

COLOMBIA

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

January 1 – March 31, 2012

Afro-Colombian and Indigenous Program

CA No. 514-A-11-00004



SUBMITTED TO:

Ms. Camila Gomez
Agreement Officer's
Representative (AOR)
USAID/Colombia
Carrera 45 No. 24B-27
Bogotá, Colombia
Tel: 571-383 4161
Fax: 571-383 2317
cgomez@USAID.gov

SUBMITTED BY:

Glenn Blumhorst
Chief of Party
ACDI/VOCA
Carrera 7 No. 78-47
Bogotá, Colombia
Tel: 571-326-1666
Fax: 571-313 1754
gblumhorst@activoca.org

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Expanding Opportunities Worldwide

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AFRO-COLOMBIAN AND INDIGENOUS PROGRAM

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 2012

1. BACKGROUND

Through Cooperative Agreement No. AID-514-A-11-00004, dated August 30, 2011, ACDI/VOCA was awarded the Afro-Colombian and Indigenous Program (the Program) with a five-year life of project (LOP) from August 30, 2011 through August 29, 2016. While the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Colombia has been working with ethnic minorities for over a decade through its various sectoral programs, this is the first time that a stand-alone program has been developed for the sole purpose of improving the lives of Afro-Colombian and indigenous persons.

The purpose of this \$61.4 million program is to improve the socioeconomic status of Afro-Colombian and indigenous persons in target areas of Colombia. By the end of this program USAID - with the commitment of the Government of Colombia (GOC) - expects to achieve the implementation of existing and supportive policies related to ethnic minorities; increased formal sector employment of ethnic minorities living in Bogota, Medellin, Cali, Quibdó, the San Andres archipelago and a Caribbean Coast cluster composed of Barranquilla, Santa Marta and Cartagena; improved governance in indigenous communities in La Guajira and targeted indigenous and Afro-Colombian territories in Cauca and Chocó; and, increased respect for cultural diversity and identity both among ethnic minorities as well as the general public.

This quarterly progress report covers the second quarter of fiscal year 2012, encompassing activities carried out from January 1 to March 31, 2012.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Regional Presence and Program Introduction

Program operations and presence have been effectively established in the primary target areas, with offices opened and staffed in Quibdó (Chocó region), Cali (Cali-Cauca region), Cartagena (Caribbean coastal region) and La Guajira-Sierra Nevada.

Formal presentations of the Program continued with stakeholders in the target cities and departments in order to identify and prioritize joint efforts. These contacts included:

- Chocó, Cauca, La Guajira, San Andres, Antioquia and Atlantic departmental governments
- The cities of Bogotá, Medellín, Cali, Cartagena, Santa Marta, Barranquilla and Quibdó
- 24 municipalities encompassing ethnic territories in the departments of Chocó, La Guajira and Cauca

In the three departments targeted under component three, ACDI/VOCA and our partners presented the program and worked with the relevant organizations at the regional and sub-regional levels to identify priority concerns:

- Cauca: Consejo Regional Indígena del Cauca (CRIC); Asociación de Cabildos Indígenas del Norte del Cauca (ACIN); representatives of local ethnic groups (indigenous *cabildos* of Guambia, Totoro, Páez, etc) representatives of Afro-Colombian organizations in North Cauca, and *consejos comunitarios* of municipalities of the Cauca coast
- La Guajira and Sierra Nevada: Wayuu ethnic organization and community leaders; representative organizations for Arhuaco, Kogui, Wiwi and Kankuamo indigenous groups of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta (SNSM)
- Choco: Consejo Regional Indígena del Choco (CRICH); Asociación Indígena del Choco (ASOREWA), Federación de Asociaciones de Cabildos Indígenas del Choco (FEDEOREWA), Comité Interétnico and *consejos comunitarios* such as the Consejo Comunitario Mayor de la Asociación Campesina Integral del Atrato (COCOMACIA)

In addition, ACDI/VOCA and our Program partners presented the program to urban Afro-Colombian organizations, youth and women's groups, business groups and cultural initiatives in the eight cities targeted by the program. Relationships were also established with local media outlets

National Level Institutional Consensus Building

During the reporting period, the Program further strengthened coordination linkages with key national-level entities:

- Programa Presidencial para la formulación de acciones y estrategias para la población afrocolombiana, negra, palenquera y raizal nacional. With this Presidential Program, we agreed to focus our joint efforts on working towards a successful World Summit of Mayors Leadership Conference, to be held in Colombia in 2013. We also established a joint framework for disseminating regional level public policy information of interest to Afro-Colombian communities. The Program also supported a seminar on land issues for Afro-Colombian communities in urban areas in the city of Cartagena.
- Programa Presidencial para la formulación de acciones y estrategias para el desarrollo integral de los pueblos indígenas. In discussion with this Presidential Program, we identified several areas for collaboration, including training for *consulta previa* at the national level; the development of forums for debate around key issues; revising the methodology used for developing life plans; and investing in studies to map indigenous communities in major cities.
- Ministry of the Interior (MOI). Progress continued in the strategic assessment, planning and restructuring of the Viceministerio de la Participación e Igualdad de Derechos. Several other areas of intervention that had been previously identified, such as joint efforts in *consulta previa*, support to Autos 004 and 005, and coordination in assisting *consejos comunitarios*, were postponed due to the change in vice minister of the Viceministero de la Participación e Igualdad de Derechos.

