Energy is a digital newsletter that EnDev Bolivia publishes every two months. Here we share information on our progress and the impacts of the project’s implementation. We invite you to read us and find out about our work in Bolivia.

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San Ignacio de Moxos, Beni, Bolivia (2017)

These results were achieved thanks to the joint work between the Ministry of Energy and EnDev Bolivia in coordination with the National Electricity Company (ENDE Corporación), its subsidiaries and the country’s electricity cooperatives.

What is grid densification?

It is the process through which more homes and social infrastructures are connected to the electricity grid, thereby giving them access to lighting, the use of home appliances and productive activities. These connections can be made through low-voltage networks or micro-hydroelectric plants.

Funded by:

Coordinated and implemented by:

Homes and social infrastructures with electricity

+ 98,000 homes are connected to the electricity grid in rural and peri-urban areas of Bolivia

1,553 social infrastructures (schools, community centres and health care centres) in rural areas are connected to the electricity grid

601 homes are connected to micro-hydroelectric power stations in rural areas

Click to see the video
In recent years, the Bolivian government has made important advances regarding rural electrification coverage. Between 2001 and 2016, the percentage of rural households that have access to electricity increased from 25% to 69%. Working in coordination with the Ministry of Energy, EnDev was able to collaborate with more than 98,000 of those households. This is the project’s contribution to the universal access goals of Bolivia’s Patriotic Agenda 2025.

More rural households have electricity

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EnDev and the Electricity Distribution Company of the department of La Paz (DELAPAZ) created an alliance to facilitate the electric connections needed by producer associations for the machinery required for their work, i.e. milk cooling tanks, mills, transformers, among others. EnDev contributed with the organization of the associations, inspections, measurements and the link with DELAPAZ. With the adequate information, the distributor was able to proceed more rapidly with the connection process. This alliance also allows producers to reduce their connection costs in terms of labour.

The Ministry of Rural Development and Lands’ ACCESS Programme, in alliance with EnDev Bolivia, achieved the implementation of 1,400 Malena improved stoves. These interventions were carried out in 16 municipalities of Chuquisaca, Potosí and Tarija through contests aimed to promote the empowerment of Bolivian women in productive spaces. The project was fully funded by ACCESS and the families. EnDev Bolivia provided technical assistance and the promoters’ training.

A family in rural areas spends 20% of its monthly budget for the purchase of household lighting supplies (candles, batteries, kerosene, etc.). By having electricity, the family decreases its lighting expenses by up to 8% on average. The savings can be used for food, education or health.

Source: Own elaboration based on data from 160 surveys of the additionality study.