

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE (CPRG) PROGRAM

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Table of Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| LIST OF ACRONYMS | 3 |
| I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | 5 |
| II. POLITICAL CONTEXT | 7 |
| III. ADDRESSING OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES..... | 8 |
| IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES | 9 |
| Activities by Results – CPRG..... | 9 |
| Objective 1: Improved effectiveness of civil society to advocate for transparency and accountability of public institutions | 9 |
| Objective 2: Improved capacity of public institutions to address gaps in the enabling environment for transparency and accountability | 20 |
| Activities by Results – CAP | 23 |
| Objective 1: Improve multi-sector capacity to provide coordinated and integrated responses to changing security needs..... | 23 |
| Objective 2: Improve municipal and community capacity to provide efficient crime and violence prevention services..... | 26 |
| Objective 3: Expand Social Opportunities for Youth With Leadership in the Communities..... | 27 |
| V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION | 31 |
| VI. ACHIEVEMENTS..... | 32 |
| VII. GENDER-BASED CONSTRAINTS..... | 37 |
| VIII. SECURITY..... | 37 |
| IX. COMMUNICATIONS..... | 38 |
| X. EXPENDITURES | 38 |
| XI. PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER..... | 40 |

ANNEXES:

| | |
|--|--|
| Annex A- CPRG Achievements FY14 QR1 | |
| Annex A.1 CPRG Grants Table | |
| Annex A.2 CAP Grants Table | |
| Annex B - Gender Action Plan | |
| Annex C - Case Study Methodology | |
| Annex D - Table of Training Activities CAP | |
| Annex E - Table of Events CAP | |
| Annex F - Municipal Advocacy Table | |
| Annex G - Interest Story- Empowering Women through Vocational Training | |
| Annex H - Municipal Agreements | |
| Annex I - Plan Designs El Chorreron | |
| Annex J - Cap in Images | |
| Annex K - News on the Government´s transition and legal reforms at national Congress level | |

List of Acronyms

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| AECID | Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation |
| ADELSAR | Santa Rosa de Copán Local Development Agency |
| ALAC | Anti-Corruption Legal Assistance Center |
| ASJ | Association for a Fairer Society |
| ASONOG | Association of Non-Government Organizations |
| CAP | Community Action for Prosperity |
| CARITAS | Pastoral Social Caritas Honduras |
| CARSI | Central America Regional Security Initiative |
| CASM | Commission of Social Mennonite Actions |
| CDH | Human Development Center |
| CEPROSAF | Health Promotion and Family Counseling Center |
| CIPE | Planning, Programming and Evaluation Center |
| CIPRODEH | Center for the Investigation and Promotion of Human Rights |
| C-Libre | Committee for Free Expression |
| COALIANZA | Commission for the Promotion of Public-Private Partnerships |
| CONADEH | National Commissioner of Human Rights |
| COSOCITELA | Tela Civil Society Coalition |
| CPRG | Citizen Participation for Responsive Governance |
| CRC | Community Revitalization Committee |
| CRG | Community Revitalization Grant |
| CRP | Community Revitalization Project |
| CSJ | Supreme Court of Justice |
| CSO | Civil Society Organization |
| DIGEDEPDI | General Direction of Persons with Disabilities |
| EROC | Western Regional Platform |
| FOPRIDEH | Federation of Development Organizations of Honduras |
| FOROSIDA | National AIDS forum |
| FOSDEH | Social Forum for the External Debt of Honduras |
| FUHRIL | Honduran Foundation for Rehabilitation of the Persons with Disabilities |
| FUNADEH | National Foundation of Honduran Development |
| FDsF | Democracy without borders Foundation |
| GOH | Government of Honduras |
| IAPI | Institute of Access to Public Information |
| ICNL | International Center for Not-for-Profit Law |
| IHSS | Honduran Social Security Institute |
| INHFA | Honduran Children and Family Institute |
| ISCPG | Institutional Support and Civic Participation Grant |
| ISO | Intermediate Service Organization |
| LC | Learning Community |
| MCSCC | Municipal Citizen Security and Coexistence Councils |
| MDSC | Municipal Development and Security Council |
| M&E | Monitoring & Evaluation |
| ME | Ministry of Education |
| MIS | Management Information System |
| MOF | Ministry of Finance |
| MOH | Ministry of Health |
| MP | Public Prosecutors Office |
| MSI | Management Systems International |
| NC | National Congress of the Republic of Honduras |
| NGO | Non-Government Organization |
| NGO-Ds | Development Non-Governmental Organizations |
| NGOG | National Government Oversight Grant |
| OBI | Open Budget Initiative |
| OGP | Open Government Partnership |

| | |
|----------|---|
| PASMO | Pan American Social Marketing Organization |
| PEFA | Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability |
| PICG | Public Information Campaign Grants |
| PIOC | Public Information Outreach Campaign |
| PNPRRS | National Program of Prevention, Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Program |
| RFA | Request for Applications |
| RNP | National Public Registry |
| RRG | Rapid Response Grant |
| SECPLAN | Ministry of Planning |
| SEIP | Ministry of Interior and Population |
| SELCOM | Selection Committee |
| SETELEC | Legal, Technical and Economic Services |
| SOPTRAVI | Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Housing |
| SJDH | Ministry of Justice and Human Rights |
| TIG | Training and Implementation Grant |
| TRAG | Transparency, Research and Advocacy Grant |

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Citizen Participation for Responsive Governance (CPRG) program, known locally in Honduras as Impactos and referred to as the “Program” in this report, is a five-year initiative funded by USAID and implemented by Counterpart International, in partnership with the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) and Management Systems International (MSI). The Impactos program consists of two independent yet very intertwined and complementary components: 1) the CPRG component, which aims to increase the transparency and accountability of public institutions through support for civil society-led initiatives, and 2) the Community Action for Prosperity (CAP) component, which aims to improve citizen and community safety by strengthening local communities' and governments' ability to prevent threats from gangs and narco-trafficking. The program goal representing both components is framed by five programmatic objectives: (1) Improved effectiveness of civil society to advocate for transparency and accountability of public institutions; (2) Improved capacity of public institutions to address gaps in the enabling environment for transparency and accountability; (3) Improved multi-sectoral capacity to provide coordinated and comprehensive responses to changing security needs; (4) Improved municipal capacity to provide effective crime prevention services; and (5) Expanded opportunities for community led initiatives. The Impactos approach consists of: supporting Honduran civil society in a sustained effort to increase transparency and public accountability of public institutions; employing a non-partisan and non-confrontational approach toward engaging the national government; understanding and engaging existing transparency institutions; integrating public transparency and accountability activities into sector-specific development programming; and, designing and disseminating targeted and transparent program grants. It also aspires to build communities' capacity to work collaboratively with municipal authorities, the private sector, civic organizations and *patronatos* (local councils) to plan and implement activities that address the root causes of insecurity at the grassroots level, taking into consideration the unique motivations of youth and other at-risk groups.

Beyond building measures for Government accountability and transparency, Impactos believes in increasing the capacity of local civil society organizations (CSOs) to empower themselves and their communities to be the agents for crime prevention and accountability development within their communities/municipalities. Impactos drives this capacity building through our training programs, small grants, and targeted Technical Assistance (TA) to local CSOs that take their interests and individual expertise and heighten them.

To facilitate this training and TA, Impactos released the following 4 grants under the CAP component and 1 grant under the CPRG component this quarter:

| Component | Grant Name | CSO | Total Dollar Value |
|-----------|---|------------------|--------------------|
| CAP | Community Revitalization Grants, November 15, 2103 | CHILDREN | US \$48,000.00 |
| | Community Revitalization Grants, November 15, 2013 | FUNADEH | US \$48,000.00 |
| | Institutional Support and Civic Participation Grants, October 22, 2013 | CIPE Consultants | US \$35,000.00 |
| | Institutional Support and Civic Participation Grants, November 14, 2013 | COSOCITELA | US \$35,000.00 |
| CPRG | National Government Oversight Grant, October 15, 2013 | FOROSIDA | US \$35,000.00 |

In an effort to demonstrate the power that civil society can have on governments, this quarter Impactos hosted a meeting between our ISOs and the US Ambassador to Honduras, Ms. Lisa Kubiske, as well as USAID staff on December 9, 2013. The meeting provided our ISOs, as well as Impactos staff, an opportunity to address the Ambassador directly and provide her with civil society insights into the recent government transition period and the challenges and opportunities that this transition will pose/has posed to the civil society community at large.

Furthermore this quarter, in a period of transition to the new Honduran government administration, Congress passed a series of highly controversial laws, among these was The Law of the Restructuring of Public Finances, Control of Tax Exemptions and Measures Against Tax Evasion, popularly called the “Christmas package.”

The content of the new "Christmas package" included a section related to tax exemptions. Thanks to the active advocacy measures conducted by FOPRIDEH, it was possible for Nonprofit Organizations to be included among those who benefit from tax exemptions, listed in Article 2 that deals with tax exemptions and in Article 5 that refers to the income tax of the Law. This benefit will alleviate the strong pressures that both subsidized and non-subsidized CSOs were experiencing in being able to meet the payment of taxes and still achieve their performance goals¹.

A further accounting of program achievements can be found in the VI. Achievements section of this report beginning on page 31.

¹ For further information on The Law of the Restructuring of Public Finances, Control of Tax Exemptions and Measures against Tax Evasion please see: http://programaimpactos.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Ley_Antievasion.pdf

II. POLITICAL CONTEXT

The political environment in Honduras during the last quarter has been heavily influenced by the elections and economic and fiscal policy changes being pushed through by the National Congress during the final months of the current government, ahead of the transition to the next administration.

The Honduran public administration has not shown signs of improvement in transparency this quarter, as was made apparent during the recent presidential, congressional and municipal elections. For the first time in Honduran history nine political parties participated in the elections. The fairness and adherence to due process in the elections has been contradictory in characterizations by various national and international stakeholders. On one hand, international observers considered the elections to be transparent; however, national organizations and even some participating candidates questioned the process' credibility and legality, expressing mistrust in the vote-counting mechanism lead by the Supreme Election Tribunal (TSE)².

Another factor reducing public confidence in electoral process and the results ratified by the Supreme Election Tribunal has been the backdrop Honduras' standing on Transparency International's (TI) annual ranking of transparency across the world. The latest TI ranking indicates that corruption perception in Honduras has actually worsened; decreasing by two points, compared to 2012, down to 26 on their 100 point scale.

Notwithstanding Transparency International's ranking, the Education sector has actually seen improvements. After two years of struggle, schools have finally reached 200 days of classes per year, as mandated by the Fundamental Law of Education.³ In addition to keeping schools open longer, textbooks were delivered to schools on time at all levels. These achievements were celebrated by the Honduran people as the result of the education reform process. The reform has mandated more stringent government control of the education system and increased the accountability of teachers. Improvements in the education system, such as the social audit, advocated and developed by Civil Society Organizations, to include those funded by Impactos, are worth mentioning. Specifically, Asociación Para Una Sociedad más Justa (ASJ), implemented an Impactos grant to monitor permanence of teachers in the classroom, teacher hiring mechanisms, textbook distribution, as well as advocate the Ministry of Education to implement more efficient, transparent and efficient mechanisms for hiring and textbook distribution.

With the November 24th elections, the country took a step towards strengthening its democracy, overcoming the fracture generated by the previous government. For the first time in Honduran political history, a diverse range of political parties will have representation in the National Congress, generating many more opportunities to promote political dialogue and debate because of the lack of a majority of any one party. The winning candidate, using his influence as President of the National Congress, has expedited actions and decisions to set the basis and conditions that will allow him to govern with full powers, without having to negotiate with the opposition, in an effort to thwart any actions that may question or obstruct his plans as president (Refer to Annex K).

The issue of citizen security prevailed during the presidential campaign, generating heated debate among the parties on the applicability and appropriateness of writing the military police into the constitution. President elect Juan Orlando Hernández supported this legislation on the grounds that reassigning police power to the military would counteract corruption among the national police

² Citizen Alert, Electoral Results. Doubts and Political Governability in Honduras. CEDOC.

<http://www.cedoh.org/publicaciones/alertas%20ciudadanas/files/Alerta%209.pdf>

³ <http://www.elheraldo.hn/Secciones-Principales/Pais/Gobierno-de-Honduras-conmemora-hoy-los-200-dias-de-clase>

forces. However, those opposed to the measure argue that militarization of the police function will make the Honduran Armed Forces more vulnerable to corrupting influences.

The newly elected president faces many challenges as he promotes measures to curb violence and crime. He must develop a comprehensive analysis that takes into account the social and structural differences among state institutions in their ability to generate security public policies to reduce violence, drug trafficking, crime and corruption.

With the new administration, the challenge for the Impactos Program will be to fine-tune its organizational strengthening strategies and its technical/financial support of CSOs, to include exploring possibilities for renewed and constructive linkages and support for the GOH administration good governance initiatives. Political dialogue and debate spaces must be strengthened in such a manner that allows ISOs to consolidate their leadership, and that guides other CSOs in a common effort to generate an enabling environment, through the submission of specific proposals to the new authorities. Luckily, the election results have offered good prospects for CAP's training of mayors to offer a return on investment. According to official figures, 214 of the 259 municipal Mayors have been reelected, and the positive impact of the CAP program and the support that the CAP program has received by these reelected mayors should serve to solidify CAP's contributions to improved governance at the local level, for the foreseeable future.

