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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AECID	<i>Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo</i> (Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation)
ADELSAR	<i>Agencia de Desarrollo Economico Local de Santa Rosa de Copán</i> (Local Strategic Development Agency of Santa Rosa de Copán)
CAP	Community Action for Prosperity
CASM	<i>Comisión de Acción Social Menonita</i> (Menonite Social Action Commission)
CDH	<i>Centro de Desarrollo Humano</i> (Human Development Center)
CEPROSAF	<i>Centro de Promoción en Salud y Asistencia Familiar</i> (Center for Health Promotion and Family Assistance)
CIPE	<i>Centro de Investigación, Planeación y Evaluación</i> (Center for Investigation, Planning and Evaluation)
CIPRODEH	<i>Centro de Investigación y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos</i> (Center of Human Rights Research and Promotion in Honduras)
COSOCITELA	<i>Coalición de la Sociedad Civil de Tela</i> (Tela Civil Society Coalition)
CRC	Community Revitalization Committee
CRG	Community Revitalization Grant
CRP	Community Revitalization Project
CSO	Civil Society Organization
FUNADEH	<i>Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo de Honduras</i> (National Foundation for Honduran Development)
GIZ	German Society for International Cooperation
GOH	Government of Honduras
ISCPG	Institutional Support and Civic Participation Grant
MAG	Municipal Advocacy Grant
MCSCC	Municipal Citizen Security and Coexistence Councils
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MIS	Management Information System
MDSC	Municipal Development and Security Council
MVPC	Municipal Violence Prevention Council
MVPU	Municipal Violence Prevention Unit
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PASMO	Pan American Social Marketing Organization
PIOCG	Public Information Outreach Campaign Grants
PNPRRS	<i>Programa Nacional de Prevención, Reinserción y Rehabilitación Social</i> (National Program for Prevention, Reinsertion and Social Rehabilitation)
RFA	Request for Applications
SEPLAN	<i>Secretaría de Planificación</i> (Ministry of Planning)
YN	Youth Networks
YNSG	Youth Network Strengthening Grants

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 drug trafficking.

This quarter, the CAP project and our dedicated staff, provided technical assistance to our Civil Society Organization (CSO) partners as they implemented their individual activities, executed their grants, and advocated for a broader and more effective dialogue between citizens and municipal governance officials. In particular this quarter, progress was made with the Youth Networks and the Community Revitalization Committees (CRCs), as well as with the municipal governments and the Municipal Violence Prevention Committees (MVPCs) in San Pedro Sula, Choloma, and Santa Rosa de Copán. In the latter, with support of the community revitalization grants, efforts have been carried out to promote access to formal and alternative educational systems. The organization and community promotion of 36 Youth Networks was strengthened during the quarter; this has contributed to greater community recognition of the network, and to generating a positive image of the young people.

Grants Awarded this Quarter

<u>CSOs</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Type of Grant</u>	<u>Signed</u>	<u>Value in U.S. \$</u>
CDH	CAP	Institutional Support and Civic Participation Grant	02/01/2014	35,000
CESAL Etapa I	CAP	Public Information and Outreach Campaign Grant	02/01/2014	42,000
CASM	CAP	Community Revitalization Grant	06/02/2014	48,000
CDH	CAP	Community Revitalization Grant	31/03/2014	48,000

CAP registered a total expenditure of USD \$328,613.11 of which USD \$242,985.45 is from grant funding and USD \$85,627.66 is comprised of grant recipient cost share.

The Impactos Program has supported important achievements over this quarter, among the most noteworthy the building of bridges of cooperation and confidence of the new Honduran administration in Impactos and our strategic CSO partners. We and our CSOs have aided the leadership potential of our Youth Networks leading to multiple successful initiatives involving the participation and mobilization of over 627 people in a variety of activities related to Youth Empowerment; we have seen an increase in

female attendance in Community Revitalization Committees and the events therein; and over 700 people participated in Impactos and our CSOs' sponsored Community Revitalization projects.

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

II. POLITICAL CONTEXT

On January 27, 2014 the new Honduran President; Mr. Juan Orlando Hernández, was sworn in. During the first three months of his administration, President Hernández has emphasized in speeches that Honduras has much work to do to mitigate its international reputation as one of the world's most violent countries. In order to aid in that effort, President Hernández has adopted a number of strategies and policies that offer to bring about positive change. Among the most notable changes is President Hernandez's commitment to the following:

This quarter saw reinvigorated government support for the newly created elite police special weapons and tactics unit known as the TIGRES¹. President Hernandez ordered commencement of a new offensive on organized crime and gangs, a so-called *Operación Morazán*. As a result, law enforcement operations were increased against criminals engaged in money laundering, extortion, drug trafficking and kidnapping, with joint operations conducted by the police with support from the armed forces.

As part of the Honduran President's war on criminal activity, on February 17, the National Council on Defense and Security ordered the creation of a National Inter-Institutional Security Force (Fusina, Spanish acronym) to improve command, control and interagency coordination among justice and security force operators. Fusina is an interagency task force integrated by the police, the armed forces, the TIGRES Special Forces and the Military Police, charged with the conduct of joint coordinated security-related operations.

Among other measures to combat rampant criminality, the Honduran government forced cell phone companies to block telephonic signals in the 24 penitentiaries, in order to prevent delinquents from continuing to plan and order criminal acts from inside the prisons. In addition, starting on March 28, the sale of alcoholic beverages was prohibited from 5 P.M. on Sundays to 6 AM on Mondays as a measure to reduce the indices of homicides, vehicular accidents, domestic violence and other problems associated with alcohol ingestion and which, according to statistics, tend to increase between Sunday and Monday. It is important to point out that homicides on Sundays are not only related with alcohol ingestion, but also with other factors tied to organized crime, drug sales and gang feuds.

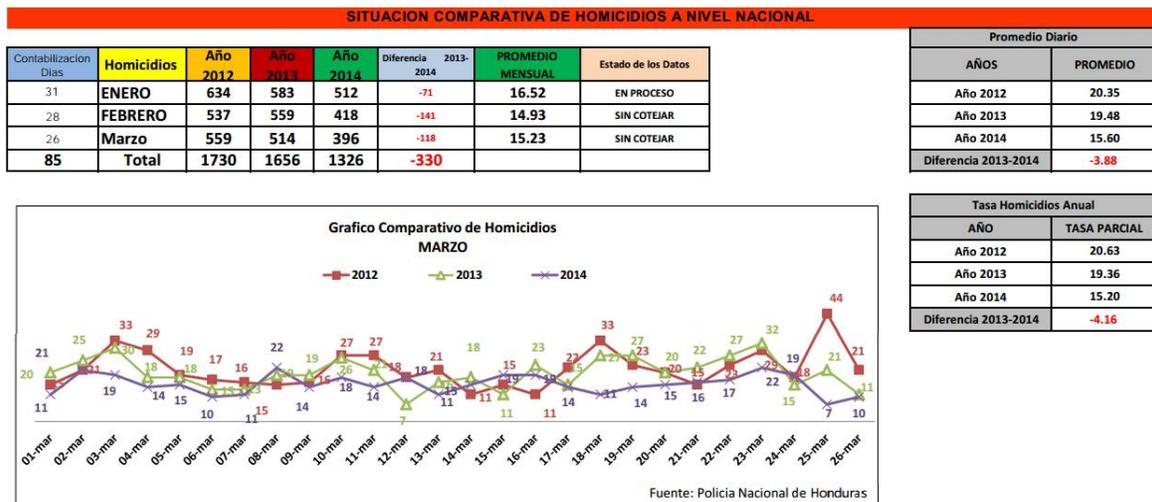
¹ A new special police unit, "Unidad Toma Integral Gubernamental de Respuesta Especial de Seguridad (TIGRES)," was approved on June 4, 2013 by the National Congress. This unit is considered an elite police force that will operate under the National Inter-Institutional Security Strategy.

According to figures provided by Honduran national authorities, at the end of the quarter there had been progress in combating criminal impunity, with a 40% increase in the detention of criminal suspects. During the quarter, the detention of an average of 10 people daily was recorded; of these, on average 8 undergo a judicial process and 2 obtain their freedom during the initial stage of the investigation process. These control processes have also led to increased overcrowding in the 24 Honduran penitentiaries. In this regard, Fusina expects that penitentiary authorities will resolve this problem by constructing new prisons since the number of arrests continues to increase.

Given the country’s current socio-economic conditions, the application of measures and policies that lead to the prevention of violence and delinquency remains an urgent need. Civil society leaders have recently shared their observations that policies and measures should also give due attention to the need to strengthen opportunities for populations and especially youth at risk to become productive and employed members of society, which would also reduce the threat of these vulnerable target groups from entering into criminality and prison populations. At the same time, some civil society groups highlight the need for penal policies to be directed at rehabilitation of criminal offenders.

According to the national police data, in the first quarter of 2013, an average of 19.5 daily deaths were registered from January 1 to March 26 for a total of 1,656 homicides. In 2014, during the same period there was a daily average of 15.6 deaths, equivalent to 1,326 homicides; therefore, this year there have been 330 fewer reported homicide cases than in 2013, representing a modest but important improvement in reducing the rate of homicides.

Incidence of Homicide at National Level



Source: Honduran National Police

During the first months of 2014, a number of different law enforcement operations have been carried out leading to the capture of extortionists, confiscation of significant quantities of money, arms and drugs; the operations continue in order to capture members of identified gangs operating in the country.

Notwithstanding the promising reduction in homicides cited above, more recent news at the end of March finds a serious increase in violent mass crimes observed. In the opinion of some government and civil society sources, this pattern of conduct may correspond to a push back by criminal groups responding to the control measures implemented by the national security forces. According to information from the Violence Observatory of the Honduran National Autonomous University, and with respect to multi-person, mass murder homicides in 2014, in January there were 8 such instances, in February there were 3, and in late March another 7 mass murder cases for a total of 18. Of these multiple death -- or “collective” murders, as they are known locally -- 11 involved three victims, 5 involved four victims and 2 involved five victims, amounting to a total of 63 persons killed in these multiple death homicides.

