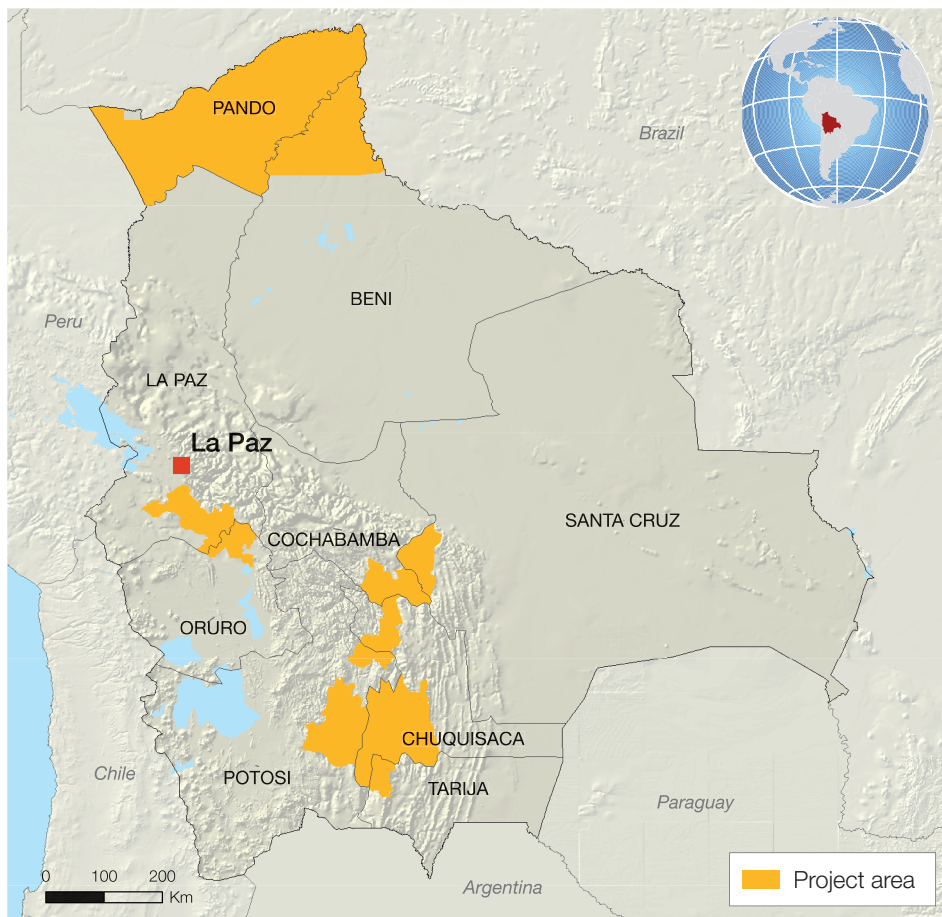


BOLIVIA

Economic Inclusion Programme for Rural Families and Communities in the Territory of the Plurinational State of Bolivia with funding from the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ACCESOS-ASAP)



The designations employed and the presentation of the material in the map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IFAD concerning the delimitation of the frontiers or boundaries, or the authorities thereof.

ISSUES

Rural development and agriculture in the Plurinational State of Bolivia is highly susceptible to the impacts of climate change. A methodology developed by CARE, the Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA), was used to understand the vulnerabilities, capacities and needs of rural communities in 20 priority municipalities of ACCESOS. Most of these municipalities have a climate change vulnerability index of high to very high. Community members were concerned with climate variability, drought, frost, hail and floods, which badly affect crops and livestock. However, they were also interested in opportunities generated by the increasing temperatures in the highlands such as growing fruit trees, which have a higher market value than traditional crops.

The poorest and most populated regions of the highlands (*Altiplano*) and valleys are subject to deforestation for firewood, because products such as kerosene and butane are not readily available. This exacerbates the impact on livelihoods, leading to the loss of crops, livestock, infrastructure and increased conflict over scarce resources.



