

FEDICE ECUADOR PARTNERSHIP

The projects for women in the Andes Mountains through our partner FEDICE provide food for families, leadership training, better methods of crop production, lessons in nutrition and health, and opportunities to develop self-esteem and confidence.

FEDICE's approach has been very successful because it makes the women responsible for the success of each project, but also provides technical support on a regular basis. The women form an organization and submit a proposal for a micro-enterprise.

When approved FEDICE loans them the money to start. The loan must be repaid in one year. To date, no women's organization has ever defaulted on their loan. In fact, most are repaid early. When each loan is repaid, women may submit another proposal for another project.



Through this loan rotation, four villages are now self-sufficient and no longer require assistance from FEDICE. The young people of these villages are no longer migrating to the city. They are staying in their villages and building small, two-room houses for their families. Life is getting better. There is food for their children and hope for the future.

The ISC project with FEDICE for 2008 is the milk cow project with 18 women in the community of Yugsiche Alto. The goals of the project are:

1. To purchase 16 cows with good productive and reproductive characteristics;
2. To guarantee better feeding of the livestock by the planting of improved grasses in each family pasture;
3. To learn techniques and practices of producing yogurt and cheese;
4. To create work and avoid migration
5. To improve nutrition of the village population

To support this project write a check to **Ecuador – Animals** and place it in the offering plate at your church.