However, a number of political concerns for the program communities remain, two in particular being citizen security as a result of the extension of the Security Tax (approved in December 2013), as well as the potential for divisiveness likely to grow out of the GOH administration proposal to create a "military police force." The Impactos Program will closely monitor this process and its effects in our target municipalities, as well as encourage and support ISOs and partners to be technically competent interlocutors for dialogue and peace on these sensitive and difficult policy topics.

III. ADDRESSING OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES

Over the course of the quarter there were a number of challenges – the holiday closure⁴ being one and transition of leadership in the form of our Chief of Party (COP) leaving the program being another. Counterpart quickly deployed the Program Manager for Honduras from Counterpart Headquarters (HQ) to the field for a period of two weeks to help in transition, our Vice President for Programs also visited the program for a period of 1 week and then Counterpart deployed an interim COP while we recruited a replacement. Counterpart received AO approval of the key staff change for our new COP in January and will be deploying our new COP on or about February 14th, 2014.

Programmatically, due largely to the leadership in the field of our two Acting Chiefs of Party – Jose Antonio Ramos current Finance Manager and Dina Eguigure our current Director of CPRG, the program has been on track with achievements in each program area CAP and CPRG.

Counterpart employed a rigorous COP transition plan while recruiting for and awaiting USAID approval on our newly selected COP. The first step was in deploying both the HQ based Program Manager and Vice President to Honduras to support the field team in the first weeks of the

⁴ Due to the holiday schedule the Impactos program, much like other programs in Honduras, was closed from December 24, 2013 – January 5, 2014

transition, following that deployment, Counterpart deployed an Interim COP – Roselie Vasquez-Yetter. Ms. Vasquez-Yetter is a former COP of Counterpart’s and was able to spend a month in the field prior to the holiday closing of the field office. After Ms. Vasquez-Yetter’s deployment our field based Acting COPs – Dina Eguigure and Jose Ramos were diligent in ensuring all programmatic deliverables were met and our new COP will be deployed on or about February 14, 2014.

IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Impactos’ two program areas, CPRG and CAP, have a number of overlapping yet simultaneously quite independent programmatic directions. Activities for the quarter are herein reported disaggregated under the Results Framework areas and further delineated under two sections by each program area.

Activities by Results – CPRG

Objective 1: Improved effectiveness of civil society to advocate for transparency and accountability of public institutions

Citizen Participation and Responsive Governance (CPRG) Program

Program Goal: To increase the transparency and accountability of public institutions through support for civil society-led initiatives.

Objective One: Improved effectiveness of civil society to advocate for transparency and accountability of public institutions.

Objective One Activities

- 1.1 - Rapid Assessments on Civil Society and Transparency Institutions
- 1.2 - Establish and Initiate CPRG Grant Facility
- 1.3 – Competitively Select 4 Intermediary Support Organization Partners
- 1.4 - Design and Deliver Customized Program Trainings
- 1.5 - Support the Establishment and Activities of a National Transparency Coalition and Civic Movement
- 1.6 - Award National Government Oversight Grants and Support CSO Watchdog Capacity and Activities
- 1.7 – Provide Targeted Consultations on Government Oversight and Increased Government Transparency
- 1.8 - Develop a CSO Self-Regulatory and Accountability System
- 1.9 -- Support Public Information Campaigns to Fight Corruption Apathy and Increase Public Awareness and Understanding of Existing Anti-Corruption Legislation
- 1.10 – Support Targeted Advocacy Campaigns to Improve Civil Society Operating Environment
- 1.11 - Support Non-Partisan Policy Research and Advocacy Initiatives
- 1.12 - Organize Civil Society Organization Networking, Collaboration and Coordination Events
- 1.13 – Pilot Opportunities for Youth Model
- 1.14 – Support Implementation of the Legal Framework of Human Rights at the Grassroots Level
- 1.15 – Expansion of the Legal Advisory and Anti-Corruption Center to Northern Honduras

Objective One Illustrative Results

- Establishment of sustained domestic capacity for demanding and supporting good governance
- More than 50 unique national government oversight, advocacy and public information campaigns completed, meeting at least 80% of their stated objectives
- Increased and institutionalized oversight of Honduran government institutions by CSOs
- Increased responsiveness of at least 25 government institutions based on CSO watchdog activities
- Changed behavior and practice of government officials within targeted institutions based on anonymous surveying
- Newly introduced transparent practices introduced in the legislature and national ministries
- Support the National Youth Policy by creating advocacy campaign for transparency in local governments
- Create help desks that allow citizens to access their rights under existing laws concerning transparency and accountability
- 3 CSOs improving youth employability opportunities through resource mobilization programs
- Offer an anonymous and confidential system that allows citizens to report any action of corruption and demand transparency and accountability to government institutions

Objective Two: Improved capacity of public institutions to address gaps in the enabling environment for transparency and accountability

Objective Two Activities

- 2.1 - Conduct Ongoing Joint Transparency Challenge and Opportunity Mapping
- 2.2 - Facilitate Collaborative Partnerships and Dialogue Channels between CSOs and Public Entities
- 2.3 - Deliver Targeted and Demand-Driven Training and Technical Assistance
- 2.4 - Support Implementation of Increased Government Transparency Initiatives through Oversight and Training Grants
- 2.5 - Establish and Award Rapid Response Grants

Objective Two Illustrative Results

- Increased and more effective collaboration between government and CSOs
- Improved technical capacities to implement transparency initiatives by at least 25 agencies
- Improved ability of public institutions to comply with legal mandates and promote governmental transparency and accountability
- Increased dialogue between the GOH and CSOs at the national level
- Elimination of barriers to implementation of key anticorruption laws and policies

In this, the 1st quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 2014, Impactos has generated tremendous impact from its work in support of our Intermediary Service Organizations (ISOs); in developing their capacity building action plans, advocating for better service delivery from the Government of Honduras (GOH) and local/municipal governments, and by providing avenues for interaction with governmental and international donor level stakeholders.

1.1 Rapid Assessments on Civil Society and Transparency Institutions

This activity was completed in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012.

1.2 Establish and Initiate CPRG Grant Facility

CPRG's grant making program has been ongoing since the program's inception. This quarter saw the release and award of a Training, Research and Advocacy Grant (TRAG) to C-Libre in the amount of USD \$35,000, for promoting alternatives and innovation in the assessment of compliance with the Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information.

The following grants were approved during the program quarter but were not awarded until January due to the Honduran holiday schedule: (1) a second TRAG to C-Libre in the amount of USD \$50,000, for monitoring of commitments made by the Alliance for Open Government and Incidence in the use of government funds, and (2) a Public Information Campaign Grants (PICG) to FOSDEH for a citizens audit to public debt.

This quarter also saw the ongoing monitoring of 12 grants and closure of 21 grants. As of December 31, 2013 CPRG has implemented 33 grants for a total value of USD \$2,352,203.09 (inclusive of cost share).

Given the slow reporting of our grantees, and the subsequent delays in Counterpart's ability to clear our advances, the Counterpart Grants Management and Finance teams held a training for our 13 partner CSOs (both our ISOs and the CAP primary partners) on November 14-15, 2013 to revitalize and reinforce the importance of quality financial reporting and how to maintain accurate records as well as the importance of inputting into the Knowledge Management Portal (KM Portal) as that is Counterpart's main tracking methodology. 18 CSO representatives attended the training (16 female, and 2 male). Since the November 14th training the Counterpart Grants team has seen an almost immediate improvement in the grantees' reporting both in financial reporting as well as programmatic on the KM Portal.

Between the months of October and November 2013 Counterpart Headquarters conducted an internal financial audit of the Impactos Program. The report, prepared by the auditor, shows satisfactory results and the few notes that were provided requiring action for improvement have been resolved easily by the programs team.

Additionally, in the month of December 2013, the office of Office of Financial Management (OFM) of USAID Honduras conducted a review of Impactos' grants management process. While the outcome of that review has not been finalized, preliminary observations received indicate that the program has systems and controls that allow it to do good management of the component and follow up with high trust and reasonable assurance of transparent and efficient management of funds by the CSOs grantees.

1.3 Competitively Select 4 Intermediary Support Organization Partners

Selection of Impactos' 4 ISOs, FOSDEH, FOPRIDEH, CIPRODEH and CASM, was conducted in the first half of 2013. One of the four grantees were given Training and Implementation Grants (TIGs), which is set to expire in February 2014 (FOSDEH), The other three ISOs are set to expire in June 2014. After a review of the efficacy of each grantee's performance, a decision will be made to either renew the grant, or to select a new grantee.

Currently, the 4 ISOs are implementing their capacity building plans with a variety of skills training activities that are earmarked for use with the less savvy CSOs, the anticipated results being to improve their capacities and consolidate their efforts as leaders of civil society in Honduras, while adjusting strategies and tactics to better respond to the changing political landscape and government transition.

1.4 Design and Deliver Customized Program Trainings

Technical assistance provided to CSOs this quarter, focused on strengthening their capacity to advocate to decision makers in civil society and the public sector. The following topics were considered most relevant;

- i International governance indicators and their application in the national context (OGP, OBI, PEFA); given by FOPRIDEH to seven CSOs through two workshops. More information regarding this workshop in Table 1 (Training held by ISOs).
- i Participation of civil society in the definition and/or monitoring of national indicators in the government transition process;
- i Development of ISO internal capacity, so that they can manage their own internal organizational strengthening, and finally,
- i Support on specific demands by CSOs. For example:
 - o Through Counterpart's partnership with UNITEC University, a member of the global network of Laureate International Universities, on November 5-7, 2013 FUNADEH was able to participate in UNITEC's "NGO Fundraising" training workshop, the workshop which taught participants the importance of diversification of funding, was highly successful and Impactos' CSO FUNADEH really benefited from it. In the next quarter Counterpart plans to cascade this training to other CSOs both partners/grantees and non.
 - o Impactos provided technical assistance to Democracy without Borders Foundation in the use of statistical programs for data processing of public oversight; this was a training that FDSF gave to members of the Honduran Congress for them to provide accountability of the resources allocated to them.

Counterpart’s Organizational Development (OD) methodology utilizes a specific Organizational Strengthening Plan (OSP) that is tailored to each individual organization in order to help that organization further develop their capacity. On December 5 and 6, CPRG staff met with each ISO to review their OSPs and facilitate further development; the ISOs decided that, due to the changes being debated in the Honduran Congress in regards to NGO legal framework, updating the OSPs should be delayed until the provisions of a new or revised legal framework are enacted. A second meeting has been scheduled for the coming quarter.

The following table is an illustrative list of trainings held by the ISOs during this quarter:

Table 1: Trainings held by ISOs

| CSO | PMEP Indicator | Topics | Dates | Participants | | | |
|----------|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------|----|----|-------|
| | | | | Y | M | F | Total |
| CASM | Number of CSO Staff trained in Self-Regulation systems. | Self-Regulation Systems for Civil Society Organizations. | 12/11/2013 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 13 |
| | | | 14/11/2013 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| CARITAS | Number of regional campaign monitors trained and also implement tools on the monitoring the election campaign | Monitoring of compliance to the Electoral Law in the development of the electoral campaigns of the political parties. Computer program used to record violations of the Electoral Law through political propaganda | 25/10/2013 and 13/12/2013 | | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| FOPRIDEH | Number CSO staff trained in advocacy, communication and campaign strategies for the construction of civil society, for the 100 days plan of the new government administration. | Commitments by the Government of Honduras on Transparency and Anti-Corruption (OGP, OBI, PEFA); Participatory design of an advocacy proposal, on transparency to include society’s vision in the 100 days plan of the new government administration. | 6/10/2013 and 29/11/2013 | 7 | 4 | 11 | 15 |
| CIPRODEH | Number of CSO staff in comprehensive citizen security trainings. | Coordination of integral citizen security concepts and steps to follow for advocacy in related public policies | 24 to 26 10/2013 | 4 | 6 | 18 | 24 |
| FOSDEH | Number of staff of CSOs involved in the training process on tax policy. | Tax Research for Political Advocacy - inputs and methodological tools to develop a fiscal research plan for each CSO participant. | 3 and 4 10/2013 5 and 6 12/2013 | | 11 | 23 | 34 |

1.5 Support the Establishment and Activities of a National Transparency Coalition and Civic Movement

Impactos hosted a meeting between our ISOs, U.S. Ambassador Ms. Lisa Kubiske and USAID staff, on December 9, 2013 to discuss the ISOs perceptions of the transition in government and the effect that transition would have on the Civil Society community in Honduras. In preparation for that meeting Impactos hosted a two-day meeting to discuss agenda items and solidify themes prior to the meeting with the Ambassador.