In spite of the above, and according to government data, the overall homicide rate, per capita, has dropped. The authorities understand that such criminality derives in part from subcultures of violence engendered by some combination of organized crime and the breakdown in community, family and individual values. The Impactos program design was shaped from the wealth of research, learning and knowledge that informs us that the genesis of violent behaviors is truly multidimensional. Adhering to that understanding; the Honduran government, communities and civil society partners with which Impactos works have often shared their belief that the remedies to criminality and violence will require a broad range of stakeholders -- families, communities, and local and national government partners – to join forces for the renewal and revitalization of the traditional values of peace and harmony still found and cherished within Honduran society.

ANALYSIS

Recently, the government has established a presidential commission for violence prevention comprised of members of the cabinet, civil society and representatives of the Police and Armed Forces. While the new Honduran President has declared that violence prevention is a priority in his government, there has still been little official orientation on how the violence prevention commission will operate. The government has published a description of a National Program for Prevention, Rehabilitation and Social Reinsertion (PNPRRS, Spanish acronym), grounded in the law for prevention, rehabilitation and social reinsertion. This program was created to deal with the problem of gangs in the country; however, there is not yet a well-defined, structured and budgeted national plan that enables the government to mark out clear and concise plans with regard to public safety initiatives.

Notwithstanding the lack of definition, the new government has nevertheless adopted a media strategy as its principal means of shaping citizens’ perceptions with regard to progress in public safety. However, pundits observe that much remains to be done in terms of developing a well-defined public safety strategy, claiming there is little evidence that current government plans are capable of addressing, in an integral manner, the dual challenges of a deteriorating economy and damaging influences of gang and drug trafficking subcultures and related violence and criminality that tear at the social fabric of communities. For example, in March of 2014 the government announced that approximately 30 million

lempiras had been allocated for construction of athletic courts and fields; however observers note that the causes of violence runs much deeper than a lack of sports opportunities and infrastructure for youth at risk. In addition, some civil society leaders are critical of plans to allocate larger budgets to police and military task forces for enforcement operations. These same leaders suggest that the government's focus should rather give due attention to strategies that seek socioeconomic stabilization, overcoming extreme poverty, and fostering of integral public sector and community initiatives serving all citizens. Impactos and CAP partners will no doubt continue to help shape the national debate on best public policy approaches that strengthen the nation's human capital and foster social stability. In that process, partners recognize that the threads of education, economic growth and social stability need to be woven into any tapestry of reforms for sustainable peace and prosperity in Honduras. In addition, partners point to the need for socialized policies and plans in areas of social infrastructure works, democratic institution building, and rule-of-law.

Another fundamental part of human capital building and socio-economic progress is the need to develop "citizen intelligence," which is understood as the capacity of citizens to maintain peaceful community coexistence, and the ability to identify and resolve problems and take decisions leading to collective action for local and personal development. In this sense, the coordinated support of all social sectors is required for strengthening society's primary institution – the family – for the upbringing of responsible citizens with moral values and principles, which in the future, translates into citizens manifesting lower levels of criminality and violence.

The CAP project focuses a good part of its efforts on value formation. The project has also worked on diminishing collective apathy and discouragement and developing the capacity of young people and adults to visualize positive opportunities within their complex environment and plan actions individually and collectively for a prosperous future. In this sense, CAP helps individuals and communities to dream and implement ideas that transform what they used to believe was impossible, into a reachable goal.

Individually, each of the activities that have been implemented by the CAP project foster local knowledge and citizen and community activism that contributes to the prevention of violence and crime. The new ties and synergies being developed among the partners - Civil Society Organizations, Community Revitalization Committees, Youth Networks, Municipal Security Committees and municipal government offices - promise to reinforce security and prevent violence in the selected communities. While realistically the initiatives are often modest in their scope and financing, the intangible benefits and the aggregate effect over time are translating into the creation of local social movements committed to nonviolence. When local civic action leaders and entities form ties with municipal and national policy makers, conditions for sustainable violence prevention plans and implementation are created.

III. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES BY RESULTS

Objective 1. Improve Multi-sector capacity to provide coordinated and integrated responses to changing security needs.

1.1 Select and train/strengthen up to nine (9) implementing CSO partners

The CAP program finalized the selection of our nine (9) implementing CSO partners in December of 2013. These 9 partners are: CDH, CASM, CI, FUNADEH, CEPRSOAF, COSOCITELA, ADELSAR, CIPE, and CESAL. Throughout this quarter, CAP personnel in Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula and Santa Rosa de Copán provided direct technical assistance and support to the nine partner² CSOs to strengthen their planning, resource management and project implementation capacities. This process included joint reviews and analysis of individual partner work plans and related administration and logistics plans, sharing methodologies for planning and implementation of activities, optimizing of activity schedules to maximize participation, rationalizing budgets and fund usage. In addition, direct assistance was provided to CAP's new partner CSO CESAL for the preparation and implementation of a Public Information and Outreach Campaign Grant (PIOCG).

On January 10, 2014, CAP awarded a USD \$35,000 Institutional Strengthening and Civic Participation Grant (ISCPG) to CDH so that they may begin program implementation in San Miguel. While initially, San Miguel was slated to be under the purview of CIPRODEH, ultimately CDH was selected to receive the ISCPG.³ The award will enable CDH to create spaces for dialogue and promote community participation in order to carry out violence prevention activities. In order to better streamline the transition from CIPRODEH to CDH, CAP has provided advisory counseling and support to CDH to reinstate activities and to enable them to reactivate the CRCs in the neighborhood target communities (La Era, La Travesía, La Sosa and San Miguel). On February 18th, CAP staff held a workshop with community leaders from La Era, La Travesía, La Sosa and San Miguel with the purpose of developing tactics to attract a greater number of project participants and reactivate the CAP project's intervention in the area of San Miguel. The community intervention strategy was presented, to raise awareness among community leaders of the project's objectives, to seek expressions of willingness of the leaders to work with CDH for creation of dialogue spaces and organization of violence prevention actions. Attendees welcomed the information and agreed to share the information provided with as many neighbors as part of their support for CDH's development of a community socialized action plan for this coming year.

³ During the last quarter of year 2012 and the first quarter of year 2013 CRG projects experienced problems due to delays in the Honduran government's issuing of resolutions on tax policy and tax exemptions for nonprofit organizations. In terms of project implementation, an ISCP-CSO, CIPRODEH, expressed concerns over how this situation would affect its project performance and ability to pay taxes. Under these circumstances, on April 2013 CIPRODEH declined to be one of CAP's CSO implementing partners. This situation forced the Program to launch a new competitive process to allocate a new ISCPG to continue benefiting the communities with which CIPRODEH was working during this period.

On January 16, 2014 CASM conducted a code of conduct training workshop for all of its central and regionally based employees, volunteers and consultants in CASM's headquarters office in San Pedro Sula. The training was conducted by CASM Executive Director, Nelson García Lobo and Program Coordinator, Suyapa Ucles. The purpose of the activity was to publish and disseminate the new code of conduct that will govern CASM employees, consultants and volunteers. Among the subjects covered at the workshop were: prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, fraud, corruption, abuse of power, violent behavior, discriminatory harassment, and the need to maintain an environment of respect and dignity at the workplace, among other topics. The code's principle emphasis is on terms of support and interaction with women and children. It is expected that CASM personnel will incorporate the spirit and letter of the code as they carry out their daily activities in communities and municipal environments. At the close of the event, each one of the employees signed a document giving faith to their agreement to work in accordance with the code of conduct. There were a total of 23 participants – 9 men and 14 women, of whom 7 were young people (3 boys and 4 girls).

1.2 Carry out initial activities of program publicity.

CAP routinely publicizes commencement of activities when a new grant agreement is signed, accompanied by community leaders being briefed on the new activities. This communication process helps shape shared knowledge and generates willingness for new collaborative actions, as well as delineates and fixes roles and responsibilities of the CSOs and community members.

On January 19, 2014, CAP awarded a PIOCG Agreement to CESAL for their proposal to implement a public information campaign promoting CRCs and Youth Networks as change agents for violence prevention initiatives that foster positive outlooks and promote increased activism within society, and which include both public and private sectors. The campaign will promote the CRCs and Youth Networks, while at the same time disseminate positive messages for violence prevention.

In January and February, the Impactos Communications Officer and CESAL technicians visited target communities in Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula, Choloma, and Santa Rosa de Copán. Meetings were held with partner CSOs - CDH, FUNADEH, CASM, CI, and ADELSAR, where the new project was presented and coordination activities initiated at the community level. During the quarter, planning meetings were held with a total of 448 community members and 19 members of the abovementioned CSOs. While the public information campaign is a CESAL PIOCG grant activity, the participation of the other Impactos CSOs offers an important opportunity to coordinate additional support and synergy from the broader grouping of partners with presence in the same communities.

As mentioned above, the CAP activities in San Miguel were restarted through the implementation of projects by partner CSO CDH. The first step to recapturing the participation of the citizens of San Miguel, however, required reestablishing the CRC in San Miguel and simultaneously introducing the community to CDH. As such, on February 18, 2014 CAP personnel held a meeting with the community leaders of La Era, La Travesía, La Sosa, and La San Miguel to talk about the CAP project, to introduce the leaders to CDH, and to discuss the CAP program implementation strategy in each of these neighborhoods. The leaders from the four communities agreed to share information on the initiative with their communities as a means to promote the program activities.

On February 6, 2014, the CSO CASM was awarded a Community Revitalization Grant (CRG) totaling USD \$48,000 (USD \$12,000 per community) to begin Community Revitalization projects in Bordo Gavión, Callejas, San Vicente, and R. Gonzales. On January 21 to 23, 159 people (26 men and 133 women) participated in four (4) workshops which were held to publicize the project’s achievements (1 per target community: Bordo Gavión, Callejas, San Vicente, R. Gonzales). There was a significant presence of women (80%) and young people (35%) at the event showing the positive influence and progress that CAP has made in promoting and empowering the youth and female members of our communities to engage in actions that promote CAP supported projects and to see the importance of their contributions to the development of their communities.

1.3 Carry out rapid community diagnosis of target communities.

During this quarter, data was compiled from previous surveys carried out in Santa Rosa de Copán, Choluteca and La Ceiba. In the next quarter, analysis and data consolidation in the 36 project target communities will be undertaken.

