

## PURPOSE

1) To support the social empowerment of women coffee growers in all aspects of safe water drinking, healthy practices to eliminate contamination: a benefit for public health.

2) Environmental improvement through promoting eco-friendly safe water consumption; the projects advocate not to use plastic bottles nor firewood to boil water. Less pressure on natural resources preserves the planet.

3) Economic relevance, both purification of water by chlorine and/or purchasing bottled water are avoided. Before, families headed to the river to fetch "clean" water. The water filters not only give easy access to fresh and clean water, but also contribute to time saving, either at home or on the work place.

## TARGET GROUP

The target group consists of small coffee farmers depending directly on their activities for survival. They live in rural areas in modest conditions, it concerns large families, all of them lacking access to basic services; safe drinking water is one of those.

- 590 families who depend on coffee cultivation to survive
- Many are wives of coffee growers and members of cooperatives
- Others belong to the neighboring communities
- 2 300 children aged 0 to 14 years old
- 1 240 adults; mostly women (age 25 to 55)

## IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER BY PROVIDING WATER FILTERS, TRAINING AND MONITORING

NICARAGUA - approved by the Efico Fund on 20/12/2011

### Location

Jinotega, Matagalpa, Boaco, Nueva Segovia and Esteli

### Description

The project aims to distribute water filters and provide drinking water to women as an initiative of women helping other women. Safe and clean drinking water prevents a lot of diseases so the Women's Coffee Alliance wants to encourage the women to use the filters given as a preventive tool of infection diseases.

### Project Budget

Total budget: € 10 500

AFAL/EURACEN contribution through the Efico Fund: € 10 500

### Project Duration

January 2012 to October 2012

## PARTNERS

### International Women's Coffee Alliance - Nicaragua

[www.womenincoffee.org](http://www.womenincoffee.org)

- Project applicant
- Support women to become more efficient and sustainable
- Take action to improve the living conditions of those communities who depend on coffee production
- Give training courses of good agricultural practices and export of coffee to women who grow coffee in rural areas with excellent results reflected in the coffee harvest

### Ministry of Health

- Support in the analysis of water in rural areas
- Report on reduction of disease

### Autonomous University of Nicaragua

- Recommend the selection of the filters

### AFAL

- Association des Femmes d'Amérique Latine
- Funding partner

### EURACEN

- Chamber of Commerce Europe - Central America
- Funding partner

### EFICO Central America

- Provides supervision and coordination of the projects



## EXPECTED RESULTS

- 1) 3 540 persons will have access to clean water, they will be sensitized of the importance of keeping water sources clean and of following basic rules of hygiene. In Nicaragua, only 12% of the population has access to safe water consumption.
- 2) Women and families of coffee workers' health conditions are improved thanks to this clean water. A better health allows a better ability to work. Physical wellbeing and health, working time is prolonged by reducing the inconveniency of dirty or risk water.
- 3) The income potential for equipped women is increased as the clean water asks a minimum time, minimum consumption and no purchase of plastic bottles anymore.
- 4) Increased quality of life for both women and children; parasite problems decrease, diarrhea, skin diseases and other.
- 5) The allocated budget of the project was only used to purchase a maximum of filters. The other costs for the organization of the training sessions and the logistics were supported by the Women Association volunteers.

# WATER FILTERS TO IMPROVE WOMEN COFFEE GROWERS' EMPOWERMENT IN RURAL COFFEE PLANTATIONS IN NICARAGUA

