



**USAID**  
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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**  
**OCTOBER 1, 2011 – DECEMBER 31, 2011**

Submitted by implementing agency:

MERCY CORPS

USAID/Colombia

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**Program Summary**

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**Grant Amount:** \$4,199,935

**Program Period:** Aug. 28, 2008 – September 30, 2012

**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 PWDs

**Partner Organizations:** Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje (SENA); Universidad Don Bosco (El Salvador)

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## Acronyms

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ACIN	Association of Indigenous Cabildos of Northern Cauca (Asociación de Cabildos de Norte de Cauca)
COP	Colombian Pesos
EPS	Health Provider - Empresa Prestadora de Salud
FARC	Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia
FOSYGA	Social Solidarity Guarantee Fund
GOC	Government of Colombia
HUDN	University Hospital of Nariño
ICBF	Colombian Family Welfare Institute
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IDESAC	Departmental Health Institute of Caquetá - Instituto Departamental de Salud de Caquetá
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
INVIMA	National Institute for Drugs Surveillance - Instituto Nacional de Vigilancia de Medicamentos
ISPO	International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MC	Mercy Corps
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OAS	Organization for American States
PAICMA	Presidential Program for Integrated Action Against Antipersonnel Mines
P&O	Prosthetic and Orthotic
PWD	Persons With Disabilities
SENA	National Learning Service
UDB	Universidad Don Bosco
UN	United Nations
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UXO	Unexploded Ordinance

## Executive Summary & Key Achievements

During this quarter, Mercy Corps, together with its partners, the University Don Bosco and SENA, served over 315 beneficiaries and strengthened 24 organizations in the departments of Antioquia, Bolívar, Cauca, Caquetá, Meta, Nariño, Norte de Santander, Quindío and Valle del Cauca.

Regarding Health and Rehabilitation activities, more than 158 people with disabilities accessed high quality technical assistance services from the 24 Prosthetics and Orthotics Laboratories. An additional 36 patients benefited from high-quality prosthetic and orthotic devices provided by technicians who participate in the online distance training provided by Don Bosco University. Twenty eight students finished training modules which will help them improve the quality of prosthetic and orthotics services offered. A total of 21 students finished Module II while nine finished Module I. Don Bosco University will release information on final grades and student performance by the end of January 2012.

A total of 150 community members from the departments of Cauca and Norte de Santander improved their abilities to respond to emergencies through Community First Aid Training Workshops. These training events increased the capacity of communities to respond to landmine/explosive remnants of war-related emergencies.

Finally, Mercy Corps supported the implementation of public policies to assist landmine survivors and other vulnerable populations, through technical assistance with health care providers in Nariño, Norte de Santander and Cauca. Through this training, Mercy Corps helped governmental and non-governmental stakeholders to identify the health needs of landmine survivors and measures that the government should take to ensure that these needs are fulfilled.

### 1. Indicators

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#### 1.1. Leahy Fund Indicators for this quarter

Indicator	2009-2011 Cumm.	Achievements Q1Y'12	Cumulative 2012	2009-2012 Cumm.
Number of persons trained	1,362	155	155	1,517
Number of persons served	186,620	158	158	186,778
Number of institutions strengthened	128	2	2	130

