| Danish organisation | DIB (Dansk International Bosætningsservice) |
| --- | --- |
| Title of the intervention | ARCA: Acciones de Resiliencia Contra el Cambio Climático - Participatory Civic Actions of Resilience Against Climate Change Driven by Women Leaders and Young Leaders in La Paz And El Alto, Bolivia |
| Partner name(s) | Fundación Teko Kavi |
| Amount applied for | 495.220 DKK |
| Country(ies) | Bolivia |
| Period (# of months) | 1st of June 2022 - 30th of April 2023 (11 months) |

1. ***Objective and relevance***

The overall objective of this project is to strengthen citizen participation and promote actions of resilience against climate change through training and capacity development of women leaders and young leaders of associations and civil society organisations in urban and peri-urban areas of La Paz and El Alto in Bolivia.  
To achieve this goal, the following specific objectives are planned:

1. Strengthen the capacities of facilitators and leaders in climate change issues with the methodology of 'Learning by Playing' developed by Teko Kavi, establishing alliances with civil society organisations, associations and academia.

2. Training of women and young leaders from partner CSOs and associations in urban and peri-urban areas of La Paz and El Alto to develop, in a participatory manner, climate change resilient actions.

3. Make visible, value and disseminate the systematised experiences, organising an exchange forum with civil society organisations, associations, academia, local and national authorities.

Alternatives to the deterioration of the environment and the consequences of climate change are needed. The population and civil society lack sufficient and adequate information and methods to take resilience actions. They do not have training opportunities that would make them capable of proposing these alternatives and share them with their target population. Especially vulnerable groups in the peri-urban areas, including La Paz and El Alto, need alternatives in order to take climate change resilient actions.

* ***Context***

The intervention will be carried out in Bolivia, a developing country with significant, widespread poverty, especially evident in urban and peri-urban areas of the country. Also, Bolivia is home to one of the largest indigenous populations in Latin America, statistically the most discriminated, impoverished and negated citizens in their own country. Many indigenous people migrate to the peri-urban areas of La Paz and El Alto to seek better economic opportunities, but often end up finding themselves in conditions of precariousness and facing even more accentuated social inequality.

In peri-urban areas, basic services (drinking water, electricity, sewage, transport) and social services (health, education) are deficient or non-existent due to poor governance, overcrowding due to continuous, unregulated migration, and the creation of settlements without adequate urban planning, causing low quality of life and exposure to different types of social, economic and health risks.

Added to this situation are the problems of both local and global climate change. The lack of environmental education, awareness and even disregard, such as pollution, overconsumption, irrational habits of water, energy and solid waste management, deforestation and wildfires, rising temperatures, etc. All this generates a vicious circle:







Bolivia has legislation to protect nature and the environment, such as the Law of Mother Earth, the Law of the Environment and other collateral laws, but these laws have no real effect, since they are barely upheld by authorities and the state itself, the government keeps incentivising extractive industries and supporting the expansion of the agricultural frontier, often with little regard for territorial and health rights.

The climate change crisis was further aggravated during the COVID-19 pandemic due to the inability or disinterest of the government or state to intervene in a timely and proper manner. Adding to this is the political instability that in recent years has prevented the state from addressing the root problems of and adaptation to climate change, which negatively affects the economic, social and environmental aspects of the country in general.

Currently, under the new MAS government, we consider Bolivia to provide a stable context for the project, even though in urban and peri-urban settings, social uprisings do sometimes occur as a response to governance practices (positive or negative) and the increased inequality of recent years.

The project will support grassroot associations and CSOs to carry out actions of awareness and promote active citizen participation, thus ensuring that environmental and climate change issues are on the agenda of civil society, articulating organisations of different profiles around a common goal: citizen participation in climate change resilient actions.

