

## ECOCLUB.com AWARDS 2009 – Project A – Completion Report

by Victor M. Apaza, ICADE Honduras – 8 April, 2010

### A. Project Title & Location

Organization of the local community in the Cooperative of Buenos Aires.  
 Location: Village of Buenos Aires, San Pedro Sula, Honduras 200km from San Pedro Sula  
 Map:

<http://maps.google.com/?ie=UTF8&ll=15.503972,-88.15979&spn=0.14755,0.219727&t=h&z=12>

### B. Project Summary

For a long time the local community of Buenos Aires has handled tourism activities inside the Cusuco National Park in an disorganized way, now after the actual market situation they got together to develop this activity for the future.

### C. Project Schedule and Timeline

Activity	Date	Status
<b>1)Workshop</b> Organization Alternatives	18-19 August 2009	Completed
<b>2)Workshop</b> Cooperative Basics	27-29 August 2009	Completed
<b>3)Workshop</b> Planning, Administration and Control	2-4 November 2009	Completed
<b>4)Cooperative rules</b>	01- 04 September 2009	Completed
<b>5)Legal procedures</b>	01 September 2009 - 02 March 2010	Completed
<b>6)Newspaper Publication</b>	28 January 2010	Completed
<b>7)First General Meeting</b>	04 March 2010	Completed

### D. Methodology

Before starting the workshops we did a tour of the ecolodge facilities and the National Park infrastructures (visitor center, administration office, public facilities, and trails) to check the status of them. We also organised, the previous night, a small meeting with people from the community to motivate them and talked about their old experiences handling tourism.

#### (1) Workshop - Organization Alternatives

In the first workshop we explained the Buenos Aires people the different kind of organizations that exist nowadays to manage the tourism activity and other production activities. We compared them to the cooperative structure and realize about the benefits that this kind of organization will give to their community. As they talked with the final structure that they choose according to their and our experience was : Empresa de Servicios Múltiples en Turismo(Multiple Services Company, inside the social business Honduran laws). This decision

was made considering the number of minimum members for a General Meeting and the economic requirements as basic capital. (12 community members)

**(2) Workshop - Cooperative Basics**

According to the Honduran law we gave them a Cooperative course, explaining them all the history about cooperatives in Honduras how they work and what is the organization and structure inside the social business structure. In this meeting they choose their representatives, the name of the business and they gave us all the basic documentation to start the legal procedure. (50 community members)

With the feedback of this workshop we created the **3) Cooperative's General Rules** and documents in order to apply for a legal entity for the cooperative, the name they chose was ETURJIL, Empresa Turistica Los Jilgueros.

**(3) Workshop - Planning, Administration and Control**

At the same time they will be processing the Legal Entity and after they have elected their representatives, we conducted another workshop about how they will manage their cooperative in the future, and explain them key factors as planning, organization, management and control.

**(4) Legal procedures:**

Letter of authorisation by the Cooperative to the lawyer  
Validation of the Instrument of Incorporation  
Legal Entity application with IHDECOOP  
Processing and reception of the Legal Entity  
Editing of documents in order to publish them in the national newspaper

The legal procedures were really complicated, as in Honduras the political situation was uncertain, we had to deal with different requirements that were not foreseen (changing the documents, change of staff in the government offices). At the end we have finished all the legal procedures and after the **6) Newspaper publication**, the government authorities gave us the legal entity for the cooperative.

**(5) First General Meeting**

We have done the First General Meeting with the community and their authorities and we gave these documents that show them their new status as a Social Enterprise.

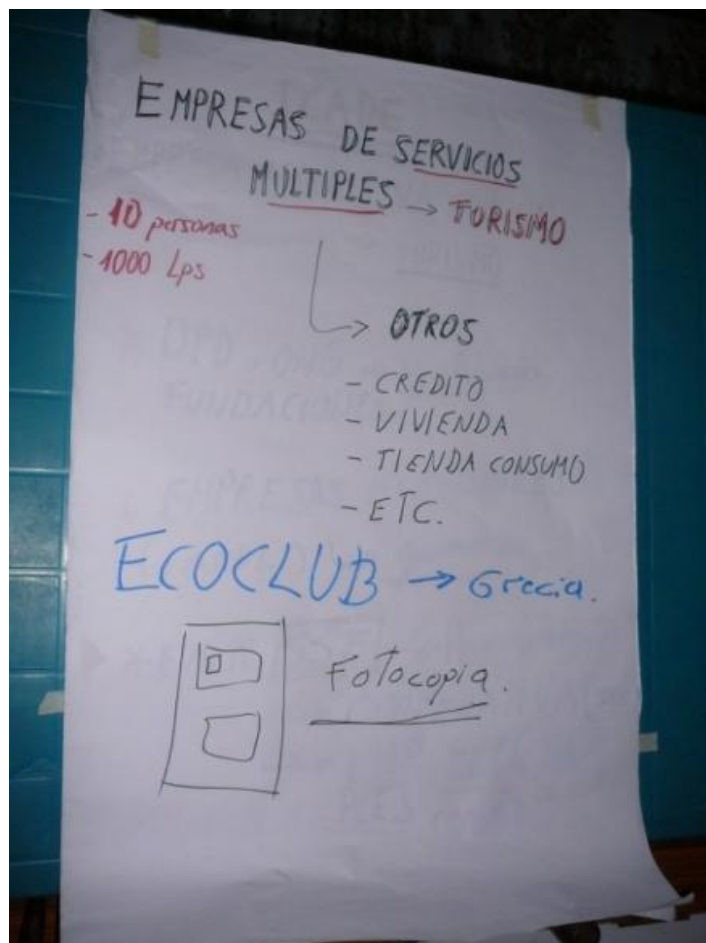
**(6) Actual Project Expenses Breakdown.**