- Ministry of Labor. Support of local employment plans, initially in the cities of Cali and Quibdó, were jointly prioritized. The Program agreed to assist the ministry of labor to apply a differentiated approach in designing employment generation strategies within the framework of the development plan.
- Ministry of Culture. The Program and the Ministry of Culture agreed upon a collaboration and coordination strategy, including initiatives in cultural entrepreneurship, recovery of historical and cultural patrimony, assistance in the promotion of local cultural initiatives, and the professional training and development of communications and entrepreneurial specialists.
- Departamento Nacional de Planeación (DNP). We agreed with DNP to support commitments made to Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities in the national development plan (Plan Nacional de Desarrollo - PND). Program assistance will be aimed at joint monitoring PND policy implementation at the regional level.
- Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadística (DANE). Jointly with other GOC entities such as the Presidential Programs, the Program agreed with DANE to work together on an adequate methodology for inclusion of an ethnic self-identification question in the next national agricultural census (*censo nacional agropecuario* - CNA). Likewise, we are assisting DANE to review the methodology for capturing information about collective territories and indigenous populations in the CNA.
- Departamento para la Prosperidad Social (DPS) - UNIDOS Network. The Program agreed with DPS to develop a differentiated approach in applying the UNIDOS Network strategy in indigenous communities of the SNSM.

National Level Organizational Capacity Building

- The Program team collaborated with the national-level Afro-Colombian and indigenous organizations to agree upon priority areas of support. We identified and prioritized organizational strengthening initiatives jointly with Organización Nacional Indígena de Colombia (ONIC), Proceso de Comunidades Negras (PCN) and the Conferencia Nacional de Organizaciones Afrocolombianas (CNOA), and are still in process with the Asociación Nacional de Afro-Colombianos Desplazados (AFRODES) and the Movimiento Nacional CIMARRON.

Land and Rural Development with Ethnic Communities

Initiatives in this cross-cutting area have been coordinated with activities of the Instituto Nacional de Desarrollo (INCODER), establishing the following priorities:

- Joint efforts toward the flagship granting of collective titles to Afro-Colombian communities on the Caribbean coast. The Program supported the process of reconstructing individual land

titles and the delineation of collective property area for the communities of Palenque de San Basilio and La Boquilla.

- The Program is collaborating with INCODER and the Consejo Comunitario del Río Nayato recognize 100,000 hectares pertaining to member communities. In April, awareness raising efforts will be carried out in partnership with INCODER as a first step to moving this process forward.
- Jointly with INCODER, the Program identified and prioritized the formalization of collective land titles for specific collective territories within in the departments of Cauca, Chocó, la Guajira and the SNSM. In April, field visits will be conducted in these areas toward reaching agreements with the Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities on the prioritization
- Together with INCODER, the Program prioritized the protection of raizal community lands in San Andres and Providencia. As part of this effort, INCODER has committed to opening an office in the Caribbean archipelago. The Program will conduct a joint visit with INCODER to San Andres to work with the departmental government and the raizal communities on a shared plan of action.
- The Program and INCODER agreed upon the next steps and technical approach for the implementation of productive projects in ethnic territories prioritized in the land formalization process.

Gender Equity

- With the Consejería para la Equidad de Género, the Program agreed upon an approach to enhance the inclusion and participation of Afro-Colombian and indigenous women in the development of new public policy for gender equity. The Afro-Colombian women included their proposed activities in the CONPES document that is currently under development; while the indigenous women reached an agreement with the Consejería to establish a specific document that will be integrated subsequently.
- The Program agreed upon an institutional strengthening plan with the Red de Mujeres Afro. Likewise, in the proposed strengthening initiatives with other member organizations of the Mesa Nacional de Organizaciones Afrocolombianas, a specific chapter was included on the training and professional development of women leaders and the opening of internal spaces for their effective participation.
- With ONIC, ACIP developed an assessment of the situation of indigenous women in Chocó and La Guajira that will generate specific activities at the organizational level and recommendations for the formulation of gender equity policy for indigenous women.

