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Atención a las Víctimas de Minas Anti-personales Afectadas por el Conflicto en Colombia

Landmine Activities for Victims of the Conflict in Colombia

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**QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT
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Submitted by implementing agency:

MERCY CORPS

USAID/Colombia

Program Summary

Grant Amount: \$3,799,935

Program Period: Aug. 28, 2008 – Aug. 27, 2011

Geographic Coverage: 22 departments total of which six priority departments include Antioquia, Norte Santander, Nariño, Caquetá, Cauca, Meta

Number of Beneficiaries: 600 landmine survivors, 60,890 total including indirect beneficiaries and others including PWDs

Partner Organizations: Main Partner - Campaña Colombiana Contra Minas (CCCM); Other Partners and Cooperation Organizations - International Committee of the Red Cross; Corporación Paz y Democracia; Hospital Universitario de Nariño; Hospital Maria Inmaculada; Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje (SENA); Universidad Don Bosco (El Salvador)

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Executive Summary & Key Achievements

This quarter Mercy Corps and CCCM served nearly 9,000 vulnerable Colombians through the implementation of integrated rehabilitation, socio-economic integration and public policy advocacy activities. The Program team provided orientation on rights, integrated medical assistance and psychosocial support to landmine survivor families, 42 survivors and comprehensive follow-up assistance¹ to an additional 176 survivors from past quarters. Key progress made between January – March 2010 towards Program Objectives and Results are summarized below.

Mercy Corps and the CCCM team continued work this quarter to improve integrated rehabilitation services through the adaptation of security equipment (hand rails, no-slip floors) and conversion of the hydrotherapy area, per USAID recommendations made in August 2009. Other important progress this quarter with the Caquetá Rehabilitation Center included the completion of the facility construction and the purchase of required physical therapy equipment reported during the previous quarter.

Important progress was made in terms of building alliances with ICRC for the training of surgeons and physiotherapists who assist war victims in all six departments. However, the training of 30 P&O technicians through online courses as part of a tripartite agreement between SENA, University Don Bosco and Mercy Corps faced serious challenges as SENA announced its lack of capacity to honor the agreements regarding tuition and materials coverage for the selected students. This situation creates a budgetary gap on which Mercy Corps is currently working to resolve with the invaluable support from USAID and Leahy War Victims Fund.

Socioeconomic re-integration activities were prolific this quarter highlighted by the important alliance created with the Polus Center and the National Federation of Coffee Growers in the department of Nariño. In Cauca, Antioquia and Santander, thirty two (32) landmine survivors developed investments plans, quotes and developed commercial relations with local vendors; therefore, activating local economies and participating as important economic actors in their communities.

Also progress was made with the socio-economic integration component and the SEI working groups active in Antioquia, Cauca and Nariño, which resulted in new information sharing and coordination for the efficient allocation of resources to landmine survivors and their families. Lastly, continuing progress made during the previous quarter, The MC and CCCM team supported the Department Committees for Mine Action in Antioquia, Caquetá, Cauca, Nariño and Norte de Santander. Committee meetings were held this quarter in five of the six priority departments, with special emphasis on, Caquetá and Nariño Committee planning for the improvement of Victims' Assistance at the local level.

¹ Follow – up support was provided for legal processes and document submission to facilitate survivor access to humanitarian aid and reparations from FOSYGA, arrangement of medical appointments and orientation regarding how to access non-rehabilitation humanitarian and medical services.

Acronyms

Acción Social	Social Action Program of the Presidency of the Republic of Colombia
ACIN	Asociación de Cabildos Indígenas del Norte del Cauca
CCCM	Colombian Campaign Against Mines (Campaña Colombiana Contra Minas)
CIREC	Centro Integral de Rehabilitación de Colombia
COP	Colombian Pesos
EPAO	Escuela Popular de Artes y Oficios
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
FARC	Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia
FOSYGA	Social Solidarity and Guarantee Fund
GOC	Government of Colombia
HUDN	University Hospital of Nariño
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICBF	Colombian Family Welfare Institute
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
IMMAP	Information Management for Mine Action Programs
IMSMA	Information Management System for Mine Action
ISPO	International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics
MC	Mercy Corps
MRE	Mine Risk Education
NIMWG	National Information Management Working Group
OAS	Organization of American States
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PAICMA	Presidential Program for Integrated Action against Antipersonnel Mines
P&O	Prosthetic and Orthotic
PWD	Persons with Disabilities
SENA	National Learning Service
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UXO	Unexploded Ordinance

1. Indicators

Leahy Fund Indicators for this quarter

Table 1: Key Q2FY_10 and Cumulative Indicator Leahy Fund Progress
1 January to 31 March 2010

Indicator	Cumulative 2009	Progress Q2 FY'10	Cumulative 2010	Cumulative 2009-2010
Number of persons trained	420	146	146	566
Number of persons served	4.225	2.855	2.855	7.080
Number of institutions strengthened	0	25	25	25

