



FACT SHEET

Project: Pusir Grande

WHAT

Social and economic development projects designed to empower and support a primarily Afro-Ecuadorian community

WHERE

Pusir Grande, a rural Ecuadorian village north of Ibarra in Imbabura Province

WHY

The community of Pusir faces continuing historical poverty rooted in discrimination & injustice



UPDATES

- In late 2014, the finishing touches were put on the Computer Center in Pusir. This facility houses 50 computers and (to our knowledge) provides the only available Internet service in the entire community. Kids come daily to do their homework and adults come to connect with the world.
- The Savings & Credit Union of Peace, Development & Equality in Pusir is building a culture of savings among the women invested in the project. Saving \$5 a month, to date they have accumulated \$1,040 as a group. This is a huge benefit for the women of Pusir, as moving forward they will have resources at hand for emergencies, business opportunities or supporting their children's' education.
- The Savings & Credit Union is also providing much needed seed funding for its members to raise crops, animals and buy products to sell at the markets. With cash in hand, the women can purchase the raw materials (seeds, stock, produce, etc.) needed to bring in income to support their families.
- The women have eagerly participated in life & work skills trainings — including accounting, perfume making and aerobics class. Through mingas they've also taken on maintenance projects as a group at the church, the park and the school.
- The women report a newfound sense of unity and the ability to tackle challenges together as a community that was previously missing in Pusir. As Rosa Espinoza told us, *"Before we weren't in contact — everyone went her own way. But now, we talk. We talk about what we need to do, when we need to do it and why we need to do it. We have united women who were divided. Today we are partners and we work together."*

THANK YOU!

On behalf of the entire FEDICE team and the community of Pusir Grande, we thank you for your continuing generosity and confidence. We are proud to partner with you and look forward to completing many successful projects in the future!