



San Pablo del Lago Reforestation Ecuador

**Working with commercial flower growers
to promote reforestation**



Funded by Coop Switzerland to reduce emissions within its value chain, the project works with commercial flower growers and community groups to reforest 430 hectares of land in northern Ecuador. The project activity includes planting new trees, rehabilitation of natural vegetation and improved water resource management in farms to establish either woodlots or agroforestry systems. Community groups will monitor and manage the planted areas along with the participating landowners.

The Context

San Pablo del Lago is a high elevation lake about 80 kilometres north of Quito in the Andes mountains. In recent years local indigenous groups have suffered due to competing for pressure for resources in the area, mainly from commercial farming and tourism. The project aims to empower these groups through improved management of natural resources and diversification of their incomes whilst bringing improved environmental benefits to the whole basin.

The Project

Working with commercial flower growers and community groups, the project activity is centred around promoting new tree planting activities, rehabilitating natural vegetation and improved water resource management. The reforestation target area is 430 hectares. The selection of planting areas is based on land availability, eligibility, consent and commitment of the individual landowners and the capacity of the local community groups to continually monitor and submit data throughout the project.

The Benefits

The project has helped to mobilise significant resources to fund sustainable forest management, it acts as a showcase, attracting other investment from flower farms operating in this area. Among the total area reforested, regenerated and managed sustainably by locals, with a proportion of native forest ecosystems as well. Local community groups are empowered as community institutions, together with their members, have received training to manage the project. This involves deciding on the specific tree clusters, liaising with participants and establishing land ownership systems where farmers are to grow trees.

The project has been funded by Coop Switzerland to reduce their emissions within their value chain



**170
hectares**

protected around water sources, establishing natural ecosystems with native trees



**600
locals
trained**

to improve local sanitation and water management



**100
locals
trained**

in agroforestry land use systems



**120
hectares of
land**

established as agroforestry



**430
hectares
reforested**

and managed sustainably

For more information on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, please visit: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

Official name: San Pablo del Lago reforestation project | **Issuing credits:** YES | **Project partners:** Coop, WWF Schwiez, NaturaPlus

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