US Mission Indicators for this quarter

Table 2: Achievements January to March 2010
1 January to 31 March 2010

Performance Indicators	LoP Goal	2010 (AWP target)	2009 Cummu.	Q2 FY'10 (actual)	Cumm. 2010	2010 / AWP target %	2009-2010 Cumm.	% Cumm./LoP Adj
1. Vulnerable persons benefited	17.160	5.592	2.724	2.847	2.847	50,9%	5.571	32,5%
IDPs benefitted	-	0	0	177	177	n.a	177	n.a
Landmine survivors benefitted	600	164	350	304	304	185,4%	654	109,0%
Other persons with disabilities	16.560	5.428	2.374	2.543	2.543	46,8%	4.917	29,7%
Afro-Colombians assisted	18	8	18	0	0	0,0%	18	100,0%
Indigenous assisted	18	8	18	7	7	87,5%	25	138,9%
2. Socio-Economic reintegration	370	208	75	121	121	58,2%	196	53,0%
Jobs created	175	88	25	105	105	119,3%	130	74,3%
Jobs strengthened	195	120	50	16	16	13,3%	66	33,8%
Beneficiaries graduating from vocational training	33	15	0	0	0	0,0%	0	0,0%
Beneficiaries with access to education	85	32	21	0	0	0,0%	21	24,7%
3. Health	38.209	14.464	9.124	1.123	1.123	7,8%	10.247	26,8%
Beneficiaries with access to health care	534	200	150	69	69	34,5%	219	41,0%
Beneficiaries with access to rehabilitation services (survivors + family members+ other persons with disabilities)	38.209	14.464	9.124	1.123	1.123	7,8%	10.247	26,8%
4. Public Policy	720	240	240	95	95	39,6%	335	46,5%
Persons benefited from institutional strengthening	720	240	240	95	95	39,6%	335	46,5%
5. Other Indicators								
Private sector funds leveraged (US \$000) *(1)	-	-	-	108	108	n.a	108	n.a
Public Sector funds leveraged (US \$000)	-	-	-	0	0	n.a	0	n.a
Women beneficiaries	2.768	1.003	592	569	569	56,8%	1.161	42,0%
Men beneficiaries	10.397	170	10.071	2.278	2.278	1339,8%	12.349	118,8%
Children beneficiaries	2.768	1.003	592	142	142	14,2%	734	26,5%
People trained	1.890	630	420	146	146	23,2%	566	29,9%

*(1) TRM: 1,850

Progress Towards Program Indicators

Indicator	Description of Indicator	LoP Goal	Achievements Q2 FY'10	Cumulative 2009-2010	% of Adjusted LoP
1	Number of persons from mine/armed conflict affected communities that increase their capacity as first responders to mines/UXO and other ERW related emergencies.	630	198	198	31%
2	Number of landmine survivors, people with disabilities, and other victims of armed conflict who access rehabilitation services at the two new rehabilitation centers established in Caquetá and Nariño.	38.209	10.247	10247	27%
3	Number of health care staff employed by the Hospital Maria Inmaculada and Hospital Universitario de Nariño rehabilitation centers that have been trained in specific needs of beneficiaries and that provide assistance.	30	27	27	90%
4	Number of Colombian P&O technicians trained and certified as Cat II technicians by ISPO.	30	0	0	0%
5	SENA has the technical capacity and suitable methodologies to train new P&O technicians that comply with International quality standards by ISPO.	3	3	3	100%
6	Number of socioeconomic working groups established and coordinating activities in order to strengthen socioeconomic initiatives with landmine survivors.	6	4	4	67%
7	Number of landmine survivors and their families that access income generation initiatives that improve their quality of life.	300	32	32	11%
8	Number of Departmental Committees for Integrated Mine Action that have defined work plans and information flowcharts for integrated assistance to landmine survivors and advocacy related to mine action public policies.	6	4	4	67%
9	Number of health care providers that improve management practices thereby increasing access to health care and rehabilitation services to landmine survivors, victims of armed conflict and other people with disabilities.	6	4	4	67%

2. Progress Towards Objectives

The Program objectives are outlined below, specifying progress between 1 January and March 2010 by result and activity.

Objective 1: Landmine survivors, victims of armed conflict and other people with disabilities in the departments of Antioquia, Caquetá, Cauca, Meta, Nariño and Norte de Santander have better quality and access to rehabilitation services by the end of the Program (Sept. 2011)

Result 1.1 220 leaders from mine affected communities and other conflict manifestations in Nariño (110 beneficiaries) and Norte de Santander (110 beneficiaries) have an increased capacity as first responders in case of emergencies.

Activity 1.1.1. To improve the capacity to respond to emergencies caused by mines, IED, UXO and other explosive remnants of war, through participatory first-aid workshops with mine/armed conflict-affected communities in the departments of Nariño and Norte de Santander.

The activity, which was initially programmed for implementation during the first quarter of 2010, has been postponed given the serious security conditions in Nariño, Meta and Caquetá due to escalations in armed conflict and the presidential elections.

Security risks were registered in each of the selected municipalities; however, preliminary tasks were still executed in the departments such as 1) identification of first aid workshop participants, 2) presentation of the activity to local authorities, and 3) identification of facilities to hold the Workshops. It is expected that the community First Aid Workshops will initiate after the end of the presidential electoral process in June 2010.

Following, primary activities executed in each of the six priority departments are reported from this quarter.

