

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES



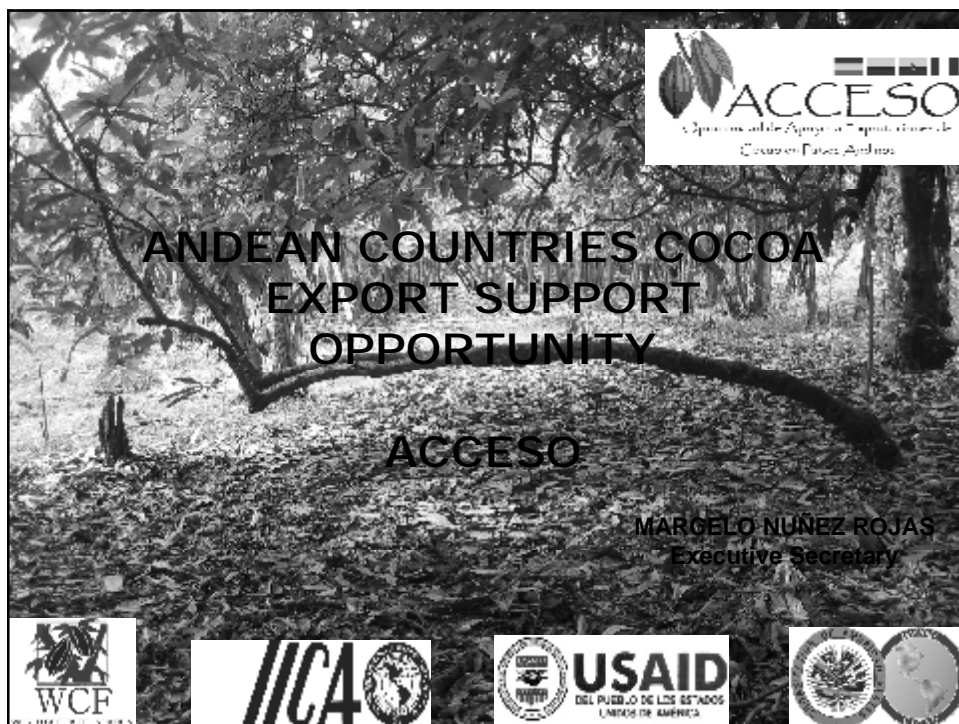
INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION


cicad

THIRTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION
December 6-9, 2005
Washington, D.C.

OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.38
CICAD/doc.1467/05
5 December 2005
Original: english

**ANDEAN COUNTRIES COCOA EXPORT SUPPORT
OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM (ACCESO)**



 **INTRODUCTION**

The “Andean Countries Cocoa Export Support Opportunity” Program (ACCESO) was created as a **public-private partnership** consisting of **USAID, CICAD, IICA and the private industry**, represented by the **World Cocoa Foundation (WCF)**.

ACCESO will bring together a series of national organizations linked to the cacao chain through the creation of an Andean Cacao Network.



OBJECTIVE

ACCESO's objective is to improve the competitiveness of the cacao chain in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, increasing the number of farmers producing commercial-quality cacao, through the promotion of good farming and marketing practices, increase in production levels, and higher sales and income levels for small- and medium-sized producers.



PROGRAM STRUCTURE

- Ø Steering Committee:** CICAD, IICA, USAID, WCF.
- Ø Executive Secretariat:** Hosted by the office of IICA in Lima, Peru.
- Ø Consultative Committee:** Institutions and people linked to the cacao chain.
- Ø National Coordinating Committees.**



PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Ø Strengthening of cacao-chain stakeholders
- Ø Creation of regional links
- Ø Productivity improvement
- Ø Quality improvement
- Ø Market expansion



ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Implementation of Farmer Field Schools – FFS

- Ø Under ACCESO, Farmer Field Schools (FFS) are **directly financed by CICAD**.
- Ø FFS constitute a **training methodology** for agricultural products that promote **high levels of involvement by farmers**.
- Ø FFS are based on **voluntary enrollment** by farmers, which later on make their own diagnosis of the situation and define the future actions to be taken.
- Ø This methodology promotes high levels of **empowerment** of the learning process by the farmers.



FFS IMPLEMENTATION IN THE ANDEAN REGION

- Ø **Overview:** FFS will be implemented **during 2006 in Peru** and in the near future they will be established in Bolivia, Colombia and Ecuador.
- Ø **Location:** FFS will be implemented in San Martín, Junín, Ayacucho, Cuzco, Amazonas and Huanuco, in Peru.
- Ø **Investment:** The budget consists of **US\$170.000 for a three-year period**, financed directly by CICAD. **During 2006** the investment in FFS will be **US\$56.666**
- Ø **FFS Partnership:** CICAD will sign a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** with cacao-chain stakeholders that will specify the **roles and responsibilities** of each partner as well as the amount of cash and in-kind contributions.



FFS IMPLEMENTATION IN THE ANDEAN REGION **(cont'd.)**

- Ø **Beneficiaries:** **40 FFS** will be implemented during 2006, benefiting **1.000 cacao producers**.
- Ø **Unit Cost and Efficiency:** Cash and in-kind contributions add up to US\$100.000 approximately and considering 1.000 producers will be trained, the **unit cost of training is US\$100 per farmer per year**.
- Ø **First Step:** Before FFS are implemented, a **“Trainer of Trainers” Seminar** will take place in Tingo María, Peru, where approximately 50 field technicians will participate.
- Ø **Project Evaluation:** A **baseline study** will be conducted in coordination with other institutions and an **evaluation of impact** will be carried out at the end of the second year.



OTHER RELEVANT ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAM

Ø **Andean Regional Workshop on Application of Technology in Cacao cultivation.** Ecuador, March 1-3, 2006.

Ø **National Workshops on Technological Standardization** in Peru.
First quarter, 2006

Ø **Creation of National Committees.** ACCESO's National Coordinating Committee in Colombia has been established based on the National Cacao Council.

Ø **National Workshop on Integral Quality of Cacao** in Colombia.
Second quarter, 2006.