

SENER Foundation volunteers complete engineering study to improve the production process for whole cane sugar in Peru

- The engineering study is part of the project to improve the social and production aspects of whole cane sugar in Sierra de Piura (Peru), carried out in partnership with ICLI and the University of Piura.
- The project had two parts: local development through different training courses for local producers; and an engineering study to identify improvements in the production process.

Madrid (Spain), October 27, 2022 - Volunteers with the [SENER Foundation](#) have completed the engineering study conducted as part of the *project to improve the social and production aspects of whole cane sugar in Sierra de Piura (Peru)*, in collaboration with the NGO Ingeniería para la Cooperación - Lankidetzarako Ingeniaritza ([ICLI](#)) and the civil association Fomento de Investigación y Acción para el Desarrollo ([FIAD](#)) of the University of Piura (Peru). The work of [SENER's](#) staff focused on identifying various improvements throughout the entire production process in order to modernize and optimize it.

In total, more than 500 hours of engineering have resulted in the proposed improvements, which focused primarily on creating by-products derived from the production of whole cane sugar; recovering the heat used throughout the production process; incorporating instrumentation into the production and composting.

The project coordinator for ICLI, and SENER engineer, Imanol Iragorri, stated that *"the involvement of the SENER Foundation and the participation of the SENER Engineering team and the University of Piura, together with ICLI, in this project has provided an example of how different parties have to collaborate in order to develop the technology needed to achieve the goal of improving the conditions of the most disadvantaged people living in the Piura highlands."*

For her part, the director of the SENER Foundation, Rosana Madroñal, noted that *"we are very proud of this project, of the work that has been done in the Sierra de Piura through the different training courses and, above all, we are very proud of our volunteers who have made their engineering knowledge and expertise available to the people of Piura in order to improve their daily lives and, ultimately, their quality of life."*

Isabel Soto, a SENER engineer and volunteer on the project, pointed out that *"what I liked most about the project was the interaction with the University of Piura and how they brought us closer to the final goal of the project, and their constant willingness to help."* Juan José Milla, a SENER engineer and also a volunteer, stressed that *"this project required a change of mentality, since it forced us to propose effective solutions that are tailored to what the beneficiaries need."*

As a whole, the project, in addition to the engineering study to improve the production process, required a [social effort](#) to plant more than 6 hectares of sugarcane seeds, and provide technical training on the cultivation of sugarcane, as well as literacy courses, to more than 40 people. In addition, 130 people benefited from the training on planning, organization and association.

The result was a comprehensive project - undertaken in one of the most disadvantaged areas of Peru - that seeks to improve the living conditions of families in the Piura highlands that produce whole sugar cane. And it did so by training the women there and by sharing with them the engineering knowledge of SENER's personnel in order to improve the production process.

The involvement of the SENER Foundation and SENER in this project is yet another example of the group's commitment to society and to the more social aspect of sustainability. SENER has been committed to its professionals, the environment and society since its founding, and seeks to improve its environment through engineering, technology and innovation.

About the SENER Foundation

The SENER foundation was created in May 2002 by the [SENER](#) Engineering Group and the Sendagorta family to promote humanitarian initiatives and activities. Over its years of activity, the SENER Foundation has been working in social services at the community level by developing social responsibility in professional activities, training people, and promoting research at the highest level.

The activities carried out by the SENER Foundation include encouraging scientific research at the highest level by presenting prizes, such as the [Award for Best Doctoral Thesis in Engineering](#), sponsoring the Air Force Award for university aerospace research, and supporting [R&D projects](#) in technology centers and universities. Similarly, the SENER Foundation promotes [corporate volunteering](#) among SENER staff and encourages young people to pursue careers in science through [A Challenge for Science](#).

About ICLI

[Ingeniería para la Cooperación - Lankidetzarako Ingeniaritza](#) is a non-profit association, declared to be in the public interest, which was founded in 1995 by the Basque Country's Associations of Industrial Engineers. Its goal is to welcome engineering professionals and anyone else who wants to collaborate in cooperation and development assistance tasks by contributing their knowledge, experience, work or financial support.

About FIAD

The [Asociación Fomento de Investigación y Acción para el Desarrollo](#) (FIAD) was founded in 1993 to help improve the quality of life of rural communities in the Piura Region of Peru through comprehensive development projects.

Since its foundation, FIAD has taken root in society to adapt its initiatives to the needs of the nation's people. FIAD is an independent center created by the University of Piura (UDEP). FIAD, in close collaboration with UDEP, has implemented various development projects over the last few years in rural areas in the Piura region, in northern Peru.

The partnership between ICLI and FIAD-UDEP dates back to 2007. Since then, they have launched a total of nine projects together, including this one, worth nearly three and a half million euros. They were able to do this thanks to the financial support of the: Basque Government, Regional Councils of Álava and Bizkaia, and the SENER Foundation. In order to achieve a sustainable improvement in the quality of life of the target population, these projects have focused mainly on health, education and agricultural development.

Further information:

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