



SILAE NEWS



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SILAE is part of the @LIS programme which aims to bridge the digital gap between Ecuadorian Amazon rural communities and Europe by establishing the *Red Amazónica de Información SILAE (R@IS)* (SILAE Amazon Information Network), as well as helping to provide basic social services to indigenous and peasant communities by promoting and implementing de-centralised, sustainable rural electrification projects in Amazon communities. <http://www.silae.org/>

SILAE celebrates Europe Day



European Commission in Ecuador organised the 9th May Europe Day celebrations held in the *Palacio de Cristal* in Ichimbia, Quito, at which all the projects funded by the UE in Ecuador were put on show. SILAE also participated with a stand and information about its project. Ambassadors of European countries in Ecuador, representatives from governmental and non-governmental organisations, educational institutes, among others, were present.

Shuar teachers from Huamboya and Palora cantons receive training in computing

From 15 to 19 May SILAE, in coordination with the Huamboya municipality, held a training workshop on basic computing for 47 male and female Shuar teachers and educational supervisors from Huamboya and Palora cantons in Morona Santiago province. Another training workshop on organising small community businesses is being planned.



and female Zapara leaders in basic computing in Puyo, Pastaza, from 9 May to 9 June. The aim was for them to learn about using the computing packages and the new IT technologies for strengthening their organisation.

MARGE Director completes Mission to Ecuador

From 29 May to 4 June MARGE Director Michel Matly completed his working visit to Quito, which included a number of activities such as preparing a new project to replicate the SILAE project called SILCAE-SILAE 2 on the Ecuadorian coast. This included meetings with the Consortium of Amazon Municipalities' (COMAGA), the Ecuadorian Nationalities' and Peoples' Development Council (CONDENPE), the National Council of Parish Councils of Ecuador (CONAJUPARE), and the Coastal 'Campesino' and 'Montubio' Corporation (CORCYMOL). Michel Matly also had a meeting with the Planning Board of the National Electricity Council's (CONELEC) with the aim of activating the inter-institutional proposal between SILAE, CONELEC and local Amazon electricity boards; a meeting with potential partners for the SILCAE-SILAE 2 project; and, finally, a working meeting with SILAE's team in Quito.



SILAE participated in the 2nd Congress on Information and Communication Technologies in Cuenca



SILAE's National Coordinator, Milton Balseca, participated in the 2nd Congress on Information and Communication Technologies held in Cuenca on 24 and 25 June, at which SILAE presented the Amazon Information Network (R@IS) and the Rural Electrification Community Enterprises (ECERs) projects.

Meeting between SILAE National Coordinator and CONATEL President

SILAE's National Coordinator, Milton Balseca, held a meeting with Dr. Juan Carlos Solines, President of the National Telecommunications Council (CONATEL) about SILAE's Amazon project. Dr. Solines showed great interest and expressed support for the project, which will open up possibilities for widening the network of Internet access points in remote areas of the Ecuadorian Amazon



SILAE and the Amazon State University train indigenous Zapara leaders

SILAE, with technical support from the Amazon State University, held a 40-hour training workshop for 20 male



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Red Amazónica de Información SILAE

This space provides information about the R@IS-SILAE network

R@IS News: Nangaritza mayor working for the canton's development



The mayor of Nangaritza in Zamora Chinchipe province is working to rebuild and improve the canton's road network. The area is marked by mountains and numerous rivers, while its land is particularly susceptible to erosion due to heavy, regular rainfall. As a result, many of its roads are often damaged by rain and are under constant repair, such as construction begun on the road that runs past the La Wuantza community along the La Yapi riverbank in the Geranios in Zurmi parish. Also, the mayor and councillors have provided machinery to neighbourhoods and villages affected by the rainy season.

R@IS News: Tena Municipal benevolent foundation provides social assistance to local people

In Napo province, the Tena Municipal benevolent foundation has gained support among local people by working in a number of areas, such as looking after street and working children; supporting single mothers; providing medical and social services in emergencies; developing special events, and institutional strengthening. Part of this work has been the inauguration of a hostel for street children called Casa del Camino Dorado (the Golden Road House). These children now have a roof over their heads, a bed, food, clothing, recreational activities, training and health care. Also, bakers and 35 single mothers have been given training in making handicrafts; 54 schools have been given educational materials; and 132 families have been supported financially to enable them to cover urgent medical costs.



Putumayo municipality is modernised

The Putumayo municipality, in Sucumbios province along the northern border with Colombia, is in the process of modernisation. This can be seen in the purchase of computers, Internet connectivity and training provided to municipal employees. Another important activity is environmental health, which involves implementing a solid waste treatment system and building a recycling plant that will produce organic fertilizer. In education, the municipality has signed a cooperation agreement with the Cuban government to eradicate illiteracy. The Municipality has also built houses for teachers and donated school materials, and a boat with outboard motor to help students travel along the rivers. One of the municipality's priorities is to ensure the active participation of the canton's citizens.



Forthcoming SILAE events

- From 19 to 23 June a training workshop will be held for leaders of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Amazon (CONFENIAE) in Puyo, province of Pastaza.
- In Yaupi, Morona Santiago, an intensive computer training course for Shuar people will be held from 19 to 23 June.
- From 26 to 28 June two workshops will be held to set up the Tiwintza and San Juan Bosco Rural Electrification Councils (JERs) in Morona Santiago.
- On 22, 23 and 30 June SILAE and the Ecuadorian Nationalities' and Peoples' Development Council (CONDENPE) will hold a training course on electricity services and sustainable development for indigenous Amazon peoples in Coca (Orellana province), Puyo (Pastaza), and Macas (Morona Santiago).