1.6 Award National Government Oversight Grants and Support CSO Watchdog Capacity and Activities

On October 1st 2013, the 4 ISOs began their NGOG grant implementation. All agreements were signed September 27th. The following chart illustrates the main topics lead by the ISOs. Each ISO conducted induction sessions on the monitoring and evaluation strategy of the Impactos program and responsibilities it entails. As a result of these meetings, it was agreed that indicators, targets, follow-up reports and progress reports of scheduled activities will be uploaded to MIS. More information on the type and value of the grant is provided in Table 2:

Table 2: NGOG Grants Summary

| Name | NGOG plan | Total Grant Value | Start date | End date |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|------------|------------|
| CARITAS | Social Audit to the Electoral Campaign in the General Elections process of 2013 | US \$ 35,000.00 | 27/09/2013 | 26/02/2014 |
| FOROSIDA | Social Audit for the Fund Proceeds of the Fee Recovery Payments for Health Care Services in the Comprehensive Care Center of the Instituto Nacional Cardiopulmonar (Hospital del Tórax) | US \$ 35,000.00 | 15/10/2013 | 14/06/2014 |
| EROC | Enhancing transparency in the project implementation process of rebuilding the West International Speedway, through a social audit to COALIANZA. | US \$ 35,000.00 | 27/09/2013 | 27/05/2014 |
| FDSF | Citizen Watchdog to the National Congress of the Republic of Honduras, in its Third Legislature | US \$ 35,000.00 | 27/09/2013 | 26/03/2014 |

1.7 Provide Targeted Consultations on Government Oversight and Increased Government Transparency

The program's team has continued to provide technical assistance to CSOs in the selection and hiring process for consultants in project operations. CASM and FOPRIDEH received technical assistance in hiring lawyer Jorge Valladares, an expert in the national legal framework. He developed tools (forms, flowcharts and processes) to be used in training government officials in the proper application and procedures of the ONGD (Non-Government Development Organizations) Law and its rules. This focus on GOH standardization of ONGD related administrative processes will reduce opportunities for personal discretion and more readily enable detection of deviations, as a transparency strengthening measure. CASM and FOPRIDEH share responsibilities in strengthening the Unit for



Arabeska Sanchez, an expert in public security policy and the role of government institutions in public safety, was hired as a consultant by CIPRODEH.

Registry and Follow-Up of Civil Associations (Unidad de Registro y Seguimiento de Asociaciones Civiles, URSAC), a special unit falling under the Ministry of the Interior.

As an additional measure to introduce standardization and thus transparency of administrative processes, CIPRODEH received technical assistance in the selection and registration of expert advisors who will provide support for the development of modules for the course titled, “Integral Public Safety According to the Rule of Law: A Condition for Pacific Coexistence and Governance.” Among the assistance offered by Impactos was development of a format to register the curriculum vitae (experience and skills) of course facilitators in public safety and governance in a standardized manner. During this period, a new consultant was hired: Arabeska Sanchez, a lawyer and expert in public security policy and the role of government institutions in public security. The expert advisor will provide methodologies and tools to CSOs personnel in order to improve their technical capacities in citizen security demands, this knowledge will then be imparted to other CSOs through the distribution of learning materials generated by the advisor.

1.8 Develop a CSO Self-Regulatory and Accountability System

With the assistance and technical support of ICNL, CASM continues to lead the construction of a pilot program for self-regulation of CSOs. For this purpose, three (3) meetings were held with CSOs operating at regional level (West, North and Central) to publicize the subsidized project, which aims to build a pilot participatory self-regulatory system for Honduran CSOs.

Table 3: Self-Regulatory and Accountability System - socialization

| Region / City | Date | No. of people | No. of CSOs |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Norte - San Pedro Sula | October, 28 | 21 | 10 |
| Occidente/Santa Rosa de Copán | October, 29 | 16 | 6 |
| Centro/Tegucigalpa | October, 31 | 8 | 8 |
| Total | | 45 | 24 |



CASM conducted 3 sessions with CSOs about this process. See section 1.4 for details.

In addition, there were two training sessions directed at Honduran CSOs previously profiled, with technical and legal support from ICNL on November 12th and 14th in San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa. These training sessions were designed to transfer basic concepts of self-regulation and reach agreement to form a working group that will be responsible for the coordination, design and validation of the self-regulatory pilot program. As a result of these trainings, 13 CSOs have decided to participate in the Self-Regulation Pilot and 7 additional CSOs have expressed their interest in knowing more

1.9 Support Public Information Campaigns to Fight Corruption Apathy and Increase Public Awareness and Understanding of Existing Anti-Corruption Legislation

As mentioned in previous reports, at the end of fiscal year 2013 it was not possible disburse the two PICG grants that were scheduled. With the new call for proposals that was held, it was possible to complete the adjudication process with FOSDEH in order to develop the campaign called "LET'S HAVE PUBLIC AUDITS OF PUBLIC DEBT!" which will run for six months, starting in the month of January. Supporting documentation was reviewed and approved by HQ and the Grant Agreement will be signed in the first 15 days of January.

A new call for proposal is expected to be announced in February for the 2014-2015 grant cycle, including the PICG grant that is still waiting to be assigned.

Furthermore, the Impactos team worked with two CSOs, CDH and C-Libre, to conceptualize a methodological approach to two case studies. The Participatory design methodology has an impact level focus incorporating indicators from Impactos' PMEP as well as overall programmatic impacts that will be integral for the two CSOs to learn from as they improve their performance and programmatic methods. For further details please see Annex C: Case Study Methodology.

1.10 Support Targeted Advocacy Campaigns to Improve Civil Society Operating Environment

Among the controversial laws passed quickly by the outgoing congress were The Law of the Restructuring of Public Finances, Control of Tax Exemptions and Measures Against Tax Evasion popularly called the “Christmas package,” was approved in December and enacted on January 1, 2014.


The content of the new "Christmas package" included a section related to tax exemptions. Thanks to the active advocacy done by FOPRIDEH, it was possible for Nonprofit Organizations to be included among those who benefit from tax exemptions, listed in Article 2 that deals with tax exemptions and in Article 5 that refers to the income tax of the Law. This benefit will alleviate the strong pressures that both subsidized and non-subsidized CSOs were experiencing in being able to meet the payment of taxes and still achieve their performance goals.

Technical and legal counsel was requested from ICNL during the quarter on issues related to the newly proposed tax laws. Because of the new laws for NGOs, the planned support of ICNL in the next quarter will be crucial to supporting the efforts of FOPRIDEH among others. Immediately after the adoption of the Law, FOPRIDEH began the process of developing a proposal for regulation of these articles, a proposal to be submitted to the executive branch for consideration in the first days of the next quarter. The FOPRIDEH team continues talks with members of the Transition Commission who are responsible for tax issues, to advocate for the inclusion of their proposal in the regulations of the Law.

The Law of the Restructuring of Public Finances, Control of Tax Exemptions and Measures against Tax Evasion: http://programaimpactos.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Ley_Antievasion.pdf

1.10 Support Non-Partisan Policy Research and Advocacy Initiatives

In this quarter the allocation of two TRAG grants to C-Libre were completed:

| | |
|--|--|
|  | |
| <p>The project: "Follow up of the commitments entered into with the Alliance for Open Government (OGP) and Advocacy in the Use of Funds from the “Tasón” - duration of 9 months, starting January, 2014.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C-Libre, through their research unit, will provide objective and reliable information to the Honduran and foreign population, provided by trained journalists and social communicators, committed to society on the use of public resources, such as those financed with tax mechanisms as established in the | <p>The project: "Promoting Alternatives and Innovation in the Assessment of Compliance with the Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information" - duration 5 months, starting January, 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With this research, the goal is to establish a frame of reference to know the transparency levels of public institutions of the State in order to have greater scientific strength, more credibility and to serve for monitoring and evaluation. 12 obligated institutions will be selected, belonging to the three branches of |

Law on Population Security (popularly known as "the Security Tax or the "Tasón"). With this research, there will be enough elements to generate reports of acts of corruption or irregularities found in the execution of social projects or framed in the prevention of security in selected institutions.

- **Finally, we will seek to influence decision makers so that more activities dealing with the security issues are included in the Plan of Action for 2014 - 2015 and so that the information related to the use of "Tasón" resources is public and accessible to all citizens, preventing it from being declared as "classified information ".**

government, which obtained a rating of 100% or otherwise received top marks as a result of the evaluation done by the IAIP in 2013.

- The quality of the information will be measured regarding its utility and ease of use to citizens. The goal is to verify that the information or not only available as required by Article 13 of the LTAIP but that it is useful and easily understandable by citizens.
- In the end what is sought is a "corporate citizen and institutional appropriation" of commitment to transparency and accountability in compliance with the standards of the LTAIP.

1.11 Organize Civil Society Organization Networking, Collaboration and Coordination Events

During this quarter, through the work of our ISOs, our grants and the CPRG team's technical assistance, the following events were hosted by our ISOs:

- i FOSDEH hosted a press conference, "Public Private Partnerships" to analyze the public-private partnerships under the tax fairness perspective. Approximately 50 civil society representatives, analysts and members of the economists' association attended the event.
- i ASJ through Anticorruption Legal Assistance Center (ALAC) hosted a press conference, "Actions by Justice Officials in Health Issues." The purpose of the event was to reveal the current corruption situation that exists in the health system. With this public event, ALAC intends to pursue citizen demand rights. Approximately 70 people attended the event, representing government officials of the health sector, Honduran CSOs and press.



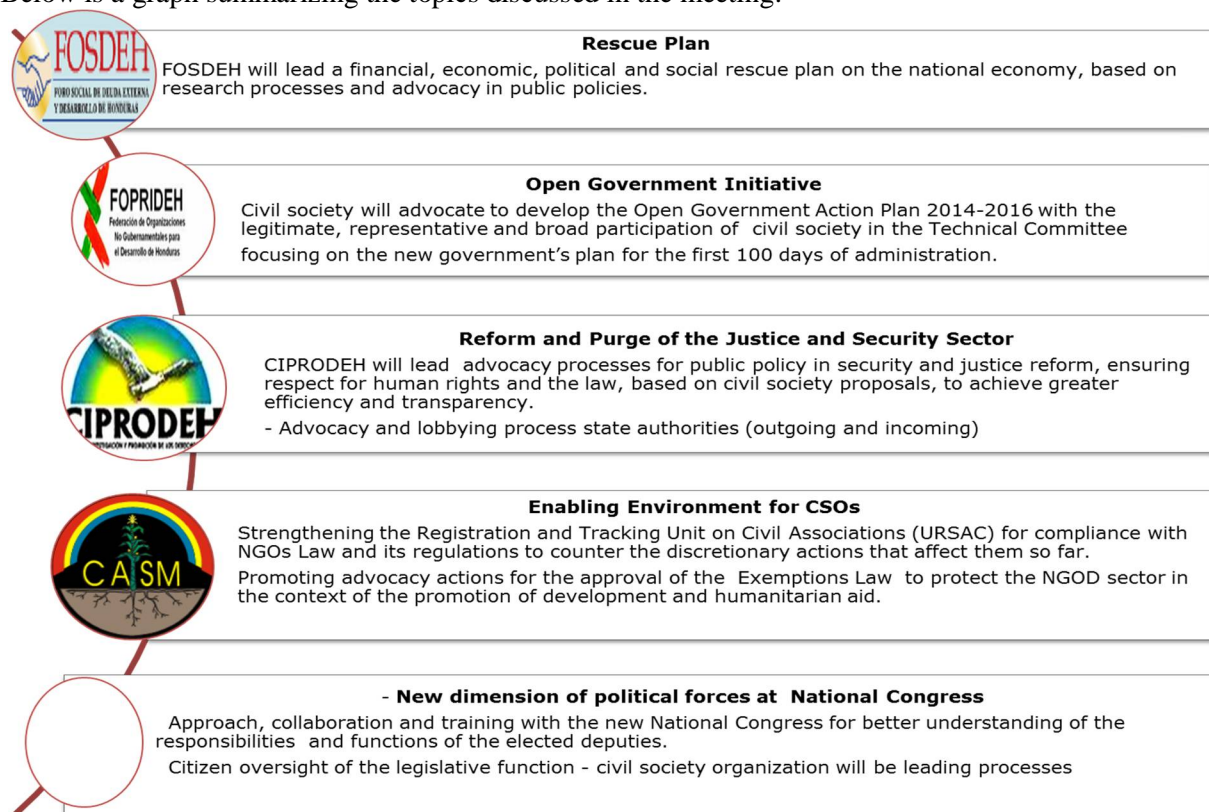
- i FOPRIDEH hosted the 2013 Presidential Candidate Forum. The purpose of the event was to introduce the platforms and ideas of 6 of the 8 presidential candidates, including the representatives: the Christian Democrats, the Patriotic Alliance, the Liberal Party, the Anti-Corruption Party the Innovation and Unity Party and the ruling National Party. Among the special guests attending were civil society organizations, international donors and organizations, and extensive media coverage.

- i The Impactos program, introduced an "On-line Support Community of Practice for Advocacy" with the support of the four (4) ISOs. This is an interactive tool to share and preserve academic information related to advocacy, transparency, accountability, good governance and CSO leadership. The objective of the activity was to orient participants to the features of this innovative advocacy promoting website; to include: access levels, administration methods, design, site hosting and domain that will be used on the Community of Practice for Advocacy website.

- i In an effort to increase the coordination and to facilitate a greater sense of camaraderie amongst the broader civil society actors in Honduras, two members of the Impactos Program team collaborated with the Hagamos Democracia consortium in the election observation process. Hagamos Democracia provides an observation independent of the official electoral count by the Superior Electoral Tribunal in order to create a measure of independent balance to the government’s election agency. Given that Hagamos Democracia is comprised of a variety of organizations including some that Impactos works with, this was an integral opportunity to not only become involved in election monitoring but to interface with non-Impactos CSOs and highlight our work as well as the work of our partners.