<b>Number of Items</b>	<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Item Cost per unit Costo en Lempiras</b>	<b>Total Item Cost in local currency</b>	<b>Total Item Cost in Euros exchange rate used: 0,03946</b>
1	Workshop Organization Alternatives	<b>4000.00</b>	<b>4000.00</b>	<b>157.84</b>
	salary cooperative specialist	3000.00	3000.00	
	Transport	1000.00	1000.00	
1	Workshop Cooperative Basics	<b>4000.00</b>	<b>4000.00</b>	<b>157.84</b>
				<b>Contract1=8000 Lps</b>
	salary cooperative specialist	3000.00	3000.00	
	Transport	1000.00	1000.00	
1	Workshop Planning, Administration and Control	<b>4000.00</b>	<b>4000.00</b>	<b>157.84</b>
	salary cooperative specialist	3000.00	3000.00	
	Transport	1000.00	1000.00	
				<b>Contract2=4000 Lps</b>
1	Office Supplies	<b>1000.06</b>	<b>1000.06</b>	<b>39.46</b>
1	Preparation of the Cooperative's General Rules	<b>2000.00</b>	<b>2000.00</b>	<b>78.92</b>
1	First General Meeting	<b>2000.00</b>	<b>2000.00</b>	<b>78.92</b>
				<b>Contract3=4000 Lps</b>
1	Legal procedures	<b>8000.00</b>	<b>8000.00</b>	<b>315.68</b>
1	Newspaper publication	<b>179.20</b>	<b>179.20</b>	<b>7.07</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>			<b>Lps 25179.26</b>	<b>EUR 993.57</b>

