



International Links and Services for
Local Economic Development Agencies

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ADELVA
(ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF VALVERDE
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC)



GENERAL INFORMATION

Date of establishment: 2001

Territory: The Valverde province is located in the north-western region of the Dominican Republic. Mao, the capital municipality is 210 km from the capital and 100 km from the northern border with the neighbouring country of Haiti. Valverde surface is 823 square kilometres with a population of 163,030 inhabitants. The climate has tropical characteristics. Its relief is varied, being mountainous areas with heights up to 998 meters (Northern Range) and homogenous or flat areas. Economic activities are varied: agricultural production, trade and agribusiness. The organic and conventional banana production for export is highlighted.

Members: They are thirty entities comprising the ADELVA and these correspond to the public sector (3 municipalities and 2 district boards, the provincial government, university, Agricultural Bank, sectoral Ministries of Environment and Agriculture), the private sector (Chamber of Commerce and Production, FONDESA, a Federation of committees of Regantes, the Cooperative Mamoncito, the Milk Value chain, INDENOR, Association of producers of Banana, and Fruit and vegetable), the social sector (a women federation, a federation of neighbourhood committees, a union of Drivers, Diocesan Caritas, Ecological Society of Valverde and three development associations: two municipal and a district one).

Main objectives:

General Objective: To promote local economic development of Valverde, by articulating social initiatives, public and private sectors for creating jobs and increasing revenues, valorising the local potential in a sustainable way, creating wealth and improving the quality of life.

Specific objectives:

- a) Create business opportunities for people in vulnerable situations.
- b) Support the creation and consolidation of local value chains.
- c) Promote and support access to finance business initiatives.
- d) Promote Gender Equality.
- e) Promote and assist producers in agro exporting.
- f) Promote environmentally sustainable local development
- g) Coordinate local, national and international partnerships to promote territorial development projects and initiatives.

IMPACTS

Economic Impact

ADELVA in the last five years has created and consolidated over 500 jobs and assisted more than 100 micro and small enterprises.

It has driven prioritization process of local potential and reinforcement of value chains.

Through training aimed both at entrepreneurs linked to the value chains as owners of MSMEs and disadvantaged population, it has trained over 1200 people to have skills and abilities that improve their production and increase opportunities for decent Jobs.



Strategic Impact

The LEDA has positioned itself as the provincial authority with the capacity to promote joint work and concerted effort to move towards territorial development. It has led the process of formulating the first strategic plan of the capital municipality and participated in the provincial initiatives for local development.

Environmental Impact.

ADELVA through processes of education has contributed more than 800 people (mainly young) and their organizations (over 15) inserted in their agenda the need to advance in the integrated management of solid waste.

It supported two municipalities in implementing a “zero waste” pilot initiatives and it is going to support a third one.

Also through training it supported 150 technicians and producers to participate in activities that promote clean production and organic production.

Social Impact

ADELVA enabled to create a “Human Rights Network” of Valverde and promoted the link with the Association of Mao Township Weavers.

It accompanied the Federation of Women Mama Tingo to establish the Microcredit Fund that has served more than 150 women with loans of US \$ 200 on average, and contributed also to its financial sustainability.

Similarly, the Agency has promoted and accompanied women in vulnerable conditions in the use of banana fibres for the production of handicrafts as a source of employment and income.

Financial Impact

With the establishment of the Investment Fund handled through the platform of a cooperative affiliated to ADELVA, it enabled more than 300 entrepreneurs to become eligible for bank formal credit. The initiative has proven effective achieving higher rates of return to 95% and opening possibility to increase coverage.

National Impact

In 2009, ADELVA was in charge of the presidency and coordination of the creation of the Network of Local Development Agencies Dominican Republic (Red ADELDOM). Since 2012 he has coordinated training with INFOTEP.

ADELDOM is now a reference for the national policies for local economic development in the country.

Institutional Impact

Since 2010 ADELVA has been providing services to entities of civil society contributing to the institutionalisation of more than 10 entities. It has also supported 3 of these organisations in the project formulation through which they had access to financial resources that benefited more than 8,000 people.



OTHER

Projects

The LEDAS has mobilized nearly a million dollars into a territory with over 50% of overall poverty and 18% in extreme poverty

In this context, ADELVA has implemented several projects and initiatives: the establishment of the Investment Fund to provide microfinance services, technical assistance and training for MSMEs (supported by UNDP - Ministry of Economy and Italian Cooperation).

Through the ART/UNDP Programme it was possible to promote a process of articulation of prioritized value chains.

In collaboration with the UNDP Small Grants Programme it has implemented the classification of a solid waste project for the production of organic fertilizer.

LEDA has implemented a project on joint civil society human rights protection supported by UNHCR.

It accompanied the partners in the formulation of projects of both the Central Government and the European Union and mobilized resources towards the territory.

Networking

La ADELVA is part of the Dominican Republic LEDA network and of the international LEDA network ILS LEDA.

Awards

In 2012, the LEDA obtained IQUAL quality label for human development from the international network ILS LEDA

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