

## A Satisfying Slice of Success

Euclides Párraga, 20, speaks fondly of his participation in the *A Ganar* program as he begins to knead a fresh ball of pizza dough. Today, Euclides is the proud owner of a Pizzeria, “Don Pizzeto” in his hometown of San Miguel de los Bancos, Ecuador. Before participating in *A Ganar*, Euclides attended school and worked irregular, odd jobs in the day to support his wife and young son. However, he always dreamed of owning his own business.

Euclides decided to join the *A Ganar* program implemented by Fundacion de las Americas para el Desarrollo (FUDELA) because he knew it was an excellent opportunity to realize his dreams, and learn new skills that could improve both his work and home life. During Phase One of the program he learned the importance of teamwork, and to focus on results. Additionally, he notes that the field and classroom activities taught him to grant women equal importance and responsibilities as men in everyday life and the workplace. As he places a pizza in the oven, Euclides smiles and states this has had a positive impact on his relationship with his wife and son.

During Phase Two technical training, he learned a wide variety of service industry skills such as customer service, gastronomy, cocktail preparation, and English. He recounts, “Everything that I learned in the *A Ganar* program has helped to set a vision and a goal of what I wanted to do as a living, and I wanted to have my own successful business.” After some encouragement and financial support from his family, Euclides opened Don Pizzeto. Today business is booming and Euclides could not be happier. He would like to thank FUDELA, and the program’s local officer Wellington Chicaiza for all their support and trust.



*Euclides displaying a slice of his homemade pizza in Don Pizzeto*

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