

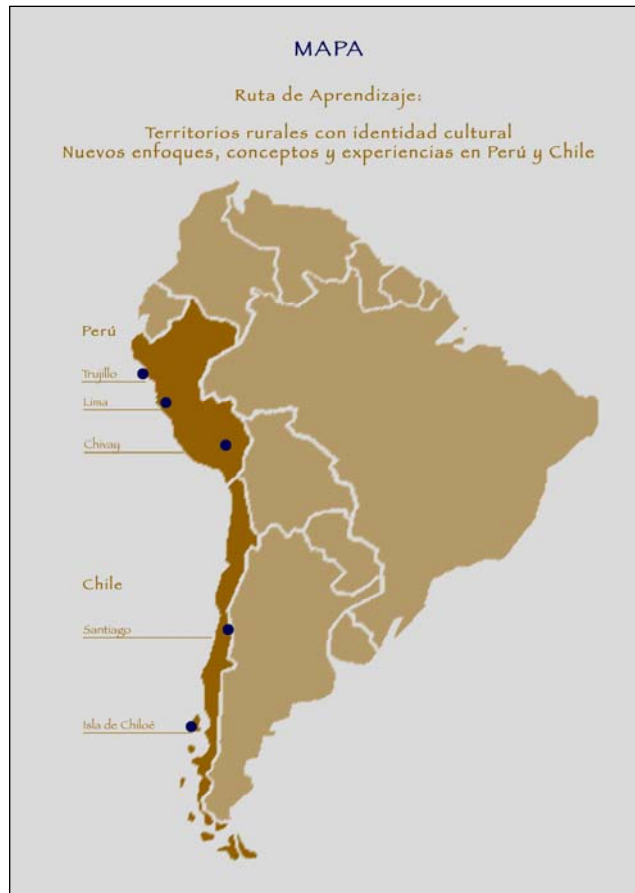
## Path to Learning

**"Territories with Identity. New concepts, focuses and experiences Peru and Chile"  
May 22 to April 5, 2007**

The Path to Learning, "Rural Territories with cultural identity: **New concepts, focuses and experiences**", was a resounding success. Organized conjointly by the Regional Corporation PROCASUR and the Project for Territorial Rural Development through products and services with cultural identity (DTR-IC), the Path brought 15 men and women from different countries, with different profiles and responsibilities, together in a two-week journey through Peru and Chile.

Representatives of artisan's groups, local and regional governments, indigenous and peasant organizations, agencies of international co-operation and regional development projects, met with the principal local talents of the regions to exchange development experiences relating to a range of goods and services based on cultural identity.

This experience, direct and in situ, beginning in the Colca Valley and then traveling to Huacas, in the north of Peru, and then continuing in Chile, in the Archipelago of Chiloé, was enriched at every step by workshops, providing opportunities for stimulating and dynamic discussion, which strengthened the learning process.



*Colca Valley - Peru*

The Collagua and Cabana people have revalidated their ancestral knowledge and practices, so as to make the growing demands in tourism an opportunity for fair and sustainable development.

This experience was extremely enriching for the participants of the Path, users of this methodology, as well as for the relevant actors in the regions visited, and also for the researchers responsible for the studies undertaken by the DTR-IC Project,

The lessons en-route have inspired a number of initiatives, action networks, and studies which have prolonged the experience of the Path, and have enhanced the challenges presented by territorial development based on cultural identity.

In this regard, a documentary of the experience, featured in the international workshop "Validating Cultural Identity in Rural Territories: Experiences and Perspectives", presented in Cartagena de Indias, Columbia, can be highlighted, in addition to the soon to be inaugurated On-Line Learning Community for the strengthening and the putting into practice of lessons learned and the planning of a second Path.



*Huacas del Norte, Peru*

In Campiña Moche and Santa Magdalena de Cao, an impressive legacy of the Mochica culture can be found. Much remains to be done, however, before this legacy serves as an axis for development for the local people, an objective that is in full discussion.

The alliance between the DTR-IC Project and PROCASUR strives to make this issue an object of interest for public policies and investment, as well as for the social sciences. It also endeavors to contribute to an understanding from multiple angles of this opportunity for development so little known, valued, and publicized.

During the second semester of 2007, a convocatory will be held for the second version of the Path to Learning *Territories with Identity. New Concepts, Focuses and Experiences*. The organizers hope that a new group of producers, artisans, tour guides, artists, representatives of public and private entities and microenterprises, decision-makers, researchers, and representatives of agencies interested in this issue, will participate in this unique experience.



*Chiloé, Chile*

In the islands of the Archipelago, on land and on sea, traditional experiences have been kept alive. This reality has produced conditions of interest to enterprises with an eye towards territorial development.

**Voices of the local talents of the Path to Learning** *"Territorios with Identity. New concepts, focuses and experiences"*



**Simona Cutipa, Peru**

"Culture for me was a buried treasure that it has been possible to uncover and bring out into the Light." Simona Cutipa, Artisan from Chivay, Colca Valley, Peru



**Community representative from Callalli, Peru**

"In spite of being poor outside, we have immense wealth inside... We have to recuperate what we were in order to move forward". Meeting in the village of Callalli with representatives of the local community and the Mayor of the Colca Valley district, Peru



**García Brothers, artisans and musicians from Campiña de la Huaca de la Luna, Peru**

"The poor are those whose spirits are dead, the rest are those who need things, but they're not poor...We are trying to show the world what our Mochica culture is worth and we are not poor..."



**Patricia Cárdenas, Artisan from Chiloé, Chile**

"I can't speak that well but I know how to make things, and the ones who make things in Chiloé are the women. In the past they were all older women, you could tell by the sad colours they used. Now there are many young women and in the wool products there are colours everywhere."

**Testimonies from some of the Path's participants**



**Rumiñahui Andrango, Ecuador**

"... this has given me the opportunity to redefine my concept of cultural identity; this is what I most liked and what I share with you..."



**Frey Escobar, Peru**

"... to discover different cultures, different ways of living, different places, these experiences have been new for me..."



**Patricia Jara, Chile**

"... what I most liked was the diversity of the Path's participants, in other words learning with others is very different..."

- For more information about the Regional Paths to Learning Program FIDA-PROCASUR please visit: <http://www.procasur.org>
- For more information about the experience of the Path to Learning "*Territorios with Identity. New concepts, focuses and experiences in Peru and Chile*" please visit: <http://www.rimisp.cl/seccion.php?seccion=620>
- For more information about the DTR-IC Project, please visit [www.rimisp.org/Territorioeidentidad](http://www.rimisp.org/Territorioeidentidad)