Our Work in Bolivia

PADF has worked in Bolivia in partnership with local organizations to strengthen communities and civil society; alleviate potential violent land conflicts; and assist the indigenous population.

Land Conflict Mitigation Program

Implemented from 2006 through 2009, the goal of this project was to alleviate the potential for violent conflict by increasing access to land through non-violent means. The program also promoted additional sources of income generation to ease the pressure to seize land illegally. PADF carried out trainings in seven communities of the Santa Cruz department to identify and promote productive alternatives to income generation. Strategic alliances with local businesses and municipal agencies helped to facilitate local access to markets, training, infrastructure improvement, and tools. The program also included education and outreach on relevant land legislation and non-violent conflict resolution techniques. The program team helped several communities achieve legal titles for their land.

These interventions serve as successful replicable models in other communities and elsewhere in the country. For this program, PADF worked with a local organization, Fundación de Desarrollo Democrático Participación Ciudadana (F-DDPC). It directly benefited 2,830 people and 641 families.
Bolivia/Alaska Native Corporation Exchange Visit

This program applied lessons learned from the Alaska Native Corporation to the development challenges of the indigenous population of Bolivia. The Alaska Native Corporation model is based on the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), designed to encourage indigenous development by making native people stakeholders in ventures with companies. The model has proven in many cases to be successful and has produced dramatic results in improving the incomes of many Alaskan natives. The project included a series of seminars on the Alaska Native Corporation model held in Bolivia with the support of Alaskan experts. This initiative also included an exchange learning trip to Alaska to study the model in the field. Ten Bolivian indigenous leaders were selected by the United States Embassy in Bolivia in collaboration with the Bolivian Government. PADF partnered with Bolivian indigenous leaders and ANCSA experts and consultants, and the Alaskan NANA Corporation during this project, benefitting 506 people.

About PADF

The Pan American Development Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, brings together many stakeholders to improve livelihoods, empower communities, strengthen civil society, support human rights, protect the environment and respond to natural disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean. Established by the Organization of American States in 1962, PADF has worked in every country in the region. In 2014 PADF reached more than 15 million people by investing over $92 million in development resources in 27 Latin American and Caribbean countries.

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