1.4 Establish and strengthen community revitalization committees in each community.

Through the partner CSOs, the program will continue to carry out actions and strategies to foster violence prevention and community development. To that end, formative processes have been executed to develop community leaders’ fundamental capacities to be effective managers. Efforts continue to ensure that the Community Revitalization Committees (CRCs) have the wherewithal to find and contribute local resources, the capacity to decide and propose actions, and to effectively implement the use of the assets at their disposal for the benefit of their communities. Along these lines, during this quarter, 192 CRC members were trained on a variety of themes including: violence prevention, gender violence, project design and monitoring, lessons learned, and the exchange of experiences while designing and implementing community activities.

(Refer to Annex A- Table of Training Activities and Annex B-Table of Events).

Summary of Workshops to Strengthen CRCs

CSO	Municipality	Theme	Participants	Women	Men
CEPROSAF	La Ceiba	Prevention of gender violence	65	35	30
FUNADEH	Choloma	Exchange of experiences: Implementation of Community Projects and activities led by CRCs.	21	18	3
		Workshops on Designing projects with social content	32	26	6
CIPE	Choluteca	Violence Prevention: Identification of the causes of violence and mechanisms to improve the community social environment.	11	11	0
COSOCITE LA	Tela	Basic concepts of project management, monthly activity planning, monitoring and preparation of technical reports.	63	45	18
Total Members of CRCs			192	135	57

On January 17, CRC members from the Bordo Gavión community and representatives of the Bordos General Coordination Committee in San Pedro Sula, with the support of their community's CSO – CASM, held a meeting with officials from the National Electricity Company (ENEE, Spanish acronym). The purpose of the gathering was to request installation of electrical energy in the community. As a result, the ENEE technicians visited the community and analyzed its current energy deficit and assessed the feasibility of providing electricity to the community. This activity represents progress in the ability of the CRC to take initiatives to benefit their community and neighboring communities of los Bordos. The CRC will follow up on these efforts in the coming months.

1.5 Carry out Participative Community Crime Appraisals (EPCD, Spanish acronym)

Over 130 young people from 4 Youth Networks in Choluteca, 4 Youth Networks in San Pedro Sula and 4 Youth Networks in Santa Rosa de Copan, engaged in participatory processes to identify issues faced by the youth in their communities. They compiled ideas for intervention and subsequently prioritized actions that the Youth Networks could implement.

As a result, the twelve Youth Networks designed their first Community Youth Action Plans to develop violence prevention activities and improve social opportunities for children and young people. Community Youth Action Plans are varied in their approach and sector of influence, and include: community improvement and beautification, as well as health-related activities, promotion of moral values and the generation of educational opportunities, as well as others. During the work sessions, the youth leaders recognized the value of their efforts as a service to the community and chose to apply the values of solidarity, commitment and responsibility promoted by the project. As part of the support and integration of community-based organizations, the Youth Networks will be accompanied and supported by the CRCs in the management of aspects necessary for implementing their plans.

1.6 Present the EPCD to the communities

On March 8-9, 2014 80 members of the Youth Networks in Choluteca from the communities of El Porvenir, Sagrado Corazón, Ciudad Nueva and Colonias Unidades presented Participating Community Crime Appraisals (EPCD in Spanish language) as well as their proposals for juvenile community action plans to members of their communities. The young people presented their violence prevention proposals, which focused on improving social infrastructure, awareness raising and activities that contribute to community beautification and healthcare. This activity permitted the community members and the CRCs to learn about the main concerns of young people regarding the social problems that they face and their proposals for measures to solve the problem, but, most of all, they learned about a new aspect of youth as promoters of positive changes in their community.

1.7 Prepare annual community strategic action plans.

This activity was carried out during Fiscal Years 2 and 3. With a renewal of new grants in FY4, the CRCs will make a new review of their plans for strategic community action.

1.8 Raise the community's capacity for monitoring and participative evaluation.

Fifty-seven (57) members of participating CRCs were trained during the quarter in activities to improve their organizational capabilities and CRC operation. These activities included workshops to promote interchanges between the CRCs and the communities in the municipalities where CSOs work. The participants were able to put into practice their project monitoring and evaluation knowledge by means of participative processes. To that end, CAP personnel carried out experience exchange activities in January: One was in Santa Rosa de Copán in coordination with the partner CSO ADELSAR; the other in Choloma in coordination with FUNADEH. During these workshops the CRCs exchanged experiences about the implementation of community revitalization projects, identified situations that affected the execution of activities, and identified and proposed solutions through an exchange of experiences among the different participating CRCs. These activities were carried out on January 18th and 19th in Santa Rosa de Copán with 20 participants; and on January 29th and 30th in Choloma, with 21 participants. On March 4th, the partner CSO COSOCITELA also held a training with 16 members of the CRC about basic concepts of project management, including aspects of monthly activity planning, monitoring and preparation of technical reports.

1.9 Identify and strengthen Municipal Violence Prevention or Development Councils in each Municipality.

Partner CSOs have carried out specific actions to strengthen ties between community structures and the local government. This implies working in collaboration with Municipal Violence Prevention or Development Councils (CMPVs) in each municipality. One of the most proactive CMPVs was in La Ceiba, consistently requesting technical assistance to strengthen actions carried out in coordination with the Municipality, where the latter is strongly committed to lobbying for additional financial resources derived from the central government security tax. In March, technical assistance was provided to the CMPV in La Ceiba through a joint effort with UNDP resulting in preparation of a “Local Plan of Coexistence and Public Safety,” providing assistance to ensure community plans are included in municipal plans.



On March 14 and 15, FUNADEH held an Organizational Planning Workshop in Choloma attended by 15 members of the Municipal Council on Public Safety. The workshop promoted the implementation of the 2013-2018 Local Plan for Coexistence and Public Safety. This activity contributed to identification of potential financing sources and responsible parties to implement the Plan.

In January, with support from the Santa Rosa de Copán Mayor's Office, the Municipal Committee for Integral Attention to Public Safety (MCIAPS) was established in response to the Municipality's Public Policy of integral citizen safety. Whereas an already existing Citizen's Commission for Road Safety existed, it was operating parallel and without close coordination with the MCIAPS. On February 21st CAP personnel in Santa Rosa de Copán held a meeting with municipal authorities and the Mayor agreed to merge the Citizens Commission for Road Safety and the Municipal Public Safety Committee into one

sole entity, the “Commission of Public and Road Safety.” This new commission will have the mandate to prepare a work plan and ensure compliance with the public municipal policy for integral public safety. The policy will seek to promote and develop violence prevention initiatives with a focus on the needs expressed by the citizens.

With the formation of this new committee, IMPACTOS Program members are now part of a "technical committee" comprised of the Mayor, CIPRODEH, ADELSAR and GIZ all of whom cooperate to support processes requiring technical/methodological and training collaboration for violence prevention and the preparation of related work plans, to be implemented in the coming months. The CAP project actions are oriented towards promoting the CMPVs as more active and sustainable actors in the community initiatives promoted by the project. In the next quarter, plans are to carry out CMPVs organizational development and strengthening activities in target municipalities, to ensure they are up to the challenges of promoting and facilitating violence prevention initiatives.

1.10 Improve the use of CARSİ resources by CRCs and the CMPVs.

As part of the process of building synergies with other CARSİ members, on February 25, CAP personnel and UNDP representatives held a meeting to coordinate activities supporting the La Ceiba Municipal Violence Prevention Council. Preparatory planning activities were undertaken for a workshop with municipal authorities with the goal of preparing an operational “Local Plan for Public Safety and Coexistence.” On February 26th, CAP personnel and UNDP representatives met in the offices of Counterpart International in Tegucigalpa and with representatives of the municipality in attendance: Luis Carlos Zelaya - Director of the Municipal Technical Unit, Rosario Fernández de Arias - President of the Municipal Violence Prevention Council (CMPV) and Gustavo Antonio Urbina, CMPV Executive Director. Logistics and methodology for the effort were developed in preparation for the March 12 and 13 La Ceiba workshop to be held with UNDP funding.

As part of a FUNADEH workshop held on March 14 and 15 with members of the Choloma Municipal Council, and to promote CAP collaboration and complementarity with the CARSİ group’s efforts, CAP provided inputs for training of the actors who will collaborate in operational planning scheduled at the UNDP March 27th workshop where the AOP of the Municipality’s 2013-2018 Local Plan for Coexistence and Public Safety was to be prepared. The CAP technical personnel have actively participated at roundtables organized at the planning workshops organized by the UNDP for implementing the Local Plan for Coexistence and Public Safety in the municipalities of San Pedro Sula (March 25), Choloma (March 27) and Tela (April 2).

With regard to coordination of actions with the Pan American Social Marketing Organization (PASMO), partner CSOs are in a review process for the agreement documents that will be signed with PASMO to strengthen collaboration and coordination in benefit of CAP target communities.

Due to schedule conflicts between participating organizations, a planned joint meeting with CARSİ implementers being coordinated by CAP personnel has not been possible; however, separate meetings have been held with UNDP and PASMO to continue building collaborative relationships.

1.11 Initiate subsequent cycles of evaluation and action plan activities.

As part of the follow up activities on the community strategic action plan, on February 2nd Children International (CI) held a focus group with members of target communities from San Pedro Sula (Asentamientos Humanos, Cristo Viene, Sinaí & 6 de Mayo). The purpose was to explore the progress and impressions of these members relative to implementation of community revitalization projects, as well as the interests and vocational needs of young people. A total of 25 community members, including representatives of the CRCs and Youth Networks, were informed about a new program of vocational courses; the budget was analyzed, as well as internal and external factors that could influence the viability of the courses (e.g. availability of community infrastructure, security in the communities, availability of institutes and certified instructors). The workshop led to development of a vocational training plan to be carried out by the target population. Community members identified the following as priority vocational training courses desired by communities: serigraphy, automotive painting, IT, automobile mechanics, electricity, baking, cooking, beauty training and cosmetology and fast food preparation.

1.12 Facilitate Discussion Forums

Preparatory activities for the development of discussion forums with the Youth Network have been reprogrammed in order to ensure participation of local authorities.