DEPT	TASK	RESULT
Nariño	<p>a. Risk analysis for the development of Community First Aid workshops</p> <p>On January 13, 2010, a meeting was held with the Nariño department government delegate and the Coordinator for the Department Program on Risk Analysis due to the following recent events:</p> <p>Two bombs detonated on the highway between Samaniego and Ipiales</p> <p>One bomb detonated on the highway between Samaniego and Santa Cruz de Guachaves in the sector of Balalaica.</p> <p>Seven homicides in the municipalities of Santa Cruz, Samaniego and Sotomayo</p> <p>Two homicides in Barbacoas</p>	<p>Taking into account the risk analysis findings, and given that forced confinement by armed groups in the sectors of Buenavista, El Decio, El Sande, Samaniego, El Diviso and Tortugaña in Barbacoas, it was determined necessary to postpone the First Aid workshops until after the election season. They will be re-scheduled once reasonable levels of security and public order in the department have been reached, and the MC and CCCM team conclude a follow-up risk analysis.</p>
	<p>b. Presentation on the purpose of the community First Aid Workshops with municipal authorities from La Llanada, Santa Cruz de Guachavés, Samaniego, Barbacoas, Los Andes Sotomayor and Ipiales</p> <p>Visits were made to the municipalities of La Llanada (January 26, 2010) and Ipiales (January 29, 2010) to present on Program progress and First Aid activities. Calls were made regarding the First Aid workshops to the mayors of Sana Cruz de Guachaves, Samaniedo, Barbacoas and Los Andes de Sotomayor</p>	<p>An in-kind donation was acquired from the mayor of La Llanada for transportation of the participants to the First Aid workshop</p> <p>The mayor of Ipiales offered the use of the municipal building and the community hall to hold the First Aid workshop.</p> <p>Mayors of the remaining municipalities have committed support to mobilize participants and provide in-kind support once it is possible to make field visits.</p>

- a. Risk analysis for the development of Community First Aid workshops:

On February 23, 2010, a meeting was held with the N. Santander department government delegate and the Coordinator for the Department Program on Risk Analysis due to the following recent events:

Armed incursion into the Catatumbo humanitarian safe zone / refuge

Forced displacement, torture and killing of three community leaders in the municipalities of Tibu and Ocaña

12 homicides registered between January 1st and February 20th in the municipality of Tibu.

Taking into account the risk analysis findings, it was determined necessary to postpone the First Aid workshops until after the election season. They will be re-scheduled once reasonable levels of security and public order in the department have been reached, and the MC and CCCM team conclude a follow-up risk analysis.

Taking into account the risk analysis findings, the First Aid workshops have been re-programmed for July 2010, after the presidential elections.

Result 1.2 Departments of Nariño and Caquetá have Rehabilitation Centers that provide integrated, efficient and high quality services to landmine survivors, victims of armed conflict and other persons with disabilities.

There were 42 accidents in the six priority departments between 1 January and 31 March 2010. Survivors and their families, as well as families of civilian victims who did not survive were assisted by the Program through the CCCM department teams, with the following integrated assistance:

Location and orientation of landmine victims and their family members:

1. Initial orientation with survivors and their families post-accident to ensure that they receive emergency assistance and basic information about benefits that they are eligible for, and referral to local support networks for shelter and emergency humanitarian aid.
2. Assistance to survivors and their families for orientation on their legal rights, and preparation and filing of documentation to apply for government humanitarian assistance and reparations from Acción Social and FOSYGA that are available to landmine survivors / other victims of armed conflict.

**New landmine survivors
1 January to 31 March 2010**

Departments	Girls (under 18)	Boys (under 18)	Women (Adults)	Men (Adults)	TOTAL	Indigenous	Afrocolombians	Farmers	Other
Antioquia	1	1		9	11	3		3	3*+ 2**
Cauca			1	4	5	1		4	
Caquetá		2		2	4			2	2**
Nariño	1	1	1	8	11	3		6	2**
N.Santander				2	2				2*
Meta		2	1	6	9			4	3*+ 2**
Total	2	6	3	31	42	7	0	19	16

* Manual erradicators

** Students

The Mercy Corps' team and CCCM department Coordinators worked closely with the Pastoral Social, ICRC, Corporation Paz y Democracia, Fundación Mi Sangre and Moviment per la Pau, among others, to complement resources and

technical expertise to provide initial humanitarian aid as well as to start the process with survivors and their families to access assistance.

In addition, second phase follow-up assistance was provided by Program staff in the six priority departments to 176 landmine survivors with the following:

1. Individualized support related to emergency and stabilization medical assistance, including psychosocial support.
2. Assistance for transport, lodging, scheduling of appointments, access to humanitarian aid during the rehabilitation process, including prosthetic/orthotic adaptation.
3. Follow-up assistance with survivors who have applications in process for government benefits and reparations from Acción Social/ FOSGYA.
4. Assistance for survivor community integration and access to socio-economic integration opportunities if they return to their communities of origin.

Follow - up with Landmine Survivors
1 January to 31 March 2010

Departments	Girls (under 18)	Boys (under 18)	Women (Adults)	Men (Adults)	TOTAL	Indigenous	Afrocolombians	Farmers	Other
Antioquia	3	5		27	35	3		24	8
Cauca	1	3	4	16	24	7	4	9	4
Caquetá		3		9	12	2		7	3
Nariño	2	5	4	27	38	9	2	20	7
N.Santander				22	22			22	0
Meta		5	4	36	45	7		33	5
Total	6	21	12	137	176	28	6	115	27

* Manual erradicators

** Students

Activity 1.2.1. Finalize the adaptation and equipment installation process at the Hospital Universitario Departamental de Nariño – HUDN, with safety and quality criteria, with emphasis on the hydrotherapy and “*proprioception*” areas.

