

KENOLI NEWSLETTER

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Nicaragua

CEPROSI and Hogar Luceros, a powerful exchange for early childhood stimulation and child nutrition

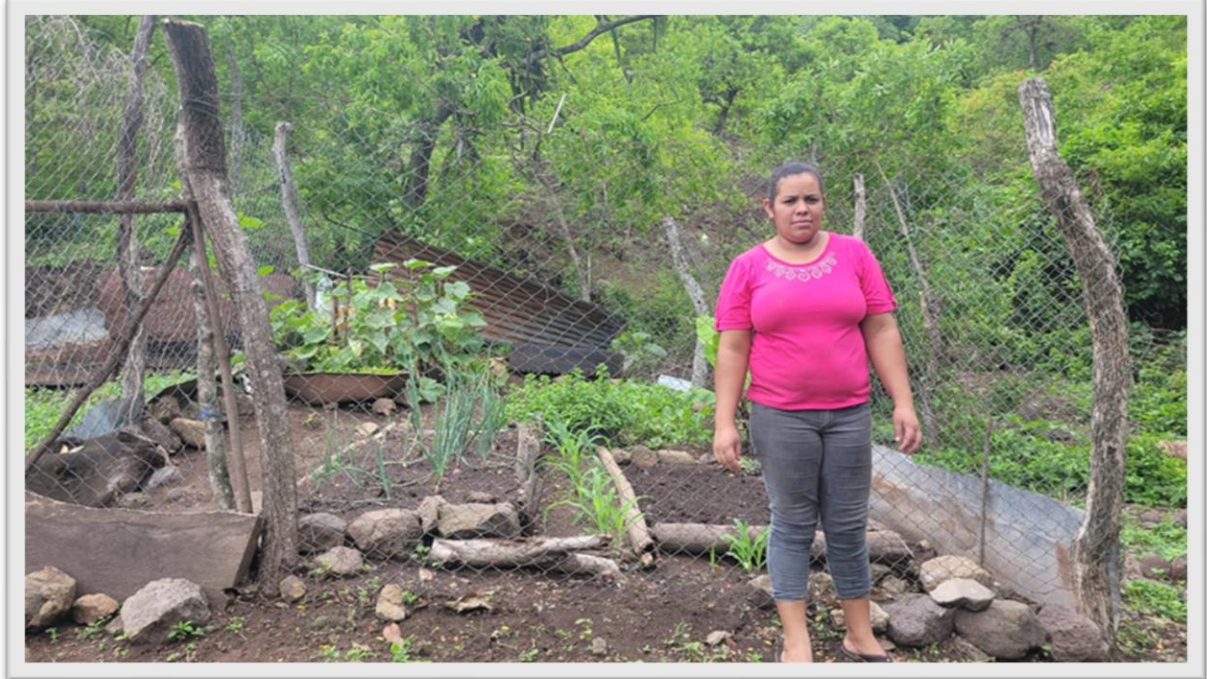


At the beginning of July, the Center for Education and Promotion for Integral Health (CEPROSI) and Hogar Luceros del Amanecer carried out an experience exchange. The objective was to strengthen collaboration between both organizations and promote mutual learning on issues related to nutrition, agroecology, and early childhood development.

Hogar Luceros highlighted the comprehensive support provided to young mothers, pregnant women, and breastfeeding mothers. Emotional support, early stimulation, and the nutrition of their babies are very important. CEPROSI shared its technical work in the raising of small animals, ecological agriculture, and nutrition strategies for children based on community resources.

The analysis and discussion generated during the exchange allowed the teams of both organizations to ask questions, reflect, and share lessons learned. At the end of the visit, they expressed their deep gratitude for the opportunity they had to learn from one another.

ALDEMA, families cultivating resilience and food sovereignty in San Lucas



At the beginning of July, ALDEMA received Adilia to acknowledge the progress of the project being implemented in the rural communities of San Francisco and La Manzana, located in the municipality of San Lucas, Madriz. Women shared their experiences with the project. They have received materials for fences, tools, seeds, and poultry. Now they have family gardens and chicken coops. Many households cultivate diversified gardens that integrate fruit trees, vegetables, medicinal plants, and rainwater collection systems. These efforts have significantly improved the quality and diversity of the family diet.

In the next phase of the project, ALDEMA will implement the “chain pass” system for poultry. This will allow other families to raise chickens and thus have sources of protein from both the chickens and the eggs. This initiative is expected to strengthen solidarity among families and also foster their resilience in the face of food insecurity in these areas of Nicaragua’s dry corridor.

ODESAR, restoring ancestral healing through natural medicine



At the end of July, the ODESAR team organized a visit to the community of Coscuilo, in Esquipulas. There, a hands-on workshop on natural medicine was held. Promoter Florentín López gave the talk with the support of Roger, the agronomist, to 15 women interested in learning about traditional healing practices.

The participants exchanged ancestral knowledge that has been passed down from generation to generation. They prepared natural medicines such as ointments and syrups. The ingredients were herbs from plants they grow in their family gardens. The goal was to make medicines to treat the most common illnesses affecting children, particularly respiratory conditions. This type of workshop promoted empowerment and reinforced the value of local traditional knowledge in family health. Participants expressed their enthusiasm and pride as they discovered their capacities to care for their families using natural methods.

Casa-Pueblito, women leading agroecological innovation in the face of climate change



Casa-Pueblito organized a visit to the community of Santa Julia, in the municipality of El Crucero, with the Gloria Quintanilla cooperative. At the community base house, 10 participants gathered to share the difficult situation caused by the lack of rainfall, which has affected the production of beans and other crops. Lola Esquivel explained that 68% of families depend on agriculture, so in recent years they have begun planting climate-resilient crops such as cassava and taro.

On the plot of land owned by Lea Moncada, who together with her mother and son, grows coffee and various vegetables. Everything is planted using agroecological practices. However, they still face the challenge of water scarcity for crops during the dry spell. The women of the cooperative prepared “bitter fertilizer” for their crops. Through the Gender and Agroecology project, they have strengthened their capacities with training, improved production, and are marketing their organic products with the support of the Institute for Agricultural Health and Protection (IPSA). Now it is time to add value to their work.

FEDICAMP, transforming rural schools with gardens, water, and cooking areas



The FEDICAMP team is carrying out work in three rural schools (Soncuan, San José, and San Antonio) in the municipality of Pueblo Nuevo, Estelí department. The goal is to improve the conditions of the schools by enhancing school gardens, access to water, kitchen facilities, and the construction of sanitation units (toilets and sinks).

In San Antonio, teachers and mothers shared the challenges they face due to the lack of water -- over 15 days without service -- and the absence of an adequate cooking space. The project includes the installation of a water tank, the construction of toilets, the establishment of a school garden to grow fruits and vegetables with children's participation, and the improvement of the kitchen so that mothers can prepare meals using products from the garden. In San José, the school has been recognized as a "model" for its achievements in gardening, and with the new project they will expand vegetable production. Finally, in Soncuan, teachers, mothers, and fathers enthusiastically welcomed the project, especially the installation of toilets and a water tank. They will also improve the kitchen and enable a play area with recycled materials to promote children's learning and recreation.