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

2.1. Evaluate the training needs and provide assistance for capacity building of municipal government officials

On January 21, the CAP Municipal Specialist held a meeting with the newly elected Tela Municipal Corporation in order to present program objectives and explain the municipal support subcomponent activities available to the new local government for violence prevention initiatives. The program was welcomed by the new Mayor and members of the Municipal Corporation. The participants (16 city municipal officers, including the Mayor) requested training on themes related to public safety and violence prevention, with due attention to its relationship with tourism development. The latter focus is considered vital by the municipal officials, given the new government's plans to support creation of job opportunities in tourism, as well as in other economic sectors.

From January 16 to 20, meetings were held between technical personnel of the Santa Rosa de Copan municipal government and representatives from IMPACTOS and ADELSAR to discuss and analyze the violence situation in the municipality. The principle point highlighted during the meetings was the importance of taking into account that, while the indicators established by the Honduran National Autonomous University Violence Observatory serve as a guide to determine general violence levels, they do not reflect the real situation of domestic violence or violence against children. Future meetings will be held to continue discussing these kinds of violence on a municipal level.

On February 21, 2014 forty-one (41) local government officials from La Ceiba were trained on guidelines and methodologies for violence prevention, with a specific focus on gender violence. The training session purpose was to continue supporting involvement and leadership of local government officials, while attracting the participation and commitment of new authorities. Participants included representatives of the La Ceiba Municipal Violence Prevention Committee, the La Ceiba Municipal Corporation, the Municipal Office on Gender, COMVIDA, the Departmental Office of Education, the Ministry of Planning, Ministry of the Interior, the Honduran Army 4th Infantry Battalion, Fire Department and Naval Academy, among others. This activity was organized by the partner CSO CEPROSAF and carried out with the support from the *Centro Universitario Tecnológico* (CEUTEC) with support from Professor Vanessa Silieza. (See Annex: Technical Report on Gender Violence Workshop).

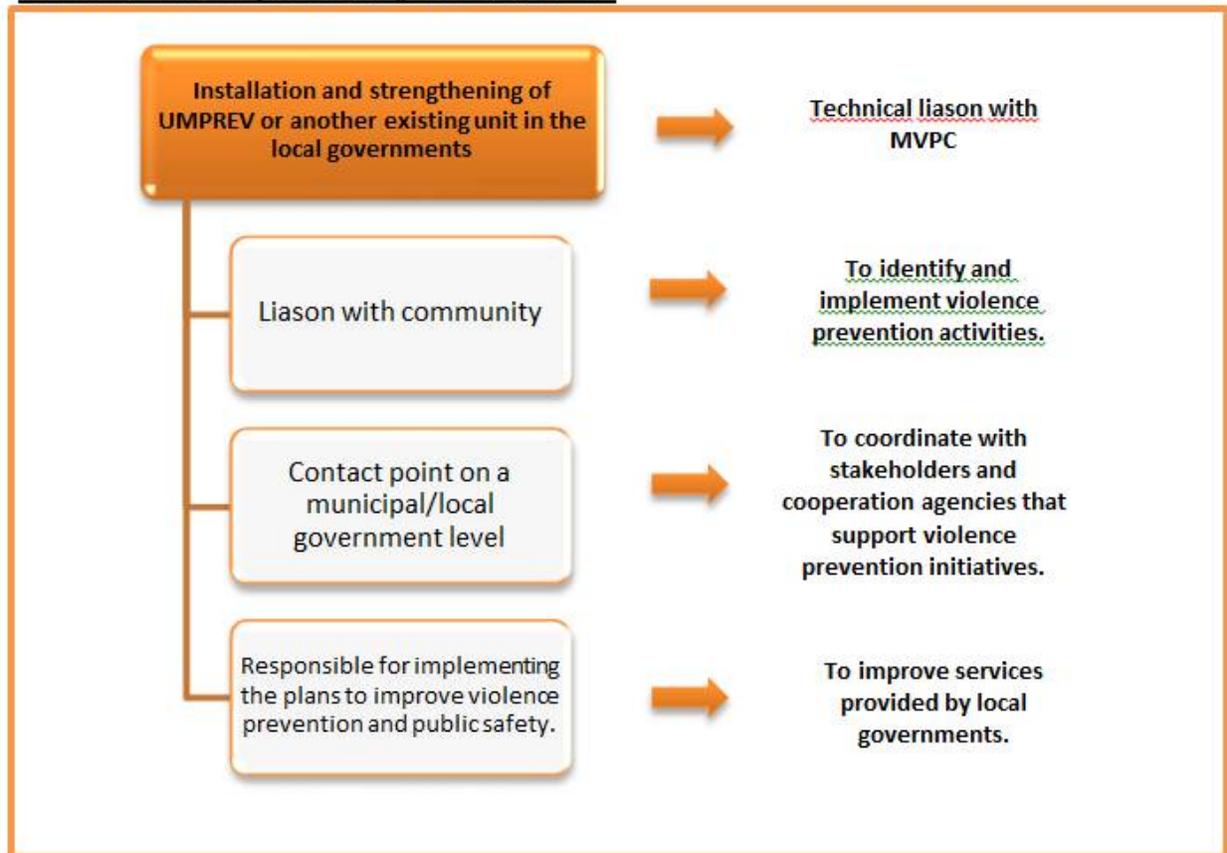
2.2 Increase government support for public participation in policy making.

In January, the youth-related public policy proposal that CAP supports in Santa Rosa de Copán continued to be prepared and validated with the participation of representatives of the municipal government and youth organizations leaders, including the youth networks supported by the program and representatives from local CSOs. The proposal was reviewed with an eye to ensure the theme of public safety and violence prevention aspects is undertaken with a holistic approach and focus, given the complexity and interdependence of causal factors of insecurity and violence.

On January 24, the CAP team held a meeting with municipal officials from Santa Rosa de Copán in order to present the rough draft of the Municipal Public Youth Policy and to develop an analytical process to improve the proposal. The participants provided both commentary and suggestions on themes that are perceived to be lacking in the current proposal, to include gender and reproductive health. The observation and commentary inputs were compiled by the partner CSO ADELSAR for subsequent analysis and inclusion in the policy rough draft. Local government representatives suggested that it is no longer necessary to continue establishing policies, rather what they deem is required is to find funding to put already-existing policies into practice.

In the month of February, CAP personnel held multiple meetings with the Mayors, and other municipal authorities and representatives of the municipal councils of Tela, La Ceiba, and Choloma in order to describe to the new local governments the purpose and impact of CAP/Impactos' programming and particularly focused on identifying an array of tools and tactics for addressing the violence problem and for improving the municipalities' violence prevention and public safety services to their communities. In these meetings two particular issues were brought to the fore, the need for a specialized entity to support the implementation of local violence prevention and public safety plans, and the need to support the integration of various municipal activities to make the plans operational. Two strategies for addressing these needs were discussed; the first was the creation and strengthening of a Municipal Violence Prevention Unit (UMPREV, Spanish acronym) the second was the utilization of an existing unit that would then be responsible for technical implementation and follow up of municipal plans, serving as a liaison to the community, charged with responding to its needs, serving as a contact point for groups working on violence prevention and acting as technical liaison of the CMPV for identification, prioritization and resource identification and or allocation for violence prevention initiatives.

Functions and Operation of the UMPREV



The following agreements were reached as a result of the meetings held with local governments:

- i **La Ceiba:** The Atlántida Chamber of Commerce and Industry (La Ceiba) made a commitment to provide physical space for the installation and operation of the UMPREV. The Mayor will designate the current Head of the Municipal Technical Unit as the official in charge of the UMPREV. (Refer to Annex D: Letter from Local government La Ceiba-CCIA)
- i **Tela:** The Mayor offered to provide space for installation of UMPREV and will designate a local government technician to head the unit. (Refer to Annex E: Letter from Local government Mayor Tela)
- i **Choloma:** The Mayor expressed his interest in receiving technical assistance from CAP to improve the relations between the local government and civil society through CRCs and CSOs. Choloma is a municipality that has always been open to supporting the program. With an influx of new members to the Municipal Corporation, the Mayor has offered to make a CAP support presentation to Corporation members in an effort to seek agreement on the next steps, which are likely to include technical assistance to the local government and development of mechanisms to strengthen dialogue with communities in order to develop and sustain local government responses to the public safety needs of citizens.

2.3 Provide grants for political advocacy

In the previous quarter, there was analysis of a proposal that one single CSO, with experience in municipal and organizational development, would best implement the US\$105,000.00 available in grant funds for municipal advocacy (MAG). Following an extensive in-house analytical process, it was decided the best approach would rather be to continue supporting and strengthening CAP partner CSOs in their municipal level activities. Thus, the current mechanism, providing one US\$15,000.00 grant per municipality, will be continued. This approach offers to strengthen partner CSOs abilities and capacities to implement public policy advocacy and to forge closer and qualitatively improved ties with local municipal level governments. The approach also provides continuity and follow-up promising to habituate both CSOs and municipalities to cooperation with each other in policy formulation and delivery of violence prevention services. It is expected that the execution of the MAG grant through the seven (7) CSOs will achieve more meaningful and sustainable results supporting achievement of project objectives. It is expected that a grant award for these funds will be made in the next quarter, under the newly established umbrella grant mechanism⁴.

2.4. Support public information campaigns

On January 19, the PIOCG Agreement was signed with CESAL in the amount of US\$42,000.00 for a period of 4 months, enabling a publicity campaign for promotion of the CRCs and Youth Networks as catalysts and community leaders for violence prevention. The campaign activities and methodology will attempt to create strengthened synergies between the CRCs and Youth Networks with municipal governments.

CAP partner CSO CESAL contracted 5 CRC members (1 member each drawn from the municipalities of: Tela, Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula, Choloma and Santa Rosa de Copán). Each member will provide direct support for the application of PIOCG in each of their respective communities.

CESAL also enhanced their use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), using an internet based digital marketing campaign and updating public information and education on their activities at: [Facebook.com/cesal.impactos](https://www.facebook.com/cesal.impactos) and [youtube.com/user/ CesalImpactosHN](https://www.youtube.com/user/CesalImpactosHN). The impact of this social media campaign was reflected in a total of 25,534 visits to the Facebook webpage, surpassing the expected figure of 4,040.