Following the recommendations made by USAID, Mercy Corps started the adaptation of the hydrotherapy area equipment at the Rehabilitation Center of the HUDN, included the following:

1. Conversion of the Hubbard Tank to hydro-jet system. The tank was successfully converted on February 8, 2010. The conversion will save the Hospital at least US\$ 8,000 in water consumption and over 6,000 liters of clear water per year.
2. Safety rails for the therapy pool were successfully installed on 15 February 2010.

Regarding the water heating system for equipment in the hydrotherapy area, Mercy Corps contracted a technical study to analyze and recommend the best options available. After a tender process, the engineering company Lloreda Pineda, with more than 30 years of relevant experience, carried out the study between 30 January and 14 March 2010. The report with technical recommendations and initial designs to make hydrotherapy services at the Center fully operational during the next quarter were presented to the Hospital staff.

Main tasks & results this quarter:

DEPT	TASK	RESULT
Nariño	Conversion of the Hubbard Tank to a hydro-jet system. The tank was successfully converted on February 8, 2010, saving the Hospital at least US\$ 8,000 in water consumption and 6,000 liters of water per year.	12 January 2010 – Selection of provider 8 February 2010 - technical adaptation of Hubbard Tank
	Successful installation of safety rails for the physical therapy pool on 15 February 2010.	12 to 15 January 2010 - Identification of potential providers. 18 to 25 January 2010 - Execution of tender process for the purchase of rails. 30 January 2010 – Selection of provider. 15 February 2010 - Installation of rails.
	Water heating system options for the hydrotherapy area analyzed.	24 January – Selection of provider. 30 January to 13 February – technical visits to Telethon, San Felipe Neri and CIREC in Bogotá. 15 to 21 February – Technical visit to HUDN in Pasto. 28 February – Presentation of results to Mercy Corps. 14 March – Presentation of results to the HUDN.

Activity 1.2.2. Building and equipment of Rehabilitation Center at Hospital María Inmaculada - HMI of Florencia, Caquetá.

After significant progress with construction of the Rehabilitation Center at the Hospital María Inmaculada, the hydrotherapy area was completed on February 8, 2010. However, after an evaluation of the construction in terms of legal compliance for Colombian health facilities, a list of items that needed to be addressed before opening the Center was drawn up. Mercy Corps and CCCM team met with Hospital Staff in order to define an action plan to make the needed adjustments. The plan was finalized and commitments reached with the Hospital staff on February 22, 2010 for the following:

- Construction of a family restroom with pediatric facilities and a baby changing table.
- Installation of required rails and anti – fungus/anti – slip flooring for the hydrotherapy area.
- All bathrooms in the Rehabilitation Center adapted with hand rails.
- Adaptation of lockers in patient changing rooms in hydrotherapy area.
- Repair of façade and front door.
- Tint windows and install security bars.
- Identify and design emergency evacuation routes.

Regarding the purchase of rehabilitation equipment, Mercy Corps received the Sole Source and Origin Waiver and awarded the contract to *Fisiomédica and Ortopédicos Futuro*. Contracts were signed and equipment will be installed at Florencia's Rehabilitation Center in April 2010.

Main tasks & results this quarter:

DEPT	TASK	RESULT
Caquetá	a. Remodeling and construction of rehabilitation center at Hospital María Inmaculada – Florencia, Caquetá	8 February 2010 – completion of hydrotherapy area.
		12 February 2010 – Evaluation of construction regarding compliance with health facility codes.
		12 February 2010 – creation of adjustment plan to rectify identified needs to comply with codes.
	b. Purchase of equipment for Rehabilitation Center Maria Inmaculada.	8 March 2010 – Monitoring visit to review progress towards code compliance and implementation of the adjustment plan.
		January 2010 – Selection of providers, elaboration and signing of contracts.

Activity 1.2.3. Medical updates in knowledge for handling of trauma generated by explosives and integrated rehabilitation of victims of mines and other armed conflict related injuries. Training of orthopedic surgeons and physiotherapists of HMI and HUDN.

Mercy Corps has moved forward with conversations with the International Committee of the Red Cross for planning and execution of joint trainings on surgical management of war victims. The trainings are intended to provide updates on surgical techniques with orthopedic surgeons at level II and III hospitals from Antioquia, Córdoba, Chocó, Meta, Guaviare, Cundinamarca, Caquetá, Nariño, Cauca, Huila, Arauca, Quindío, Santander, Norte de Santander, Tolima and Valle del Cauca. In this sense, Mercy Corps and ICRC have agreed to lead four (4) trainings:

CITY	PROPOSED DATES
Pasto	9 - 11 April 2010
Villavicencio	14 - 16 May 2010
Montería	4 - 6 June 2010
Cúcuta	25 - 27 June 2010

Additionally, Mercy Corps and ICRC will hold two trainings with fourteen (14) Physiotherapists on Physical Therapy for amputees in Cali and Medellín during the next quarter. The training will be divided into two phases:

- Two weeks of in-person training
- One week for follow-up with Physiotherapists at each rehabilitation Center on application of their acquired knowledge.

Activity 1.2.4. Strengthen the social work team capacity at HMI and HUDN in order to improve support to landmine survivors.

Between March 1st -15th 2010, Coordinators visited the Level II and III Hospitals that assist landmine survivors in each department to present the activity and assess the capacity of the Social Work team. The results of the assessment will be systematized, analyzed and shared with participation of the Hospital Social Work staff in April 2010.

