

The “Virtual Boarding School” in Bolivia:

Decent Work for Indigenous Women that helps
Education Access for Children in Rural Areas.

Fundación Pueblo

The Village Foundation / Die Dorfstiftung



Basic Education

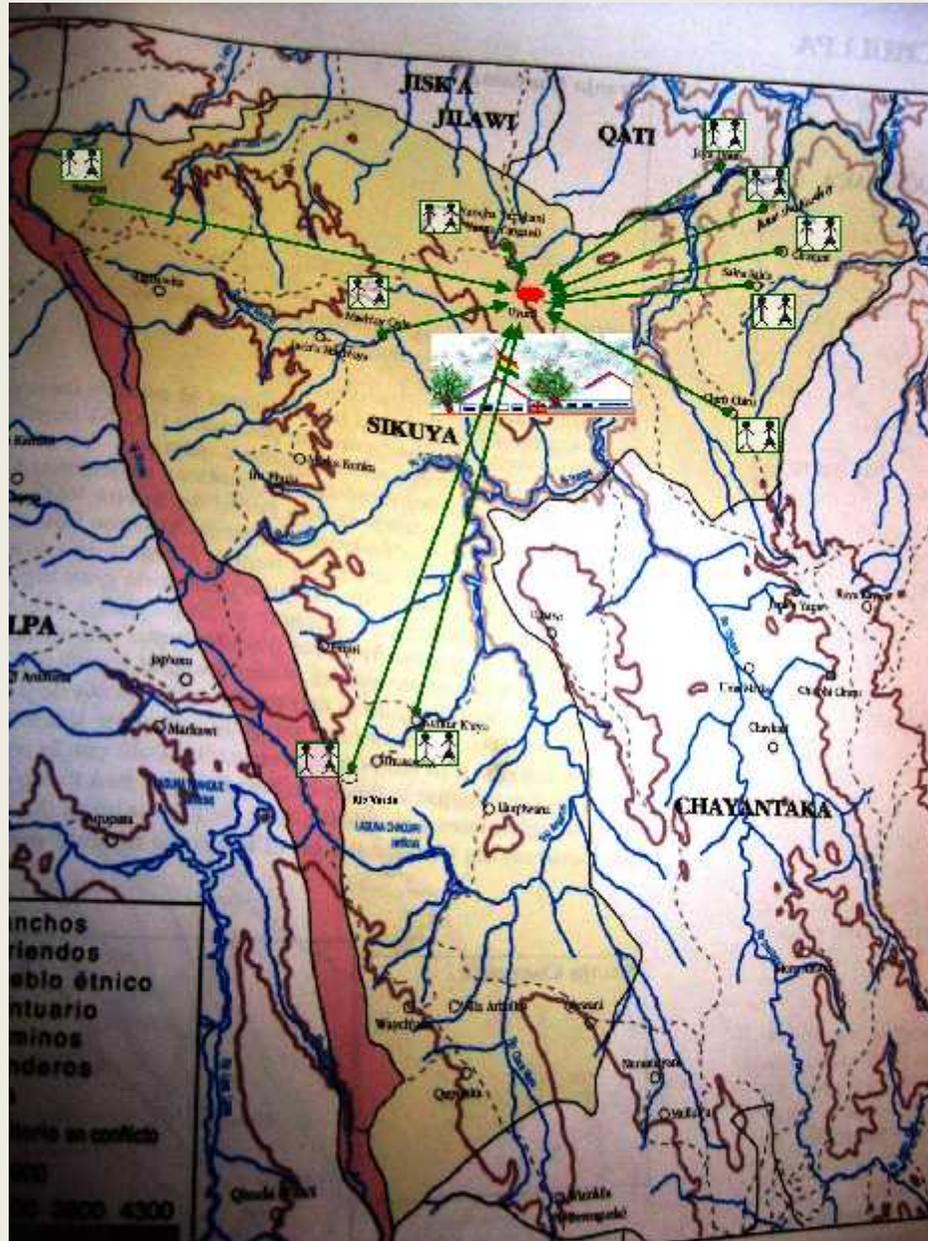
The “Virtual Boarding School” has been established by The Village Foundation in several Bolivian rural districts, **to facilitate access to full basic education (eight years),** for boys and girls from **particularly vulnerable groups,** mostly belonging to **indigenous people .**

Program oriented to rural areas



to address the problem **of the distance between children's home and school.** This represents one of the most important barriers to school access in the rural areas.

Program oriented to rural areas



Based on ancient Andean traditions



Lies in the relationship of trust between parents in scattered villages without adequate school provision and **host families in the nearest town** that has a public school with complete education.

