

Nicaragua Enterprise and Employment (E&E) Program, 2009-2013

Overview

The USAID-funded Nicaragua Enterprise and Employment (E&E) is a four-year \$ 11 million program designed to support the country's response to challenges and opportunities in promoting a better environment for trading, which includes the CAFTA-DR. The program is developed through eight different activities, which include: (1) competitiveness of SMEs; (2) improving services for SMEs; (3) support trade capacity (CAFTA -DR); (4) promoting business climate; (5) leadership training; (6) research; (7) dissemination and communication; and (8) grants program. These activities represent three main areas of work: business development, capacity building, trade and business climate, and human capital development

Results

- 252 new jobs created.
- U.S. \$3 million in increased sales and exports.
- 8 projects promoting the competitiveness of micro enterprises, small and medium enterprises in their value chain (ex. Vegyfrut, Alex and Chiles Footwear Nicaragua).
- 1,349 SME owners, trained in business administration, legislation relevant to MSMEs, and good manufacturing practices.
- Establishment of a business center and training for MSMEs in partnership with the Chamber of Industries of Nicaragua (CADIN).
- Legal technical assistance to eight initiatives / reforms of laws , which have been approved : (1) Committees Act (2Water Supply and Sanitation (CAPS); (2) Reform of the General Tourism Law; and (3) Adoption Promotion Act Promotion and Development of Micro, Small, and Medium Business
- Grants totaling U.S. \$121 000 to over 260 SMEs, exceeding the target of 200. The grants are for technical assistance, agricultural inputs and / or machinery and equipment. E & E will award more grants in partnership with the Association of Producers and Exporters of Nicaragua (APEN), the Chamber of Industries of Nicaragua (CADIN), ESKIMO, Recycling and International Business, SA (Renis) , Sabina de Ingeniería, SA , the Nicaraguan Union for Corporate Social Responsibility (uniRSE), the National Chamber of Tourism (CANATUR), Casa Mantica and the Nicaraguan Foundation for Economic and Social Development (FUNIDES), among others .

Links

<http://www.nicaraguaempresayempleo.com/>