Youth

- The Program made progress in the development of a strategy for working with youth, especially those at risk. In a first phase, the strategy will define what type of activities should be developed for youth of certain ages (teenagers and young adults). It will also recommend educational activities under agreements with universities, training and employment access programs, and cultural initiatives, culminating next quarter with specific recommendations in five of the Program cities.

Project Implementation

- The Program issued sixteen new subawards under the different program components during this reporting period.. These projects emphasize support in the inclusion of ethnic issues in the municipal and departmental development plans, participation of ethnic communities in the development of the plans, and institutional support to the public sector as well as Afro-Colombian and indigenous community organizations.

3. PROGRAM WORK PLAN

ACDI/VOCA received comments from USAID for the Program's Year One Work Plan on March 29 and will submit a revised version in April for USAID approval.

4. ACTIVITIES BY COMPONENT

COMPONENT ONE: EXISTING AND SUPPORTIVE POLICIES AND LAWS IMPLEMENTED

During the reporting period, our activities under this component focused on a collaborative process to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the civil society organizations (CSOs) representing the Afro-Colombian and Indigenous communities and defining institutional strengthening plans for each. It also focused on working with national-level governmental institutions responsible for the support and coordination of policy for Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities to define work plans to strengthen the implementation of pro-minority policies.

This reporting period coincided with the start of new municipal and departmental administrations, so the Program took this opportunity to assist the new administrations at these departments and capital cities to effectively engage with Afro-Colombian and indigenous organizations and communities in formulating their development plans, making sure that these plans take into account inclusion policies and the needs voiced by these two minority populations.

National level institutional strengthening

Ministry of the Interior. Progress continued in the strategic assessment, planning and restructuring of the Viceministerio de la Participación e Igualdad de Derechos. Several other areas of intervention that had been previously identified, such as joint efforts in *consulta previa*, support to Autos 004 and 005, and coordination in assisting *consejos comunitarios*, were postponed due to the change in vice minister of the Viceministero de la Participación e Igualdad de Derechos. Six *consulta previa* cases related to infrastructure development and hydrocarbon exploration were identified in the departments of Cauca, Chocó, and La Guajira. In addition, the Program and the MOI collaborated to identify promising productive projects within the *consejos comunitarios*.

Programa Presidencial para la formulación de acciones y estrategias para la población afrocolombiana, negra, palenquera y raizal nacional. We worked with this Presidential Program to develop an assistance and coordination plan for organizing the World Summit of Mayors Leadership Conference, to be held in Colombia in 2013. ACIP also agreed to collaborate on a strategy to disseminate information on public policies of interest to Afro-Colombian communities down to the regional level. The Program also supported a seminar with the Presidential Programs and the Cartagena mayor's office on land issues for Afro-Colombian communities in urban areas of the city.

Programa Presidencial para la formulación de acciones y estrategias para el desarrollo integral de los pueblos indígenas. With this program we agreed to collaborate on the following areas: training in *consulta previa* at the national level; the organization of debate forums around key themes of concern; a revision of the methodology for developing life plans, and support of research to gather more data on indigenous populations living in major cities.

Build the Capacity of Afro-Colombian and Indigenous CSOs

With Program support, the member organizations of the Mesa Nacional de Organizaciones Afrocolombianas agreed to work together in establishing institutional strengthening plans for the current year. By the end of the reporting period, PCN and CNOA had agreed upon their plans; AFRODES and CIMARRON are still working with the Program to agree on their institutional strengthening plans. The Program has yet to come to an agreement with national level Afro-Colombian organizations on policy agenda priorities of interest to their constituents; this will unfold in time as the organizations become more actively engaged with one another.

The Program identified and prioritized organizational strengthening initiatives with ONIC that included adjusting the methodology for the development of life plans and the systematization and documentation of ONIC's 30-year history. In addition, we will support the meeting of indigenous communities of Latin America, regional awareness and monitoring of policy, and awareness of the agreements signed with the GOC, especially those related to the PND, Law of Restitution of Territorial Rights to Victims, Programa de Garantías, and others with the indigenous communities and organizations that form ONIC.

The Program supported the first steps toward the organization of a national meeting designed to promote cooperation among national and territorial organizations with the longer term objective of forming a national assembly of *consejos comunitarios* and Afro-Colombian organizations. In attendance were 51 representatives from seven *consejos comunitarios*, three networks of *consejos comunitarios*, grass-root organizations and national organizations. The participating organizations reached consensus regarding meeting logistics and methodological aspects, which are anticipated to be carried out in May. Advances were made with the ONIC and CNOA in defining the variables for the construction of the Index of Organizational Ability.