## E. Activities and events



First Workshop: Organization Alternatives

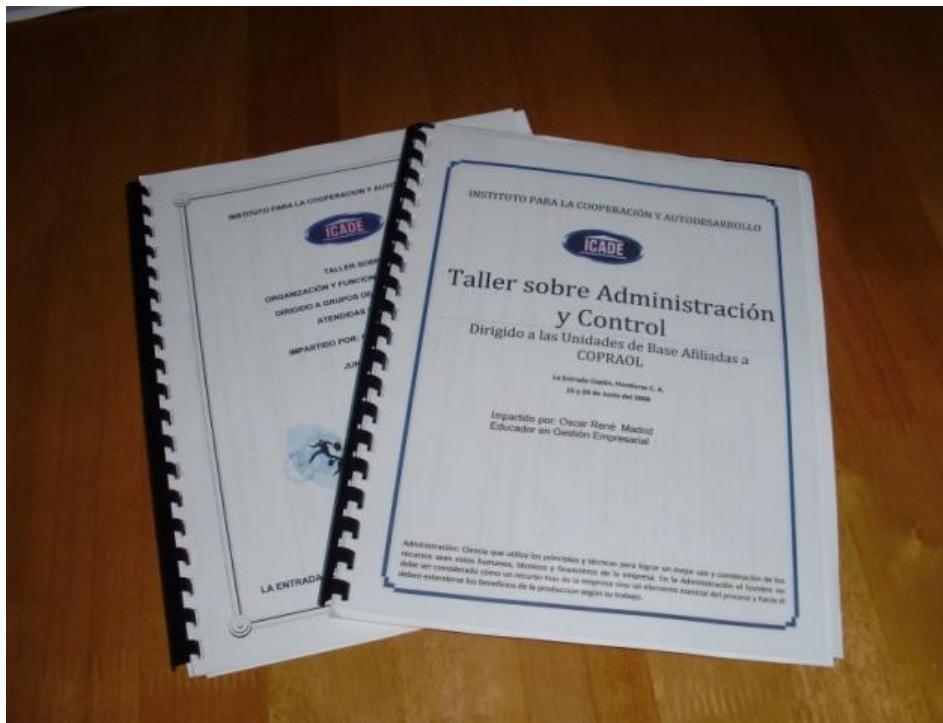


### Second Workshop: Cooperative Basics





Third Workshop Planning, Administration and Control with the cooperative leaders



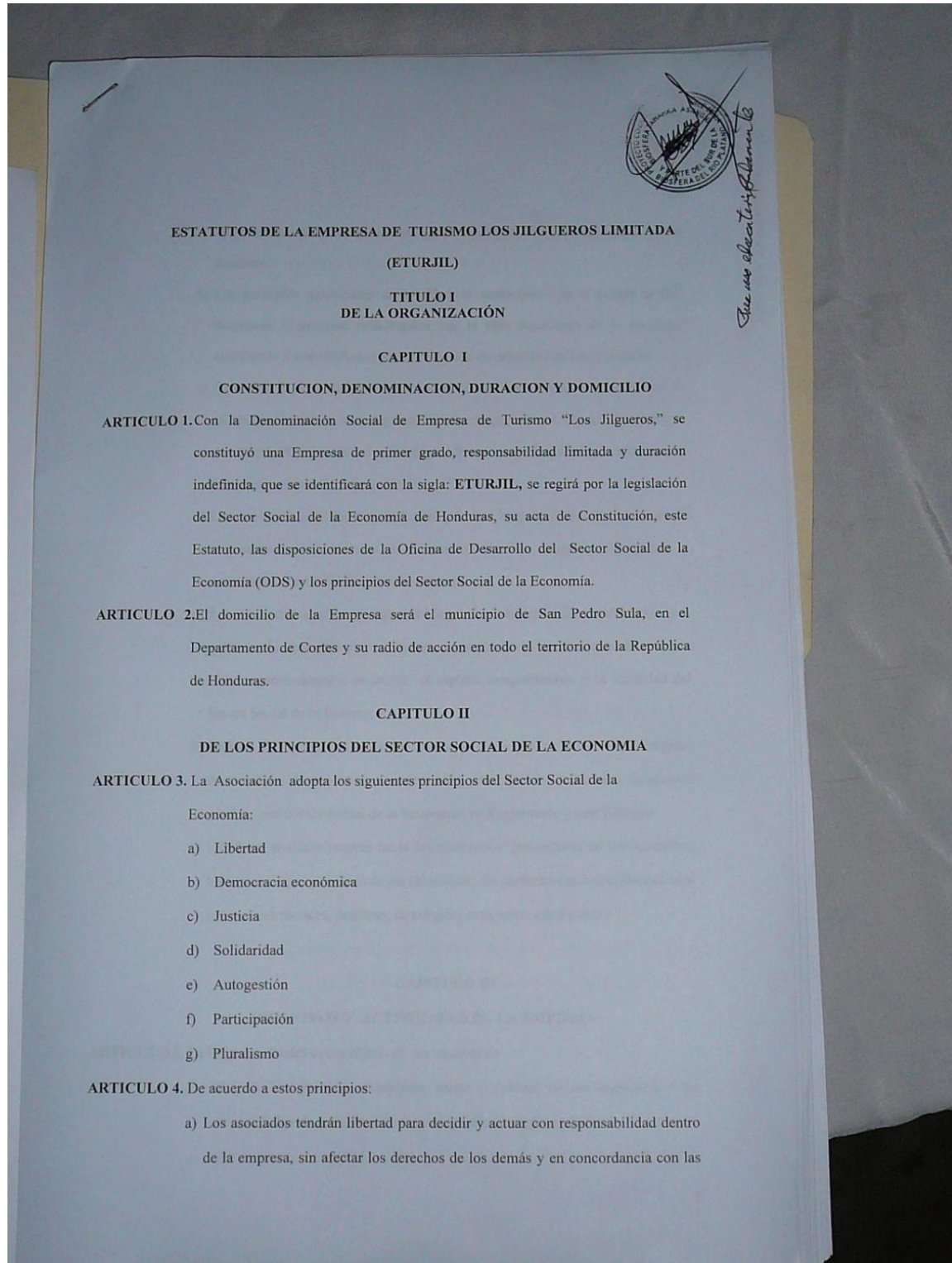
Newspaper publication (El Heraldo, jueves 28 de enero 2010)

## **AVISO DE EMPRESA DE ECONOMIA SOCIAL**

Tegucigalpa, MDC., 14 de diciembre de 2009  
En cumplimiento del Artículo 4 del Reglamento de la Ley del Sector Social de la Economía (Acuerdo Ejecutivo No. 254-97) y mediante Resolución No. 1,195- 2009, del 02 Diciembre del año 2009, la Secretaría de Industria y Comercio, otorgó Personería Jurídica a la denominada "EMPRESA DE TURISMO LOS JILGUEROS LIMITADA" (ETURJIL), como una empresa de economía social de PRIMER GRADO; con domicilio en el Municipio de San Pedro Sula, Departamento de Cortés, la cual fue presentada por el Apoderado Legal Abogado JACKO AMAYA ESCOTO.

**ZOILA ELIZABETH SANCHEZ LANZA**  
Secretaria General  
(Acuerdo Ejecutivo No.39-2009)

Legal documentation, Social Enterprise Rules sealed by the Government (IHDECOOP)





First General Meeting, giving documents to the community