The project is relevant because it supports civil society and associations in facing the environmental problems and issues arising from climate change with resilience actions, in a participatory and proactive manner. The training process prioritises actions according to the needs and expectations of the associations and CSOs themselves as well as their target groups. The actions are firstly organised in the associations to be carried out in neighbourhoods and communities. Eventually the actions are transferred to the general population in La Paz and El Alto, as well as showcased at a regional and/or international forum.

The strategy we propose will establish alliances and conduct capacity development training and workshops in local and/or regional associations and CSOs in La Paz and El Alto. The ludic methodology of ‘Learning by Playing’ will be used to promote and support climate change resilient actions and the exchange of experiences with the organisation’s volunteers, their target groups, communities, local and regional authorities, etc. This approach makes the proposal innovative and a feasible alternative to the current problem of environmental degradation, climate change, lack of knowledge and experience sharing, as well as utilises alternative methods on how to create awareness, strengthen citizen participation in climate change issues and to build more and better relations and cooperation between organisations working in the urban and peri-urban settings of La Paz and El Alto.

As this is a pilot proposal for 11 months, the project partners are focusing on institutions in the department of La Paz for efficiency. Six organisations were selected, three of which work with young people and three of which work with women in La Paz and El Alto.

There are positive conditions for implementing the project, as environmental problems and issues are of current and growing interest to the broader public and CSOs both globally and locally. However, in many cases associations and CSOs do not have the tools or methods to address these issues with their target groups. We provide an innovative methodology with a playful/ludic, active and participatory approach and a focus on environmental education to train the trainers of our allied partner associations and CSOs. The project's training processes focus on creating opportunities and support women leaders and young leaders to come up with concrete alternatives through resilience actions for mitigating and adapting to climate change and promoting sustainable development appropriate to their specific activities such as agricultural production, handicrafts, gastronomy, urban gardens, conservation, etc.

Lastly, the intervention will also strengthen linkages between the associations, grassroots, women and youth groups, CSOs and their local governments and institutions as well as broaden knowledge. Through a forum for the exchange of experiences and knowledge between aforementioned organisations and institutions, which will also strengthen horizontal relationships between partners, we will ensure sustainability through networks, to take on environmental and climate change challenges as described by the Sustainable Development Goals.

1. ***Partners and collaborators***

**The 2 main project partners** are DIB (Denmark) and Fundación Teko Kavi (Bolivia) who are leading the intervention:   
**Teko Kavi** is a non-profit organisation based in La Paz, Bolivia. They have extensive experience in capacity development of local populations and organisations. They have successfully implemented projects in the spheres of education (Aprender Jugando), health (NETCAP and NEXTCAP), social and rights (Amplifying Voices) and environment (with Swiss and Norwegian cooperations, WCS, etc.).

Teko Kavi has successfully implemented new pedagogical methods in cooperation with teacher training institutes, public schools and civil society (Aprender Jugando 1, 2 and 3). In the Aprender Jugando 3 project, Teko Kavi trained different organisations and institutions in Eco-Literacy, gathering the experience through manuals on Eco-Literacy and play libraries, as well as presenting new methodologies on climate change. Capacity building was achieved in rural and urban schools in different towns and municipalities of the country that did not have adequate methodologies and were unaware of the conceptual-cognitive aspects of environmental issues.

Teko Kavi will be responsible for coordinating and implementing the project ‘on the ground’ in Bolivia, organising the activities with the six organisations in this intervention in an active, participatory and horizontal way. For this project Teko Kavi have selected one coordinator and two education specialists, and they will carry out all on-ground activities. Gabriela Aguirre will be in charge of the coordination and will be responsible for all the planned activities of the project. Karina Flores and a local technician are the specialists in educational sciences with experience in alternative learning and teaching methodologies for adults and school children. Supporting the process will be the members of the core team: Oscar Loayza and Jorge Mariaca will advise on the intervention on environmental and climate change issues and are members of the Board of Teko Kavi; Jaime Ayra as Director and legal representative will be in charge of all legal and administrative matters in Bolivia.