Result 1.3. Increased national capacity to provide quality prosthetic and orthotic services, according to international standards.

Activity 1.3.1. Training of 30 P&O technicians from the departments of Antioquia, Caquetá, Cauca, Meta, Nariño and Norte de Santander through online distance courses.

Unfortunately, and after 18 months of work with SENA – National Learning Service, University Don Bosco and ICRC to develop the online distance courses for P&O technicians, SENA, announced that they were not able to participate in the trainings. The SENA provided two reasons for this: 1) their prohibition of signing cooperative agreements and/or contracts during the election period (*Ley de Garantías*), a national norm prohibiting public institutions from contracting or committing financial resources in run up to elections; and 2) the lack of capacity to provide proper follow-up with the students of the online course.

This decision was communicated to Mercy Corps on January 24, 2010. Mercy Corps met with SENA to discuss the possible solutions to the impasse on February 9, 2010, but SENA responded negatively to any possible alternative. However, a compromise was reached during a visit from UDB's representatives to Colombia. Mercy Corps, SENA, UDB and ICRC representatives met on March 10, during which an agreement was reached that SENA would provide the necessary facilities and insurance to the students for the in-person training module.

In order to ensure the implementation and sustainability of the activity, Mercy Corps will work with USAID and Leahy War Victims Fund to approve a cost extension for a fourth year (2011-2012).

Activity 1.3.2. Support the SENA program “P&O Technology” through the training of three (3) ISPO certified instructors (one Cat II and two Cat I).

Students started their third training module for Category I and Category II at the Universidad Don Bosco – UDB, in January 2010. All three students have reported satisfaction with the course contents and instructors, and the University representatives have also reported that the three students are performing well. At the end of this academic period, Mercy Corps will report on their respective grades and further detail on their progress.

Objective 2 Landmine survivors and their families in the departments of Antioquia, Caquetá, Cauca, Meta, Nariño and Norte de Santander have access to socio-economic integration alternatives according to their community context and capacities by the end of the Program (September 2011).

Result 2.1. Departmental Committees for Integrated Mine Action in Antioquia, Caquetá, Cauca, Meta, Nariño and Norte de Santander have increased capacity to coordinate and manage socio-economic integration initiatives for landmine survivors.

Activity 2.1.1 Establish and/or strengthen Socio-Economic Integration Working Groups at departmental level, in the Framework of the six (6) Departmental Committees for Mine Action.

The first quarter of 2010 was primarily dedicated to the establishment and strengthening of Socio-Economic Working Groups in the departments of Cauca, Nariño, Norte de Santander.

After the important successes of past quarters with planning and information sharing with key actors in Antioquia, efforts were focused on two primary activities:

1. To create and/or strengthen and activate Socio-Economic Integration Working Groups in other priority departments.
2. Share information with key actors at the departmental level in preparation for the selection of landmine survivor socio-economic integration beneficiaries.

In this regard, Mercy Corps' Socio-Economic Integration (SEI) Coordinator and the CCCM Project Coordinator attended two Socio-Economic Integration Working Group meetings in Antioquia, two meetings in Nariño and two in Cauca.

Mercy Corps and CCCM presented on the importance of this strategy to all key actors developing Socio-Economic Integration activities in Nariño and Cauca, where a SEI working group was established. The following table shows the tasks and results achieved in these three departments in relation to Activity 2.1.1.

The following table shows the tasks and results achieved in these three departments.

Main tasks & results this quarter:

DEPT	TASK	RESULT
Nariño	January 29, 2010 – Meeting of the Socio-Economic Integration Working Group	Mercy Corps and CCCM presented the results of its socio-economic evaluation in Antioquia, Cauca and Santander, addressing lessons learned that could be applied in Nariño. Participants attending the meeting were: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fundación Mi Sangre – CIREC 2. Moviment Per la Pau 3. ICRC 4. Fundación Restrepo Barco 5. Federación Nacional de Cafeteros de Colombia 6. Organization of American States – OAS 7. Nariño Government Secretariat 8. Pastoral Social 9. Mercy Corps 10. CCCM
	March 10, 2010 – Third meeting of the Nariño SEI Working Group	Participants shared information on their projects including names and location of beneficiaries and methodologies.
Cauca	February 5, 2010 – Third Meeting of the Working Group in Cauca	Mercy Corps and CCCM presented the results of its socio-economic evaluation in Antioquia, Cauca and Santander, addressing lessons learned from the experience and challenges in Cauca. Participants attending the meeting were: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SENA 2. Pastoral Social 3. Fundación Tierra de Paz 4. Cruz Roja Colombiana 5. Fundación Valle de Pubenza 6. Geneva Call 7. ACIN (Association of Indigenous Reservations of Northern Cauca)
	February 12, 2010 – Meeting with the SEI Working Group in Medellín	The Productivity Secretariat of the Antioquia Governor's Office shared about their projects and methodologies. Participants provided names and location data of beneficiaries in order for them to participate in Government-supported projects.
Antioquia		

March 29, 2010 – Meeting with the SEI Working Group in Medellin.

Led by Mercy Corps and the CCCM, the group defined strategies to promote the active participation of Landmine Survivor Associations at the meetings. Mercy Corps provided support for the participation of representatives of Survivor Associations from Cocorná, San Luis and San Francisco. Survivors shared their expectations and contributed to the identification of lessons learned for income generation initiatives, which showed the impact of these activities at personal and community levels.