## 1.2. Mission Indicators for this Quarter

Performance Indicators	LoP Goal	2011 (AWP target)	2009-2011 Cumm.	Q1FY'12	Q1(AWP Target)	Q1/AWP Goal %	Cumm. 2012	2009-2012 Cumm.	% Cumm./LoP Adj
<b>1. Vulnerable persons benefited</b>	<b>17.160</b>	<b>5.259</b>	<b>46.335</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>n,a</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>46.574</b>	<b>271,4%</b>
IDPs benefitted	-	-	587	0	0	n,a	0	587	n.a
Landmine survivors benefitted	600	0	1.011	0	0	n,a	0	1.011	168,5%
Other persons with disabilities	16.560	5.563	45.324	189	0	n,a	189	45.513	274,8%
Afro-Colombians assisted	18	0	107	0	0	n,a	0	107	594,4%
Indigenous assisted	18	0	196	50	0	n,a	50	246	1366,7%
<b>2. Socio-Economic reintegration</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>1.362</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>n,a</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1.368</b>	<b>369,7%</b>
Jobs created	175	45	436	1	0	n,a	1	437	249,7%
Jobs strengthened	195	129	927	0	0	n,a	0	927	475,4%
Beneficiaries graduating from vocational training	33	27	15	5	0	n,a	5	20	60,6%
Beneficiaries with access to education	85	64	184	0	0	n,a	0	184	216,5%
<b>3. Health</b>	<b>38.209</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>184.140</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>n,a</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>184.518</b>	<b>483%</b>
Beneficiaries with access to health care	534	0	653	189	0	n,a	189	842	158%
Beneficiaries with access to rehabilitation services (survivors + family members + other persons with disabilities)**	38.209	0	184.140	189	0	n,a	189	184.329	482,4%
<b>4. Public Policy</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>1.106</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>n,a</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.106</b>	<b>153.6%</b>
Persons benefited from institutional strengthening	720	265	1.106	0	0	n,a	0	1.106	153.6%
<b>5. Other Indicators</b>								<b>0</b>	
Private sector funds leveraged (US \$000) *(1)	-	-	\$ 108,00	\$ 0,00	\$ 0,00	n,a	0	\$ 108,00	n.a
Public Sector funds leveraged (US \$000)	-	-	\$ 296,90	\$ 0,00	\$ 0,00	n,a	0	\$ 296,90	n.a
Women beneficiaries	2.768	564	5.166	0	0	n,a	0	5.166	186,6%
Men beneficiaries	10.397	0	14.379	0	0	n,a	0	14.379	138,3%
Children beneficiaries	2.768	1.654	2.161	0	0	n,a	0	2.161	78,1%
People trained	1.890	1.178	1.345	155	0	n,a	155	1.500	79,4%

\*(1) TRM: 1,810

\*\*The calculation of this indicator is the projection of direct beneficiaries (Rehabilitation Center), multiplied by the average family (4 people)

The Target to Q1 will be defined by USAID in the second Quarter of 2012.

### 1.3. Program Indicators for this Quarter

Indicator	Description of Indicator	LoP Goal	Achievements Q1 FY'12	Cumulative 2009-2012	% 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	150	807	128%
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	158	128,242	335%
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	1	40	133%
4	Number of Colombian P&O technicians trained and certified as Cat II technicians by ISPO.	30	5	35	116%
5	SENA has the technical capacity and suitable methodologies to train new P&O technicians that comply with International quality standards by ISPO.	3	0	3	100%
6	Number of socioeconomic working groups established and coordinating activities in order to strengthen socioeconomic initiatives with landmine survivors.	6	0	4	67%
7	Number of landmine survivors and their families that access income generation initiatives that improve their quality of life.	200	2	202	101%
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	1	6	100%
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	0	45	750%

## 2. Progress Towards Objectives

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Program Objectives are outlined below with progress made between October 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011 by Result and Activity.

**Objective 1:** Landmine survivors, victims of armed conflict and other persons 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.** 630 leaders from landmine and armed conflict-affected communities in Antioquia, Caquetá and Nariño have an increased capacity as first responders to emergencies.

**Activity 1.1.1.** Improve the capacity to respond to emergencies caused by mines, IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices), UXOs (Un-Exploded Ordinances) and other explosive remnants of war, through participatory first aid workshops with affected communities.

During the first semester of 2011, Mercy Corps received requests to expand the number of individuals and communities trained in Community First Aid by health authorities from Norte de Santander, and the NASA Project, including the indigenous reservations of Tacueyó, Toribío and San Francisco. After evaluating the needs and capacity of the indigenous authorities and Mercy Corps' budget, it was decided with USAID that Mercy Corps would proceed with the additional workshops. Subsequently, seven workshops were carried out in Norte de Santander and Cauca, as follows:

### **Cauca**

In partnership with the NASA Project (Tacueyó, Toribío and San Francisco Indigenous Reservation), two workshops were held with the participation of 50 community members who were selected by the indigenous authorities in the area. The workshops were conducted in the municipality of Santander de Quilichao, between the 19<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2011.

### **Norte de Santander**

Between the 21<sup>st</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2011, Mercy Corps and the Health Departmental Institute hosted five Community First Aid workshops in the municipalities of Ocaña (2), El Carmen (1), Teorama (1) and Ábrego (1). Approximately 100 community members were selected by municipal and departmental authorities to participate in the activity.

**Result 1.3.** Increased national capacity to provide quality prosthetic and orthotic (P&O) 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 learning courses.

During this quarter, as part of the technical training of prosthetic and orthotics technicians, Mercy Corps has continued to implement, in association with the Don Bosco University of El Salvador and the National Learning Service – SENA, the following activities:

1. Continued technological training through online distance academic programs:

As reported in the previous quarter, the academic period between the months of May and December 2011 were completed successfully.