**DIB** is a non-profit member-based organisation in Aarhus, Denmark. Over the last many years they have implemented different projects in Bolivia related to participatory planning, human settlements, education, health, communication, rights of indigenous peoples, strengthening the cooperation between civil society and local authorities, etc. They have worked with Teko Kavi for more than 12 years on aforementioned projects on Aprender Jugando 1, 2 and 3, NETCAP and NEXTCAP and Amplifying Voices. Thus, in DIB they have extensive experience in the implementation of development projects in the Bolivian context.  
  
The project group in DIB will provide support in the activities related to specific workshops for women and young leaders in the organisations where they develop resilience actions against climate change as well as in assessment and support of project proposals made by the organisations and presented at the experience exchange forum. The project group in DIB has many years of experience in project development, and specifically the project coordinator has several years of experience working with nature and climate change related issues, communications, etc. The purpose of the Danish partner supporting the activities is to bring these experiences into the selected associations/organisations and to inspire the groups of women and young leaders with experiences from a Danish context.

A project coordinator and a project assistant is appointed in DIB. Simon Langvad Græsbøll Iversen will coordinate the implementation and administration of the intervention from the Danish side. Furthermore, the project coordinator will support Teko Kavi on activities such as training workshops with experiences from Denmark and globally on climate change actions as well as support and participation on developing and planning the experience exchange forum described below. The project assistant will be a volunteer from the DIB Bolivia Group, to be appointed later.

**6 selected local associations and CSOs  
Gaia Pacha** is an organisation based, which works with various projects in Bolivia on the care and proper management of water, developing activities with young people in peri-urban areas of La Paz.

**Cedima** is an Aymara women's NGO that promotes the empowerment of Aymara women to exercise their rights. With many years of experience, it strengthens leadership, empowerment and the exercise of the rights of indigenous Aymara women and young indigenous Aymara peasant women through decision-making spaces.

**Agricultural associations: Palliris-Mujeres Lecheras** is a social organisation by women milk producers in peri-urban areas of El Alto, who have developed agricultural processes and activities to improve milk production, working with local authorities to make their water use problems visible and generate local policy solutions; **AFLOPHA** is the Association of Flower and Vegetable Growers and Producers with 100 members. Their objective is to improve their economic income, and they are facing a series of problems in their production systems due to climate change while they intend to promote the consumption of organic food.

**Machaca Amauta** is a CSO focused on educational issues in different peri-urban educational units in El Alto, contributing to capacity building for teachers, children and young people. They work with prevention and protection of children and adolescents, with and without disabilities, in street situations, against sexual violence and work on environmental issues as cross-cutting themes.

**Chasqui** is an NGO that works with the rural migrant population, especially young people, children and adolescents, with an impact on local public policies in the municipality of El Alto and rural populations, and has generated young leaders in student organisations. It also develops actions for the prevention of domestic, school and social violence against children with the "Buen Trato" (Good Treatment) programme for children in various areas of El Alto.

**Club Ornitológico de La Paz ‘Cóndores’**, a social organisation made up of a group of primarily young people of different professions (biologists, tourism administrators, computer scientists, public etc.) who are observers and researchers to contribute to the conservation of birdlife and their habitats. They have 240 members and belong to the Bolivian Association of Ornithology (ASBOR) and the Bolivian Network of Ornithological Clubs. They also coordinate with the Urban Birds Programme (Latin America) and carry out different activities in peri-urban areas and areas of great biodiversity in La Paz. They coordinate different actions with civil society and with the local and municipal authorities of La Paz, Sorata and Achocalla.

**Academic partner / consultant**

**Instituto Superior de Tiempo Libre y Recreación (ISTLyR) (Buenos Aires, Argentina**) is the academic organisation in charge of training and certifying recreationalists in the management of ludic methodologies. They will be the key academic partners that will collaborate with the certification of the training for women leaders and young leaders. This certification will provide greater social and economic opportunities for the participants. Teko Kavi has been working with them for years and participating in their bi-annual meetings in Latin America.