Investing in rural people

Adaptation for
Smallholder
Agriculture
Programme

ASAP

Launched in 2012, the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP) channels climate and environmental finance to enable smallholder farmers who participate in IFAD projects to increase their resilience. Through ASAP, IFAD is systematically integrating climate resilience into the overall IFAD portfolio.

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Total cost: US\$13.4 million

ASAP grant: US\$10.0 million

Other contributions:

Plurinational State of Bolivia US\$1.8 million; local governments (municipalities) US\$1.1 million; beneficiaries US\$0.4 million.

(Note: these figures refer only to the ASAP-supported programme and not the entire ACCESOS.)

Programme period:

4 years (2014-2017)

Executing agency:

Ministry of Rural Development and Lands

ASAP beneficiaries: 49,000

Programme objective:

Greater resilience of target communities, including greater protection of people and their productive activities from the impacts of climate change.

ACTIONS

ASAP resources are complementing the first component (natural resource management, investment in assets and enterprise development) of ACCESOS. Activities will be focusing on 15 municipalities in three departments: 10 municipalities in Chuquisaca, 4 municipalities in Potosí and 1 municipality in Tarija. ASAP activities will be organized in two components:

- **Capacity-building for community adaptation.** This component will strengthen community capacities through increased awareness about climate change issues and the development of adaptive capacity. This will be done through information and communication strategies which raise awareness and disseminate knowledge and experiences about indigenous adaptation practices that have potential for replication.

Programme experts, in collaboration with the government and universities, will train technicians and researchers of public institutions responsible for climate modelling and weather forecasting.

Geo-referenced ‘talking maps’, an effective visual and inclusive form of natural resource mapping that is especially suitable in areas with low literacy, will bring together science and traditional community knowledge to identify key issues and adaptation priorities. These will also encompass proposals to diversify local economies through complementary activities like rural tourism.

A menu of priority options for financing will be drawn up – this list will have both a thematic focus (e.g. handling frost) and a gender focus, where adaptation options with good potential for women’s empowerment will be prioritized.

The process of involving local experts and community members is designed to help community organizations effectively articulate their adaptation priorities for inclusion into annual municipal budgets. A key benefit of ASAP support is the wider planning scale – this complements ACCESOS, which works mainly at the community level.

A process of knowledge management will facilitate the sharing of lessons learned during and after the completion of the programme.

- **Climate risk management.** This component will help promote better climate risk management at the community and

municipality levels, supported by local government investments in the necessary infrastructure, equipment and services. Investment decisions will draw on the adaptation priorities identified in the first component, and funding will be released through a system of local competitions or *concurros*, which has already been tested in other IFAD-funded projects.

Concurros have proven a successful mechanism to encourage communities to engage in natural resource management. With support from the programme to ensure the equal participation of community members, communities will be urged to decide their own priorities for funding. ACCESOS-ASAP will build on this mechanism to embed community-driven adaptation priorities in local planning.

EXPECTED IMPACTS

At least 49,000 smallholder farmers will have greater resilience to climate change, with a special emphasis on women, young people and indigenous peoples. The programme will set specific targets for women’s participation, giving them a voice in key decision processes, such as the *concurros*.

The ACCESOS-ASAP is expected to achieve the following results:

- Municipal-level investments in climate change adaptation increase by 30 per cent
- At least 15 municipal development plans include climate risk management dimensions
- At least 15 climate services analyses conducted and adaptation practices inventorized
- 74 geo-referenced community ‘talking maps’ developed that include climate information services
- At least four communications campaigns on climate change implemented
- At least 400 individuals trained in climate risk management
- At least 11,000 families receive technical support through *concurros* to adopt climate-resilient practices and technologies, reduce losses and increase assets
- At least 15 micro-watersheds are protected and strengthened with resilient infrastructure
- 6,000 hectares of land are preserved or restored to increase resilience and reduce climate risk (based on the *concurros* approach).

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