



HARVESTING GEOTHERMAL ENERGY | EL SALVADOR

Traditional agricultural practices have low production rates in rural areas of El Salvador. As a result, female farmers' incomes are very low. In addition, the traditional agricultural practices in El Salvador's rural areas are carbon intensive. Wood and other fossil fuels are typically burnt to dehydrate fruit and pump water, which releases greenhouse gas emissions and causes climate change.

Women from rural communities in El Salvador are increasing their incomes and tackling climate change through a unique project called [Harvesting Geothermal Energy](#) that uses waste heat and steam condensates from nearby geothermal plants. Women living in communities near the geothermal plants use waste heat from the geothermal steam to dehydrate fruit for themselves and for commercial sale. They also grow and sell plants watered with geothermal condensates. Four women are permanently employed as rangers in a wildlife protection park, which has been established in the geothermal field. Through this project, women are able to run a productive business while earning a sustainable income.

Key facts

- Dozens of women from 15 rural communities surrounding the geothermal field have participated in the initiative so far
- 45,570 people are benefitting indirectly from the initiative
- 1.8 tonnes of CO₂ are avoided per year due to the use of geothermal waste heat instead of traditional fossil fuels

More information

Digital assets are available for download at: <http://bit.ly/1MExrNR>

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