- i A meeting was held on December 9th with the executive directors of the four ISOs and Ambassador Ms. Lisa Kubiske. The purpose of the meeting was to generate an exchange of information comparing diverse perspectives of civil society on the government’s transition process and the possibilities of receiving support from the International Cooperation. As a result of the conversation, the directors and U.S. Ambassador will meet prior to the inauguration of the new government on January 27th 2014. The purpose is to keep an ongoing communication and support between the participating CSOs and the donors to address civil society’s needs on issues that can be resolved within the Impactos Program’s framework.

Below is a graph summarizing the topics discussed in the meeting:



1.12 Pilot Opportunities for Youth Model

The development of the “Opportunities for Youth” pilot program seeks to strengthen the synergy between the CAP and CPRG components, joining efforts and resources to promote the improvement of opportunities for young people at social risk. This grant is aimed at promoting

employment opportunities for young people in three municipalities (San Pedro Sula, Choloma, and Santa Rosa de Copán).

The design for the RFA of this grant was achieved in a November 19 joint workshop of the specialist teams drawn from both components (8 in total - 2 from CAP, 6 from CPRG) on. In this workshop, participants shared contextual data on Honduran youth along with analysis of trends for youth employment in the country, as well as the results of opinion polls conducted among those CSOs implementing this grant. As a result of the workshop, strategic lines and operational models were defined to shape the substance of the RFA that will be published in mid-January. This grant is expected to become operational in February 2014, reinforcing the funds originally allocated with the \$42,000 from the grant for the Gedeón model that will no longer be executed. In total, each CSO would be receiving \$20,333 per year in accordance with the CPRG FY2014 work plan, with the same amount projected for 2015.

1.13 Support Implementation of the Legal Framework of Human Rights at the Grassroots Level

After several months in consultation with ASJ on the methodology for GIDEON the organization decided that they were unwilling to continue with the grant. As such, and in collaboration with USAID and Counterpart HQ, it was concluded that the conditions of the country during the current transition process were not ideal for this grant to continue as it was originally structured and that the CSOs specializing in these subjects are not available for the execution of GEDEON. As such, while Counterpart will no longer be supporting the GIDEON model, we propose the following realignment of funds (to be further delineated in the pending budget modification) utilizing the GIDEON grant to strengthen our other grant processes all with the objective on strengthening the legal framework for Human Rights at the grassroots level. Counterpart is confident that while not directly implementing the GIDEON model, there are potential grantees in Honduras that will be able to continue this work utilizing their own methodologies without any hindrance to our objective. In this regard, and pending consultation with and concurrence by USAID, Counterpart proposes to move grant funds in the amount of USD \$101,200 to strengthen other grants, as illustrated in the following table, these changes will also be delineated in the pending budget modification:

Table 3: Grant justification GIDEON

| Grant | Justification | Amount | | |
|--|---|---------------------|------------------------------|---|
| | | Original | Distribution of Gedeón funds | New amount |
| Transparency Research and Advocacy Grants (1) | The subsidy allocated to C-Libre for the Project "Promoting Alternatives and Innovation in the Assessment of Compliance with the Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information" - duration 5 months from January, 2014, is U \$ D 32,000 – It is propose that this amount be leveraged to \$ 41.200. (Activity 1.11) | USD \$32,000 | USD \$9,200 | USD \$41,200 |
| Youth Employment Advocacy Grants (3) | The funds have been allocated to 3 CSOs to enable them to strengthen their capacity to influence municipal public policies to create/expand economic and entrepreneurship opportunities for youth in the cities of San Pedro Sula, Choloma and Santa Rosa de Copan. (Activity 1.13) | USD \$80,000 LOP | USD \$42,000 | USD \$122,000 (20,333 for each CSO per year) |
| Support Implementati | The model of justice operating at the municipal level, called the "GEDEÓN" model will not be | USD \$101,200 | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| on of the Legal Framework of Human Rights at the Grassroots Level (1) | implemented and it is proposed to USAID that its planned budget be realigned to strengthen other grants. (Activity 1.14) | | | |
| Legal Advisory and Anti-Corruption Center (ALAC) Grant (1) | The approved grant legal assistance to the Anti-Corruption Center (ALAC) ending June 2014 with new resources would be expanding its operation until mid-2015, ensuring the sustainability of its operations in both cities, Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula. This extension is critical considering that the president-elect has expressed its commitment to the fight against corruption and citizens need safe spaces to present their complaints and legal assistance, as it has been doing successfully ALAC. | USD \$90,000 AF2014 | USD \$50,000 AF2015 | USD \$140,000 LOP |
| TOTAL | | | 101,200 | |

1.14 Expansion of the Legal Advisory and Anti-Corruption Center to Northern Honduras

In this quarter, the grant allocated to ALAC concludes its first semester of implementing the new grant cycle. The expansion of the ALAC to the city of San Pedro Sula is strengthening the culture of reporting in the northern region and surrounding regions, while it also continues operating in Tegucigalpa, its main center of operations. The strategies used by ALAC include: information campaigns in social networks, training volunteers about the operation of the center and the services provided to citizens, so that they in turn can train other people in hospitals, health centers, schools and other public centers.

During this quarter the ALAC center continued to receive complaints of corruption, 76 in Tegucigalpa and 57 for the northern region. Most of these are allegations of corruption in the sectors of health, education and to a lesser extent in other public bodies.

The main public activity held by ALAC during this period was a press conference on October 30. During this event, ASJ/ALAC presented the public with evidence of types of corruption in the health sector, specifically in cases at the Central Medication Warehouse and the case of former Minister of Health Arturo Bendaña, both cases investigated by ALAC, with ASJ leadership and collaboration with the "Transformemos Honduras" consortium.

ALAC unveiled through press reports that little progress was made by justice officials, like judges and prosecutors, in relation to prosecuted cases in the Health field. Ludim Ayala, coordinator of ALAC-Honduras, said "it is the opinion of ALAC-Honduras that these cases are serious, given that what is at stake is the health of the Honduran people, state resources and the confidence of the people in a worthy public health system."



The investigation has revealed that the monetary losses caused by the six individuals currently being prosecuted for the missing prescription medication amounts to approximately US \$82,000 – plus the damage to the Honduran population that was not able to receive these drugs.

Objective 2: Improved capacity of public institutions to address gaps in the enabling environment for transparency and accountability

A second key aspect of the CPRG component is the establishment of mechanisms for communication and collaboration with the government in the implementation of each grant. This quarter, the program continues to strengthen the 22 collaborative relationships it achieved in the first grants cycle, facilitating the implementation of advocacy strategies in alignment with institutional and legal frameworks in CSO-government interactions. As a result, CSOs have an environment conducive to promoting their activities in favor of transparency and accountability in a democratic environment.

Activity 2.1 Conduct Ongoing Joint Transparency Challenge and Opportunity Mapping- (Learning Community)

Planned activities were completed for the quarter, and as a result, the Learning Community for Advocacy in Honduras has acquired the tools and methodologies to guide its actions. One of the most important achievements was an e-learning web-based platform launched on November 1st, 2013. The design and construction of the site was overseen by the Impactos Program. Meanwhile, the ISOs validated the use and accessibility of the website. FOSDEH contributed to the procurement and hosting of the website, and the consultant provided the necessary bibliography to be used as a tool for discussion and learning on the subject of public policy advocacy. Below is a graphic of the web tool:

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Moodle Learning Community website. The URL is <http://programaimpactos.org/moodle/>. The page has a header with a colorful graphic and the text "Comunidad de Práctica para la Incidencia Honduras". Below the header, there is a "Home" section with a "Main menu" on the left containing "Novedades del sitio" and "Courses". The main content area is titled "Novedades del sitio" and features a post by "Carlos Sierra" titled "Tiempo de calidad en vacaciones". The post discusses taking breaks during the end of the year. To the right, there is a "Calendar" for December 2013. The browser's address bar and various icons are visible at the top.

During this period, the four work sessions that took place on October 2nd, November 1st and 15th, and December 6th, were conducted in the Learning Community, the product of which is a draft document, *“Practical Guide for Advocacy in Public Policies for Civil Society Organizations in*

*Honduras;*⁵ this manual – which is aimed for wider distribution amongst civil society stakeholders in Honduras, will be available for distribution next quarter. This methodology is intended to serve as a guide for implementing advocacy actions for public policy, by establishing a defining line between the more traditional political advocacy represented by the Washington Office for Latin America (WOLA) advocacy manuals, and the more modern concepts of advocacy in public policy which draw from other schools of thought.

In order to fully understand the content and practical application of the *Practical Guide for Advocacy*, it was agreed among the community participants that it will be applied in specific situations in relation to the advocacy initiatives that are currently being developed by the ISOs. In the next Learning Community meeting, an exercise will be conducted on the application of security issue policies using the latest state-of-the-art academic concepts in advocacy. CIPRODEH expressed interest and openness to the Learning Community collectively analyzing and learning from its own experience.

ISOs' willingness to show their experience and learn from their advocacy practices stands out. They recognize the importance of being subjected to useful comparisons, through the observation of new experiences and publications. These actions aim to facilitate the step away from implementing a traditional advocacy (based on public agendas) to implementing a state-of-the-art advocacy, where public policy monitoring and proactive change sought by civil society prevail.

The Learning Community is gradually revitalizing itself, understanding its role, and learning the benefits that come with good performance.

2.2 Facilitate Collaborative Partnerships and Dialogue Channels between CSOs and Public Entities

On December 11th members of the Impactos Program along with the Director and Program Coordinator from FOPRIDEH held a meeting entitled with two representatives from the Technical Support Unit of the Ministry of the Presidency at the presidential office. The purpose of the meeting was to review of the critical path of the transition activities, particularly the commitments to the transparency and anti-corruption agenda (OGP, OBI, and PEFA). Agreements were reached to incorporate subsidized CSOs into the team that will work on designing the national action plan once the new administration takes power.

Furthermore, Impactos has supported CASM and FOPRIDEH through the hire of an expert advisor who will be designing a training manual and providing both organizations with training implementation techniques, to be used to train government officials of the Unit for Registry and Follow-Up of Civil Associations (Unidad de Registro y Seguimiento de Asociaciones Civiles, URSAC), a special unit of the Ministry of the Interior. The training will focus on improving the officials' ability to implement the Non-Government Development Organizations Law (NGDOs Law). Through this workshop Impactos expects to improve the quality of the collaboration channels between civil society and the URSAC, and through this action improve the operating environment of the NGOs. Impactos will support this forthcoming workshop with technical assistance and materials.

2.3 Deliver Targeted and Demand-Driven Training and Technical Assistance to Government Officials

By the end of the quarter, methodological processes to conduct TOT workshops with ISOs were developed for workshops that are expected to take place in January. The objective of the workshops

⁵ Practical Guide for Advocacy in Public Policies for Honduran Civil Society Organizations (Discussion draft) prepared by Mario Posas Consultant-facilitator for the Learning Community.

is to train ISO facilitators in the development of professional and personal capacities, and to transfer this knowledge to government officials.

2.4 Support the Implementation of Increased Government Transparency

Government transparency, is a somewhat cross cutting issue for the Impactos program and most interventions in this regard are closely tied to our subgrants. Beyond these subgrants, this quarter, Impactos supported its grantee EROC, in establishing a relationship with COALIANZA, the Institute for Public Information Access (IAIP) and the Supreme Account Tribunal (TSC) to improve the transparency of the fund trust administration created to reconstruct Honduras western logistics corridor. For more information please refer to sections 1.6 to obtain the detailed information on the progress and achievements of NGO grants. The TRAG grants will begin operations in the upcoming quarter, please refer to sections 1.3.

2.5 - Establish and Award Rapid Response Grants (RRG)

The rapid response implemented by FOSDEH ended on December 10th and its final product was the publication of the document: *“Can fiscal equity be reached in Honduras through fiscal privileges?”* The main objective of this document is to make fiscal matters accessible to citizens in a manner that is easy to understand. Once awareness levels are increased on the actual make up of the fiscal horizon of Honduras citizens and in turn civil society, will be better placed to advocate for better government service delivery.

The document further establishes FOSDEH’s vision as a CSO focused on Honduran government actions on fiscal matters. This document provides evidence that the Honduran Government has been too lax in granting tax exemptions and other fiscal benefits to the private sector and foreign investment. The absence of coherent and integral policies to date has been frequent, resulting in a regressive fiscal policy. This in turn has had highly damaging consequences in terms of inequality for the population⁶.

Conclusions made by this document include that the lack of national legislation regarding tax exemptions control results in frequent distortions of the law; and proposals for a new law on streamlining tax exemptions should include the definition of administrative offenses and penalties to be applied to the beneficiaries and public officials who carry out improper activities.

The document also provides recommendations as follows:

- Development of a comprehensive review of tax incentives, in comparison with such legislation in other countries, to adopt measures that do not affect the country's competitiveness.
- Analyze international treaties and conventions signed by Honduras, verifying consistency with national legislation.
- Technologically and financially strengthen the inspection and control services that correspond to the Ministry of Finance or other national bodies/authorities associated with the system of tax exemptions.