Result 2.2. 130 landmine survivors and their families access income generation initiatives that improve their quality of life.

Activity 2.2.1. To promote the access of 130 landmine survivors and their families to income generation initiatives.

As reported in previous quarters, between the months of May and December of 2009, Mercy Corps contracted the NGO “*Escuela Popular de Artes y Oficios – EPAO*” for the evaluation of 50 income generation initiatives supported by the Colombian Campaign Against Landmines in Antioquia (20), Cauca (20) and Santander (10), with the financial support from the governments of Norway and Colombia.

After the study and validation of information with the Departmental Coordinators of Antioquia, Cauca, Santander and National Coordination of the CCCM, Mercy Corps concluded that 32 beneficiaries (63%) have a strong need of financial support in order to guarantee sustainability of their business and thereby improve their quality of life.

It is apparent that not all beneficiaries need the same kind of support, and in this regard, the proposed assistance has been categorized as follows:

Strengthening: 25 beneficiaries will continue with their initial businesses. However, in order for these businesses to possess sufficient economic resources to guarantee sustainability, they require seed capital of nearly US\$ 950. Four of these businesses need additional capital above this estimate.

Reformulation: Seven business need to be completely reformulated due to their lack of success. The majority of these businesses are poultry projects that had a low initial investment. It is clear that all seven beneficiaries made considerable efforts to continue their projects. But given their limited technical capacity, low investment and critical personal situations, they were not sustainable. Three of the seven projects need an investment above the US\$ 950 average.

Non-Inclusion: For the other 19 beneficiaries, Mercy Corps considers that there is not an immediate need for them to be supported by the Program, due to the following reasons:

- Six survivors will be financially supported by Fundación Mi Sangre in the municipality of Cocorná²
- Three of the initially supported beneficiaries could not be located despite extensive efforts made by Mercy Corps and CCCM.
- Two survivors have sustainable businesses and do not need additional financial resources.
- Two survivors have permanent employment.
- Five beneficiaries have failed business and showed no clear interest in developing a new initiative. For each of these five cases Mercy Corps suggested their inclusion in psychosocial programs, including treatment for alcoholism.

² It is important to mention that the efforts of Fundación Mi Sangre in Cocorná are technically supported by Mercy Corps.

This quarter, Mercy Corps and CCCM focused on activities to prepare beneficiaries for the distribution of seed capital. Beneficiaries in Cauca, Santander and Antioquia participated in training events for business plan and budget development. They also identified quotes from local providers to purchase capital equipment and established marketing plans and business projections. The following table shows the tasks and results achieved in these three departments.

Main tasks & results this quarter:

DEPT	TASK	RESULT
Santander	26 – 27 January 2010, Bucaramanga – Meeting with Department Coordinator and beneficiaries for the elaboration of SEI strengthening/reformulation plans.	<p>Mercy Corps and CCCM presented the analysis of the evaluation of Socio-Economic Integration activities at individual and collective levels. Beneficiaries shared their experiences regarding the evaluation as well as their expectations regarding the next phases of the projects.</p> <p>Formats for investment plans, quotes and baselines were presented and adapted according to the specific needs of the projects and their contexts. Beneficiaries were trained on the use of the formats and the identification of markets in their communities.</p>
	18 – 21 February 2010 – Bucaramanga field visits to beneficiaries in their communities and homes	<p>Five beneficiaries were visited to support the development of investment plans for income generation initiatives. Beneficiaries received technical support to address their concerns regarding format requirements and procedures for supporting income generation activities.</p> <p>with the assistance from Mercy Corps and CCCM teams, the beneficiaries elaborated their investments plans and completed the baseline information.</p>
Cauca	17 March 2010, Popayán, Cauca - Meeting with Departmental Coordinator and beneficiaries for the development of SEI strengthening/reformulation plans.	<p>Mercy Corps and CCCM presented the analysis of the evaluation of Socio-Economic Integration activities at individual and collective levels. Beneficiaries shared their experiences regarding the evaluation as well as their expectations regarding the next phases of the projects.</p> <p>Mercy Corps and the CCCM team met with 10 beneficiaries to train them on the use of formats for investments plan, obtaining quotations for equipment and materials, baseline information, as well as marketing methodologies oriented towards the conditions within their communities.</p> <p>Each beneficiary elaborated his/her investment plan and provided baseline information. In addition, beneficiaries that needed quotations from vendors in Popayan were assisted in this process.</p>
	26 March 2010 – Reception and verification of documentation for the disbursement of seed capital.	The CCCM – MC Coordinator sent all relevant documentation, which was evaluated by MC's Socio-Economic Integration Coordinator and then processed for seed capital disbursement.

19 to 26 March 2010,
Medellin - Antioquia.
Meeting with Department
Coordinator and
beneficiaries for the
development of SEI
strengthening/reformulation
plans.

Mercy Corps and CCCM presented the analysis of the evaluation of Socio-Economic Integration activities at individual and collective levels. Beneficiaries shared their experiences regarding the evaluation as well as their expectations regarding the next phase of the income generation projects.

Formats for investment plans, quotes and baselines were presented and adapted according to the specific needs of the projects and their contexts. Beneficiaries were trained on the use of the formats and the identification of markets in their communities.