Support Institutions in the Implementation of Effective Policies for Ethnic Communities

During the reporting period, the Program provided assistance toward the effective incorporation of ethnic inclusion policies in the development plans for several departments and capital cities:

a. Department of Chocó:

Progress was made in the formulation of the strategic goals for the development plan for the department of Chocó, which are now being validated by the communities. A presentation was made before the territorial planning board regarding the departmental development plan

b. Department of San Andres:

The program supported the implementation of the strategic goals and the inclusion of the raizal population in the development plan.

c. City of Quibdó:

Advances were made in the implementation of the strategic goals with the communities and a presentation was given on the first draft of the development plan before the territorial planning board.

d. Cities of Cartagena and Santa Marta:

Advances were made in the implementation of the strategic goals with the communities and a presentation was given on the first draft of the development plan before the territorial planning board. Advances were also made in the inclusion of ethnic issues in the strategies of the development plan.

e. Cities of Medellín and Barranquilla:

Support was provided in the implementation of the strategic goals to include the raizal population in the development plan.

Inclusion of Women and Youth in Public Policies

The Program worked with the Consejería para la Mujer for the construction of a national gender equity public policy for women as a means for the inclusion of Afro-Colombian and indigenous women in Colombia.

The first programmatic meeting of the Movimiento Nacional de Estudiantes Afro-Colombianos (MANEAFRO) was held with Program support; 51 participants attended from 21 youth organizations and public and private universities. During the meeting, representatives raised awareness of the situation of the Afro-Colombian university students, under the Ley 30 or the Ley de la Educación Superior, as set forth by the GOC. They defined the topics that should be

incorporated into Ley 30 and they selected two students that will be part of a negotiation process and will assist with coordination between the GOC and MANEAFRO.

COMPONENT TWO: INCREASED EMPLOYMENT OF AFRO-COLOMBIANS AND INDIGENOUS PERSONS IN TARGETED SECTORS IN SELECT URBAN AREAS

This component promotes entrepreneurship and human capacity building toward enhanced income generation. The target area consists of nine cities: Barranquilla, Bogotá, Cali, Cartagena, Medellín, Quibdó, Riohacha, San Andrés y Santa Marta. In this preliminary phase, efforts have been focused on three main aspects: the introduction of the Program component to Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities, organizations and the private sector; capture of information to develop and assess the characteristics and potential of targeted opportunities; and the identification of further opportunities for Program intervention, in particular, through entrepreneurship.

As a result of the initial assessment, the nine cities have been categorized in three levels, according to their degree of development and competitive capacity. Activities conducted during the quarterly period are summarized in accordance with the categorization.

Quibdó, Riohacha, San Andrés and Santa Marta

The Program team presented this component to authorities of the municipal and departmental governments, grass-roots organizations and the private sector, while also capturing information related to entrepreneurial projects. The Program worked with the municipal government of Quibdó in the development of an employment plan that includes priorities in tourism and access to public procurements. We also provided assistance in the development and startup of the Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness Plan with the Quibdó Chamber of Commerce. The plan includes a focus on promoting small and medium enterprise projects in wood, regional fruits and exotic flowers. With the Quibdó mayor's office, the Program worked to define the criteria for interventions and strategy for supporting the municipality's economic plan, which include:

- Supporting entrepreneurship initiatives
- Promoting family and community production
- Developing formal and informal commerce
- Encouraging national and foreign investment in the municipality.

Cali, Barranquilla and Cartagena

- In these cities, the Program identified the principal income generating opportunities currently available and, based upon an improved understanding of the context, defined our proposed implementation strategy.
- We presented the Program to government authorities at the municipal and departmental levels in these three cities as well as to community based organizations (CBOs).

- In Cartagena, the municipal government prioritized developing the value chains associated with the Manzanillo del Mar urban development project.
- In Cali, the Program identified a group of Afro-Colombian business people interested in employing Afro-Colombians and indigenous persons. Together, we defined a plan to enter new markets that would create increased demand for labor from these two communities.
- In Cali, with help from the Cámara Colombiana de Construcción (CAMACOL) and INVER PACIFICO, the Program also identified opportunities for linking Afro-Colombian and indigenous labor with jobs in the construction, business process outsourcing (BPO), and information technology (IT) sectors.
- In Cartagena, we found that the majority of indigenous people living in the urban area are from the Zenú community and are engaged in the production and sale of hot beverages, including coffee and herbal teas.

Bogotá y Medellín

- We presented the Program to CBOs as well as to the departmental and municipal authorities of Antioquia.
- We identified interesting institutional strategies in Medellín, including the Centro de Desarrollo Empresarial Zonal (CEDEZO) effort to decentralize its social services.

Linkages with national level agencies and their affiliates in the targeted cities.

