

INNOVATING ADAPTATION THROUGH AGROECOLOGY

Vinculación y Desarrollo Agroecológico en Café (Vida A.C.)

México

Founded in 2000, Vida A.C., emerged from social movements involved in fighting poverty, and promoting equitable access to resources. A basic principle is solidarity with, and among, rural actors facing resource scarcity. The initiative establishes links and alliances, and networks families, organised communities, and institutions. VIDA A.C. believes in maintaining a critical vision, defending natural resources, and constructing collective and democratic processes, as the basis for justice, social change, and sustainable living. Another aspect of VIDA A.C's work is to preserve the collective identity of communities, through linking it to landscape-related values.



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AGROECOLOGICAL PRACTICES

- 🌱 Creating seed banks.
- 🌱 Promoting diversified production systems, which result in more biodiversity, more sources of income, and more varied diets.
- 🌱 Developing kitchen gardens for household consumption that combine vegetables, and medicinal plants.
- 🌱 Supporting collective financial initiatives(savings groups).
- 🌱 Promoting eco-techniques at the household, and community levels.
- 🌱 Emphasising self-care, health, and food culture.
- 🌱 Building on individual health and self-esteem as basic conditions for community work.
- 🌱 Enhancing community organisation, and participation, as crucial components in resource governance.
- 🌱 Facilitating knowledge exchange, and intergenerational transmission, through learning communities.

IMPACTS

- 🌱 Smallholders are at the centre of local agri-food systems.
- 🌱 Enhanced resource autonomy through seed banks, communal nurseries, and use of eco-techniques.
- 🌱 Growing food sovereignty, including through enhanced links to solidarity markets.
- 🌱 Greater self-esteem, social entrepreneurship, and political participation among female members.
- 🌱 Improved mobilisation, and communal participation, due to the establishment of local alliances between different actors.
- 🌱 Strengthened intergenerational links through initiatives with youth.

PERSPECTIVES

VIDA A.C plans to scale up and expand the experience through knowledge sharing and networking. Additionally, the initiative increasingly focuses on participatory governance and peasant self-governance to put the needs of smallholder farmers on the national and international agenda.