29 – 31 March, 2010,
Zaragoza, Antioquia –
Field monitoring visits to
beneficiaries in their
communities and homes

MC and CCCM accompanied a landmine survivor from Zaragoza during visit to the Mayor's Office to request to improve public services where his business is now functioning. After inspecting the location, the Mayor's Planning Department agreed to comply with his request.

The baseline survey was applied with 4 survivors. Survivors acquired quotations for purchase of required capital equipment for their income generation initiatives with support from Mercy Corps and the CCCM team.

An important partnership commitment was reached to provide training to all survivors of Zaragoza using the "learning by doing" business methodology. Survivors will rotate through a two-week paid internship on the different aspects of small business development (administration, sales, inventory, storage, etc...) using a local business as a learning laboratory.



Beneficiaries attending training on investment plans in Cauca, Colombia.



Women attending training on investment plans in Cauca, Colombia.



Beneficiaries attending training on investments plans in Santander, Colombia.

Distribution of seed capital, projected for April 2010

Dept	Municipality	Initiative	Support	Amount US\$	Amount COP \$
Antioquia	Zaragoza/La Clariita	Shop	Reformulation	1,425.00	2,636,250.00
Antioquia	Zaragoza	Coal distribution	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Antioquia	Zaragoza /Aquí si	Shop	Reformulation	1,425.00	2,636,250.00
Antioquia	San Luis /Altavista	Fruit distribution	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Antioquia	San Luis	Livestock production	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Antioquia	San Luis/El Silencio	Livestock production	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Antioquia	San Luis/El Silencio	Livestock production	Reformulation	950.00	1,757,500.00
Antioquia	San Francisco/ Guacales	Fast food	Reformulation	950.00	1,757,500.00
Antioquia	San Francisco	Shop	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Antioquia	Medellin	Shop	Reformulation	950.00	1,757,500.00
Antioquia	San Luis	Hog production	Strengthening	1,250.00	2,312,500.00
Antioquia	San Francisco	Fruit distribution	Reformulation	950.00	1,757,500.00
Cauca	Santander de Quilichao	Stationary shop	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Cauca	Timba	Shop	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Cauca	Popayan	Shop	Strengthening	1,200.00	2,220,000.00
Cauca	Caldono	Livestock production	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Cauca	Bolivar	Fashion Boutique	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Cauca	Balboa /San Alfonso	Agriculture	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Cauca	Popayan	Shop	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Cauca	El Tambo	Livestock production	Strengthening	1,000.00	1,850,000.00
Cauca	El Tambo	Agricultural products shop	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Cauca	Bolivar / Lema	Livestock production	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Cauca	Cajibío	Livestock production	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Cauca	Jambalo/Resguardo	Livestock production	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Cauca	Pradera	Cafeteria	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Santander	Girón	Livestock production	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Santander	Galán	Livestock production	Reformulation	1,200.00	2,220,000.00
Santander	San Vicente de Chucuri	Tailor shop	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Santander	Playón	Bakery	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Santander	Playón	Livestock production	Strengthening	950.00	1,757,500.00
Santander	Rionegro	Livestock production	Strengthening	1,000.00	1,850,000.00
Cauca	Popayan	Shop	Strengthening	810.81	1,500,000.00
				32,110.81	59,405,000.00

Regarding the identification of new SEI beneficiaries in Norte de Santander, between March 2-23 2010, Mercy Corps and CCCM team, with the Rehabilitation Center of Norte de Santander identified 22 landmine survivors living in the city of Cucuta who have not received SEI assistance from any organization. The team visited and interviewed the survivors in their homes and applied the SEI baseline surveys. Results will be available during the next quarter.

In Nariño, Mercy corps strengthened its relationship with the National Federation of Coffee Growers (NFCG), thanks to the strategic alliance with Polus Center, a US-based NGO. A meeting was held to explore options for collaboration with SEI initiatives in Pasto on January 27, 2010. On February 27 Mercy Corps, CCCM, Polus Center and the National Federation of Coffee Growers held a planning session to define preliminary activities to select Socio-Economic Integration beneficiaries in Nariño. The following agreements were reached among the participants:

- Mercy Corps will support the National Coffee Growers Federation in Nariño for the identification and technical and financial support for Socio-Economic Integration of landmine survivors who are potential coffee growers in the municipalities of Samaniego, Los Andes and Santa Cruz de Guachavés.
- Polus Center will provide financial and technical support to the National Coffee Growers Federation in Nariño, in order to assist 11 landmine survivors in the municipality of Samaniego, Nariño
- The National Coffee Growers Federation in Nariño will provide technical support to potential coffee growers among identified landmine survivors, through its municipal field extension team. The NCGF will hire a municipal facilitator in Samaniego, who will liaise with landmine survivors, organizations and communities.

During the third week of March, the NCGF hired a municipal facilitator in Samaniego, and during the fourth week of March she was trained by NCGF and Mercy Corps.

Objective 3: Department Committees for Integrated Mine Action in Antioquia, Caquetá, Cauca, Meta, Nariño and Norte de Santander have the mechanisms for the promotion and facilitation of landmine survivor access to integrated assistance by the end of the Program.

Result 3.1. Department Committees for Integrated Mine Action information management mechanisms are strengthened and supporting decision making and planning processes for integrated assistance to landmine survivors.

Activity 3.1.1 Support the formulation of Departmental Committees for Mine Action work plans and information management flowcharts.