In February and March, ten (10) campaign activities were carried out in the municipalities of Tegucigalpa, Tela, Choloma and Santa Rosa de Copán, resulting in the communication of positive violence prevention messages to 1,074 people. Activities were carried out using seven (7) cinema forums and 3 activities under the title of "Extra Mile" venues, where constructive, value-laden, motivational messages were delivered using cultural activities such as folk dances, theater productions and a live flute concert, among other activities

⁴ Grant mechanism to provide different kinds of CAP grants (ISCPG, CRG y MAG) under a same grant agreement, by which it is expected to streamline and improve execution and administration of grant resources.

Objective 3. Expand social opportunities for youth with leadership in the communities

3.1 Provide Community Revitalization Grants

During the current quarter, community revitalization projects continued to be developed; these involved significant youth formative themes contributing to social harmony, community cohesion and the personal development of the young participants. This has been especially beneficial to young people who usually do not have access to or opportunities for formative training.

Local leaders use community revitalization funds to execute strategies advancing civic minded identification of youth with their communities, and giving them a sense of belonging to a group or groups with a purpose. In the process, personal and collective commitments of members to contribute to aspects of community development are a focus of activities. During the quarter, activities were undertaken to strengthen community relations and activism through participation of organized groups. These social and formative activities stimulate the participation and collaboration between community members, at the same time they promote peaceful coexistence, civic and community values and positive leadership. During the quarter, a total of some 733 members of target communities in the municipalities of San Pedro Sula, Choloma, La Ceiba and Tela participated in community revitalization projects. Activities included training workshops (workshop on Strong Families, painting workshops, talks on prevention of drug and alcohol consumption, HIV-AIDS, teen pregnancy, school violence, self-esteem and self-worth) and social activities promoting community cohesion (community fairs, theater festivals, talent shows).

The partner CSO FUNADEH carried out vocational workshops in different areas largely identified by communities (jewelry making, manufacturing for the home, handicrafts, snack preparation, haircutting). During the quarter, 330 people from communities in Choloma have been able to improve their job skills and capacities with prospects for improving their family incomes. For its part, CEPROSAF closed the quarter benefiting 93 community members by facilitating access to vocational courses (jewelry, IT and sewing).

The partner CSO CASM has promoted the process of both formal and alternative education to address the problem of poor access to education for many youth at risk and the need for support to young people who are unable to read or write. Sixty-one (61) scholarships were provided to young people in the Bordo Gavión communities and the Jesús R. Gonzales community.

EDUCATODOS Scholarships

Community	Men	Women	Total
Bordo Gavión	i 12	i 13	i 25
Col. Jesús R. Gonzales	i 16	i 9	i 25
Total	i 28	i 22	i 50

IHER Scholarships

Community	Men	Women	Total
Col. San Vicente de Paul II	i 4	i 7	i 11

In support of community education, on March 22nd school kits were presented as gifts to students in San Pedro Sula by CASM with Impactos funds. The kits included backpacks, school supplies and a uniform. Next April, another 68 school kits will be distributed to support the education of poor young people unable to afford the very basics of the educational system. A gratifying result has been that a total of 90 boys and girls who attend schools located in the CAP target communities of San Pedro Sula were benefitted. For many low-income families, this educational assistance is life changing support, since many children fail to attend school because they lack the basic school supplies, required by an underfunded system.

The municipality of Santa Rosa de Copán continued to provide support to the community revitalization project in El Chorrerón by sending machinery and six masons to work on improvement of community spaces (reforestation and maintenance of community water storage tanks).

In March, partner CSO CEPROSAF organized a Job Fair in order to identify job opportunities for young people in the La Ceiba communities of Sierra Pina, Melgar No 1, Sambo Creek and Corozal. The event was also an opportunity to promote handicrafts produced by community members during courses provided by the project. In this way, the interest of businessmen in strengthening the community's productive processes was promoted. The event was organized in coordination with *Universidad Tecnológica de Honduras* (UTH) and the Atlantida Chamber of Commerce and Industry. This activity promoted coordination with the private sector to identify job openings, and provided young people affiliated with the project the opportunity to present their CVs. Importantly, the event educated young people on where the demand for employment is, and what standards for regular employment the private sector requires from potential employees.

3.2 Seek additional financing to support Community Revitalization Projects

On January 23, a Juvenile Football Championship was held under the title "Scoring goals together for peace and coexistence." During the event a Cooperation Agreement was signed between the Organized Fan Club of the Real España Soccer Team and the partner CSO Children International to promote healthy recreational activities. The agreement's objective is to encourage children and young people to play soccer as a means of promoting peaceful coexistence and values through sports. More than 300 people and special guests participated in the event; including Real España players, inhabitants of the Rivera Hernández community in San Pedro Sula, CRCs and Youth Networks. The activity permitted Youth Network members to strengthen their organizational abilities, since they were placed in charge of organizing the championship with technical assistance from Children International. The organizational planning and implementation not only strengthened the sense of responsibility and ownership of the youth

School Kits per Community

Community	Beneficiaries
Jesús R. Gonzales	25
Rafael L. Callejas	23
San Vicente de Paul II	15
Bordo Gavión	27
Total	90

networks but also, given the popularity of the Real España Soccer Club in Honduras, polished the reputation and good name of the CRCs and the Youth Networks inside and outside of their target communities.

On March 21, 2014, a cooperation agreement between the Tegucigalpa Organized Fan Club of Real España and the Impactos Program was signed in Tegucigalpa. The agreement's objective is to coordinate, promote and channel violence prevention activities through the promotion of sports in the target communities with the support and facilitation of the Youth Networks. The agreement is fruit of the effort to involve strategic actors from the private sector to support youth-oriented community initiatives. Approximately 170 members of the target communities from the Carrizal sector of Tegucigalpa participated. Four young people from the Youth Networks of the Generación 2000, Mary Flakes, Nueva Capital and José Ángel Ulloa communities signed as witnesses of the agreement, evidence of their Youth Network commitment to support activities to be carried out in accordance with the agreement. After the agreement signing there was a championship between community teams and the youth team of the Real España soccer club.

With support from CASM, members of the San Pedro Sula CRCs and Youth Networks lobbied a number of private institutions for support to improve the community environment, achieving a donation of 150 ornamental plants by the municipality and 100 plants by *Cervecería Hondureña*. This donation was used to recuperate green areas in the target communities, which will promote violence prevention by improving the community environment.

In March, conversations were begun with strategic actors from different sectors, to seek their support for violence prevention activities in the target communities. Specifically, meetings were held with: Universidad Tecnológica de Honduras (UNITEC), Honduran National Autonomous University (UNAH) and PNPRRS. In this regard, dialogue seeking cooperation is still in the first stage of identifying potential for alliances that are expected to be confirmed in the next quarter. For further information about the current state of the efforts, see Annex F: Promotion of Strategic Alliances/Letter from PNPRRS.

3.3 Develop Capacities of the Government and CSOs in the Processes of Providing Grants

This activity was not programmed for this quarter.

3.4 Strengthen Youth Networks

During the quarter, grants for strengthening Youth Networks were implemented by partner CSOs with the active participation of the youth networks. Through these grants, young people were empowered with new organizational and planning abilities, reinforced by their roles as organizers and implementers of activities carried out within the framework of the Youth Network Strengthening Grants (YNSG). As a fundamental aspect of community integration work, collaboration between the CRCs and the Youth Networks through jointly supported activities is habituating both to be mutually supporting and to coordinate activities carried out at the community level. With the support of the YNSG funds, the Youth Networks have demonstrated strengthened capacity to foster civic participation by engaging in positive community projects such as: reforestation, playground and local school maintenance, community cleanup, sports championships, talks on nutrition and prevention of teenage pregnancy, promotion of family values and activities to foster community values. These activities represent the initiatives of young community

leaders who, as a result of their participation with Impactos CAP, have become civic minded activists sensitized to social problems affecting their generation. These leaders of today and tomorrow have identified different modes of activism and community initiatives to solve these pressing problems. They have moved from a process of “reflection” to one of being peer leaders, and promoters of Networks and community action to undertake concrete civic actions addressing their communities’ needs.

Civic participation and community social outreach

During this quarter, the leadership of the Youth Networks led to multiple successful initiatives involving the participation and mobilization of 627 people in a variety of activities finding young people sharing messages of peace and unity for a common objective - to revitalize and create better, safer and more peaceful communities. Among the most significant activities carried out are the following:

- On January 18 through the support of the Youth Network in Exitos de Anach – the community held a Cinema Forum and family-oriented games, 82 community members (30 men and 52 women), of whom 59 were young people, attended the event.
- On February 1 through the support of the Youth Network in Colonia Care an event called “Cultural Saturday” was held where 191 community members (85 men and 106 women), of whom 149 were young people, participated in a cultural program.
- "Marathon of Color" was held on February 9 and organized by the 24/7 Youth Network of the López Arellano community. The activity involved 57 community members (27 men and 30 women), of whom 40 are young people. The objective was to promote sports as a means to prevent violence.
- Remodeling and reforestation of the children’s playground on March 8 in the CARE community with the participation of 42 community members (21 men and 21 women), of whom 35 were young people.
- Female youth soccer championship in the Rubí community on March 9, attended by 167 community members (71 men and 96 women), of whom 138 are young people.
- Cleaning and Painting of the Olimpia de Pérez Kindergarten on March 15 and 16, attended by 21 members of youth networks (11 men and 10 women) and the participation of the kindergarten students’ parents.
- Youth Afternoon promoting family and community values on 16 March in the *Asentamientos Humanos* community with the participation of 42 people (26 men and 16 women) of which 41 were young people. Nutritional Talks and delivery of basic food baskets to families of limited means in the Cristo Viene community with the attendance of 25 community members (5 men and 20 women) of whom 18 are young people.

Campaigns organized by the Networks

In the city of San Pedro Sula, the partner CSOs Children International and CASM jointly carried out a campaign which included a focus on the problem of bullying. On March 1, they carried out a *workshop on governance, violence prevention and bullying* attended by 96 people (28 men and 68 women) including public officials and representatives of the Youth Networks and CRCs of the 8 target communities. On March 13, the campaign against Bullying was launched at the *Centro de Educación Básica Dr. José*

Antonio Peraza with the support of 26 members of the YN from the *Asentamientos Humanos*, 6 de Mayo, Sinaí and Cristo Viene communities, resulting in awareness raising for 200 students in the educational center.