Village Foundation organizes the families on both sides



Host families: shelter, feed and care for an average of three girls or boys during the school week. **Thereby remains the family integration.**

Relationship of trust between parties



Beneficiary families select the host mothers at the town.

A detailed agreement is signed for each girl / boy participating in the project.

Relationship of trust between parties



The host mothers come from the **same cultural group** as the children who receive at their homes. This **avoids the cultural fracture that tends to involve the care of the boarding schools.**

Quality supervision



Village Foundation hires a Local Coordinator **to ensure the quantity and quality of services** of the host families, which should represent the minimum standard established by the project

Economic compensation



For their shelter, feed and care home services of the project, the host mothers receive **financial remuneration per school day attended by the children**. This creates a new **“industry without smokestacks”**.

Additional social control



by neighbors and teachers in towns with Virtual Boarding School, complements and strengthens the role of **quality control of boarding and schooling.**

Activities support studies



constitute an additional component required for the project. This assures **more equal opportunities** for the children.

Activities support studies



Furthermore, **relieve the work** of the host mothers.

Integration of additional components



The daily activities of the project with the host mothers, constitute by itself an **adult education** activity.

Platform for community development



Incorporation piloted in communities in Bolivia:

improving housing, basic sanitation, strengthening agricultural economy.

Platform for community development



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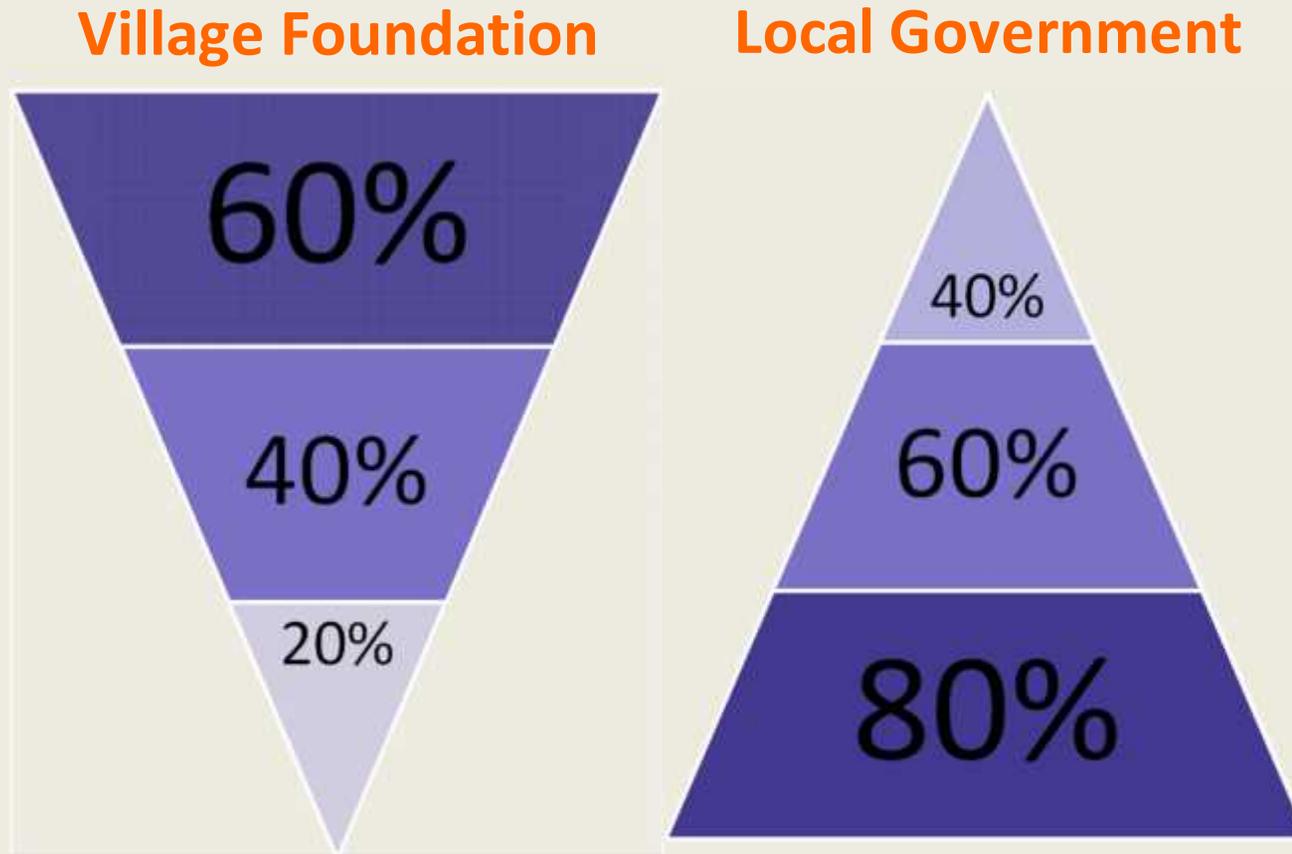
improving housing, basic sanitation, strengthening agricultural economy.