- With the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism and Bancoldex, which is responsible for promoting enterprise development and tourism, the Program defined a work plan that has three key components:
 - Ensure that Afro-Colombian and indigenous people have access to the ministry's programs designed to promote the development of small and medium enterprise (SMEs) and tourism.
 - Guarantee the inclusion of the Afro-Colombian and indigenous populations within the public-private coordination bodies led by the ministry to facilitate access to their subsidy programs.
 - Support efforts to define and implement SME policies that promote a differentiated approach for Afro-Colombians and indigenous populations.
- With the Ministry of Labor, which is responsible for promoting employment we agreed to collaborate on the following activities:
 - Developing an employment plan for the cities of Quibdó y San Andrés, based upon our economic assessment.
 - Supporting the development and implementation of an employment policy that promotes a differentiated approach for Afro-Colombian and indigenous persons.

- With the Asociacion Nacional de Empresarios de Colombia (ANDI), which includes 1,400 companies from finance, agriculture, industry, commerce and services responsible for 35 percent of Colombia's GNP, the Program signed a memorandum of understanding to promote increased linkages between the businesses that conform ANDI and the Afro-Colombian community.
- The Program supported the Foro Universitario de Mujeres de Negocios 2012, an annual event that is organized by the Fundacion de Mujeres por Colombia, which provides networking opportunities and capacity building for women. The forum included a workshop that was directed towards ethnic minority women. The Program has also agreed to support the following initiatives:
 - Assist them to have a differentiated approach to recruiting Afro-Colombians and indigenous members.
 - Define a joint strategy to ensure the participation of Afro-Colombian and indigenous panelists in future forums; organize speaking events involving women-owned businesses in an effort to promote a differentiated approach to minority inclusion; promote minority inclusion in the Harvard Undergraduate Women in Business Convention (October – November); create a database of women-owned businesses and female professionals to assess their demand and supply.

COMPONENT THREE: GOVERNANCE IN ETHNIC TERRITORIES

During the current quarter, the Program focused on working with Afro-Colombian and indigenous organizations in each of the targeted regions in order to define strategic lines of intervention for supporting their institutional processes and governance. The Program has worked with municipal and departmental government to incorporate ethnic, gender, youth and cultural perspectives into their development plans. Our approach has been to organize public meetings involving the traditional Afro-Colombian and indigenous authorities representing the communal territories and the local government authorities, providing them the opportunity to get to know one another better, dialog and come to agreement around issues of concern and, in turn, build mutual trust.

Formulation of Development Plans in municipalities and departments with ethnic territories

The Program provided technical support for the participatory formulation of 24 municipal development plans (*planes de desarrollo municipal* - PDMs) to ensure the inclusion of ethnic, gender, youth and cultural perspectives. This has resulted in an on-going coordination with officials from the DNP and the Secretarios Municipales de Planeacion to comply with the technical requirements in the formulation of the PDMs. The project has supported PDMs in the following municipalities:

- In Cauca: Guapi, López de Micay, Timbiqui, Corinto, Caloto, Buenos Aires, Jámbalo, Santander de Quilichao, Páez, Totoro, Silvia, Purace, Toribio, Caldonó, y Suarez.
- In Choco: Bojayá, Medio Atrato, Atrato, Condoto, Tadó, Lloró, y Bagadó.

- In Guajira: Dibulla and San Juan del Cesar.

The Program strengthened the territorial planning councils (*consejos territoriales de planeación* CTPs) of the 24 municipalities, by providing capacity building on the review and approval process of the PMDs and in some cases, supporting the municipalities on the procedures for issuing decrees under which CTPs. We also supported municipal governments in organizing forums where leaders and representatives from the Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities were able to participate in the formulation process of the PMDs and PDDs. The Program also supported roundtable dialogues between the municipal administrations and environmental corporations, in order to obtain environmental approval of the proposals included in the PDMs. In addition, the Program strengthened the capacity of 35 public and council employees in using the logical framework as a tool for developing their PDMs.

In addition, the Program provided assistance to the departmental government of Cauca and Chocó in the formulation of their plans, and in the process, ensuring the inclusion of ethnic, gender and youth perspectives in the plans.

Community and Institutional Consensus Building Activities in the Program's Target Regions

Caribbean Coast Region

- The Program held meetings to discuss the provision of institutional strengthening support to Asociación de Consejos Comunitarios Mitambó, Consejo Comunitario Makankamaná and the indigenous organizations of the Mokañas and Zenúes in Barranquilla and Cartagena.

Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta and Guajira Region

- The support to be provided to the Consejo Territorial de Cabildos of the SNSM, which includes the Kogui, Arhuaco, Wiwa y Kankuamo people was defined. The indigenous officials representing these four groups have agreed to allow the Program to work in the territory.
- The strategic lines of assistance were agreed upon with the Organización Indígena Kankuama, including the strengthening of institutional capacity, traditional and cultural practices, and, productive processes.
- The Program provided technical support in order to incorporate the Kogui initiatives in the PDM of Dibulla.
- Wayuu organizations prioritized rapid impact initiatives which include strengthening the traditional authorities, territorial appropriation and cultural initiatives.
- The Program helped traditional authorities come to an agreement with municipal authorities around key future priorities, including food security, income generation and artisanal projects.

Chocó Region

- The Program identified and worked with the major *consejos comunitarios* of the region in order to define institutional strengthening needs. These included the following *consejos comunitarios*:
 - COCOMOPOCA: includes 53 *consejos comunitarios* located in the municipalities of Bagadó, Lloro, Atrato and Medio Atrato.
 - COCOMACIA: includes 124 *consejos comunitarios*, the majority located in the municipalities of Quibdó, Medio Atrato and Bojayá.
 - COCOMACOIRO: includes 21 *consejos comunitarios*, several of which are located in the municipality of Condoto.
 - ASOCASAN: includes 16 *consejos comunitarios* the majority of which are located in the municipality of Tadó.
 - COCOILLO: includes 26 *consejos comunitarios* located in the municipality of Lloro.
- The Program identified and worked with associations of indigenous *cabildos* of the region in order to define institutional strengthening, governance, agricultural production, and territorial management needs. These included the following associations:
 - CRICH: includes 20 reserves, 80 indigenous communities of three indigenous groups
 - Federación de Asociaciones de Cabildos Indígenas del Departamento del Chocó (FEDEOREWA): includes 31 reserves, 84 indigenous communities, of five indigenous groups.
 - Asociación de Cabildos Indígenas Embera, Katio, Chami y Tules del Chocó (ASOREWA): includes 65 reserves and 171 indigenous communities of four indigenous groups.
- Meetings were held with the Red Departamental de Mujeres del Choco, the Organización de Barrios Afro Populares de Quibdó and the Foro Inter Étnico to define their institutional strengthening priorities.
- Productive initiatives were prioritized with ethnic organizations such as the Asociación de Plataneros del Medio Atrato (APLANEA) and Pacífico Productivo for the production and transformation of cocoa.

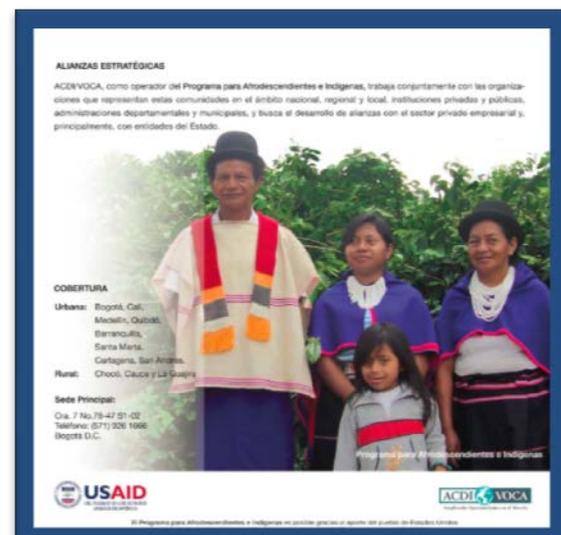
Cali-Cauca Region

- The Program awarded five grants to Afro-Colombian and indigenous organizations in order to support the participatory process in the formulation of the PDMs. These organizations are ASO MANOS NEGRA, ACONC, Capitanía Páez, Nasa Cxhacxha and the Agencia de Desarrollo Local (ADEL). The grants will support the inclusion of ethnic, gender, and youth perspectives in the PDMs of Guapi, Puerto Tejada, Padilla, Villa Rica, Miranda, Guachene, Caloto, Corinto, Santander, Suarez, Buenos Aires, Páez, Silvia y Totoró.
- Institutional strengthening needs were defined for CRIC.
- Support activities were defined for five *cabildo* zonal associations (affiliated with CRIC).

- Institutional strengthening needs were defined for the Misak peoples, with *cabildos* in Guambia and Totoro.
- The ACIN's proposal to support the revitalization and updating of the *planes de vida* of 19 *cabildos* in the area was reviewed with the communities.
- Projects were formulated and activities prioritized with the following Afro-Colombian organizations:
 - Red de mujeres del norte del Cauca. Activities: influencing the public policy for Afro-Colombian women and strengthening the rotary fund.
 - Asociación de Consejos Comunitarios del Norte del Cauca (ACONC) includes 32 consejos comunitarios. Activities: institutional strengthening, including capacity building in ethnic territory governance, productive projects, and institutionalism at the national, regional and local levels.
 - Asociación de Municipios (ASOM). Activities: Knowledge building of policy-with an emphasis on ethnic rights, institutional strengthening, and restoration of income generations for families that have been displaced by force.