Young people participating in a campaign against bullying



On March 16, a mosquito control and community cleanup campaign was held in the Sinai community of San Pedro Sula to prevent the spread of the dengue disease. 32 people participated (13 men and 19 women; 26 young people). Community cleanup activities were carried out and Abate was applied to water tanks in order to raise the awareness of inhabitants about environmental care and the appropriate management of solid and liquid waste generated in the community. Prior to carrying out the campaign, 20 young people from the youth network received training about the use of Abate to combat the dengue-transmitting mosquito by personnel from the Ministry of Health.

On March 20, the Youth Networks and the Santa Rosa de Copán's CRCs organized a "Raise your voice" march with support from ADELSAR and the CAP project. Representatives of the youth networks gave testimonies about their work and spoke to the public about the importance of violence prevention in Honduras and in Santa Rosa de Copán. In addition, there were cultural acts including folk dance groups supported by the CAP project and comprised of young people from the communities and the Youth Networks. Participating were 702 people (257 men, 445 women, 487 young people, 63 children, and 5 Technicians). The event is part of a campaign in which youth, CSOs, municipal authorities and public/private institutions raise their voices in support of violence prevention to foster a culture of peace and coexistence among families and neighbors.



Relation to local governments

Through its partner CSOs, the CAP project continues to promote the forging of cooperative relations and functional links between local governments, communities and civil society. Both the CRCs and the Youth Networks have worked to present their concerns to local authorities, while at the same time offering suggestions for solutions. In this way, both CRCs and Youth Networks seek to promote the commitment and support of local authorities in order to create effective responses to social problems and prevent violence in the communities. In this quarter, 16 Youth Networks presented their concerns, plans and project ideas to the municipal authorities of Santa Rosa de Copán, San Pedro Sula and Choloma. These actions motivated both young people and local authorities alike, to jointly construct and implement participatory strategies and implementing modalities that benefit their municipalities:

- On January 16, the members of the Youth Network of Santa Rosa de Copán were sworn in by municipal representatives as members of the Board of Directors of the Youth Network Citizens Commission. This represents recognition on a municipal level of the youth leadership of networks supported by the CAP project.
- On March 21, 8 youth networks were presented to municipal authorities at the San Pedro Sula Town Hall; 50 people (29 men and 21 women of which 29 were young people) participated in the activity, including local government officials, CRCs and YN members, representatives of IMPACTO's partner organizations, CI and CASM. The participating leaders agreed to form a Follow-up Committee to promote ties and rapprochement between the YNs, CRCs, CSOs and the Municipality. The Committee will be initially composed of institutional representatives of the municipality, Children International, CASM and Impactos.
- On January 22, the Tela Youth Networks were introduced at a public act with the participation of municipal authorities. As a result of the event, a work meeting was planned between municipal authorities, YN representatives, the CRCs and Impactos partner CSO COSOCITELA, to follow up on community violence prevention initiatives. The event was attended by a total of 21 participants (13 women, 8 men), in addition to 7 municipal officials, 2 members of the partner CSO, 10 members of the target communities and 2 representatives of the CAP team.
- On January 28, the Youth Networks from target communities in Choloma presented their Juvenile Action Plans to municipal authorities and the Municipal Violence Prevention Council at a public event held in the Town Hall. At the event, the participating young people presented their juvenile community action plans and project ideas. During the event, Municipal Mayor Leopoldo Crivelli

swore in 29 members of the Youth Networks (9 young men and 20 young women), thereby recognizing the YNs as community-based organizations. 70 people participated in the event, including members of the Networks and CRCs, municipal authorities and CMPV members.

Organizational Strengthening of Youth Networks

During the quarter, CAP partner CSOs continued to develop processes to strengthen the Youth Networks in order to empower them to direct and execute civic minded initiatives in benefit of their communities, as well as motivating individual and collective commitments to community work. Along these lines, formative training activities have been carried out for more than 200 young people in the communities, with a focus on organization and planning. Among the principal activities are the following:

- On January 17, 18, 24 and 25, a training session was carried out on the "Challenge Model", with 44 young people participating from target communities in the Tela municipality area. The activity helped the attending young people to construct their own life project, generating inputs that will help them to prepare juvenile community action plans for creation of social opportunities for young people.
- On February 8 a training workshop on the prevention of gender violence was held with 35 young leaders from the Youth Networks of the Melgar 1 and Sierra Pina communities in La Ceiba. The attendance was predominantly male with 26 men and 5 women (4 adults and 27 young people).
- The Youth Networks of the four (4) target communities in Santa Rosa de Copán completed the process of preparing their strategic plan for violence prevention and improving social opportunities for children and young people in the Municipality.
- Training on motivating communications skills and on how to promote constructive social relations based on peaceful coexistence was held January 28 and 29 with 73 members of the Youth Networks of target communities in the Choluteca area. The young people were able to identify the characteristics of negative and unconstructive interpersonal styles in different scenarios or environments, and presented with effective methods for developing positive relationships in their communities, social and peer groups and families.
- On January 30, a training workshop on Management and Planning was held with the participation of 77 members of the Youth Network in the target communities of Choluteca.
- On February 15, 33 members of the Youth Network from the Colonias Unidas community from Choluteca prepared their first operational plan. The plan was targeted to improving and beautifying the community, as well as undertaking healthcare-related actions in their communities.
- From February 1 to 3, 109 members of the Youth Networks from target communities in Choluteca participated in different work meetings where they defined the organizational structure and norms, as well as the vision, mission, values and operational principles of the networks. The participants acquired a vision of the future of Youth Networks in the region and recognized themselves in the roles of "change agents" committed to violence prevention and the development of their communities.



One noteworthy event in the evolution of the work of the Network members is that Children International has contracted two members of the Youth Networks; one of them is also a member of her community's CRC. Contracting the two leaders will serve to support activities in the framework of the CAP project. This was a demonstration of recognition and appreciation for the work and commitment of these two young women leaders, who without doubt have excellent possibilities to continue developing themselves as productive citizens. (See Annex G: Success Story)

Additional Activities

The 8 Youth Networks in San Pedro Sula and the partner CSOs CASM and Children International are supporting a campaign called "Safe Summer," promoted by the Municipal Town Hall, the National AIDS Forum, the superintendence of citizen participation, the superintendence of social action, Samaritan's Purse and a representative of the Honduran Association of *Maquila* Owners. This coordinated action resulted from an initiative by the local government in which the YNs were invited to participate and represents recognition of the Youth Networks as community-based organizations ready to carry out actions in benefit of society by the local government and other institutions.

IV. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This quarter the Impactos team held meetings to discuss monitoring and evaluation challenges. Partner CSOs have been provided with support to address the need for programmatic and administrative flexibility, i.e. the need to reprogram schedules and activities, without affecting the overall quality of implementation. The monitoring and evaluation activities conducted by the team include: verification of progress in the compliance of indicators, monitoring of activities according to CSOs' workplans, monitoring of activities developed in the field and revision of monthly and quarterly financial and programmatic reports, and monitoring of the difficult, dynamic and shifting implementation environment (with relevant implications for monitoring and achievement of results).

M&E AND THE DYNAMIC IMPACTOS IMPLEMENTATION ENVIRONMENT

Delay or changes in project implementation impacts directly on M&E processes and schedules. Monitoring of program activities has witnessed how "citizen participation" is negatively impacted by highly dynamic security threat environments that makes it necessary to reprogram work plan schedules or, en extremis, withdraw from communities where the security threat and protection of participants has

become unmanageable. In addition, a number of communities suffer time to time from climatic conditions or natural disasters (roads washed out or forest fires, being two examples) that limit or impede planned mobilizations of participants and or monitoring of activities.

V. ACHIEVEMENTS

- i Training has been undertaken to develop skills among community leaders to carry out civic and violence prevention activities. This quarter, 192 members of CRCs have been trained on the following themes: violence prevention, gender violence, project design and monitoring, learned lessons and the exchange of experiences in developing community activities.
- i Twelve Youth Networks⁵ designed their first Community Juvenile Action Plans for violence prevention initiatives and to improve social opportunities for children and young people. The plans include activities to improve and beautify their communities, as well as provide information and orientation to community members on health care, moral values and the generation of educational opportunities.
- i As a result of consulting assistance provided by the CAP project, the Mayors of Tela and La Ceiba supported the creation and strengthening of the Municipal Violence Prevention Unit (UMPREV) to provide violence prevention services and improve citizen satisfaction as a result of local government support for public safety.
- i In La Ceiba, the Chamber of Commerce committed itself to providing the space where UMPREV will be installed and operate. Likewise, the Tela Mayor has provided a space for the operation of UMPREV. Both Mayors have designated technical personnel to be in charge of the UMPREV operations. (*Refer to Annexes D and E: Letter for the local government from La Ceiba-CCIA and Letter from the local government of Tela*)
- i In this quarter, a total of approximately 733 members of the target communities in the municipalities of San Pedro Sula, Choloma, La Ceiba and Tela participated in community revitalization projects activities, including training workshops and social activities promoting community integration.
- i The IMPACTOS Program and Children International signed an agreement with the Tegucigalpa Organized Fan Club of Real España Soccer Team in order to coordinate, promote and channel violence prevention activities through the promotion of sports in the target communities with support from and facilitation by Youth Networks.
- i Members of Youth Networks have applied organizational and leadership skills learned in the project to the carrying out of activities with the support of CSOs, generating participation and mobilization of 627 people in different activities, such as reforestation and maintenance of playgrounds and local schools, community cleanup, sports championships, talks on nutrition and teen pregnancy prevention, promotion of family values and activities to foster community values.
- i Youth Network organization and community promotion of the networks has been strengthened, contributing to community recognition of the networks as a positive expression of the role young people can play in community civic initiatives. Among the community outreach activities led by the Youth Networks were 3 community campaigns: one against "bullying" in local schools carried out by

⁵ 4 Networks in each of the municipalities of Choluteca, San Pedro Sula and Santa Rosa de Copán

the networks of the Asentamientos Humanos, 6 de Mayo, Sinaí and Cristo Viene communities; a campaign carried out by the Sinai community network to raise community awareness on the theme of environmental protection and proper management of solid and liquid waste as a means to prevent dengue; and a campaign in Santa Rosa de Copán to foster a culture of peace and coexistence among families and neighbors.