DIB and Teko Kavi will further develop their experience with the application of the methodology of ‘Learning by Playing’ in new areas and in an urban/peri-urban context. In this project, the methodology will be practised, not only within areas such as education like in the previous AJ projects, but in different settings and thematics, fx in organisations that work with production, like the milk producing association, associations working with rights of women, young people and children, and in nature conservation.

The exchange of experiences between partners and allies will generate a network that strengthens the capacities of each one and they will find support in the network for resilient actions and to have greater incidence with the authorities at different levels of organisation. This will favour the communities in agreement with the local, municipal or departmental authorities.

1. ***Target groups, objectives, and expected results (our intervention)***

The primary target group of the project constitute the 6 selected associations / CSOs, their staff, volunteers and core members. The number of women and young people associated with the organisations is specified in column 4. The secondary target group include the members of the organisations who do not specifically fit the ‘women and young people’ category, the target groups of the organisations themselves as well as their followers on web-based platforms such as websites, newsletters and social media profiles.  
Both the name of the organisations and their location as well as the number of people in the primary and secondary target groups are shown in the table below:

| **Municipality** | **Organisation, name** | **No staff in organisations** | **No women and young people in the 6 organisations** | **Total Primary Group** | **Total Secondary group** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| La Paz | Gaia Pacha | 15 | 150 | 165 | 3.098 |
| La Paz / El Alto | CEDIMA | 24 | 200 | 224 | 5.792 |
| La Paz / El Alto | PALLIRIS Y AFLOPHA | 20 | 180 | 200 | 1.245 |
| La Paz / El Alto | MACHA AMAUTA | 10 | 250 | 260 | 3.074 |
| El Alto | CHASQUI | 15 | 200 | 215 | 1.537 |
| La Paz | Club Ornitológico de La Paz ‘Cóndores’ | 8 | 240 | 248 | 3.105 |
| **TOTAL** | **6** | **92** | **1220** | **1312** | **17.851 \*** |

**\*** *Including the organisation’s target groups and followers of their communication channels*

The capacities of each institution will be disseminated, shared and strengthened in the themes identified in the intervention.

The proposed strategy of establishing alliances and conducting capacity development in associations and CSOs with the ‘Learning by Playing’ methodology to promote and support climate change resilient actions and the exchange of experiences with the organisation’s volunteers, their target groups, communities, local and regional authorities, etc. makes this proposal innovative and a feasible alternative to the current problem of environmental degradation, climate change, lack of knowledge and experience sharing, as well as providing alternative methods on how to create awareness, strengthen citizen participation in climate change issues and to build more and better relations and cooperation between organisations working in the urban and peri-urban settings of La Paz and El Alto.

The intervention will have an impact in three key area areas:







*1. Impact on the environment;* We will support the civil society in carrying out resilience actions, activities to raise awareness and promote positive environmental habits and resilience actions in the face of climate change, which affects natural, social and economic systems and has repercussions such as health problems, food shortages, limited access to pure water sources, contamination of urban and natural areas and the life that inhabits these areas.

*2. Organisations and civil society;* For this project we have selected six key partner organisations and allies working primarily with marginalised populations of women and youth. Along with them it will be possible to build stronger associations and CSOs as well as institutional networks to achieve broader societal change on resilient actions against climate change.

The activities with the CSOs will strengthen their capacities with alternative and appropriate tools and didactic materials to achieve greater impact. Many organisations lack adequate and effective methods and instruments to work with environmental issues, despite the fact that it is a cross-cutting issue.  
If CSOs know and use appropriate methodologies, they can have a greater impact in developing resilient actions against climate change and thus better support vulnerable groups, particularly women and young people, in creating better quality of life in communities and neighbourhoods.

