

Improving access to finance for low- and middle-income people, including vulnerable groups, through local commercial bank

Project Description

The project aims to improve access to finance for microenterprises operated by low- and middle-income people, including vulnerable groups (women, young people and immigrants) in Ecuador, thereby contributing to improving the livelihood of vulnerable groups, improving disparities, and reducing poverty in the country.

Key Points of the Project

1. Contribute to the promotion of human security for low- and middle-income people, including vulnerable groups

The effects of Ecuador's deteriorating macroeconomic situation and increased security risks disproportionately pose a threat especially to low- and middle-income groups in the country. Through the long-term loan to Soldiario, this project will provide sustainable access to finance to microenterprises which are facing a difficult business environment, and will enable them to continue and expand their businesses and promote entrepreneurship, thereby contributing to building and maintaining a stable livelihood infrastructure and to the realization of human security, which is one of the basic policies of the Development Cooperation Charter.

2. Promoting women's empowerment

In line with the "2X Challenge: Financing for Women" initiative of the G7 development finance institutions, at least 50% of the loan amount will be provided to women-owned businesses, thereby supporting the further advancement of women's business activities in the country.

3. Facility for Accelerating Financial Inclusion (FAFI) eligible project

This project is consistent with the Facility, the establishment of which Prime Minister Kishida Fumio of Japan announced at the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment, a side event of the G7 Summit, in Hiroshima in May 2023.