Five of the six priority departments continued their Departmental Committee meetings. Primary efforts this quarter were focused on the completion of action plans for Victims' Assistance. The department of Meta did not convene meetings this quarter.

Important results were achieved in the departments of Caquetá and Nariño. The following table outlines activities and results in these two departments.

DEPT	TASK	RESULT
Caquetá	3- 4 February 2010 – Meetings of the Victims' Assistance and Information Management Working Group.	Working Groups shared their perspectives on the results and impacts of the Cartagena Summit. Mercy Corps shared the results of the Program in Caquetá.
		The Committee presented the modified Decree 582 that regulates the creation and membership of the Landmine Victims Assistance Working Group. The decree will be signed by the elected Governor after 20 April 2010.
Nariño	14 – 15 January 2010 – Department Committee Meeting	The meeting was held in four sessions. Session one was a plenary to report achievements and expectation for 2010. Session two and three focused on the elaboration of Working Group action plans and session four was a plenary to share results.
		Mercy Corps and CCCM participated in the Victims Assistance Working Group session, which ended with the elaboration of a problems and objectives tree, outlining the main strategies for the successful assistance of landmine survivors in the department. (see Annex 1).

3. Monitoring & Evaluation Activities

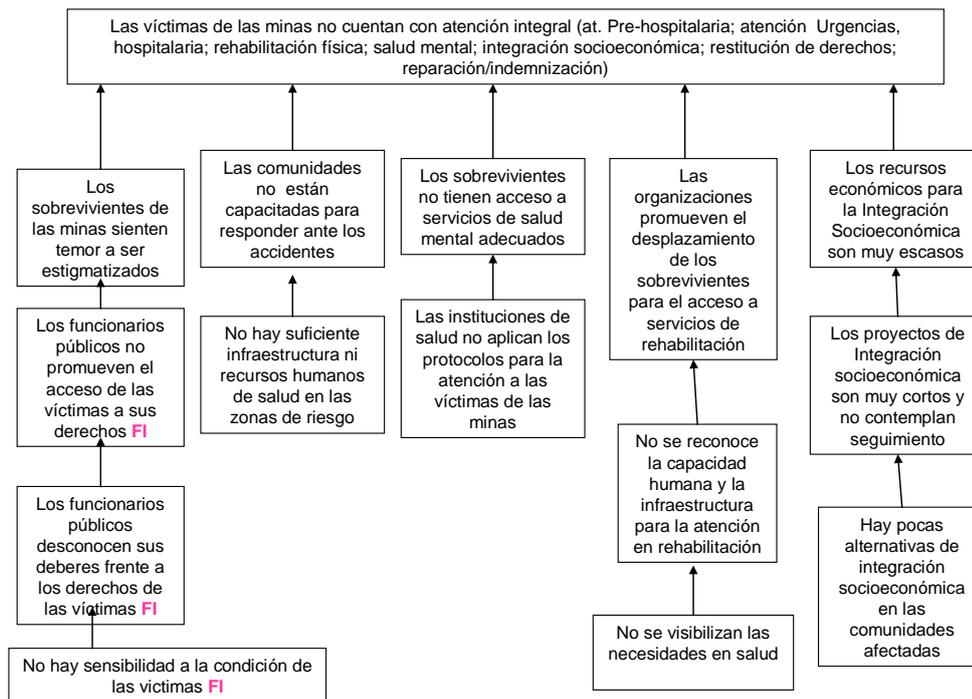
This quarter key Monitoring and Evaluation activities included the meeting of National Team to share experiences, evaluate performance during 2009, and plan 2010 activities. The meeting took place February 9-11 2010, included the following agenda:

- 9 February – Team building experience – “Our Mission” – to realign the team around the Program’s mission and objectives.
- 10 February – Development of department action plans in line with the Year 2 Work Plan. The Coordinators received recommendations and technical advice from the Mercy Corps and CCCM national teams on adaptation to their department contexts.
- 11 February – Training of the Mercy Corps, CCCM and Departmental Coordinators, HMI and HUDN teams on the revised M&E Plan.

Additionally, M&E Plan binders with key documents, guides and monitoring formats were distributed, and participatory activities were executed to build capacity on their use. Field follow-up support during the next quarter is planned with each of the six priority department Coordinators on the implementation of their work plans and use of the M&E Plan formats and instruments. Additionally, a central Program database that captures quantitative data on progress towards USAID Mission, Leahy and Program indicators will be constructed between May and June. The Monitoring and Evaluation team visited the departments of Meta and Cauca in order to support data gathering and reporting techniques of Departmental Coordinators.

A second important Monitoring and Evaluation activity this quarter was the recruitment, interviewing and selection of the national M&E Coordinator for the Program. A final candidate was selected after receiving over 170 CV’s, and carrying out a transparent and rigorous interview process with five qualified finalists (committee was comprised of both Mercy Corps and CCCM key team members). USAID approval was acquired, and the candidate, previously with ARD and the MIDAS program, initiated his contract on April 5th, 2010. The previous Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator provided a full hand-over of primary documents, functions and an overview of key pending and priority activities to ensure a smooth transition.

ANNEX 1. Nariño Victims' Assistance Action Plan. Problem Tree Part 1 - Causes



Nariño Victims' Assistance Action Plan. Problem Tree Part 2 - Consequences



Nariño Victims' Assistance Action Plan. Objective Tree