*3. Involvement of women leaders and young leaders*; Studies show that women, elderly people and young people are disproportionately more vulnerable to negative social conditions, and the same goes for the effects of climate change. However, for years it has been observed that women, elderly people and young people have a major role to play in society, for example in the family economy and in the care for nature. In addition, young people have a link to technology and can more easily and dynamically disseminate the actions they take. Women are neglected, even though they are the ones who collect water, who fish or cultivate land. Meanwhile, their voice is often the last to be heard with less access to land and productive resources, plus they are the ones who raise children, work in the home and are often the leaders of their neighbourhoods or communities.

Young people around the world are increasingly committed to taking action against climate change. Supporting and channelling their leadership so that organisations can commit to ensure that young people at local and national levels can enrich national processes, institutions and meaningfully identify their representation and participation.

The project strategy is to develop capacity and transfer the participatory and ludic methodology of Eco-Literacy, proven efficient in the Aprender Jugando (*Learning by Playing*) projects*,* and didactic materials developed by Teko Kavi to the trainers, volunteers and leaders of the partner CSO’s and associations. The strategy will focus on women leaders and young leaders as the main receivers of development and as the channel of replication and taking action against climate change, by offering a methodology with which to work on these issues, with an emphasis on resilience to climate change.





As shown above, the project will direct a transfer of knowledge and new capacities to the organisations, leaders and target groups of the organisations, particularly women and young people. This new knowledge and capacities, in turn, will be followed up, built upon and shared through training evaluations, monitoring and accompaniment of the resilience/climate action experiences of the institutions. Additionally, meetings and/or workshops will be held with the beneficiary population of the institutions to measure attitudes and knowledge that allow for resilient actions to combat climate change, which can be replicable and scalable to different contexts. These resilience actions will be adapted according to the area of activity of each institution and the development of the contents according to the population with whom they work, and in their neighbourhoods and communities they propose resilience action plans with their local authorities and the respective municipality.

Under the current conditions, it is very timely to intervene with a proposal for civil society to develop climate change resilient actions based on new methodologies and training processes for vulnerable groups of women and young people, and to reflect on and strengthen their important contribution to adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change.

| **OUTPUTS** | **ACTIVITIES** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Strengthen the capacities of facilitators and leaders in climate change issues with the methodology of 'Learning by Playing' developed by Teko Kavi, establishing alliances with civil society organisations, associations and academia. | |
| Result 1.1. Establish alliances with civil society organisations and academia to strengthen the skills of trainers in climate change using the methodology of 'Learning by Playing'. | Preparation and implementation of the project.  Drawing up a plan of activities. Agreements and/or letters of intent between Teko Kavi and the selected associations/CSOs. |
| Assessment of the 6 associations/CSOs, their target group, their women leaders and young leaders. |
| Participatory elaboration of intervention plan. Develop training modules and content of workshops adapted to each of the organisations.  Coordinate the training with the 6 partners and the academic partner ISTLyR. |
| Result 1.2. Staff and volunteers of civil society organisations and academia have a process of capacity transfer, exchange of techniques and methodologies on climate change issues. | 3x3 training workshops for staff in the ludic methodology of Eco-Literacy (9 in total, involving staff from all organisations). |
| 6x3 training workshops on the themes of Climate Change Resilience with the Eco-Literacy methodology (18 in total, involving staff from all organisations). |
| 1x3 workshops on evaluation and management of the contents and methodology (3 in total involving staff from all the organisations). |
| 2. Training of women and young leaders from partner CSOs and associations in urban and peri-urban areas of La Paz and El Alto to develop, in a participatory manner, climate change resilient actions. | |
| Result 2.1. Women and youth in urban and peri-urban areas of La Paz and El Alto develop participatory climate change resilient actions as a result of the work in the training workshops. | Coordination of activities between Teko Kavi and ISTLyR institute for certification of women leaders and young leaders as Community Recreators with speciality in the ludic methodology of Eco-Literacy. |
| At least 2 meetings with all organisations to present and adjust the programme with technical staff and appoint women leaders and young leaders (12 meetings in total). |
| Planning and carrying out of 10 training workshops in methodologies for women leaders and young leaders under the supervision of ISTLyR (online) and under the direction of Teko Kavi technicians (physical). Participants receive certification as Community Recreators by ISTLyR. |
| Design, planning and coordination with associations/CSOs and identification of at least 2 climate change resilience actions pr. organisation to be carried out in their communities. Monitored and supported by project technicians. |
| Between 3 and 6 project proposals for generating climate change resilience actions developed by women's groups and youth groups.  Monitored and supported by project technicians. |
| 6 advocacy actions (1 pr. organisation) in their area of work, support, logistics and economic support of each organisation on climate change resilience under the ludic methodology of Eco-Literacy (total 6 actions). |
| 6 resilience actions (1 pr. association/organisation) to climate change with the ludic methodology of Eco-Literacy by women leaders and young leaders (total 6 actions), organised. Support in the planning by project technicians. |
| Evaluation and analysis of the results for future adjustments, replicability and scalability. |
| 3: Make visible, value and disseminate the systematised experiences with civil society organisations, associations, academia, local and national authorities and general public. | |
| Result 3.1. Through an experience exchange forum and/or participation at regional/international event, civil society organisations, associations, academia, local and national authorities will build upon their knowledge and be influenced to take climate change resilient actions. | Developing and planning of experience exchange forum. |
| Presentation and showcasing at the forum of experiences of the 6 organisations based on the whole process and the results achieved. |
| Women leaders and young leaders participate in and/or present their activity at thematic regional and/or international event/congress. |
| Between 3 and 6 project proposals for climate change resilience actions generated by women's groups and young leaders presented at forum/event/congress (online or physical). |
| Reports and memories of the experience exchange and lessons learned. |
| Design and disseminate material with the experiences of the intervention. |