The package was approved with waiver of two of the three debates according to legislative rules and was approved amid claims by the opposing parliamentarians, who believed that the project should have undergone further analysis and study. The new law includes a 3% increase in sales tax, disregarding earlier recommendations made by the Special Exemptions Committee to the Executive branch last June, which suggested that tax exemptions should be reorganized rather than raising sales tax from 12% to

⁶ Can fiscal fairness be reached in Honduras from fiscal privileges? IMPACTOS Program - FOSDEH.

15%. This was among the 116 laws passed in less than 20 days that did not follow standardized parliamentary rules previously set.

Activities by Results – CAP

Objective 1: Improve multi-sector capacity to provide coordinated and integrated responses to changing security needs

1.1 Select and Train up to 11 Civil Society Organization Implementing Partners

The CAP Team has developed training activities to strengthen CSOs' knowledge on public policy and advocacy. On October 10-12, 2013 CAP personnel organized a three day training workshop on Comprehensive Conceptualization on Public Safety and Advocacy Tools for project coordinators and experts of the CSOs,⁷ with the purpose of strengthening the capacity of the eight CSO implementing partners. The workshop was facilitated by CPRG ISO - CIPRODEH as part of the coordination activities with the CPRG component. In addition, CEPROSAF provided training on political advocacy and strategic planning for their technical staff and some community leaders (a total of 23 people attended the training 8 males and 15 females), which had a multiplying effect, as knowledge was transferred to other community members.

In order to further improve the effectiveness of the grant approval processes, during the next phase of implementation the Project will allow the approval of various grants types⁸ under a single agreement. This will streamline the administrative and project implementation processes, giving them more agility in technical and financial reporting, disbursement periods, programming and monitoring of activities as well as administrative project activities. This will contribute to the optimization of financial and human resources and improve the quality of follow-up and monitoring activities.

1.2. Conduct Initial Project Outreach Activities

In order to resume the implementation of the activities in four communities in Tegucigalpa (San Miguel, La Era, La Travesía y La Sosa municipalities), CAP staff held meetings on November 5, 2013 with community leaders and members of the CRCs to give continuity to CRC projects, motivate the participation of community leaders in project activities, and publicize the start of a new year of grant implementation for Institutional Strengthening and Civic Participation, to be implemented through CSO CDH.

1.3. Conduct Rapid Community Assessments in Potential Communities of Intervention

A baseline assessment was completed on October 25, 2013 in four communities of the municipality of Choluteca and on November 1, 2013 in four communities of the municipality of Santa Rosa de Copán. The assessment included the participation of 16 community volunteers (11 volunteers in Choluteca and five volunteers in Santa Rosa de Copán) and CSOs' technical staff who previously received training workshops on the protocol and objectives of the baseline (CIPE - October 23 and ADELSAR - October 29, 2013). This completed the gathering of information needed for the final

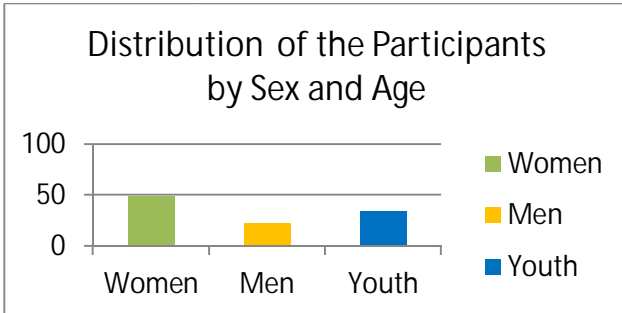
⁷ 1 Participants: 15 of the CSOs and 7 members of the CAP personnel strengthened their practical and theoretical knowledge.

⁸ This includes ISCPG and CRG. In the case of CDH will also include the YSNG to be implemented in the sector of San Miguel.

analysis and consolidation of information for the baseline report regarding 36 CAP target communities.

1.4. Establish and Strengthen Community Revitalization Councils in Each Community

As part of the strengthening process, 71 members from the Community Revitalization Councils of three⁹ of the seven target municipalities participated in workshops to exchange experiences on the implementation of community revitalization projects. The workshops were held with CIPE in Choluluteca on October 5, with CEPROSAF in La Ceiba on November 16, and with CDH in Tegucigalpa on December 7. Participants received technical assistance in monitoring the development of community projects to ensure their effective conclusion (Refer to Annex D – Table of Events CAP).



Mechanisms are being promoted, such as organizing support teams (working groups with members of the CRCs and Youth Networks) to facilitate community coordination efforts in the development



The CRCs developed their capacities in management and implementation of community projects for the prevention of violence.

1.5 Conduct Participatory Community Crime Appraisal

This activity was concluded during FY2 and a process of review and update was completed in FY3.

1.6 Present Participatory Community Crime Appraisals to the Communities for Buy-In

This activity is performed periodically every time a new grant implementation starts. The latest rounds of meetings with community members were held during the past quarter at the start of the new phases of CR and ISCP grant implementation. It is expected for the next quarter to conduct meetings with community members, as part of the initial activities of the PIOCG.

1.7 Create Annual Community Strategic Action Plans

This activity was completed during FY2 and FY3.

1.8 Build Community Capacity in Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation

This activity was not scheduled this quarter.

⁹ CIPE (Choluluteca) – October 5, CEPROSAF (La Ceiba) – November 16, CDH (Tegucigalpa) – December 7.

1.9. Identify (or Catalyze) Municipal Development and Security Councils in Each Municipality

An investigation was carried out in the municipalities of Choloma, Santa Rosa de Copán, La Ceiba, Tela and Choluteca during December 5 – 17, 2013 to identify the current policies, regulations and ordinances related to violence prevention¹⁰. This information will enable determining which documents should be created and/or improved under the implementation of the MAG as well as which ones should be approved by the municipal corporation. This process will also contribute to the strengthening of the Municipal Security and Violence Prevention Councils and any other existing local government bodies working in violence prevention and citizen security (Refer to Annex F- Municipal Advocacy Table).

In Santa Rosa de Copán, CAP has led the coordination between cooperating agencies or institutions¹¹ working on public safety and prevention of violence to establish a joint strategy to be presented to the local government. A similar integration is expected to occur in other target municipalities, in line with CAP strategic actions.



1.10. Improve CRC and MDVPC Use of CARSI Resources

A draft of the CARSI synergy plan was prepared during the first week of December, 2013. The CAP team is planning to organize a two-day workshop during the next quarter with CARSI implementers - UNDP, PASMO, AJH and FHIS¹² - to review and approve the Synergy Plan.

¹⁰ - *Choloma - December 5, 2013*: Meeting with COMVIDA, city officials and members of the Municipal Council for Public Safety.

- *Santa Rosa de Copan – December 9 and 10, 2013*: Meeting with the Mayor, the manager of the Social development and environment office and the CSO ADELSAR.

- *La Ceiba - December 11 and 12, 2013*: Meeting with the Municipal Commission for Public Safety and Municipal Councilors.

- *Tela - December 13, 2013*: Meeting with members of the Municipal Commission for Public Safety, municipal officials and NDI Consultant.

- *Choluteca - December 17, 2013*: Meeting with municipal councilors, managers of municipal units and municipal women's office.

San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa will be addressed once the new municipal authorities take office.

¹¹ The organizations identified to create joint coordination are: Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID), TRIAS Belgium and CIPRODEH.

¹² **PASMO**: CAP's implementing partner CSOs CEPROSAF (Tela), Children International (SPS) have coordinated training activities with PASMO.

AJH: The CSO FUNADEH (Choloma) through the CRCs proposal of the López Arellano community has managed to improve the facilities of AJH's outreach center. The center is now being used by the CRC and Youth Networks to receive workshops.

UNDP and **FHIS**: Follow-up meetings is expected to take place during the next quarter. Coordination actions with UNDP will focus in strengthening CRCs and community members through Alternative Dispute Resolution trainings,

1.11 Initiate Subsequent Cycles of Appraisal and Action-Planning Activities

This activity was completed during FY2 and FY3.

1.12. Facilitate Dialogue Forums

During October and November, the candidates running for mayor in the municipalities of Choloma, La Ceiba and Santa Rosa de Copán signed an agreement in a public event to guarantee support, and to ensure the continuity of the implementation of initiatives for violence prevention and public safety. Prior to the signing of these agreements, three forums were held to promote the dialogue between representatives of civil society, the international community and private sector to achieve a consensus on the content of the Municipal Agreements. The agreements placed special emphasis on important subjects such as; Security, Employment, Violence, Gender and Environment. The agreements were signed in pre-electoral events promoted by the program, in coordination with the CSOs and the CRCs (Refer to Annex H- Municipal Agreements).

Objective 2: Improve municipal and community capacity to provide efficient crime and violence prevention services.

2.1. Assess Training Needs and Deliver Capacity Building Assistance to Municipal Government Officials

On December 3 and 4, 2013, representatives from partner CSOs, mayors from three municipalities and special guests participated in the “*Local Governments and Civil Society for the Prevention of Violence and Citizen Coexistence*” workshop organized by the CAP Team. During the workshop, the speakers¹³ presented detailed information on the framework of the national public policy on violence prevention, progress in its implementation and challenges facing society, and key aspects of the public municipal administration. The invited speakers shared with CSOs their knowledge and experience in schemes, strategies and ways of working with municipal corporations. This activity was promoted among CSOs to support ideas and experiences of local government stakeholders in the joint search for strategies to prevent violence.

2.2 Increase Government Support for Public Participation in Policy Formulation

The Youth Public Policy Proposal in the municipality of Santa Rosa de Copán is under a review process by CAP’s technical team to obtain a comprehensive policy that will provide new elements to reinforce the issues of violence prevention, teen pregnancy and gender, and their connections with the municipal development plan and other citizen policies approved by the municipal authorities. The preparation of the proposal has the support of the municipality’s Youth Municipal Commission and importantly, the political support of the Municipal Mayor. This proposal is being promoted by members of Youth Networks in target communities and its implementation is expected to be approved by the Municipal Corporation.

2.3 Award Policy Advocacy Grants

while actions with FHIS include sharing information on community infrastructure needs in communities were both organizations are currently implementing their projects.

¹³ Miguel Antonio Fajardo - Mayor of La Esperanza, Intibucá; Amable de Jesús Hernández - Mayor of Colinas, Santa Bárbara; César Zaldivar – Safe Citizenship Coordinator of the Municipality of Puerto Cortés, Guadalupe López - Governance Director of AMHON, David Carías – AHMON Consultant and Rafael Espinosa – Director of UNDP Governance and Democracy Program in Honduras as part of the collaboration between projects.

To strengthen relationships with local governments, CAP developed forums and training processes, and signed three agreements with CSOs. The CAP team analyzed the available budget (USD \$105,000) and the possible scenarios to effectively implement this grant, and it has concluded that a new CSO with municipal and organizational development experience with local governments must be identified.

During this quarter, research was conducted on strengthening the needs of local governments to comply with the indicator related to number of policies and procedures drafted, proposed and/or adopted and designed to improve violence prevention, sexual violence and gender-based violence. With these inputs the preparation of the Request for Application (RFA) for the implementation of the Municipal Advocacy Grant (MAG) will be completed.

2.4 Support Public Information and Outreach Campaigns (PIOC)

There are currently administrative formalities underway to sign the Grant Agreement with the CSO CESAL to initiate grant activities for an initial amount of USD \$42,000. The SELCOM reviewed CESAL's proposal on November 7, 2013. The objective of their proposal is to develop an alternative public campaign strategy about activities and projects implemented by partner CSOs in the 36 target communities in the 7 municipalities. The strategy seeks to change and improve the negative perception that society, including the public sector (municipalities) and private sector have about youth in certain areas of the country. The proposal will also focus on gender issues with the creation of materials which will be used during the outreach campaigns.

Objective 3: Expand Social Opportunities for Youth With Leadership in the Communities.

3.1. Award Community Revitalization Grants (CRGs)

Through Impactos' ongoing community revitalization projects, which are aimed at providing opportunities for technical training and economic advancement for youth, CAP communities have seen a marked improvement in the program beneficiaries sense of self and ability to interact in their communities. This improvement has been evidenced by the continuing work in the municipalities, and the number of beneficiaries each CSO has reached. For example, in Santa Rosa de Copán 25 beneficiaries¹⁴ have been recruited by businesses and some are engaged in productive activities through self-employment (Refer to Annex G: Interest Story – Empowering Women through Vocational Training). In total, we have verified 8,056 beneficiaries to date through our Monitoring and Evaluation systems. Further data analysis is underway for this quarter's additions.

These beneficiaries are examples of the results that have benefited both youth and adults who had no previous access to the formal education system or permanent jobs. Members of the CRCs have assumed a very important role of responsibility that contributes to the success of the projects. They have participated in the search and selection of beneficiaries, in the control of the active involvement of participants of different courses, and in the receiving and custody of materials, even accompanying facilitators in classes as support in managing the groups (Refer to Annex D- Training of Activities).

¹⁴ Seven of them (2 women and 5 men) have been hired to provide beauty and barber services, 10 beneficiaries are working as beauty stylists who go directly to the client's home, 2 young women are selling their craft products to the Casa Bueso store and 4 young people are already providing catering services at social events and 2 other beneficiaries are organizing their own business in this field.



Youth of Santa Rosa de Copán getting trained in barbering



Follow-up meeting for training courses with members of target communities in San Pedro Sula.

