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September 6, 2006

New bus terminal inaugurated in Coroico with U.S. government support

U.S. Ambassador to Bolivia David Greenlee will inaugurate today a new bus terminal in the town of Coroico. The new terminal, identified by the Municipality of Coroico as a pressing need to foster tourism, was built with the cooperation of the Bolivian government, the local Municipality, and the government of the United States, through its Agency for International Development (USAID). This type of combined effort has been a commonplace occurrence in the activities of the Yungas Alternative Development Community Fund (FCDA).

The bus terminal is one of the 233 projects that the U.S. government, through USAID, co-financed within the framework of the FCDA. The activities of the FCDA were initiated in 2001 and benefited more than 20 thousand families in the Yungas of La Paz. ACDI/VOCA, an NGO operating in Bolivia for over 34 years, was responsible for the management of the FCDA.

USAID channeled through the FCDA an investment estimated at \$20 million and benefited 23 thousand families in the regions of North Yungas, South Yungas, and Caranavi in the Department of La Paz. The FCDA was a program designed and applied according to the specific needs of the community and had the active participation of the residents in the projects, from their beginning to their conclusion. In the area of basic sanitation 83 projects were completed. Of those, 76 projects involved the improvement and construction of potable water systems; 5 projects built sewage infrastructure; one project involved the construction of 636 family hygienic units in 20 settlements; and one project provided waste disposal facilities.

"We know that our investment in this bus terminal will help Coroico to continue developing tourism, and it will better serve its residents, For this reason we are very proud of having supported this important initiative," said Michael Yates, USAID's Director in Bolivia.

Thanks to USAID's support, a new program has been started: the Integrated Development Community Fund (FCDI), which like the FCDA, seeks to improve the conditions of life of the residents of the Yungas region of La Paz and the Tropics of Cochabamba. This new program implemented by ACDI/VOCA will support the economic and social development in the region for five years.



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USAID is the U.S. Government Agency for International Development. Its cooperation programs in Bolivia are directed to improve the effectiveness, responsiveness, and transparency of Bolivian democracy; provide greater economic opportunities to poor populations through

business and trade development; develop healthcare best practices and services; improve the sustainable use of natural resources; and promote social and economic development in order to reduce illicit production of coca.