- i Access to formal and alternative educational systems was provided to 151 young people and children in 4 target communities in San Pedro Sula. (EDUCATODOS)
- i Approximately 423 beneficiaries received training to strengthen their capacity to join the labor market and to carry out individual or group entrepreneurship initiatives.
- i A new ISCPG agreement with the CSO CDH was signed on January 10 with a grant value of USD \$35,000.00. CDH will implement the project in the La Era, La Travesía, La Sosa and San Miguel communities of Tegucigalpa.
- i On January 19, the PIOCG/CESAL agreement was signed for an amount of USD \$42,000.00 to implement a violence prevention public relations campaign.
- i 16 Youth Networks presented themselves to the municipal authorities of Santa Rosa de Copan, San Pedro Sula and Choloma where they proposed their plans and project ideas. Especially noteworthy was the rapprochement with the Municipality of San Pedro Sula, with which the program had not established relations or promoted activities to date.
- i Over 200 members of the Youth Network of Tela, Ceiba, and Choluteca were trained to strengthen their abilities for organization and planning in order to reinforce their capacities to plan, direct and execute actions in benefit of their communities.

VI. LIMITATIONS WITH REGARD TO GENDER ASPECTS

The CSOs have emphasized the importance of following up on the participation of women in the actions carried out by the projects (disaggregating gender information being only one aspect). More important they have developed plans and implemented activities to promote the active participation of women in all aspects of the program. The participation of women has stood out in project activities (around 61%); and activities have enabled women to better enter the labor market and gain some measure of economic independence, as well as supporting their personal development. With regard to the latter, one of the remaining challenges of “gender equity” programming is how to overcome socio-economic and or cultural barriers to increased participation by men in project activities, where women are the predominant participating sex, albeit the ideal mix at community level remains subject to debate..

The CSOs take into account gender aspects both in the training process (in which they ensure gender equity with regard to the convocation process), and in activities carried out by CRC and RJC. During the activities there is notable participation of mothers who bring their small children to the meetings and training sessions. Faced with this situation, the program has been open to permitting participants to bringing their children to the activities, recognizing that this is an equity issue, leveling the opportunities for mothers to attend. As a result, entertainment activities are designed in to many events for small children, to ensure mothers may participate in the work sessions.

VII. PROGRAM PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

As a result of the reviews carried out on the Project's Annual Work Plan, changes in the context have been considered, as well as the new Umbrella Grant mechanism, previously discussed. In this sense, certain adjustments and modifications have been made with regard to programmatic activities schedules of the main project activities. Consequently, some activities programmed for the second quarter have now been reprogrammed for the third quarter, and others that began in the second quarter will continue into the third quarter. There are certain activities that by their nature are carried out throughout the year, such as monitoring activities, report delivery and the search for alliances to maximize the project's interventions.

Program priorities are:

- i Conduct strategic orientation of grants for the rest of the life of each CSO (umbrella grant agreement). (Activity 1.1)
- i Prepare RFA for a third year of ISCPG implementation (umbrella grant agreement) and invite CSOs to present ISCPG proposal for a third year of project implementation. (Activity 1.1)
- i Evaluate CSOs' ISCP proposals and submit for approval (umbrella grant agreement). (Activity 1.1)
- i Update the desk review. (Activity 1.4)
- i Mapping Report on youth groups and youth networks. (Activity 1.3)
- i Finalize base line report of the 36 communities. (Activity 1.3)
- i Facilitate workshops to share base line findings. (Activity 1.3)
- i Conduct a follow up training workshop on strategic action planning and management of community projects oriented to violence prevention. (Activity 1.4)
- i Conduct training workshops in alternative dispute resolution in coordination with UNDP. (Activity 1.4)
- i Prepare terms of reference for consultancy to design tools and methodology on implementation of CAP model (this consultancy is part of the consultancy referred to in Activity 2.1). (Activity 1.4)
- i Hire consultant to prepare methodology package and training tool kit. Systematize CAP model and design tool kit and methodology package. (Activity 1.4)
- i Present Community Strategic Action Plans and prioritized community revitalization project ideas in 36 communities. (Activity 1.6)
- i Update Community Strategic Action Plans in 36 communities. (Activity 1.6)
- i Conduct monthly on-site monitoring and evaluation visits/Monitoring and evaluation training with CRCs. (Activity 1.8)
- i Deliver monitoring reports to CAP Director, COP and technical staff and CSOs. (Activity 1.8)
- i Conduct meetings to identify and prepare activities to develop project case studies. (Activity 1.8)
- i Establish and develop a follow-up mechanism to keep a record of joint coordination activities. (Activity 1.10)
- i Monitor and evaluate CSAP and Community revitalization projects. (Activity 1.11)
- i Conduct community appraisal and update CSAP. (Activity 1.11)
- i Conduct 7 Workshops to identify the top 1-3 issues and related policies to youth for analysis and discussion based on the Municipal Youth Action Plans in 7 target municipalities. (Activity 1.12)

- i Organize 7 Municipal Dialogue Forums with Youth. (Activity 1.12)
- i Prepare a training plan and develop workshops for training municipal officials in 7 municipalities for capacity building, and in policy formulation for violence prevention. (Activity 1.12)
- i Hire consultant (for a period of 3 months) to implement the training plan for municipal officials. (Activity 2.1)
- i Hire an expert consultant on violence prevention methodologies, to 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)
- i Conduct activities to support municipal management in coordination with strategic allies working in violence prevention and citizen security. Municipal Specialist. (Activity 2.1)
- i Training in strengthening municipal management.
- i Provide technical assistance for the creation of the Municipal Violence Prevention Unit (UMPREV) or strengthening of local government structures working on violence prevention. (Activity 2.1)
- i Identify new potential sources of funding and support for community revitalization projects. (Activity 3.2)
- i Conduct training workshops on youth participation and advocacy in coordination with CPRG. (Activity 3.4)
- i Conduct coordination activities with institutions dedicated to develop labor and organizational skills in the youth sector to strengthen the Youth Networks. (Activity 3.4)



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CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE (CPRG) PROGRAM

2nd FY14 Quarterly Report
Period: January 2014 – March 2014

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Annex D – Context Analysis- Product of Workshop with Executive Directors

Annex E - Agenda- Product of Workshop with FOPRIDEH Executives

List of Acronyms

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
EROC	Regional Platform of Western Honduras
FOPRIDEH	Federation of Development Organizations of Honduras
FOROSIDA	National AIDS forum
FOSDEH	Social Forum for the External Debt of Honduras
FUNADEH	National Foundation of Honduran Development
FDsF	Foundation for Democracy without Borders
GOH	Government of Honduras
IAIP	Institute for 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
PIOCG	Public Information Outreach Campaign Grants
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
SEIP	Ministry of Interior and Population
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
TSC	Superior Court of Auditors
URSAC	Unit for Registry and Monitoring of Civil Society Organizations,

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 community partners as change agents willing and able to promote conditions for strengthened crime prevention measures and increased accountability of development plans and activities in communities and municipalities. Impactos facilitates building these new capacities through provision of training programs, small grants, and targeted Technical Assistance (TA) to CSOs that use new knowledge, learning and skills in accordance with the needs of their respective constituencies.

Grants awarded this Quarter

In order to enable local CSOs to implement Citizen Participation for Responsive Governance (CPRG) program relevant activities; this quarter, the Impactos Program awarded a total of eight Grants -- four (4) in the CAP component and four (4) in the CPRG component, as follows:

<u>CSOs</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Type of Grant</u>	<u>Signed</u>	<u>Value in U.S.</u>
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				\$
C-LIBRE	CPRG	Transparency Research and Advocacy Grant	02/01/2014	32,000
C-LIBRE	CPRG	Transparency Research and Advocacy Grant	02/01/2014	50,000
FOSDEH	CPRG	Public Information Campaign Grant	02/01/2014	40,000
CIPRODEH	CPRG	Rapid Response Funds	12/03/2014	60,000

Cost Share

As of March, 2014 the field office submitted a cost share package to Counterpart's home office totaling a sum of USD \$205,593.64, this cost share was validated and approved and will be added to the December 2013 accumulated amount of USD \$311,974.44, which represents a total cost share sum to date of \$ 517,568.08, i.e. 47% of the Program's total cost share commitment to the donor. The new cost share amount of USD \$205,593.64 is comprised of a successful cost share reporting from 18 subpartners and will be input into Counterpart's SF-425 for the March closing quarter for USAID approval.

At the end of the quarter, CPRG reported total expenditures of USD \$353,897.68 of which USD \$233,931.70 corresponds to grant funding, while USD \$119,965.98 is the value of grant recipient cost share.

Opportunities and adjustments to Strategic Priorities

In January 2014, within days of the new Government of Honduras (GOH) administration being installed under newly elected President Juan Orlando Hernandez, a series of policy implementation measures were rapidly introduced to the public. Many appeared designed to quickly deliver on President Hernandez's campaign promises to reduce public sector corruption, combat rampant criminality and violence, and strengthen citizen security; while others seemed rather ambitious, particularly those policies that relate to Civil Society. These policies and, specifically, the good governance agenda of the new administration have created opportunities for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to engage in the current government-civil dialogue process. Notwithstanding the opportunities for constructive dialogue, civil society's response and outreach belie its weaknesses, the lack of cohesiveness and technical capacity in key CSOs which diminish their ability to fulfill civil society's multidimensional roles and functions in a democratic society (e.g. monitoring, assessing, advocating, educating the public, measuring performance of government and society in addressing development challenges). The uneven civil society response, and slowness to respond to new opportunities and challenges presented by the new Honduran Administration, clearly demonstrates the Impactos Program's focus on civil society strengthening is more relevant than ever.

Accordingly, Impactos is refining strategic directions, grants and direct assistance to respond to the following needs of our partners:

- i Investing in the improvement of technical capacities of current CSO Leadership and preparing a new generation of civil society and community group leaders.

