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ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REVIEW

ON ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT

USAID's Alternative Development Program is being implemented in the regions of Huánuco, San Martín, Pasco and Ucayali, and includes four activities: one for internet access and financial services, and the other three related to cultivation of cacao, coffee, and fish farms. Implementing partners perform actions of environmental mitigation through environmental mitigation and monitoring plans (EMMP) and internal studies of environmental compliance reviews (ECR).

The purpose of this study is to determine the level of compliance of the environmental measures included in the EMMPs of these four activities. The results show different levels of compliance in each project—some of which are due to factors which are beyond the control of the local implementers.

The presence of public or private institutions performing similar activities reinforces the knowledge and practices of the farmers. But the costs for small farmers are a limiting factor, as well as the lack of coordination between institutions and the weakness in the formulation of the indicators.

I. DIGITAL AND FINANCIAL SERVICES ALLIANCE (CR3CE ALLIANCE)

Environmental mitigation measures (level of compliance)



68%

Maintenance of towers



100%

Suitable location of antennas and towers



94%

Forest maintenance

At the telecenters, the level of compliance reaches 52%. Out of the five themes, only good management of power efficiency exceeds 60%. In both cases, the level of compliance in the solid waste management is unsatisfactory.



Enabling factors: capabilities and responsibility of the telecentro's operator in charge of managing waste, equipment and the internet service.



Limiting factors: lack of training, unawareness of protocols, uncoordinated municipal management, staff turnover, and limited budget. Operators of the telecenters and regional coordinators of the CR3CE Alliance are unaware of the follow-up mechanisms on environmental issues, agreements with municipalities, and their responsibilities.



Role of women: they are a significant part of the telecenters' management and activities, and participate in actions of the partners' committee. They also participate in the cleaning and collection of solid waste.

2. COFFEE ALLIANCE FOR EXCELLENCE (CAFE)

Environmental mitigation measures (level of compliance)



55%

In four of five themes, among them reforestation



63%

Erosion control



61%

Solid waste management

The lowest compliance is in water **conservation and management (32%)**.



Enabling factors: the interventions of public regional organisms and private companies training the population on good agricultural practices and environmental protection are positive.



Limiting factors: financial limitations and lack of awareness and interest of the farmers. Even if the Coffee Alliance has an environmental specialist and established procedures, the recommendations of internal inspections or external monitoring are not known by the technical teams.



Role of women: even if machismo culture is persistent in the area, farmers have been sensitized on the role of women in productive issues. Women take part in the implementation of some environmental measures as well as the cultivation of coffee and their housekeeping responsibilities.

3. PERU CACAO ALLIANCE – PHASE II

Environmental mitigation measures (level of compliance)

+40%

Seven of the eight environmental mitigation measures of the project are over 40%



74%

Pesticide use and management has the highest compliance level

The lowest compliance level is in **conservation of water sources (7%)**.



Enabling factors: the presence of different institutions working on environmental issues in the areas of intervention contribute to strengthening the knowledge of the farmers. The presence of the technological agents trained by the Alliance is also important.



Limiting factors: lack of coordination between the institutions involved, because it creates contradictory and confusing guidance for the farmers. In addition, the formulation of indicators that aggregate results hides detailed information that is also valuable. The EMMP does not include feedback from the technicians from the different areas of intervention.



Role of women: women take on positions of responsibility, both in their community organizations and in public office, maintaining an equal presence with men.

4. OPERATIONAL PLAN OF DEVIDA'S INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

Environmental mitigation measures (level of compliance)

+57%

In the five measures

91%

Conditioning and preparation of the fish pools in order to sow fingerlings

82%

Design and selection of the site, cleanliness and weeding



Enabling factors: DEVIDA and the Local Authority on Water (ALA, in Spanish) because of the permits or support they provide.



Limiting factors: manuals and forms sent by DEVIDA are not fully applied, because a specialist is needed to follow up on environmental issues. Technicians from DEVIDA consider that the learning of fish control and nutrition, and the cultural changes in fishery management should be reinforced.



Role of women: this activity is close to their homes, and not physically demanding. Men participate in the conditioning and extraction stages, and can engage in agricultural tasks.

To access the complete report, click here:

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