The program has provided assistance to COSOCITELA and CIPRODEH, as well as to the CRCs of the municipalities of Tela and Tegucigalpa to begin implementing community revitalization projects directed at improving community spaces. According to donor policies, measures (evaluation and formulation of environmental mitigation measures) required by projects investing in infrastructure have been conducted to avoid any negative effects that these could generate in their environment. This process with CSOs and CRCs strengthens their ability to identify projects incorporating environmental aspects.

3.2. Seek Additional Funding to Support Community Revitalization Projects (CRPs)

The CRC of Chorrerón has self-managed funds for the recovery of community spaces around the water source that runs through the community of Chorrerón. As a result, during November and December, the municipality of Santa Rosa de Copán gave an estimated \$4,500 to the community of El Chorrerón where they installed streetlights, planted trees and hired masons to improve community spaces. Currently, the CRC of el Chorrerón is submitting funding request to the Mayor to continue recovery activities in the community. The budget for the project is being prepared, to be submitted to local authorities for discussion and approval by the Municipal Corporation. The CRC of Las Juntas is developing a project for the recovery of a community space and water source management that will be submitted for consideration to the Rotary Club and other potential public and private donors.

3.3 Build Government and CSO Capacity in Grant-making Processes

This activity was not scheduled for this quarter.

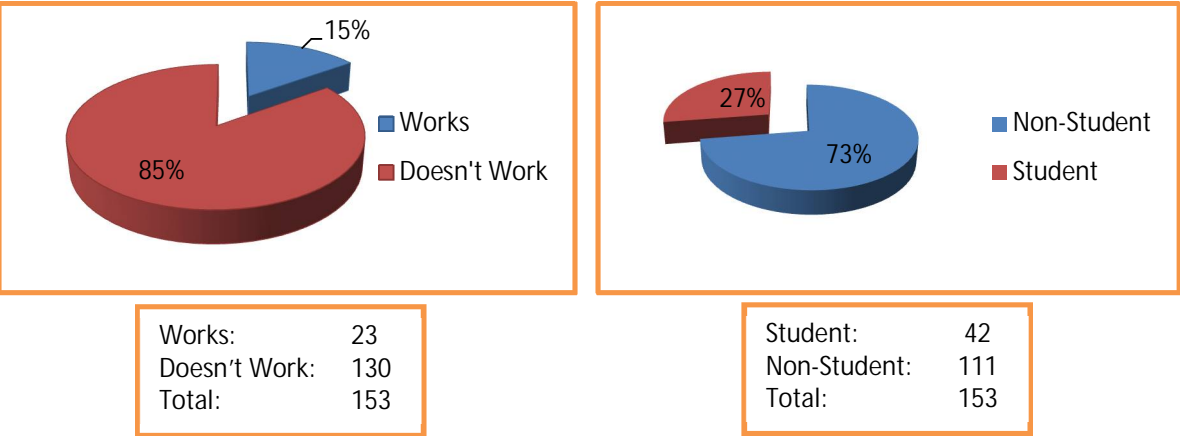
3.4 Strengthen Youth Civic Networks

In coordination with the Proyecto Reto and CDH, approximately 100 youth from various communities – including 50 youth from Impactos' Youth Networks have been trained on issues of public policy and advocacy tools to participate in the designing process of a proposed public policy on local economic development for youth and its action plan. These 100 young people from various communities participated in the process of constructing proposals for public policy giving them particular understanding and skills around project proposal drafting as well as creating an enabling environment for young people to become involved in public policy debate and garner a deeper understanding of public policy issues.

While the 36 community youth networks are still receiving trainings to improve their organizational skills, they are also developing actions to prevent violence¹⁵. In particular, on December 18-20 Youth Networks from the communities of Asentamientos Humanos, Cristo Viene, 6 de Mayo and Sinaí in San Pedro Sula, applied peer strategy (young person to young person) to provide trainings in leadership to 100 young community members. This activity has motivated and positively influenced the young people, promoting the youth networks' proactive image and strengthening its credibility.

The Impactos Program employs different approaches to working with youth: addressing the specific needs of the human stage of youth helping improve their self-esteem and social skills; prioritizing their human and social development needs; and promoting youth participation in activities aimed at benefiting their communities. The program is providing social opportunities for youth living in vulnerable conditions. As an example of the second approach, young people from the Choluteca target communities (out of 153 beneficiaries) who lack the possibility of formal or informal education have received technical training and vocational skills for employment, thereby increasing the possibility of employment and self-employment (please see Chart 1: Percentage of Youth with access to Labor Markets/Educational Opportunities below).

Chart 1: Percentage of Young with Access to Labor Markets/Educational Opportunities



Among other actions that strengthen youth leadership as agents of change, on November 13-15, 2013, representatives of the Youth Network from La Nueva Capital, Generación 2000, Mary Flake and José Angel Ulloa participated in the Workshop on the *Strong Families* methodology implemented by the National Program for Prevention, Rehabilitation and Social Reinsertion (PNPRRS) to strengthen the safety factor related to the nuclear family as a means of preventing violence. With support from CDH, there are plans to replicate this Peer Strategy methodology.

Members of the Youth Network from the community of San Vicente de Paul in San Pedro Sula participated in the improvement of a children's area in their community to promote time for

¹⁵ - *Training to develop organizational skills include:* Community Assessment and Organization, Project Development and Evaluation, Local Management, Social Audit, Advocacy, Rules and Roles of the Youth Networks, Poverty Reduction Strategy and Millennium Development Goals.

- *Actions being developed by Young men and women to prevent violence in their communities:* Training for teachers and parents on Bullying, Communication Campaign to share with community members information on Children and Adolescent Rights, Creation of Youth Community Plans, recreational activities to promote a culture of peace in the communities and family fairs.

recreation and healthy fun for children in the area. The coordination activities between the Impactos Program and the PNPRRS, for the improvement of the recreational area, began on October 2013. The park was completed by the Youth Network on December 4, 2013 and has promoted a positive image of youth within the community.

Additional Activities

As a result of previous meetings between CAP staff and representatives from the Business Development Center of Fonseca Gulf-Honduras (CDE-MIPYME), two meetings were held, the first on October 9 and the second on November 1, 2013 with the Youth Network from the community Colonias Unidas in Choluteca to promote the development of training activities on youth entrepreneurship for young community members from target communities in Choluteca. Over the next several months these training activities will be developed in the four target communities. The costs of the trainings will be covered by CDE-MIPYME Golfo de Fonseca. CIPE in Choluteca will assist with the coordination of activity logistics.

With the purpose of identifying social opportunities related to youth entrepreneurship for young people in the communities of Choluteca, on November 18th CAP participated in a meeting sponsored by the Business Development Centre of the Fonseca Gulf region (CDE-MIPYME region Golfo de Fonseca) to coordinate activities among different organizations that work on youth development in Choluteca such as Oxfam, World Vision, Southern Women Association, and Fundación Agencia de Desarrollo Económico Local (ADED) among others. The participating organizations agreed to create an information matrix of the initiatives and activities developed by each organization as a means of sharing valuable information that can lead to future collaborations to benefit the young population in Choluteca.

Methodological design of case studies (Refer to Annex C - Case Study Methodology)

This quarter, the CPRG technical team, led by the Coordinator of Knowledge and Learning, developed the methodological document and the application tools to carry out a series of case studies in order to have a holistic vision to understand the context of the operation of the Impactos Program. Therefore, the qualitative research for the type of approach was chosen for the public hearings involved. The analysis of the information will help to focus the analysis in the socio-cultural context of transparency and governance, as seen from a municipal perspective in the case of C-Libre, and from the community and awareness perspective in the case of CDH. The methodology was built using multiple interpretations of the meaning of actions and facts, in such a way that it allows a description of subjective reality that underlies the actions of the members of civil society who participated in the projects under study and the results of the advocacy activities that were undertaken. The research variables, which are in a harmonious and complementary relationship with PMEP indicators, were constructed in a participatory manner with the technical team of CPRG and CAP. In addition, the key themes, research objectives, qualitative indicators, purposes, correlations and the research questions that guided the case studies were defined. A preview of the methodological design was made at the meeting in November with USAID, getting positive reviews for the AOR. A meeting has not yet been scheduled with the M&E team of the Mission in order to present in more detail the approach, methodology and tools defined by the Impactos Program.

V. Monitoring and Evaluation

CAP

Meetings were held with implementing partner civil society organizations (CIPE Consultants, CEPROSAF, Coalición de Tela, CASM, Children International, FUNADEH, CDH, and ADELSAR), in order to define their charts of final indicators and their work plans for the ISCPG and YNG grants.

Technical assistance was provided to FUNADEH to train their new staff in the management and recording of activities in the MIS, and for preparation of project reports and information.

As part of the technical assistance, follow-up support and advice for CSO implementing partners, CAP staff facilitated a series of meetings and visits to CIPE-Choluteca, CEPROSAF-La Ceiba, COSOCITELA-Tela and ADELSAR-Santa Rosa de Copán, to review project indicators and work plans of the different projects. Also a schedule of key activities was agreed upon in which CAP staff will provide technical support in the methodological implementation of a series of activities, in particular those related to municipal strategy intervention and strengthening of youth organizations.

CPRG

Impactos has continued to provide technical assistance and support for grants implemented by the four ISOs, including a rapid response grant, the NGOG grants and ALAC. Additionally, the CPRG team evaluated proposals for new TRAG and PICG grants that will begin operations in the next quarter.

Four TRAG grants and one NGOG grant began during this quarter. Initial sessions (7 meetings) were held for each grant during the month of October, in which indicators and benchmarks were refined for each grant; the strategy for monitoring, follow-up and reporting were discussed; as well as the use of the formats for monthly and quarterly reports and the recording of information in MIS.

Training was offered in MIS for 3 ISOs for five people in Tegucigalpa, in order to update user information, especially with the changes made on the new platform. In November the training was provided for new staff at 3 CSOs implementing NGOG grants.

The progress made in PMEP indicators is presented below in graphic form. In each graphic, a comparison of targets and achievements for the life of the project (LOP) is presented in the first set of bars, while the second set of bars compares targets and achievements corresponding to year 4 of the CPRG.

VI. ACHIEVEMENTS

CAP

- i Beneficiaries of the vocational training processes are being formally employed while others are generating income through self-employment as a result of community revitalization projects. (*Refer to Annex D and Activity 3.1. Award Community Revitalization Grants*)
- i Increased youth involvement (685 young members) in revitalization activities, such as the enhancement and recovery of community spaces, cultural activities, community fairs and sports tournaments to promote peaceful coexistence and community and moral values.
- i Young community members are staying away from violent and negative activities by participating in public cultural activities, such as fund raising, painting, folk dancing and theater among others. (*Refer to Annex E- Table of Events CAP*)
- i The swearing-in of the Youth Networks by the mayor of target communities in Santa Rosa de Copán (December 12, 2013).
- i Members of the Youth Networks were integrated into the Board of the Youth Municipal Commission of Santa Rosa de Copán (December 12, 2013).
- i The signing of political agreements in three target municipalities to generate greater commitment by local authorities in promoting policies for the prevention of violence (October 30 – Choloma, November 6 - La Ceiba, November 13 – Santa Rosa de Copán).
- i Best Practices: There is a personalized and transparent relationship between the CSOs, the CRC members and the CAP Team, which has enabled consistent participation from community members in project activities.
- i After hiring new staff in October the technical assistance has improved and it is also being provided in a timely manner, facilitating monitoring and evaluation processes.

