



SUPPORT TO POTOSÍ

Through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government has a broad assistance program in Bolivia that supports the Bolivian Government's National Development Plan.



A beneficiary cooks using foods provided through the Maternal/Child Health and Nutrition Program.

Through its official foreign assistance agency, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government supports 109 projects in 28 municipalities in the Department of Potosí. . Our projects reduce poverty through enterprise development and increased productivity, improve access to health care for the poor, and support democratic institutions and practices. USAID programs create opportunities for marginalized populations while promoting their social, political and economic inclusion.

1. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE POPULATION

USAID supports the development of financial services, particularly with credit unions. The introduction of new financial services provides more opportunities for people to conduct transactions and facilitates the sending and receipt of remittances at competitive rates.

In 2006, the Quinoa Alliance was created by 12 institutions, including USAID, to increase the production of organic quinoa real in the departments of Oruro and Potosí. The goal of the Alliance is to increase the production of certified organic quinoa from 5,000 tons per year to 30,000 tons annually. Through this initiative, producer incomes will be increased on a sustained basis.

2. IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF BOLIVIANS

USAID coordinates with local NGOs to implement community health programs, supporting initiatives relating to nutrition, maternal-child health and the prevention and control of infectious diseases.

3. FOOD SECURITY

USAID's Food for Work program supports local development and health care initiatives in areas of major food insecurity in Bolivia. In peri-urban and rural areas, USAID works with municipal governments, the departmental government and local agricultural organizations to support the construction of irrigation and basic sanitary systems, community agricultural production and the management of natural resources. In addition, child nutrition and maternal-child health receive special attention and close monitoring. Two examples of this work are the Tomoyo irrigation system in the municipality of Ravelo and a sewer system project in the city of Potosí. In rural municipalities such as Toro Toro, initiatives supporting the development of roads and basic services help the community tap into its tourism potential, thereby promoting the local economy.

4. ENVIRONMENT

The City of Potosi has more than 30 mineral processing plants that operate in order to capture high value products such as silver and tin from the Cerro Rico mine. USAID is providing support to a number of these plants to introduce cleaner production technologies which make their processes more efficient and less polluting

5. EFFECTIVE DEPARTMENTAL GOVERNMENTS

As it does worldwide, USAID is providing basic institutional strengthening technical assistance and training to Bolivia's departmental governments to help them effectively assume their new roles in planning, financing, and delivering services to citizens.



The Food For Work program helps promote community development in Potosi.