Water for the peri urban poor - Closing the gap between policy and practice

The Agua Tuya Program
A local action in Cochabamba - Bolivia

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The need

- The 80’s and lack of access to water in peri urban Cochabamba
  - District 9 (productive district)
- The water committees
  - Civil society organize around the water problem
  - Private (community) investment
  - Solve their problems on their own
  - Short term solutions
Our response

1. The pipes (PLASTIFORTE)
2. Technical advise
3. Installation
4. Training
5. Financing - Alliances with NGOs and/or foundations
6. …The Agua Tuya Program
Concrete results

Groups of descentralized water systems
Built by the Agua Tuya program.
Concrete results (decentralized systems)

- Over 158 water distribution systems ("local providers") that service over 80,000 users 24/7.
- Total local investment in 15 yrs = 3 Million USD (incremental investment)
The Water War in Cochabamba (April 2000)
Lessons on empowerment

- People decided to solve their own problems
- By investing they achieved OWNERSHIP (vs. Sense of ownership)
- Consumers vs. partners (owners)
- Women are highly involved
- Development of local private sector capacities (wells, pumps, pipes, other services)
- Appropriate technologies were developed
- Water project as first step to development
The Agua Para Todos Project

- Cochabamba city (Bolivia)
- 600,000 inhabitants
- SEMAPA is the Municipal Utility
- Its concession area has been recently increased from 5,000 Has to 15,000 Has
- SEMAPA has very tough expansion goals to meet
- The expansion area is comprised of low income population that currently buy water from water trucks at very high prices (2.5 USD/cubic meter)
Interconnection with utility
Isolated efforts

Multi sector approach

Water Committee

→

Agua Tuya

Water Committee

→

NGOs

Water Committee

→

Municipal Government
Concerted efforts

Multi sector approach

CIDRE (NGO)
Municipal Government
Water Committee
Agua Tuya
Municipal Water Company
# The partnership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actor</th>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Participation in partnership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water Committee</td>
<td>Community-based organization</td>
<td>Genuine demands. Investment capacity when credit available. Self organizing capacity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIDRE</td>
<td>Non government organization</td>
<td>Micro credit. Educational programs. Organizational coaching.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEMAPA</td>
<td>Municipal Water Utility</td>
<td>Technical supervision. Interconnection to main water system. Water provision during Fase II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pilot project: Barrios Unidos

Name: “Barrios Unidos”
Total cost: USD 19,000
Cost/household: USD 175
Serves: 1000 People
Date: 12/20/2004
Pilot project: SPR

Name: SPR
Total cost: USD 18,000
Cost/household: USD 180
Serves: 1500 people
Date: 2/10/2005
Projections and MDGs

Projection 2005-2009

- Number of new household connections
- Cumulative number of connections

Year
- 2005
- 2006
- 2007
- 2008
- 2009

Cumulative number of connections
Number of new household connections
Recommendations for governance

... closing the gap between policy and practice

- Foster an empowering environment for:
  - Communities
  - Local private sector
- Make small operators visible and legal
- Adapt legal framework to reality
- Regulation will hinder development unless it comes along with support. The Agua Tuya Program is looking for partners to create such a Resource Center
Thank you

For more information, please visit: http://aguatuya.com

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