

SUPPORTING Rights of Sexual and Gender Diversity in Bolivia



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Although the Constitution of Bolivia allows for punishment of any type of discrimination against lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders (LGBT) who live and work in the country, they still suffer violence, discrimination and harassment in the work place on a daily basis.

An EU project is supporting the Dutch Humanist Institute for Development Cooperation (Hivos), cooperating with a local LGBT association, to raise awareness of sexual and gender diversity in Bolivia and the rights of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders.

As well as holding a number of workshops on learning about LGBT civil rights and on how to identify homophobia, lesbophobia and transphobia and work against it, Hivos organised a Gay Pride march to raise the visibility of LGBT people. The march attracted four thousand spectators on June 28 in the city of La Paz. People from 13 public and private institutions took part, alongside 17 LGBT groups, after attending meetings and workshops.

The project has led to greater openness and the involvement of La Paz government officials with LGBT themes and events and has given LGBT people in the city more public visibility, reducing discrimination and stigmatisation.