

The Bolivian Private University (UPB) has launched a project in collaboration with the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and FIEA to reduce the impact of climate change in rural areas of the country.

La Paz, Bolivia. The Bolivian Private University (UPB), through its new Environmental Engineering and Alternative Energies career, announced the official launch of the project entitled: "A proposal to demonstrate the use of clean technology for food, energy and water in the Bolivian rural context", designed for the subsequent creation of a Training and Demonstration Center in the use of Alternative Energies, which will be based on the La Paz Campus.

The project stems from the collaboration between the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), the Bolivian Private University (UPB), and the Engineers in Action Foundation (FIEA), which joined forces in presenting the project to the US Department of State, which has been approved and financed.

"The proposal consists of developing of information, demonstration, and training modules that seek to reduce the harmful impacts of climate change on rural Bolivian populations. It encompasses guided sessions that consider the unique needs and capacities of rural Bolivians", explained Tommy Pozo, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture.

Climate change has already had a great impact in areas that practice traditional methods of agriculture and the extraction of water and energy, leading Bolivian rural populations to face increasing challenges to protect their living conditions. In this line, the project has been included in the UPB Sustainable Development strategy, based on the Objectives of the United Nations 2030 agenda.

"Our purpose is to establish a permanent Information, Demonstration and Training Center on the La Paz campus, bringing resources closer to the population and creating field experience for our university students, teachers and researchers," concluded Dean Pozo.

The permanent installation on the La Paz campus of the UPB will bring benefits to other communities throughout the country, expanding the information, demonstration, and training sessions to explore the relationship between the rural and urban contexts of our country. Likewise, the indicated technologies will be optimized so that they can contribute to reducing the negative impacts of climate change on our rural populations.