**Conclusions**

**Solar Energy for an Alpaca Fibre Processing Centre in General Lagos**


**Context**

Alpaca cattle raising is an ancestral activity in General Lagos. Now, this is the main economic activity of the zone, which recasts in the sale of the raw fibre in a weekly fair. The project attempts to take advantage of the sales potential of the alpaca fibre to enlarge the markets available for its commercialisation.

**Diagram and technical details**

Visviri – General Lagos (average altitude: 4,500 m.o.s.l)

The project consists in the design, implementation and technological transference of an alpaca fibre processing centre, located at Visviri, the capital of General Lagos. Since there is only two hours per day of electricity, a solar-based micro-grid was considered as part of the technological solution. This micro-grid is able to provide:

1. The electricity required for the daily operation of the process line,
2. The hot water required for washing the raw fibre, and
3. The heat needed for drying the fibre.

**Management structure for the transference**

The management structure is put in the existing association of cattle ranchers of General Lagos, but the decisions about the centre are taken independently of it. The main elements of the management structure are:

1. Steering committee: composed by the main stakeholders related with the alpaca cattle raising activity in General Lagos.
2. Head manager/Manager: person in charge of operating the centre so that the strategy of the centre provided by the steering committee is accomplished, as well as the production goals.
3. Advisory committee: composed by external organizations whose main activity is related with the positioning of Chilean products in national/international markets.

**Lessons learned**

From the project execution, the following aspects have been recognised as key issues to be considered for the success of the project:

1. Community involvement/engagement.
2. Permits and paperwork to be done before/during the construction stage.
3. Selection of an adequate legal personality for the operation and management of the project after the transference to the community.
4. Selection of an adequate management structure for the project after the transference to the community.
5. Design and implementation of an adequate business model.