

Signature of the Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement between COMPAS - Bolivia and UNIBOL Quechua



In the frame of the Swiss r4d project “Towards Food Sustainability”, the “Glocal Network for Sustainable Food Systems” that has emerged in Latin America from project activities, has broadened its membership. With the participation of the Minister of Education of the Plurinational State of Bolivia Prof. Adrian Quelca, the Rector of the Universidad Indígena Boliviana Comunitaria Intercultural Productiva Quechua (UNIBOL) "Casimiro Huanca" Mgr. Milton Contreras, and the Executive Director of the Andean Pluricultural Community – Amazónica for Sustainability (COMPAS-Bolivia) and Coordinator of the Glocal Network for Food Sustainability and inter-scientific dialogue for Latin America and the Caribbean, Ph.D. Freddy Delgado Burgoa, the Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement was signed between COMPAS – Bolivia and UNIBOL Quechua.

The signing of the Agreement took place on Wednesday, 10 February 2021, an event that began with the welcoming words by Mgr. Milton Contreras in his capacity as Rector of UNIBOL Quechua. Later, Ph.D. Freddy Delgado commented on the fundamental points of the agreement that is materialized in the realization of an international course on participatory evaluation of food sustainability that will have the participation of the universities of Bolivia (USFXCH and UNIBOL-Quechua), Colombia (National University), Kenya (University of Nairobi), University of Nigeria (Nigeria), and the University of Bern, Switzerland and its participation in the network as a university focal point by country.

In the words of Delgado, coordinator of the project in Latin America, the International course is the first action to be carried out this year 2021, which at

an international level is coordinated by the Centre of Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern (Switzerland). It is aimed at professors and graduate students from participating universities. The course is the result of the research carried out from 2015 to 2020 of the project “Towards Food Sustainability in Latin America and Africa (r4d)”, financed by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and the Swiss International Cooperation SDC. It will allow the certification of sustainability evaluators in the participating countries and be applied to municipal territorial contexts in Bolivia and Colombia.



Prof. Adrian Quelca, Minister of Education of the Plurinational State of Bolivia

For his part, the Minister of Education emphasized the importance of these initiatives, considering the scope of the Glocal Network on the continent since it is a space in which around 800 members converge from more than 130 universities on the continent. At the same time, he opened the possibility that in the future the remaining indigenous Universities such as the “Tupak Katari” (Aymara) and the “Apiaguaiki Tupa” (Guaraní) could join this initiative, with the prospect of it being the start of future meetings to strengthen the effective development of inter-scientific dialogue at the highest academic level, to contribute to integral development as an interface to living well, as stated by the president of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Luis Arce Catacora.