CPRG (Refer to Annex A- CPRG Achievements Fy14 QR1)

The CPRG component focused its efforts on enhancing the skills and competencies of the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) grantees, to (1) lead advocacy activities on public policies for transparency and accountability, (2) improve the capacity of public institutions to address gaps and contribute to an enabling environment for CSOs to carry out their function in the national context. Such efforts have been led by the Intermediate Service Organizations (ISO) during this reporting quarter and in the political context relevant issues have happened such as the elections campaign, the general election and the accelerated onset of the transition of government. The following are the most important achievements of this period:

TRANSPARENCY

- i EROC, a CSO located in the western region of the country, initiated an activity subsidized by Impactos to carry out public oversight of the Commission of the Public Private Alliance (COALIANZA) in regards to the management of the trust fund for the reconstruction of the CA-4 international highway. This initiative was developed in collaboration with the World Bank.
- i The FDsF presented the report "The performance of the National Congress for fiscal year 2013" on the 14th and 19th of November, 2013, at a public event demonstrating the legislative outputs of the representatives and holding them accountable prior to the general elections.
- i CARITAS implemented monitoring campaigns for 9 parties in the national elections, in order to verify their compliance with the Electoral Law and to propose appropriate reforms. The campaign oversight formally began on October 15 and lasted until November 23rd. Counterpart will provide the results from this campaign later.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- i The 4 ISOs led civil society advocacy activities, first with the presidential candidates on October 8th, and later on December 11th, with the Transition Commission of the president-elect, with the priority of inclusion of civil society issues on the transition agenda. As a result, arrangements were reached for civil society participation in monitoring country commitments such as Open Government Partnership (OGP), the Open Budget Initiative (OBI) and the Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) were achieved.
- i By the end of the quarter, FOPRIDEH had achieved its goal of being included in the transition plan, and non-profit organizations would be included among those that will benefit from the tax exemptions in the new Law of the Restructuring of Public Finances, Control of Tax Exemptions and Measures Against Tax Evasion. The benefits of nonprofit associations are specifically mentioned in Articles 2 and 5, which deal with exemptions and income tax. This law was approved by National Congress in late December, and was enacted January 1, 2014.
- i Trainings were conducted for 18 people from CSO grantees in the use of internal control tools for grants reporting. Held on November 14th and 15th.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

- i 24 people from 10 violence prevention CSOs were trained by CIPRODEH in violence prevention, as a result they able to standardize concepts in matters of comprehensive public security and agreed upon action plans for advocacy of the National Policy of Public Security. The event was held on October 24 to 26, 2013

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

- i 34 experts from 30 CSOs were trained in Fiscal Research for Political Advocacy, as part of a certificate program developed by FOSDEH to train participants in the research, analysis and interpretation of fiscal information (Refer to table 4 to identify the training topics and the dates).
- i 15 people from 7 CSOs were trained in advocacy, communication and campaigning strategies. These people are actively involved in building the civil society agenda to advocate the incoming administration and their 100 day plan (Refer to table 4 to identify the training topics and the dates).
- i 9 people were trained as political campaign monitors at the regional level to verify the elections' compliance with the Electoral Law, by using computer software to record violations of electoral law relating to political propaganda (Refer to table 4 to identify the training topics and the dates).
- i The 4 ISOs closed the quarter with two outstanding achievements:
 - The design of tools and methodologies to guide their actions in 2014, including a community website, which Impactos helped design and construct, while the ISOs provided the content and defined the accessibility mechanisms of the website.
 - They developed their first version of the "Field Guide for Advocacy in Public Policy for Civil Society Organizations in Honduras." This is a methodological paper that will be finalized in the following quarter.
- i **CARITAS** established a collaboration agreement with the Supreme Election Tribunal as institutional support to in the grant implementation. During the 1st to 15th of October the CSO developed its statement of work and profile review for the recruitment of the technical

team (project coordinator, IT specialist, specialist for election observation methodology and 8 regional electoral observers).

- i Due to the proximity of the general elections (held on November 24, 2013), CARITAS trained 8 election observers, defined the methodology and criteria to carry out the observation of political campaigns and designed computer database to monitor and register cases of infraction to the law.
- i The campaign oversight formally began on October 15 and lasted until November 23rd. Some political parties did not respect the campaign silence period established in the Electoral Law. Since the law states that politicians/ political parties that infringe these terms will be punished with a fine of 40 minimum wages, equivalent around 280 thousand Lempiras; up until now no penalties for violations have been issued.

Article 149 of the Electoral and Political Organizations Law states that “five (5) days prior to primary and general elections, it is forbidden to carry out public events, all political propaganda, the dissemination of the complete or partial results of surveys or opinion polls, by means of materials that are printed, audiovisual, electronic, radio, magnetically recorded or made in any other manner”.

The law states that "the candidates, directors and leaders of the political parties, alliances and of independent candidacies may only use the media to explain, publicize and broadcast their government plans."

- i As a part of the CARITAS’ monitoring to the election campaigns through television, writing, billboards, radio and print media, 47 violations of to the Elections Law were reported. One of the findings concluded that the higher the ranking of the political party the more violations to the law were present. On November 18th, CARITAS presented its preliminary findings of the monitoring to the TSE.
- i **EROC:** For the first time a Honduran CSO has had the opportunity to develop a social audit to asses a Public Private Partnership entity, in order to identify the transparency of their performance. 11 civil society organizations in western Honduras work together with EROC in monitoring activities and public auditing of the process lead by COALIANZA, specifically to oversee contract procurement for the refurbishment of the CA-4 highway (Honduras Western road circuit).
- i During this period, EROC established partnerships with the Institute for Access to Public Information (IAIP), the Superior Court of Accounts (TSC) and COALIANZA. These partnerships aim to contribute to the transparency of the procurement of contracts within the Transparency Law.

COALIANZA

The Commission for the Promotion of Public-Private Partnerships is a government institution that coordinates, advises and oversees the hiring processes to enable a public/private approach to the implementation, development and management of efficient public services. COALIANZA was established by Legislative Decree No. 143-2010, published in the official newspaper “La Gaceta” on September 16, 2010.

- i EROC participated in public meetings convened by COALIANZA, to witnesses the selection process for the private bank which will manage the trust fund for the CA-4 highway. EROC had individual meetings with COALIANZA to presents its management model and has also reviewed social audit tools for the Public Auditing of Highways. These tools will be adapted to the reality and needs of the western region and COALIANZA’s management model.

- i **FDsF:** During this first quarter, the project “Citizen Oversight of the National Congress” has established collaborative agreements with IAIP and the National Congress with the purpose of establishing accountability mechanisms for congress members on reports and performance of the "Departmental Development Fund." FDsF generated the seventh edition of the annual Legislative Production Report with an emphasis on congress management of the public resources (January 2012-January 2013). The report presents statistics of the legislative production segregated by political party, geographic region, and gender.
- i The FDsF report was released in the cities of Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula on the 14th and 19th of November, 2013. It revealed the individual performance of each congress member including session attendance. Other findings included that for the last three years, only 10 of the 128 congress members have participated in producing a majority of legislation and also belong to the National Party. Seven of the 85 congress members seeking re-election have had no legislative participation. On average, their annual attendance is approximately 60%. Finally, only 5 congress members have developed an average of 10 proposed laws or more, meaning that only 3% of the total congress members fulfill their duties.
- i The intent of FDsF was to release this report a week before the national elections in order to inform the citizens of the congressional candidates’ performance, and give them motivation to vote. In the last days of December, the National Congress held two sessions agreed upon between the ruling Nationalist party and the president-elect. Among the decisions made by the National Congress, was the elimination of the departmental fund, being managed by the congress members. This modification represents a challenge to the FDsF grant, as they will now have to make adjustments to the original proposal.
- i **FOROSIDA:** The National AIDS Forum (FOROSIDA) is implementing a social audit grant on the Hospital Nacional de Tórax recovery fee, with emphasis on the care center facilities for patients with HIV/ AIDS. The grant began its implementation on October 15th 2013, and the most important activities during this implementation period have been the preparation of the methodological social audit, tools and training for volunteers.



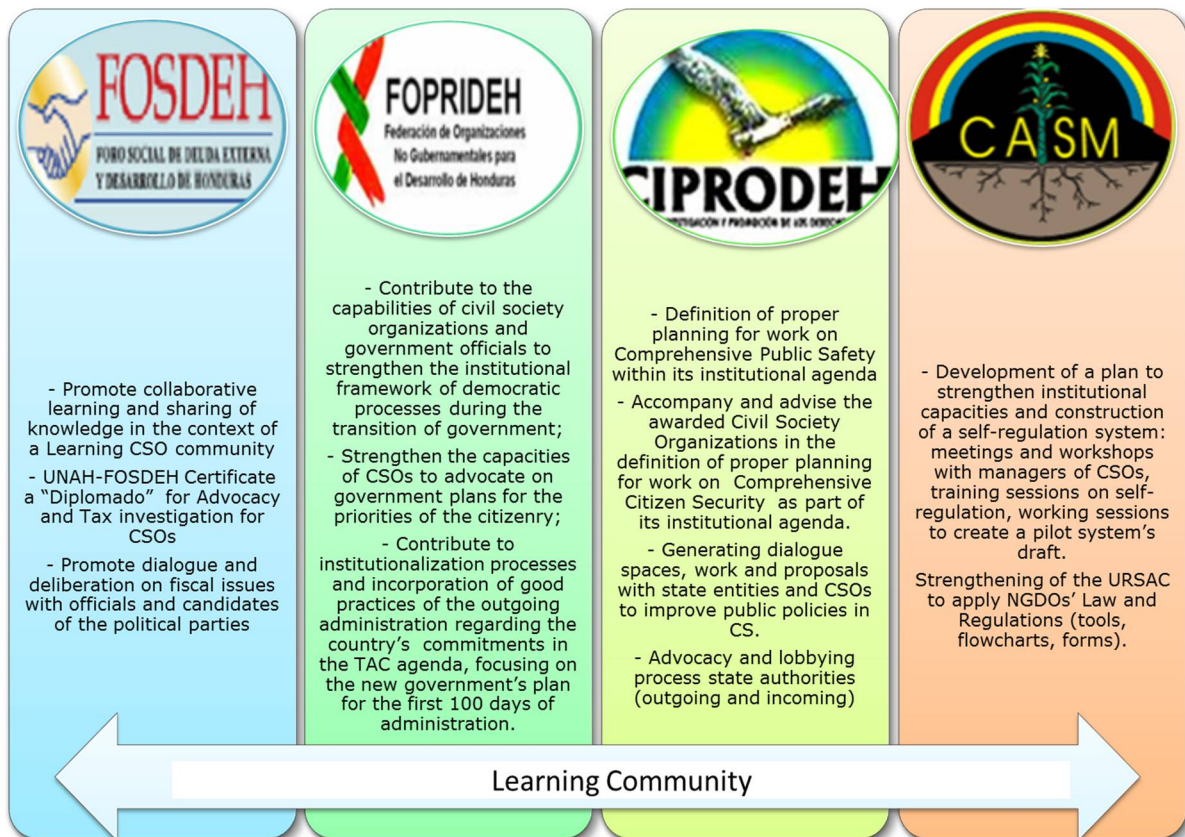
To summarize briefly the Social Audit: the picture that emerges is of an HIV epidemic primarily sexually-driven, and heavily concentrated in specific communities with high vulnerability and risk factors. It is concentrated largely on the Atlantic coast and in the larger cities. While the epidemic still affects young adults disproportionately, there is a rise in the age group most affected, especially among men. Women, who were once less hard-hit, increasingly have borne the brunt of new diagnoses, many initially among sex workers.

As in other countries, HIV/AIDS in Honduras primarily affects the younger, economically-active and sexually-active segment of the population. Since the onset of the epidemic in Honduras, those between the ages of 15 and 39 have made up somewhere between 65 and 70 percent of reported new cases.

- i The first steps in the elaboration of the social audit consisted on generating an assessment of the current hospital’s situation, mainly on the hired staff responsible for the customer service department, resource management and quality of service. During November, FOROSIDA held four meetings with the Hospital authorities to share the social audit process and obtain their support and institutional commitment for the process. FOROSIDA will link the social audit to the recovery funds of the Cardiopulmonary Hospital (TÓRAX) with the national response to the HIV and AIDS epidemic – advocating in the formulation of the National Response Plan for HIV and AIDS called PENSIDA V and including these funds as resources to support the national response mechanism.

- i During December, the process began by conducting a survey and establishing investigation meetings with the medical and administrative staff. FORDOSIDA was able to interview 50% of all staff members and by the end of January FOROSIDA will have completed the full assessment report.

The chart below summarizes the main activities developed by the ISOs with TIG grants:



CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY

- i A Gender Plan for the Impactos Program was developed through a participatory process with an integrated team approach. Gender activities were incorporated into the Work Plans of CAP and CPRG for 2014 and 2015.

VII. GENDER-BASED CONSTRAINTS

CPRG (Refer to Annex B - Gender Action Plan)

In December, the Impactos Program designed a plan of action on gender issues, incorporating the vision of both components (CAP and CPRG). This plan responds to the recommendations of the assessment conducted in 2012.

The action plan calls for integration of gender perspective throughout all the cycle of both components of the project. The priorities identified are; a) incorporate the gender perspective as a central focus and/or affirmative action in the RFA's; b) incorporate gender issues in the training plans, internal institutional capacity building and in trainings held with CSOs; c) mainstreaming gender in the logical frameworks for subsidized projects that are agreed upon with the CSOs; and, d) Identify the criteria to establish best practices and support the collection of the required technical information, with the support of the gender advisory group.

It also calls for fostering critical analysis and research that directly promote gender equality or empowerment of women in topics of governance, transparency and accountability. These objectives are linked to the gender indicators of the Impactos Program, which includes the number of laws, policies and/or procedures drafted, proposed or adopted to promote gender equality at the regional, national or local level.

CAP

The project promotes the equal participation of men and women within the CRC and Youth Networks. In addition, two municipal policy proposals are under elaboration. These policies seek to prevent violence, especially among children and youth, and prevent sexual violence.

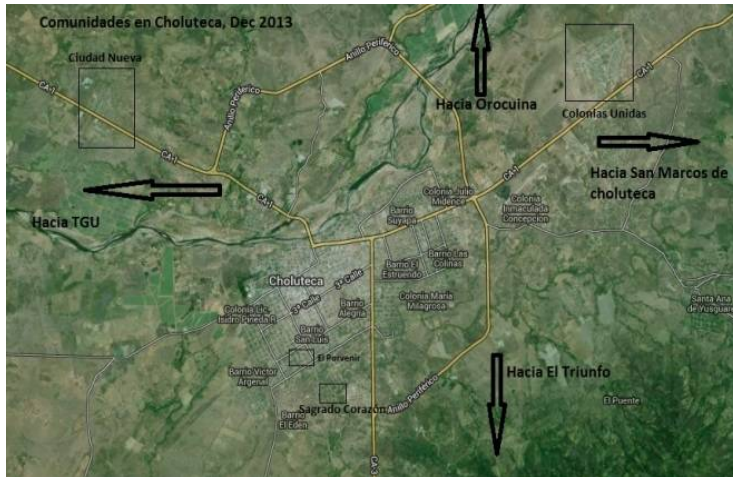
Young men and women have received training in prevention of teen pregnancies and have expressed their interest in receiving more information. The project has identified several cases where women have achieved economic independence through vocational trainings provided by community revitalization projects. This economic independence and empowerment has allowed them to disengage themselves from domestic violence. Based on the project's experience, a Request for Application (RFA) of the Municipal Advocacy Grant (MAG) is under the design process and will include gender equity as a cross cutting theme.

