITY: ECUADOR

CONCLUSIONS

It's crucial to have institutional support: one cannot foster sustainability only from the Rural Communities.

One has referred to risks, hypothetical scenarios, results, activities, financing/funding sources. There is a need to structure the information.

Areas of sustainability:
- Judicial framework and legal aspects
- Technical
- Social
- Economic

The 4 components are interdependent and necessary.

Critical to define objectives for each area, hypothetical scenarios, risks, activities, responsibilities, budget and financing sources.

Final goal: Devise a Sustainability Plan contemplating for each of the four components: results, activities, budget, work programmes and sources for financing.