



United Nations World Food Programme
China Centre of Excellence for Rural Transformation
**South-South and Triangular Cooperation
Pilot Project in Ecuador**

Strengthening the Capacity of the Government Entities at the National and Local Level in Support of Small Farmers and their Access to Different Markets, especially in Diversify Rice Crops, as well as in the Implementation of Public Policies for Women of the Peasant Family Farming

Background

Malnutrition, in all its forms, is one of the most important challenges of the Ecuadorian State. Inequalities persist, affecting access to a healthy and nutritious diet by mostly people in rural areas and particularly indigenous population.

Agriculture has been the main livelihood for Ecuadorians. Smallholder farmers account for 75 percent of total agricultural production but utilize only 17 percent of the country's agricultural area. Women constitute approximately 43 percent of the population employed in agriculture. Indigenous women face gender and occupational discrimination, which limits their participation and productivity and results in heavy workloads, limited

decision-making power, limited knowledge of their rights and limited access to property titles.

Objective

The overall objective of this project is to strengthen sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity, diversify crops, especially rice, with a gender approach and to promote the participation of small-holder farmer associations in new marketing channels and providing the necessary tools to enter competitive spaces.

Deliverables

Outcome 1: Rural women farmers become providers of institutionalized markets.

Output 1.1: A specialized course for agricultural technicians in the area of rural development.

Output 1.2: Forty (40) rural learning communities strengthened.

Outcome 2: Chinese rice-duck production techniques incorporated for the improvement of rice productivity and the formation of agro-agricultural plots.

Output 2.1: Six (6) demonstration plots of rice-duck production established as the basis for starting in 5 provinces of Ecuador.

Output 2.2: A specialized course for technicians and farmers for the production and marketing of rice-duck, with a gender approach.



Training in China

Ecuadorean participants completed a training course on integrated rice production in China in September 2019. The training was organised by WFP China in collaboration with Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs and Hunan Agricultural University. This is part of the WFP Ecuador South-South Cooperation (SSC) Project which aims to strengthen the capacity of the Ecuadorean Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG) in support of small farmers and their access to different markets. During the seven-day training, the five participants from MAG, farmer associations and WFP Ecuador were exposed to rice-duck and rice-fish co-production system through lectures, hands-on training and field trips.

Online Training

Affected by the COVID-19, second wave training is conducted online.

Online Training Courses Design

1. Rice Full Mechanized Production Technology

2. Establishment and Management of Agricultural Products Traceability System

3. Ecological Planting and Breeding Technology in Rice Fields

Course1: Rice Cultivation and Management Technology in Rice-Fish Model

Course2: Key Technology of Rice-Fish and Rice-Crayfish Models

4. Multi-cropping Technology of Rice

5. New Methods and Technologies for Rice Production



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