Funding



Initially through a **partnership** between the private organization (Fundación Pueblo) and the relevant State office (Local Government).

Funding



This **partnership** lasts three years until the **local government assumes completely** the implementation of the program (financial and administrative) to assure financial sustainability.

Valuation and "ownership" of the program



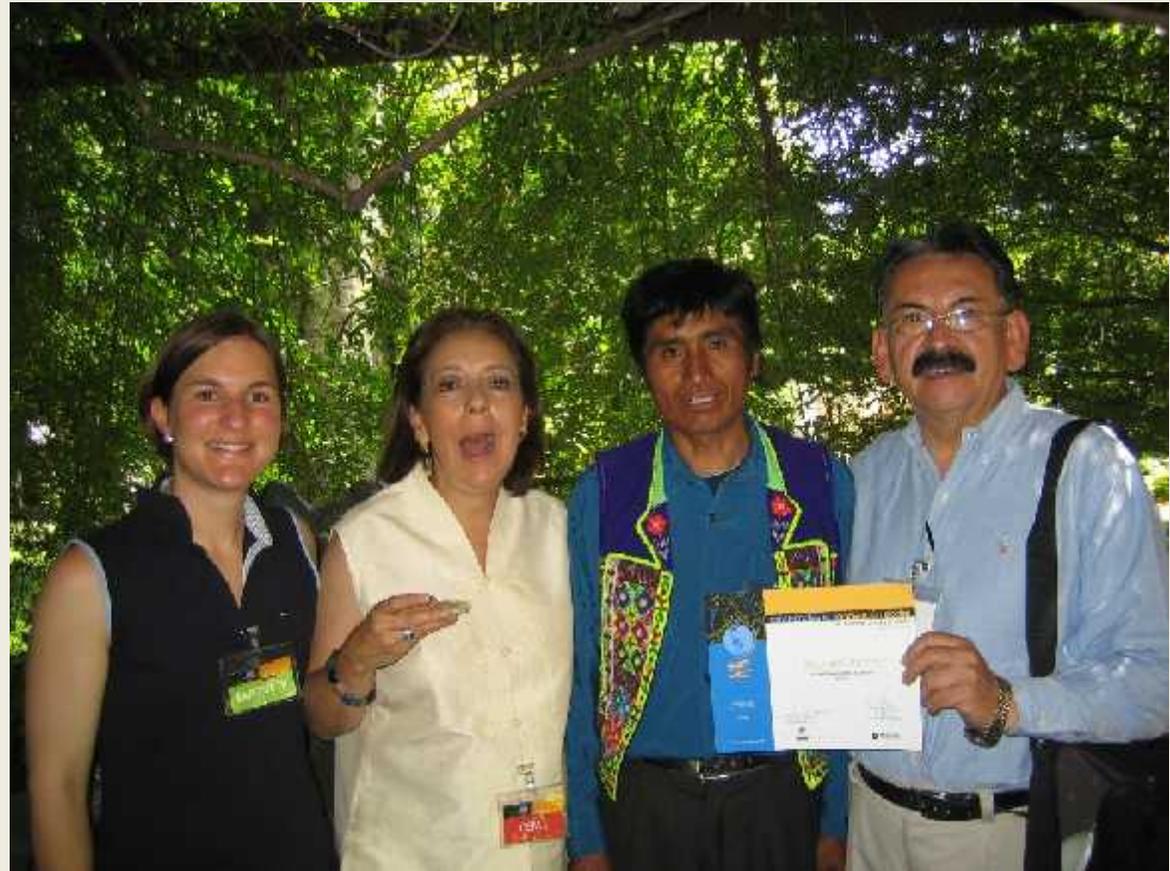
Parents and host mothers should participate, as far possible, in the costs of the Virtual Boarding School.

Gender equality and local economic development



create **new sources of income for women** in rural areas characterized by a lack of decent employment opportunities.

International Recognition



The Virtual Boarding School has been recognized by the United Nations organization ECLAC, as one of the **best social innovation initiatives in Latin America and the Caribbean.**

Thank you for your attention!

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