

## The mission of *Carretera Central* to Dominican Republic for identifying innovative projects



### December 2010

The *Carretera Central* NGO of Siena, Italy, held in September 2010 a mission to Dominican Republic with the aim of defining possible cooperation activities to be implemented with local and national authorities and the civil society, in collaboration with IDEASS.

The mission was steered to define contents and guidelines of potential projects, *Carretera Central* will submit to a number of international donors interested in funding the activities, such as: EU grants, Foundations, Decentralized Cooperation actors and others. As result of the meetings and visits to different experiences held during the mission, various agreements with a relevant number of Dominican Institutions at the national and local level were established.



Three main fields of activities were identified: access to water; environmental protection and enhancement of cultural and environmental resources; promotion of green-economy.

These activities could be implemented through collaborations at national and local level with:

- *the National Institute of Water Resources (INDRI)*, in charge of the realization of the hydro-geological national plan. INDR is linked with the risk prevention system and it expressed interest in collaborating with the Italian NGO and supporting innovative projects related to the access to water and environmental protection;
- *the Vice Ministry of Science and Technology of the Ministry of Superior Education* and his collaborators. They expressed strong interest in collaborating with the Italian NGO and supporting projects for the transfer of institutional, methodological and technological innovation presented in the IDEASS Catalogue;
- *the National Institute of Drinkable Waters and Sewerage (INAPA)*. INAPA, which already established an agreement with the LEDA of Monte Plata ADELMOPLA to realize small aqueducts in rural communities, expressed interest in collaborating with *Carretera Central*, in order to realize new aqueducts for the communities not yet involved in the plan.



- *the Local Economic Development Agency of Monte Plata, ADELMOPLA.* It expressed interest in collaborating with *Carretera Central* in order to develop the ongoing projects implemented by the LEDA, focused on environmental training and protection, water management, eco-tourism and apiculture. A letter of intents was signed between *Carretera Central* and the LEDA director.



- *the Local Economic Development Agency of El Seibo, ADET.* It expressed interest in the *Stabilak* product, developed by the *Cuban National Centre of Agricultural Health CENSA*, which could allow the milk preservation without refrigeration and solve in this way the critical problem of the addition of harmful substances in the locally produced milk. The LEDA implements strategic projects in cow farming for milk and meat production and production/export of cocoa. A number of projects for sustainable tourism have been also analyzed, such as the envisaged cocoa-tour, which includes visits to mountain and adventure sites of paleontology interest. In this contest, the methodologies of *Albergo Diffuso*, that are being experimented in the Dominican area of Pedro Sanchez, could be of particular interest. The LEDA representatives also expressed the interest in implementing innovative methodologies for water treatment directed to rural communities through the creation or micro-enterprise for waste recycling. At this regards, a letter of intents was signed with the Italian NGO;
- *the Provincial Technical Office (OPS) of the Hermanas Mirabal Province.* The OPS is implementing, in collaboration with WHO, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Environment a number of important projects on territorial social services, house for women, center for elder people, schools for the integration of handicapped people, management of re-educational structures for the social integration of people in jail. Considering the relevance of these activities, a letter of intents for the collaboration with *Carretera Central* was signed by the Province Governor and by the Mayor of one of the involved Municipalities.

