

## **Peru: Participation and Local Management Program=**

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Peru's Participation and Local Management Program has chosen to focus its award selections on innovations that emphasize collaboration between state and civil society to deal with local challenges. The Program has publicized the award in every municipality in the country, with the goal of gathering best practices in public-private partnerships created and developed at the local level. The Participation and Local Management Awards have been distributed annually over the past three years, from 2003 to 2006. During this period, 512 projects have been evaluated and 36 recognized for their excellence in innovation.

Because the award is still in its early years, the primary focus of the Program is on consolidation. The Program's organizers are working both to generate interest in the academic community and to collaborate with mass media to publicize the successes of their award-winning programs. The primary goal of the Participation and Local Management Program is to identify, recognize (both symbolically and monetarily) and promote local experiences demonstrate successful collaboration between state and civil society to face local challenges. Secondly, the Program produces new knowledge about participation and local management. Finally, it generates spaces of discussion and dissemination of these experiences in order to contribute to their replication by other state and civil society actors.

The program is now in an evaluation process to identify its strengths and weaknesses, evaluate its results, and analyze its impact, in order to decide its continuity and propose better ways to promote local participation in Peru.

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