



GEF-Satoyama Subgrantee Highlights Report

Organization Name:	FIDES
Country:	Ecuador
Reporting Quarter:	FY19 Q1 (July to September 2018)
Person submitting Report:	María Dolores Vera

<Highlight 1>: 1.1.1.5 Repopulation and monitoring of blue crab (*Cardisoma crassum*) and black shell (*Anadara similis*, *Anadara tuberculosa*)

From June to September, nine events of shell-seed planting were carried out in the Portoviejo and Chone river estuaries, to reach a number of 45.400 shells planted.

In the community San Felipe, in Chone River estuary, families contributed with a number of 600 shells produced by them as a counterpart, and the project provided them 1900 seeds, to make a total of 2500 shells planted per family and a grand total of 12500 planted shells. Regarding San Jacinto and Las Gilces, in the Portoviejo River Estuary, 2350 shell-seeds were given to each family, for a total of 32900 shells planted. In this case they did not contribute with shells as they do not produce shells by their own, due to the poor conservation status of black shell in this estuary.

First commercialization of the shells planted will take place on a gastronomic fair that is being organized by Las Gilces community in the Portoviejo river estuary.

<Highlight 2>: 2.1.2.5 Training in quality management for tourist service

Cooperation was done between the Tourism Faculty of the University Eloy Alfaro University of Manabí (ULEAM) and the communities with the support of FIDES, in order to improve local tourism service. Two projects were developed by undergraduate students as part of their final year project, sponsored by a UNDP/SGP scholarship program. Cooperation allowed the development of the following initiatives:

- Design of a capacity-building program, that includes the following sub-programs:
 - Administration and business management
 - Good ecological tourism practices
 - Hosting
 - Food and drinks management
 - Touristic guidance
 - Touristic transportation
 - Leisure and recreation
- Design and development of an agro-ecological touristic route within the Bio-corridor of the Portoviejo River Estuary. This route connects the mangrove forest along with the rice and coconut fields, and it has been incorporated in the touristic offer of the estuary.

In both cases a workshop of transfer of knowledge to the touristic servants was carried out. Regarding the capacity-building program, the first sub-program (Administration and business management) was already developed in a workshop where members of Las Gilces and San Jacinto communities participated.

Also, as part of the promotional tourism, a gastronomic festival will take place on November 3rd in Las Gilces, where touristic servants will offer their services and will have the chance to incorporate the knowledge gained in the workshops.

Photos



Photo 1: A member of San Jacinto planting shell-seeds. Credit: Andrea Calispa - FIDES



Photo 2: First shells that are ready to commercialization. Credit: Andrea Calispa - FIDES



Photo 3: Monitoring of size of planted shells. Credit: Jairo Díaz - FIDES



Photo 4: Training workshop of Administration and Business Management. Credit: Jean Pierre Baque - ULEAM

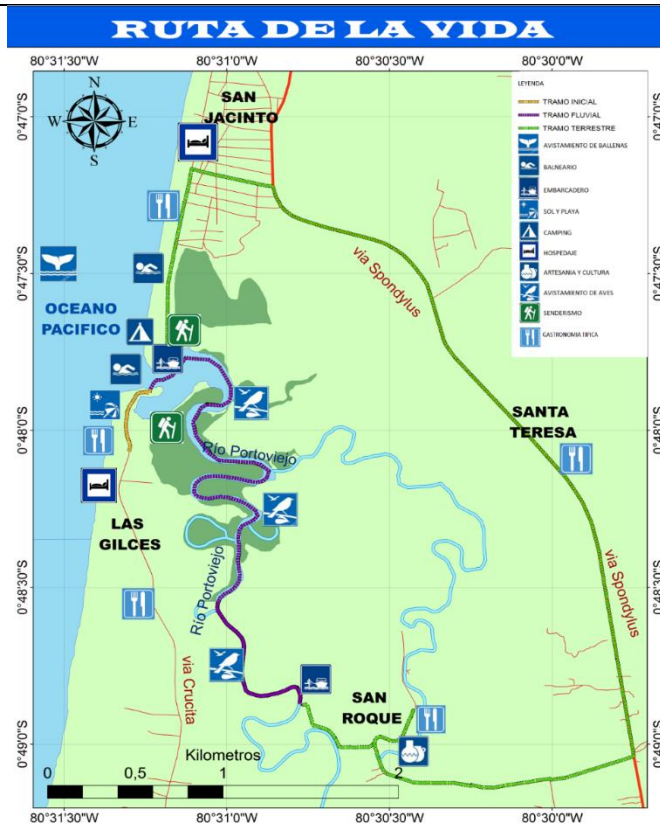


Image 1: Touristic route designed for the Portoviejo river estuary. Credit: Jean Pierre Baque