COMPONENT FOUR: INCREASED RESPECT FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND IDENTITY

During the current quarter, Component four focused on several activities, including supporting the presentation of a study on race and ethnicity during the Day to Eliminate Racial Discrimination and supporting the remake of a traditional Cartagena song to be showcased during the Summit of the Americas. We also completed the design, printing and distribution of the Program's brochure. The brochure has been shared with various Afro-Colombian and indigenous target organizations and communities and government entities, in order to bring awareness to the Program and its objectives. The front and back covers are shown below.



In addition, the Program further developed its communications strategy with the assistance of a renowned media persona, who has also contributed to the Program's strategy to improve the quality and coverage of Afro-Colombians and indigenous persons in the media, and will contribute to the Program's journalist sensibility training initiative.

Communication Strategy to promote cultural identity and diversity

Campaigns that Promote Ethnic Diversity and Identity

The Program identified two activities that support the objectives of the component: 1) "Chao Racismo", which focuses on discrimination and equality at the national level; and 2) Estampilla Pro-Cultura, which has a focus on the institutional strengthening and promotes identity and a culture of legality in Choco. During the next quarter, the Program will work with the local organizations to begin the implementation of the campaigns.

Develop and Disseminate Audio Visual Materials that Celebrate Ethnic Diversity and Identity

On March 21, in observance of the United Nation's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, findings from Princeton University's Project on Ethnicity and Race in Latin America (PERLA), which examines the social characterization of Afro-descendants in Mexico, Colombia, Peru and Brazil, were presented in Bogotá. Although the publication will not be officially available until January 2013, the Program received the permission of the researchers to present the findings for Colombia in advance. Representatives of the Universidad de los Andes, the Observatory of Racial Discrimination, the Universidad del Valle, Princeton University, USAID and private sector officials attended the presentation of a chapter from the study called "Colombia: Una Pirámide Social Pigmentocrática." It was conducted by Fernando Urrea and Carlos Viáfara from the Universidad del Valle and Mara Viveros from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia. The study's authors were introduced by USAID/Colombia's Ileana Baca, who serves as the agency's deputy director of the Office of Vulnerable Populations (OVP). As a next step, the study will be presented in Cali on the Day of Afrodescendants. RCN and Caracol TV are preparing specials on the findings of the study that will include interviews with the investigation teams of Brazil and the University of Princeton. The Program is also looking into working with the Ministry of Culture in order to design education materials based on the study, which can be distributed in the target areas of the Program.

The Program worked with Corporacion Heroicos to support its project to promote AfroCaribbean culture. The project will strengthen new forms of social awareness and appropriation of Afro-Caribbean culture through audiovisual material about Cartagena's popular culture. Among the activities is the remix of a traditional song titled "Canto al Amor", which will be reproduced by popular local artists Dragon y Caballero and the author of the original song, Hugo Alandete. The song will be showcased during the Summit of the Americas, and in concerts around the country, which will increase the impact of the project at the national level.

Two organizations were identified as potential candidates interested and capable of providing capacity building at the national and regional levels with a differentiated approach regarding

Afro-Colombians and Indigenous persons to communications media and opinion leaders. The Program also identified several initiatives and institutions that promote multi-culturalism and equality and work at the regional level, such as Colectivo CEUNA, “Cineafro a la calle”, Corporación Minikusuto, Fundación Arteria, and the Museo del Caribe. In the following quarter, the list of high impact players in this area will be finalized and the most representative initiatives by region/work area will be selected.

Preservation, strengthening, and dissemination of cultural expressions and traditions

The Program and the Ministry of Culture agreed to support the processes involved with the *planes de salvaguardia* and the Lista Representativa del Patrimonio Inmaterial (LRPCI) that are in the target regions of the Program. We will enter into an agreement with the Ministry of Culture that clearly defines the activities that will be supported. Among those being discussed are cultural spaces in Palenque de San Basilio, marimba music and traditional songs of the Southern Pacific of Colombia, the regulatory system of the Wayuus, the festival of San Pacho y Quibdo and the midwives in the Pacific.

Recovery of the ethnic history of Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities: The Program identified proposals (Ex. Universidad Simón Bolívar, Corpolaroteca) for research, recovery of the history of these communities and some territorial entities and organizations such as the raizal community and the San Andres Government have prioritized this activity. Based on the findings of the information gathered, the Program gained a better understanding of the realm of activities as well as their potential impact in terms of contributing to the results of the component. Based on the information, the component will conduct a competitive process during the next quarter.

