

RIO TINTO - LA GRANJA

– community support programme

Objective:

We aim to effectively contribute to the sustainable development of the communities in the direct influence of the La Granja project. We focus on supporting capacity building programmes and strengthening local organisations, institutions and infrastructure. Our aim is to empower people to attain their own goals and aspire to a better future.

Strategy:

We take a two pronged approach. Our community support programme manages on-the-ground projects. Our capacity building programme manages the implementation of the projects at a higher level, by building capacity in local institutions, organisations, communities, and in local and central government. Our aim is to invest in people – to help build their skills and confidence – as well as in the infrastructure around them. This approach is the result of stakeholder experience, from mining and other projects undertaken in Perú and internationally.

Our definition of “capacity building” is the process whereby an individual, a group of individuals or an organisation improves its knowledge, skills and stance to play a better role and become a driver of its much desired development throughout time, with or without the presence of Rio Tinto - La Granja.

We take shared responsibility for this development with our local neighbours. Our relationships are characterised by mutual respect, active co-operation and long term commitment.

Achievements:

Our achievements, as of September 2007, include:

- Over 750 children and adolescents are following the national curriculum.
- Fourteen schools (nursery, primary and secondary) have been strengthened thanks to the proper selection of teachers.
- Thirteen school parents' associations took part in the Teachers' Selection Committee, which selected the teachers to work in schools in 2007, according to specific guidelines established by the Ministry of Education.
- Thirty local community representatives and authorities took part in the Teachers' Selection Committee.
- Twelve schools are equipped with school furniture, consistent with their needs.
- One health facility has been staffed with appropriate medical personnel and permanent health services to look after the medical needs of the La Iraca, La Pampa, La Granja, Paraguay, El Sauce and Pariamarca communities.
- Eleven schools are taking part in the “Healthy School” Programme.
- One “preventive programme” is currently underway, to identify and control vectors in the La Granja, La Pampa and El Sauce communities.
- One Institutional Co-operation Agreement has been entered into with DISA Chota.
- One Institutional Co-operation Agreement has been entered into with ODEC Chota.
- Ninety-nine people have been trained in livestock and crop management techniques.

- Five technical training courses have been given to the entire satisfaction of participants.
- Six technical training courses have been organised, according to the needs of participants.
- One community education council has been meeting regularly and implementing an annual work plan.

Participants:

We focus on engaging with stakeholders and meeting their expectations and legitimate demands. Stakeholders include civil society, political and business groups, whose presence is usually insignificant in the remote area where the La Iraca, La Granja, La Pampa and Paraguay communities are located.

To effectively build capacity in these areas, engaging with local organisations and institutions is essential. Their role is indispensable in the process of training and encouraging people. So we build capabilities for citizen involvement, democratic development, social management, public management, business management, entrepreneurship and innovation.

To this end, we work with:

- Male and female patrol organisations.
- Local government representatives: provincial and district mayors, and their designees.
- The Community Education Council.
- Mothers' clubs and "glass of milk" associations.
- Community residents' and homeowners' associations, along with their development committees.
- Basic education institutions (nursery schools, primary schools and secondary schools) and higher education institutions.
- School parents' associations.
- Environmental committees.
- Sector based provincial entities: UGEL, DISA, COFOPRI, ENSA, RENIEC.
- Other institutions.

Implementation period:

The La Granja project is currently in the prefeasibility evaluation phase, scheduled for completion in 2010. The ongoing community support programme has the same term. It began in 2006, upon the signing of the project concession agreement, and will end in 2010.

By focusing on capacity building, Rio Tinto – La Granja is sacrificing immediate results for medium term results. Laying the foundation for people's self development is essential for the sustainable development of the communities and the areas' organisations.

Focus:

In remote areas such as La Granja, La Iraca, La Pampa and Paraguay, where people aspire to the acknowledgment and recognition of their fundamental rights, it is not difficult to decide where to start co-operating.

We have prioritised basic needs, such as health (reproductive and preventive) and education (formal and non formal, basic and employment related). We formed a participatory programme to avoid a handout approach, which is common practice in capacity building exercises. Our projects and programmes focus on:

- Improving reproductive health.
- Improving family healthcare practices to prevent diseases and promote integral health care.
- Improving formal basic education (nursery school, primary school, secondary school).
- Developing technical/employment related skills among youths and adults living in the direct area of influence of the project to promote employment and self employment.

Encouragement:

We encourage people who participate in the projects and programmes to:

- Exercise and promote the exercise of the rights and responsibilities of citizens in relation to the policies implemented by their respective organisations, institutions and communities.
- Take part in public life, focusing on common services, human development, and territorial economic development.
- Build trust by developing leadership skills that promote co-operation. We emphasise the importance of coordinating work and actions between sectors and institutions.
- Plan, follow-up, and evaluate the projects and programmes undertaken, applying efficacy, efficiency, equity and sustainability criteria.
- Foster ethical values in social co-existence: honesty, transparency, responsibility, solidarity, and respect for commitments.

Programmes and projects:

We defined our range of support programmes and projects with qualified stakeholders. Current ones, scheduled or under implementation, include:

- Strengthening of education institutions.
- Improvement of education infrastructure.
- Teachers' training programme.
- Programme to encouraging reading.
- "Mathematics for Life" project.
- "Healthy School" programme.
- "Children's Land" project.
- Parents' school programme.
- First-aid brigade project.
- "New Mining" awareness raising programme.
- Driver education programme.
- Technical training programme for youths and adults.
- Institutional strengthening of the community education council.
- Socio-cultural integration programme for communities located within the direct area of influence of the La Granja Project.
- "Señor de los Milagros – La Granja" health centre improvement project.
- Medical emergency support programme.
- Institutional strengthening of DISA Chota.
- Institutional strengthening of UGEL Chota.

Capacity building:

Our Community Relations team works closely with professionals and experts from neighbouring regions Cajamarca, Lambayeque y La Libertad, using a variety of engagement tools, including:

- Informative meetings.
- Educational sessions.
- Training workshops.
- Participatory planning and stakeholder input workshops.
- Technical assistance.
- Supervised technical traineeships.
- Work meeting facilitation.
- Support to organisations.

What people say:

We value the opinions of people participating in the community support programme. They are also valuable performance indicators:

“...the teachers’ evaluation process is very interesting. I did not know that the process was like this, as it shows us what our teachers’ levels are.”

– *Víctor Cubas, president of the La Granja Patrol Organisation, who took part in the committee set up to select the teachers who would work in the La Granja schools.*

“...we used to behave irresponsibly with our children; we are now behaving responsibly.”

– *Artemio Pérez, a member of APAFA, School N^o 10851 - La Pampa, who took part in the “Ready to Study” School Contest.*

“With Rio Tinto - La Granja, we are learning to fish. We are not only receiving fish. In the past, we thought that receiving fish was the most important thing.”

– *Martha Portillo, a member of the Community Education Council.*

“...we thought that we would never receive any furniture. It would have not been the same if we had received the furniture when we asked for it. However, we are now receiving this furniture thanks to the joint effort of schoolchildren, teachers and parents.”

– *Roque Guevara, headmaster of the César Vallejo School, during the “Ready to Study” prize awarding ceremony.*