VIII. SECURITY

In terms of security, Impactos has advanced in the following lines of action:

- i Promotional visits were carried out on security issues with partner CSOs and their beneficiaries, with the goal of installing a culture of prevention for corporate security and personal security.
- i Impactos joined security groups of the Department of Protection and Security of the United Nations (UNDSS) to form part of the early warning system of incidents.
- i Impactos joined with the Overseas Security Assessment Committee (OSAC) in compliance with recommendations of the RSO of the American Embassy.
- i Among the preventive measures taken in the weeks before the national general elections, communication flows were defined within the program in case of emergencies for each team member so that they could contribute to the monitoring of pre-election and post-election events, with the involvement of the UNDSS.

- i The security officer, in consultation with the specialist and management teams, developed the rules and security protocols that will be used by the program once they are validated and approved by HQ and USAID.
- i As part of the activities of 2014, the development began of a graphical mapping of every community of intervention of the Program in order to identify areas of greatest risk and vulnerability that allows the team to take preventive measures and relevant mitigation. The results of the mapping will be shared with partner CSOs and other interested stakeholders.



IX. COMMUNICATIONS

During the last 6 months, the www.programaimpactos.org website has been viewed 6,247 times by a total of 2,338 people. It has a database of 855 members, among them members of the media and partner CSOs, who have received 61 newsletters in 8 months, of which 4,551 have been read, that represents an opening rate of 15.54%. On YouTube, there have been 771 viewings of 13 videos uploaded within a period of 8 months. On Facebook, the statistics generated from data for the last 3 months and averaged over a total of 28 days, resulted in 114,357 page views, where 46% are by women and 54% by men.

X. EXPENDITURES

CAP

CAP registered the grant implementation and allocation of eight CSOs for a total amount of \$93,570.49. No Cost Share was recorded during these two months since no feedback has been received from HQ.

CPRG

This quarter CPRG monitored the progress of 12 grants and closure of 21. As of December 31, 2013 CPRG has implemented 33 grants for a total value of USD \$2,352,203.09 (inclusive of cost share).

BUDGET EXECUTION

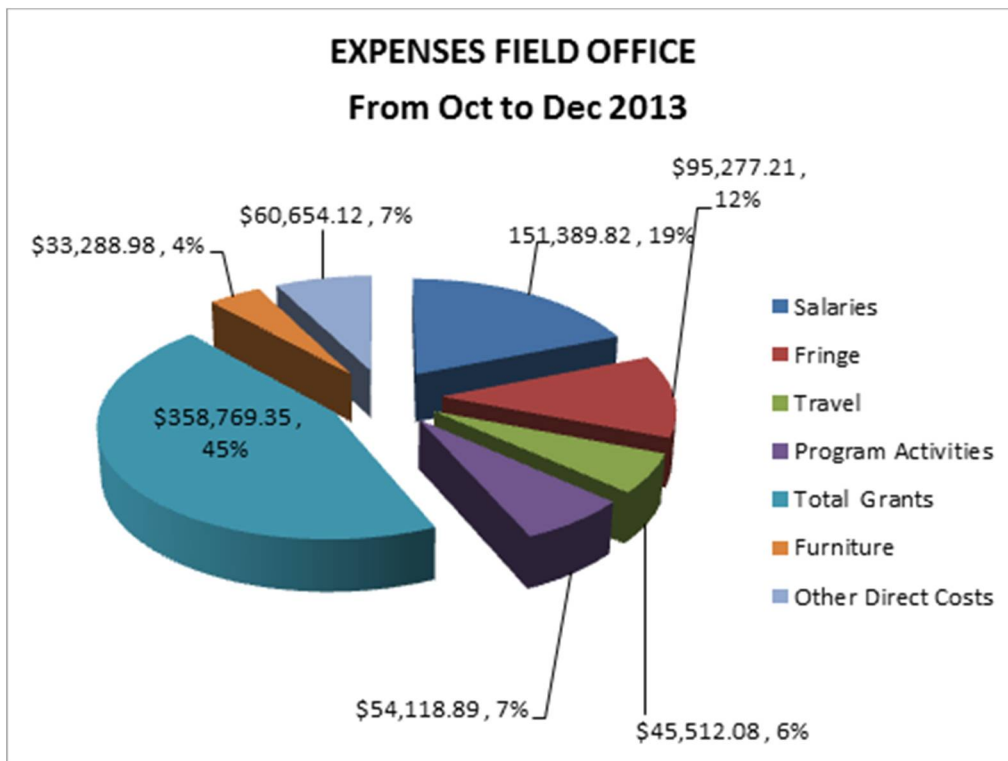
Under the CPRG component, technical assistance was provided to the 4 Intermediate Service Organizations (ISOs) and 8 CSO grantees. 14 grants were under implementation, and 22 grants have closed for a total grants amount of USD \$2504,703.09 (Grants USD \$1932,000.00 and Cost Share USD \$572,703.09) on 36 grant agreements signed, grants funds represent 57.77% of the total amount of the grant funds of USD \$3,344,200 budgeted under CPRG for the life of the program. One grant agreement was signed for USD \$90,000 for ALAC's Expansion to San Pedro Sula and four grant agreements were signed with the ISOs (CASM, FOPRIDEH, FOSDEH and CIPRODEH) for USD \$100,000 each.

Under the CAP component, technical assistance was provided to 7 Institution Support and Civic Participation grantees (ISCPs), 14 grants have closed and 24 grants were being implemented for a total of USD \$1683,941.56 (USD \$1270,333.36 and Cost Share USD \$413,608.20) on 38 grant agreements signed, grants funds represent 54.31% of the total amount of USD \$2,339,000.00 budgeted under CAP for the life of the program.

This quarter's budget execution details as follows:

- i Until November 30th a total value of USD \$6,731,890.42 had been executed, representing a 45% LOP (data consolidated until November 30 2013 HQ-FO).
- i This quarter's execution from October to December increased USD \$799,010.45 (Local Office)
- i Total executed grant expenses USD \$358,769.35, representing a 45% of the quarter's execution.
- i 25 CSO budget execution, 13 of which correspond to the CAP project with USD \$162,191.37(45%) and 12 corresponding to CPRG with USD \$196,577.98(55%)
- i The purchase on December of a white ESCAPE FORD vehicle is included under the furniture budget line, at a cost of USD \$24,750.00
- i A total amount of USD \$799,010.45 has been executed from the USD \$826,181.00 received during this quarter, representing a 97% execution of all transfers received from HQ.
- i There was no Cost Share reported, since there has been no communication from HQ on this regard.

The following graph illustrates the expense distribution registered in the field office on this first trimester of year FY14.



XI. PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

CPRG

- Conduct grants award process and management of: TIG (4), NGOG (4), TRAG (3), PICG (3), YOG (1)
- RRF (1) (Activity 1.2)
- Train and trainer refresh of Counterpart's local and network partners in the KMS use. (Activity 1.2)
- Hold workshops for 4 ISOs in grants closure activities. (Activity 1.3)
- Draft RFAs -new cycle (Activity 1.3)
- Annual Performance Evaluation for ISOs. (Activity 1.3)
- Review new proposals of TIGs facing program closure to ensure continuity of program activities. (Activity 1.3)
- Conduct baseline study for ISOs. (Activity 1.3)
- Conduct Intermediate evaluation on Institutional Strengthening Plan. (Activity 1.4)
- Coordinate training needs assessment with new ISOs and strategic planning workshop. (Activity 1.4)
- Hire consultant to assess the viability and need for a movement, incorporating youth leadership supported by the CAP project. (Activity 1.5)
- Develop a workshop to review the performance of the NGOG, TIG, PICG, TRAG, RR grantees engaged in PY4. (Activities 1.6 - 1.9- 1.11- 1.15 -2.5)
- Release RFAs for NGOG, TRAG, PICG, and YOEG grants. (Activity 1.6- 1.9- 1.11- 1.13 - 1.15 - 2.5)
- Technical assistance will be provided to CSOs who decide to participate in the validation of the pilot project for self-regulation. Technical assistance and support of Impactos and ICNL (Activity 1.8)
- The validation of the pilot program for self-regulation designed by CASM, and the dissemination of lessons learned and best practices will be widely publicized with the CSO community. (Activity 1.8)
- Train ISOs to define training and development strategy for government officials. (Activity 1.10)
- Facilitate the use of tools and methodologies in implementation for the Learning Community. (Activity 2.1)
- Conduct the needs assessment of government partners through ISOs/grantees. (Activity 2.3)
- Train ISOs to define training and development strategy for government officials. (Activity 2.3)
- Facilitate dialogue and tangible cooperation between CSOs and government entities. (Activity 2.4)

CAP

- Update the desk review (Activity 1.3)
- Mapping Report on youth groups and youth networks (Activity 1.3)
- Finalize base line report of the 36 communities (Activity 1.3)
- Conduct two workshops with CSOs and CRCs to: a) exchange lessons learned (corresponding to the last year of ISCP project implementation); and b) prepare common work plan among CSOs Group 1 / Group 2 (Activity 1.4)
- Conduct training workshops in alternative dispute resolution in coordination with UNDP. (Activity 1.4)

- Prepare scope of work for consultancy to design tools and methodology on implementation of CAP model. (Activity 1.4)
- Conduct monthly on-site monitoring and evaluation visits/monitoring and evaluation training with CRCs. (Activity 1.8)
- Deliver monitoring reports to CAP Director, COP and technical staff and CSOs (Activity 1.8)
- Evaluate CSOs' MAG proposals and submit for approval (Activity 1.9)
- Prepare RFA for Strengthening MDVPCs or MCCS through Municipal Advocacy Grants. (Activity 1.9)
- Sign Municipal Advocacy Grant Agreements to strengthen MDVPC or MCSCs in seven municipalities. (Activity 1.9)
- Consolidate a coordination strategy with CARSI members at a community and municipal level (Activity 1.10)
- Establish and develop a follow-up mechanism to keep a record of joint coordination activities. (Activity 1.10)
- Monitor and evaluate CSAP and community revitalization projects (Activity 1.11)
- Conduct community appraisal and update CSAP (Activity 1.11)
- Conduct seven workshops to identify the top one to three issues and related policies for youth for analysis and discussion based on the Municipal Youth Action Plans in seven target municipalities (Activity 1.12)
- Prepare assessments to evaluate training needs in municipalities and define areas for strengthening in policy formulation for violence prevention. (Activity 2.1)
- Prepare a training plan and develop workshops for training municipal officials in seven municipalities for capacity building in policy formulation for violence prevention. (Activity 2.1)
- Define and systematize the violence prevention model of CAP and prepare training tool kit to strengthen capacities in local government officials and MPVC. (Activity 2.1)
- Approve the designed materials with positive messages and opportunities for youth and communities. (Activity 2.4)
- Meetings between POICG and ISCPG – CSOs, CAP, CRCs, Youth Networks and stakeholders to explain the activities planned for campaign implementation, and establish responsibilities. (Activity 2.4)
- Identify new potential sources of funding and support for community revitalization projects. (Activity 3.2).

The previous quarterly report mentioned the following activities that I did not necessarily see reflected in this report:

1. Train and trainer refresh of Counterpart's local and network partners in the KMS use. (Activity 1.2)
2. Develop case studies in Transparency and Anti-Corruption Subjects (Activity 1.9)
3. Prepare and monitor an action plan with FOPRIDEH (Activity 1.12)
4. Monitor the CSO grantees' action plans regarding key themes (Activity 1.12)
5. Develop and Manage Transition Plan due to the parting of the current COP
6. Conduct internal audit for FY13
7. Sign ISCPG agreement with new selected CSO and renewal agreement with CSO COSOCITELA (CAP Activity 1.1.)
8. Prepare Rapid Community Assessments Reports (CAP Activity 1.3)
9. Conduct monthly onsite monitoring and evaluation visits and training with CRCs (CAP Activity 1.8)
10. Deliver monitoring reports to CAP Director, COP, and technical staff and CSOs (Activity 1.8),)

11. Develop a “training of trainers” style methodology on how to assess training needs for MCSCs or MDVPs and a mechanism to include CSAP in the municipal plans (CAP Activity 1.9)
12. Prepare RFA for strengthening MDVPCs or MCCC through Municipal Advocacy Grants (CAP Activity 1.9)
13. Evaluate CSOs MAG proposals and submit for approval (CAP Activity 1.9)
14. Monitor and evaluate CSAP and Community Revitalization Projects. (CAP Activity 1.11)
15. Prepare assessments for training needs in municipalities and define areas for strengthening (CAP Activity 2.1)
16. Conduct a public forum and sign pacts (CAP Activity 2.1) – Results
17. Hire a consultant on violence prevention methodologies (CAP Activity 2.1)