



The Center of Support for the Popular Movement of Oaxaca (CAMPO)

CAMPO works with indigenous populations, fostering community involvement, sustainable agriculture and an understanding of human rights. In particular, CAMPO's projects strengthen women's participation by teaching them leadership skills and enhancing their self-esteem.

Coffee Kids has supported CAMPO's work to extend economic resources to indigenous populations through community-based business activities since 1996. These include chicken-raising, organic honey production, worm-composting for organic fertilizer, and fruit and vegetable canning. CAMPO also helped participants construct wood-saving stoves, which reduce the respiratory illnesses caused by cooking over open fires indoors and require less wood.

Community Need

The state of Oaxaca is home to 16 different indigenous groups and has more speakers of indigenous languages than any other Mexican state. More than 75 percent of Oaxaca's population is considered poor or extremely poor, and 40 percent live in homes with dirt floors. Oaxaca's indigenous populations – especially women – confront poverty, discrimination, social marginalization and geographic isolation.

In the coffee growing communities of the Sierra Mazateca, one of the regions where CAMPO works, most homes lack, not only flooring, but also running water, electricity, and proper drainage.

Coffee Kids and CAMPO

Over the years, Coffee Kids has helped CAMPO develop a wide range of projects. These include chicken-raising, organic honey production, worm-composting for organic fertilizer, and fruit and vegetable canning.

This year Coffee Kids supported the completion of construction on a training center. The center was built in phases over the past three years using local materials and a compacted earth technique. The final phase was the construction of dormitories, a kitchen and additional demonstration projects.

2009 Results

- Construction of CAMPO's training center was completed using an environmentally friendly compacted earth technique. The training center inauguration was held on November 27.
- Two new demonstration projects were constructed to teach families about rainwater catchment, and bamboo production and construction.
- A National Forum on Appropriate Technologies was held at CAMPO's training center with over 3,500 in attendance.
- Six women trained by CAMPO and representing 100 families with organic vegetable gardens participated in a regional exchange and won first prize for successful organic agriculture.
- Seven workshops were conducted for 125 people and 36 demonstration sessions introduced 588 people worm composting, solar energy systems, organic waste management, urban agriculture, residual water treatment, bee keeping, fish farming, vegetable production, small animal production and compacted earth building techniques.
- Educational materials were created to support the workshops and demonstration projects currently offered.



CAMPO's training center will serve thousands of families in the region.