After finalizing the selection of new students, the enrollment target of 30 P&O students was again reached. The new student enrollment helped to offset the challenges of several student drop-outs reported during the previous quarter. Taking into account results and challenges faced with the previous module, Mercy Corps divided the students into two groups to ensure improved results and application of knowledge by the participants:

**Group 1** is comprised of 15 students who successfully passed the first module of training and those who, despite having passed, had to repeat one subject.

**Group 2** consists of 15 students 1) who did not pass and must repeat the training module 1, 2) students that had to repeat two subjects or more of Module 1 and, 3) those students who enrolled as replacements after the withdrawal of other students (refer to the Quarterly Report 11).

In order to guarantee the best results possible, Mercy Corps organized and implemented follow-up activities, including:

- a. **Group Skype Calls.** At least two calls during the academic term were held in order to facilitate individual participation and communication, four groups were formed and calls were held between October and December 2011. Students shared their concerns and primary difficulties, both in terms of their academic training and professional development.
- b. **Field Visits.** Between October and December 2011, 17 students in six departments received technical visits from Mercy Corps' Health and Rehabilitation Coordinator, as well as from the Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator. During the visits, students' progress and their application of new knowledge acquired through Program activities was assessed.

After implementing the above activities in close coordination with the Don Bosco University, it was concluded that students needed an extension of the academic period. Therefore, the classroom evaluations were postponed to give them additional study time to further build their knowledge. As a result, the student evaluations that were initially scheduled for early November 2011 were held in late November and early December 2011. Although this decision caused logistical challenges, it was clear that it provided valuable time for students to identify their knowledge gaps and to work to overcome them.

The classroom evaluations were carried out over a two week period. Group 1 (see Annex 1 - List of students per group) underwent evaluations between November 28<sup>th</sup> and December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011. The second group of evaluations took place between December 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011. These activities were carried out at the SENA facilities according to the agreement with Mercy Corps. It is important to highlight that the SENA instructors and supporting staff participated actively during both weeks, which contributed considerably to the success of the activity.

A student who was eight months pregnant and another student who is undergoing treatment for advanced cancer, were not able to take their examinations. Evaluations for these two students have already been re-scheduled and will take place in during the first quarter of 2012 in two phases: 1) theory examinations will be given by Mercy Corps in their home cities (Florencia and Cucuta, respectively) and will be immediately submitted for grading by the UDB, and 2) a practical phase, to be held in conjunction with other students during the next evaluation.

As a second key activity for achieving component outcomes, Mercy Corps continued to provide technical assistance to laboratories associated with the program. Under current Health Ministry regulations and Resolution 1319/2010,

Mercy Corps participated in events for the launch of Resolution 1319 in the departments of Meta, Bolivar and Cordoba. It was clear during the visits, that there are increasing technical concerns associated with the

implementation of the Resolution. Given the lack of capacity of Health authorities at the departmental level, the only laboratories that participated during these meetings were those invited by Mercy Corps.

Mercy Corps has also held regular meetings at the Ministry of Health, both with the Drugs and Technical Aid Group as well as with the Disability Group. These meetings have helped educate the Ministry Officers regarding the current P&O situation at a departmental level. However, these meetings have also served to communicate with the technicians about concerns and questions with the Ministry Officers at the national level.

In the department of Norte de Santander, there were "surprise" visits by officials of the National Institute for Drugs Surveillance – INVIMA. Mercy Corps addressed the technicians' concerns that these visits that they were meant to intimidate them. These complaints and concerns were communicated to INVIMA and the Ministry of Health. Mercy Corps identified significant gaps in INVIMA's abilities to provide follow-up assistance as required by the Resolution. The Ministry of Health and INVIMA have requested that Mercy Corps provide additional support and capacity-building regarding the Resolution.

### **3. Monitoring and Evaluation**

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During the reporting period, the M&E team visited the departments of Caquetá, Antioquia and Cauca to verify and continue monitoring activities. Following are key achievements:

1. Archiving and documentation
  - a. Local Coordinators of the three departments visited have up-to-date and complete hard copy and digital archives.
  - b. All Coordinators have designed and understand the Program close-out process.
  - c. All Coordinators have successfully posted photographic archives to online Picasa Albums.
2. Socio-Economic Integration activities
  - a. M&E Coordinator, Socio-Economic Integration Coordinator and local Coordinators visited 15 beneficiaries, selected through a random sample.
  - b. All visits are fully documented with audio, photographs and documentation.
3. Health and Rehabilitation
  - a. Seventeen P&O technicians were visited and interviewed. These visits were also fully documented.