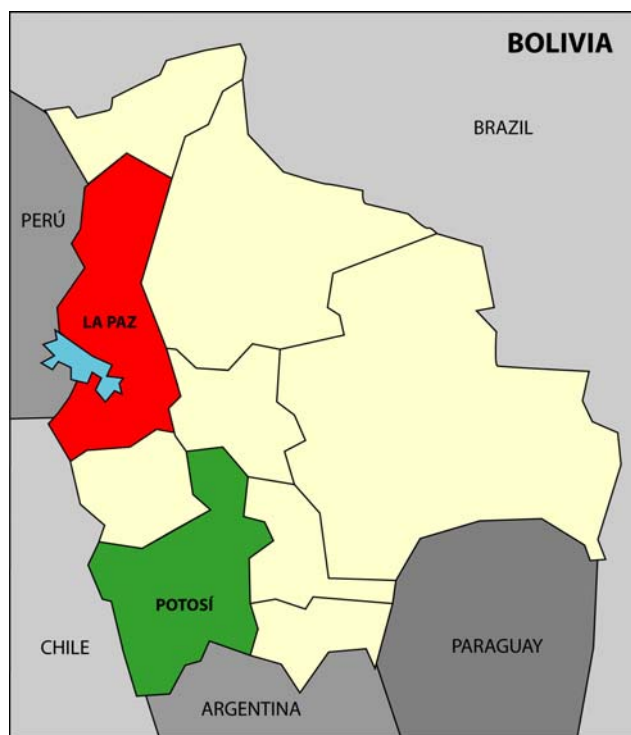


ART GOLD BOLIVIA PROGRAMME

The ART GOLD Bolivia Framework Programme to support governance and local development integrates Bolivian government strategies aimed at reducing poverty. The departments (regions) of La Paz and Potosi were identified by mutual agreement between the government and UNDP for the start of the programme's activities. They were identified by taking into consideration social, economic, logistical, and geographical indicators. The presence of programmes supported by different donors was also taken into account, to begin collaboration agreements and create synergies capable of increasing the overall impact of the initiatives.



The Department of Potosi, according to the latest census figures, has a population of 709,013 inhabitants and consists of 38 municipalities. The Department of La Paz has a population of 2,350,466 inhabitants and 82 municipalities, including the country's capital city, La Paz. The Department of La Paz also includes the city of El Alto, a major production area but also one with some of the worst urban poverty in the country.

The Bolivian Republic has 9,820,000 inhabitants and a Gini Index of 0604. According to data in the UNDP Annual Report on Human Development, Bolivia is among the countries with the highest poverty index in Latin America.

The ART GOLD Bolivia Framework Programme document was approved by the Bolivian Government in early 2008 and currently the Programme is in the implementation phase.

Overview

Duration	3 years, starting in July 2008.
Operation and coordination at the national level	The Ministry of Planning and Development is the institution designated by the Government of Bolivia to coordinate the programme.
	National Coordination Committee of the Ministry of Planning and Development. The NCC consists of representatives of the Vice Ministry of Decentralisation, the Federation of Bolivian Municipalities (FAM), the Italian Embassy and the Spanish Embassy, UNDP and United Nations System agencies engaged in the Programme. The NCC ensures that the initiatives of the ART GOLD Bolivia Programme are conducted in accordance with decentralisation policies and strategies and the Plan Nacional de Desarrollo. The UNDP office, with the collaboration the chief technical advisor, is responsible for managing the Programme.
Operation and coordination at	In the departments, the Programme is coordinated by departmental working groups (DWGs) articulated with the prefecture, regions and

departmental and regional levels	<p>municipalities. The DWGs are coordinated by the prefects, collaborate in departmental development plans (DDPs) and are responsible for preparing, drafting and continuously updating the Programme's territorial marketing document. They include representatives of departmental directorates, NGOs, community and indigenous organisations, training centres and universities.</p> <p>In the regions, the Programme is coordinated by regional working groups (RWGs), articulated with municipalities. The RWGs are coordinated by mayors and/or inter-municipal authorities. The RWGs collaborate in regional and municipal development plans. They include representatives of local public, private, and civil society sectors.</p> <p>The departmental and regional working groups make sure that the population can access and actively participate in the collective processes of decision-making and implementation of activities that have been jointly analysed and democratically and collectively elaborated by all components of the society. The groups work in close collaboration and follow the directions of the National Coordination Committee (NCC).</p>
Cooperation actors and partners	<p>UN Agencies: UNDP, UNIDO Bilateral Cooperation: Government Italian, Spanish Government</p>
Funding	<p>Total contribution: 2,515,000 dollars Italian government: 1 million 400 thousand euros (2 million and 200 thousand U.S. dollars) for 2008. Spanish government: 200 thousand euros (315 thousand U.S. dollars) for 2008.</p>

Activities at departmental and municipal levels

For 2008 the Programme will be concentrating on the Departments of Potosi and La Paz, where the following activities are in the start-up phase:

- Support for departmental and municipal authorities in implementing the National Development Plan (NDP)
- Support for the organisation and operation of departmental and regional working groups (DWGs, RWGs) for the concerted development of the Action Plan; identification and co-funding of the first immediate impact projects and capacity-building for territorial planning at the local level.
- Support for the processes of administrative decentralisation and application of territorial development planning mechanisms, involving international cooperation actors in this process.
- Support for deconcentration and territorialisation of public services, increasing capacity to offer adequate responses to needs expressed by the population.
- Support for the application of the National Development Plan promoting harmonization between this and locally developed plans.
- Support for the recovery and systematization of traditional knowledge, to stimulate the productive economy and the creation of new jobs, focusing especially on young people and women.
- Fine-tune a common framework for the different donors and various international cooperation projects operating in the territories.

Activities at the national level

At the national level, too, the 2008 Action Plan is being programmed, through the following activities:

- Support for the National Coordination Committee (NCC.); identification of the first collaboration opportunities with other United Nations and international cooperation initiatives operating in Bolivia.

- Strengthening the action of national organisations that support regional development processes in accordance with the Millennium Goals and boosting capacity to coordinate international cooperation contributions.
- Formulation of strategic national impact projects to combat social exclusion in the fields of health, education, productive economy, justice, equality of opportunity for women, and others. Characteristics common to these projects are: consolidation of decentralisation policies; promotion of articulation between local, national and international actors and partners.
- Support for the participation of the NCC in international events promoted by ART for the promotion of human development; preparation of initiatives to promote decentralised cooperation in the Programme framework.
- Support for productive development and job creation as part of a national local development strategy, in collaboration with the ART ILS LEDA Programme.
- Introduction and dissemination of sustainable development innovations through the IDEASS Programme, in collaboration with the Science and Technology Ministry and universities.
- Exchanges of best development practices between Programme areas and the rest of the country.

Activities at the international level

In collaboration with all national and local interlocutors, the International Action Plan for 2008 is currently being programmed through the following activities:

- Activation of decentralised cooperation, to support the implementation of immediate impact projects identified at the local level, initiatives in the productive sector and job creation. These activities envisage cooperation with ART international thematic programmes (support to decentralised cooperation, IDEASS, ILS LEDA) and the ART Scientific Committee.
- Exchanges of experience with the ART Programme in other countries, to create synergy and promote initiatives for South-South cooperation for MDGs.
- International support for the promotion of: innovation with IDEASS; local economic development agencies with ILS LEDA; university courses through the UNIVERSITAS Programme; monitoring and evaluation in collaboration with the ART Scientific Committee.

In Italy and Spain activities are already underway to identify the first local authorities to establish decentralised cooperation partnerships in the framework of the ART GOLD Bolivia Programme.