

Christian Aid Bolivia	
Project Name:	Building thriving and resilient livelihoods for forest women in Bolivia
Partner:	Practical Action
Objective:	<p>Participatory and integrated management of climate smart natural resources to strengthen community resilience of the residents of Palos Blancos municipality.</p> <p>The project implements a comprehensive adaptation strategy that includes the development of training workshops to local producers; technical assistance for the installation of community forestry and fruit plant nurseries; the implementation of agroforestry system and PVCA workshops enabling communities to develop their own plans to reducing their vulnerabilities.</p>
Main activity to highlight:	<p>8 communities in the Municipality of Palos Blancos, 230 people have been trained up (of which 143 are women and 87 are men).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in agroforestry management (installation of agroforestry plots, technical control of pests, diseases, harvesting and post harvest crops). And PVCA workshops (in 4 communities) to introduce about risk management, etc. • Production of agricultural seedlings, fruit and forest plants in communal nurseries have to families 24.982 plants which will be replanted in the agroforestry systems, covering 39.75 hectares of forest, 0.25 hectares per family. • Installation and monitoring of 86 plots under agroforestry system. To date 39.75 pilot plots have been installed with staples such as rice and corn, as well as cash crops such as banana, some cocoa and citrus. • Design and implementation of 1 water system for family use and productive consumption. The community “Libertad” developed this project responding to the needs and vulnerabilities identified in the PVCA, as well as the development of a communal management plan for Natural Resources developed the 2014. • Awareness workshops for greater participation of women in different scenarios. These workshops were held in the 8 beneficiary communities, this action has succeeded in motivating women to have greater participation in activities related to the project in their community organizations. <p>There are now new opportunities for women to participate in discussions and deliberations on climate change and risk management in coordination with the</p>

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	<p>Risk Management Unit and councilors of the municipality of Palos Blancos. In the past women have not been included or taken into account in these types of discussions, although when a climatic crisis happens they are often the worst affected.</p> <p>The project to date has resulted in the development and implementation of 5 PVCA community plans to reduce risk.</p> <p>Following on from the workshops using the PVCA methodology, the three are now 3 community plans (in communities Motacusal, led by the Organization of Women "Always United" and in San Miguel de Huachi and "Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Tucupi" (AMET)). These plans have also strengthened and been integrated into other community plans, for example in the community of Alto Cocochi All these plans are focused on risk management and adaptation to climate change.</p> <p>In workshops with the two women's organizations (San Miguel de Huachi and Tucupi), the women expressed concern about the need to promote further workshops and to create a Risk Management Unit in their communities.</p> <p>The project has undertaken workshops on the National Law 602 on Risk Management, involving local authorities from the Tucupi district and affiliates of the Women's Enterprise Association of Tucupi, These activities are articulated and complemented under the project "Resilience to flooding in the basins of the Rios Beni and Mamore a consortium led project by FAO and funded by ECHO. See blog PVCA is recognized as an effective DRR tool by the Bolivian Government and ECHO for scale up across the Amazon to build resilience.</p> <p>As part of the Women's Enterprise Association of Tucupi activity plan, they have sought to reduce risk by spearheading actions in coordination with other local organizations, for example the reforestation of 500 meters of vulnerable areas on the banks of the river. The women belonging to this organization have succeeded in bringing on board and successfully coordinating with local community authorities for example the Deputy Mayor, the President of the</p>

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	neighborhood committee, the technical committee of teachers, the educational council of parents and students in the local secondary school – using their energy and commitment to bring everyone together to build a more resilient community.
Quote from beneficiary:	<p>“Previously we did not have bananas for cooking; we had to go to the market to buy them for 2 or 3 bolivianos. But now we can support our families and our husbands to from the sale of the bananas”.(Sra. Carmen Quispe President of the Women’s Producers Organisation “Siempre Unidas” which translates as Always United from San Miguel de Huachi)</p> <p>“During first harvests I sold as many as 40 bunches of bananas, and after 50 and after that more and more. I have lots to sell now. I sold the whole branch (Chipa) for 400 bs (approx. GBP 40) and the head of head of bananas for 20-25 bolivianos (approx. GBP2-2.50) on the size Some of my friends let the bananas ripen and they make chich (a fermented drink) and jam. Between the banana trees we have planted cacao trees and different kinds of trees for timber.</p> <p>We have also had workshops where we learned many things, for example we have developed our organisational profile to present and knock on doors (refer to the workshop PVCA and communal plan that has allowed the women to advocate and lobby the municipality for the construction of latrines with septic tanks) and we also have learned to graft plants.</p> <p>This is the first time we have a communal plan like this, because before we had never heard of PVCA methodology. With this training our organisation of women are better organised to lobby</p> <p>For positive changes that will benefit our association. As Director of the Association I see this plan is a great base for us to manage the challenges ahead of us and to be entrepreneurs in the future.” (Sra. Carmen Apo President the Women’s Enterprise Association of Tucupi).</p>



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Additional photos