Cultural Exchanges and Dialogues

An expert was hired to help identify potential activities and successful opportunities that can be replicated through the Program. We are evaluating the preliminary findings on local and regional cultural exchanges.

5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

ACDI/VOCA received comments from USAID for the Program's Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (PMEP) on March 29 and will submit a revised version in April for USAID approval.

In consultation with USAID, it was agreed that the Program's baseline assessment will be developed in coordination with ACDI/VOCA through the Monitor Program and funded by USAID under a procurement with DevTech. Preliminary coordination meetings with USAID and DevTech were held in March. Terms of references for the baseline assessment are expected to be approved by early April, with the baseline assessment launched under a sub-contract issued by DevTech by late April.

6. LOOKING FORWARD – ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE FORTHCOMING QUARTER

- Component One: continued implementation of support to the Ministry of the Interior in strategic assessment and planning, and in the implementation of Autos 004 and 005; continuation of Program support to targeted communities to enhance access to the *Fondo de Regalías*; continued strengthening support to national-level organizations; support to departmental and municipal governments of major cities of the Program area in the inclusion of the priorities of Afro-Colombian communities in their PDMs/PDDs and in the definition of inclusion policies.
- Component Two: further identification of potential activities through analysis and assessment of PDMs/PDDs; launching of the Program annual program statement (APS).
- Component Three: continued implementation of the Program support of the governance training for municipalities; launch Program support to several territorial organizations; identification of the priorities of the main regional ethnic organizations including the agreement and design of strategic activities.
- Component Four: launching of at least one special cultural initiative.
- Land: jointly with INCODER, organization and support of a formal handover of collective land titles to community councils for San Basilio de Palenque and La Boquilla by Presidents Obama and Santos in the context of the Summit of the Americas.
- Gender and youth: facilitation of events as a forum for discussion on the definitive design of gender equity policy with the participation of Afro-Colombian communities. Definition of the youth at risk strategy in three Program target cities.
- M&E: approval and implementation of the Program's PMEP; uploading of indicator data to Monitor; launching of the Program's baseline assessment in collaboration with USAID's Monitor Program.
- Operational: establishment and implementation of the security plan; establishment and operation of the Program office in San Andres.
- Meetings with DPS to establish a framework agreement for collaboration in areas of common interest.

ANNEX 1

STUDY RESULTS OF ETHNICITY AND RACE IN COLOMBIA RELEASED *USAID Afro-Colombian and Indigenous Program Shares Findings on International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination*

On March 21, in observance of the UN's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Afro-Colombian and Indigenous Program ("Program") supported a presentation on the findings from Princeton University's Project on Ethnicity and Race in Latin America (PERLA), which examines the social characterization of Afro-descendants in Mexico, Colombia, Peru and Brazil.

Although the publication will not be officially available until January 2013, the Program received permission of the researchers to present the findings for Colombia in advance.

Examining Social Structures in Colombia

Representatives of the Universidad de los Andes, the Observatory of Racial Discrimination, the Universidad del Valle, Princeton University, USAID and private sector officials attended the presentation of a chapter from the study called "Colombia: Una Pirámide Social Pigmentocrática." It was conducted by Fernando Urrea and Carlos Viáfara from the Universidad del Valle and Mara Viveros from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia.



PERLA report release event in Colombia.

The study's authors were introduced by USAID/Colombia's Ileana Baca, who serves as the agency's deputy director of the Office of Vulnerable Populations.

Income Disparities Based on Race

During the presentation, the authors introduced the notion of "pigmentocracy" to indicate that social classes in Colombia have skin colors. This means that, as a general trend, the wealthiest people (socially, culturally, educationally, economically, etc.) have lighter skin color than those with lower incomes.

In addition, the researchers reported that, within the Afro-descendants, there are important socioeconomic disparities. For example, "mulatto" sectors, which are a minority, have achieved more upward social mobility trajectories than people with darker skin color.

Another finding from the study is that women with darker skin color face the greatest challenges in the Colombian social order, followed by black men, then women and men of lighter skin colors.

Moving Forward to Reduce Discrimination, Break Down Barriers

Despite these challenges, the study did recommend a way forward. Research results show that by publicly emphasizing the importance of those of African descent and their contributions to the construction of the Colombian nation, there will be a more favorable public acceptance and recognition of African origin and a more positive assessment of black self-identity.

The Afro-Colombian and Indigenous Program is supporting activities and initiatives - aimed right at the heart of these findings and recommendations- those that influence perceptions, knowledge, and appreciation of the Colombian society of the values, traditions and contributions that Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities contribute to the fabric of Colombian society, taking into account the strategies of reaffirmation of identity and self-recognition that will develop and promote intercultural exchange and acceptance.