Systematisation of experiences will be recorded throughout the project implementation process, which will be guided by the intervention plan approved and agreed with the partner CSOs and associations. All programmed activities will have a progress and results report.

In the first phase, letters of intent and agreements are made between Teko Kavi, the academic partner ISTLyR and the 6 selected associations/CSOs. Their current capacity is then assessed, and with their participation the activity plan is developed and approved. This knowledge will be systematised and available for the continuing development of the associations/CSOs.

In the second phase, the workshop plans and the reports of each workshop are recorded according to a format to be designed (organisations, number of participants, themes developed, conclusions, proposals and tasks, comments). The progress of the practices will be systematised, with monitoring indicators, support by project groups of Teko Kavi, DIB and ISTLyR technicians and an evaluation.

Finally, in the third phase, the development of the forum is recorded in a report with the most significant information on the development of the event, where the institutions will present selected examples of their experiences with the project and the practical application of the resilience actions. We expect that the associations and CSOs will use the methodology learned during the project as part of their approach to their organisation’s mission, and begin to incorporate it naturally in their projects and actions, and significant impacts will be achieved more broadly in La Paz, El Alto and regionally.

1. **Project-related information work in Denmark**

The project group at DIB will be responsible for disseminating information about the project through publications, photos, video, sound, blog posts and stories on our website, in our newsletter and on our profiles on social media such as Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, etc. The target group for this information are DIB members and followers, development professionals, academics, people with an interest in Latin America as well as the general public in Denmark. The information and stories collected will also serve for presentations at institutions or at events, either with DIB as the host or as invited guest.

Since this is a pilot project, the information we gather during this project is important for our target group and the broader public to show how we work in Bolivia, also showcasing how we search out different spheres and new approaches to development work in a country we have worked in for many years.

The project’s focus on women, young people, associations and CSOs, the alternative methods for capacity development and knowledge sharing, and the theme of climate change and the actions taken to adapt, mitigate or be resilient is very interesting both for us the project partners, but certainly also for the organisations that have shown interest in working with us, as well as the general public in Bolivia and Denmark.