- i Adjusting methodologies, tools and short term strategies to improve CSO responsiveness on the multiple opportunities (and a few challenges) presented by the new GOH administration.
- i Emphasizing the need, in a highly dynamic and changing implementation environment, for continuous CSO monitoring, assessments and contextual analysis. Thereby enabling CSOs to more readily identify challenges and opportunities to achieve CPRG and CAP related results, particularly those that enhance GOH transparency and accountability and address the lack of social and economic opportunities for youth that are at risk in violence vulnerable communities.
- i Fostering longer term sustainability of Program results by strengthening the knowledge and skills of local leadership pools, engendering community ownership and accountability for activities, and habituating stakeholders to citizen participation in local governance processes through support for citizen coalitions and alliances.

This reaffirmed focus for capacity building will offer multiple opportunities for inclusion of Impactos Program partners in public dialogue, and in policy discussions with GOH and local government offices, on the full array of development and security issues confronting Honduras. It will also empower CSO partners to establish more constructive cooperation mechanisms with the government, at both national and local levels, while promoting synergies across society to address the key CPRG and CAP issues.

The Impactos Program has supported important achievements over this quarter, among the most noteworthy the building of bridges of cooperation and generating confidence from the new Honduran administration in Impactos and our strategic ISO partners. We and our ISOs have held meetings with the US Ambassador to Honduras; Impactos partners have been invited to lead key Government-Civil Society Partnerships (FOPRIDEH and FOSDEH); to train Government officials (CASM); and signed key partnership agreements with Government entities such as the Unit for Registration and Monitoring of Civil Society Organizations (URSAC) enabling greater Civil Society oversight and building toward a more transparent government, and sit as civil society representative on a historic anti-corruption investigative commission looking at the crisis in the Social Security Institute (ASJ).

II. POLITICAL CONTEXT

The most notable event during this quarter was the inauguration of the new Honduran government administration under newly elected President Juan Orlando Hernandez, who assumed the Presidency of the Republic on January 27. The beginning of President Hernandez's term was marked by the implementation of a variety of rapidly introduced policy measures, most of which directly correspond to the President's campaign pledges; among these policies, the following stand out:

- i A reengineering of the public sector¹, with a budgetary reduction of at least 10% of institutional budgets, and measures that seek to establish criteria enabling negotiation of an agreement (Letter of Intention) with the International Monetary Fund.
- i A national public security strategy ("centrally managed") aimed at reducing crime and drug trafficking. An Interagency National Security Force (FUSINA) was created as a result, composed of members of the National Police, militarized police forces, prosecutors, judges, mayors and CSOs; engaging jointly in what is described as a frontal assault on crime and against gangs.
- i The establishment of an economic development model which strongly promotes public private partnerships.
- i Targeted social and employment policy aimed at the poor. Two key programs under this initiative are: *Vida Mejor*² (Better Life), aimed at 835,000 poor families, and *Con Chamba Vivís Mejor* (Live Better with a Job) which aims to create 100,000 jobs in four (4) years, focusing on the younger population.
- i Establishment of a civil society support base for policy analysis and dialogue using selected CSO interlocutors. Six (6) roundtable discussion groups were set up by the government with selected civil society partners as part of a "Pact for Honduras" national policy dialogue process.³
- i Fighting corruption through the promulgation of "a culture of honesty, lawfulness, transparency and justice." Paradoxically, a law was adopted in March on classification of public documents related to national defense and security⁴, constraining public access to information interpreted as touching on sensitive national security and defense issues. Critics pointed out that in the implementation it could increase opaqueness and reduce transparency; in addition to legally limiting the powers of the Institute for Access to Public Information, while granting functions for the classification of secrecy to defense related information to the National Commission for National Security and

¹ <http://www.laprensa.hn/inicio/440979-98/juan-orlando-hernandez-gobernara-con-un-superministro-y-7-sectoriales>

² <http://juanorlando.com/?tag=vida-mejor>

³ <http://www.latribuna.hn/2014/01/29/instaladas-mesas-de-trabajo-del-pacto-por-honduras/>

⁴ <http://www.tiempo.hn/portada/noticias/finalmente-dieron-vigencia-a-la-ley-de-secretos-oficiales> (Decreto legislativo 418-2013)

Defense. The fear is that the law will be used inappropriately by government offices for non-Defense and security related issues.

On February 28th, Ministerial Agreement 2196 - A-2013 was published in La Gaceta (the official law and Presidential decree notification instrument of Honduras), by which the Secretary of the Interior canceled the legal status of more than 5,000 civil society organizations and associations. While arguably addressing the real problem of thousands of dubious NGOs being registered and diverting funds from civil society purposes, the move affected Impactos partner C-Libre and many other CSOs with legitimate and needed agendas. C-Libre is a respected Program grantee as well as member organization of the FOPRIDEH network. This action, seemingly lacking a rationale for CSO deregistration criteria, caused an uproar in the civil society sector and particularly in the alliance of CSOs led by FOPRIDEH. The latter publicly challenged the decision, calling on the government of Honduras to reconsider. In response, the new administration publicly declared the decision to have been of the previous Presidential administration, admitted that it was hasty and ill-considered, and in an extraordinary act of respect for civil society publicly apologized to the sector. The holdover director of the Civil Associations Registry and Tracking Unit (URSAC) was removed, suspensions of juridical status of the targeted CSOs were annulled, and the Presidential administration immediately began a review process for strengthening the URSAC, calling upon the Impactos Program for support, which will be given in coordination with FOPRIDEH and CASM in their capacities as Intermediate Service Organizations (ISOs).

The quarter closed with high hopes and expectations of many citizens on the occasion of the appointment of a new Ombudsman (known in Honduras as the National Commissioner for Human Rights), Dr. Roberto Herrera Cáceres, a career diplomat. The new Ombudsman was elected to the prominent post by the National Congress on March 25. While the selection process was performed with broad participation of Honduran civil society organizations and there was broad respect for the selection of Dr. Herrera Cáceres, some opposition parties questioned the use of an accelerated voting process, which limited time for a thorough debate on the respective merits of finalist candidates for the high position.

III. ANALYSIS

According to the fourth public opinion poll⁵ formulated and published in late January by the Reflection, Research and Communication Team (ERIC - *Equipo de Reflexión, Investigación y Comunicación*), out of a national sample of 1,540 interviews, 51.9 percent of respondents opined that Honduran society must maintain vigilance and oversight of the new government. In addition, 44.5% said that public monitoring should be participatory, while only 2.6% suggested maintaining an attitude of apathy. The same opinion survey found 44.1% of respondents stated that the main problem confronting the country is the economic crisis, followed by insecurity (42.3%) and a much smaller percentage (5.4%) mentioning corruption. Given these responses it is clear that, in public perception, the main tasks that the new government must face are how to improve the economy, address insecurity and fight against corruption. Knowledgeable observers of course point to the fact that all three issues, economy, insecurity and corruption are inter-related and mutually debilitating to longer term prospects of violence prevention and economic prosperity in Honduras.

Faced with this reality, the challenges facing CSOs engaged in advocacy work will include assessing and reflecting on new political and policy settings, exploring new forms of constructive dialogue with the new government administration, and designing appropriate advocacy and cooperation strategies. Civil society partners will need to be mindful that a key aspect of citizen participation in public policy formulation and implementation is to not be satisfied with merely getting thematic issues entered into public debate and getting laws enacted or promoting creation of new or reforming of existing institutions. A holistic civil society approach will require CSOs to accompany government leaders across the good governance spectrum of public sector policy formulation, democratic and service delivery institution strengthening, and good governance processes. In terms of contributions to the achievement of Impactos' goals, civil society partners will need to demonstrate skills and capacity across the spectrum of CSO functions of: monitoring, assessing, advocating, educating and evaluating the Honduran State's performance (Executive, Congressional, Judiciary and semi-autonomous entities). Furthermore, to be credible CPRG partners, Impactos civil society organizations must offer policy and implementation recommendations that are anchored and secured in evidence-based advocacy and high degrees of technical knowledge and organizational discipline.

The strategic approach to the government's work has been widely expressed by newly elected President Hernández, and characterized as a resolute commitment, to "do what has to be done" to recapture the legitimacy of government and establish support for his administration's good governance, security and prosperity agenda. This offers a window of opportunity for civil society to reinforce frameworks of laws and democratic principles of good governance and participatory democratic processes. Whereas newly elected Honduran governments have been historically

⁵ <http://www.caritashonduras.org/images/stories/Documentos/2014/Enero/boletn%20sop2013.pdf>

Annual Public Opinion Survey conducted by the ERIC, on the perception that the public has about itself, its economic, social and political situation of the country.

disposed to "govern with their own people," the new government officials appear to be generally open to proposals to help strengthen the management of the administration under President Hernandez. Many of the government's stated policy positions coincide with the objectives of the Impactos Program ISOs. Therefore, there are new opportunities to conform ISO strategies and tools to GOH initiatives in areas of dialogue, partnerships and advocacy in areas where Program partners have been working (e.g. public budget, public safety, open government and access to public information). This opportunity will need to be capitalized upon rather quickly given the GOH administration's initially respectful and cordial relation with civil society.

With the election of the National Human Rights Commissioner, there arises an opportunity for civil society to form advocacy alliances with the Commissioner's office on public agendas related to rule of law and human rights. Despite the differing opinions surrounding the procedural processes culminating in his election, Dr. Herrera Cáceres is widely regarded with respect as a career diplomat and a skilled negotiator, and is known for his willingness to hear all sides of an issue and to protect the interests of citizens. His office has the potential to be a key partner with civil society on topical issues of safeguarding citizen access to public information, which is an essential factor in citizen oversight of public management function as provided for in national legislation. Impactos will explore with the new Commissioner opportunities for collaboration and synergies in shared order to strengthen civil society initiatives in matters of human rights.

IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

The two Impactos program components, CPRG and CAP are mutually reinforcing in terms of strengthening development policies and implementation environments, with CPRG influencing most in the National and Municipal governance arenas, and CAP at the level of Municipal and local communities. Nonetheless, each component has its own program guidelines that are self-contained based on the results framework outlined by each project's objectives and activities and according to their Workplans.

The graphic which follows summarizes the CPRG's results framework and achievements for this quarterly reporting period:

Activities by Results ☑ CPRG

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

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

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 second quarter of the fiscal year (FY) 2014, the Impactos Program has continued supporting initiatives of the Intermediary Service Organizations (ISOs); in development of action plans, and in evolving capacities required for effective public policy advocacy to strengthen public sector institutions and services, rule of law and governance. The CPRG technical team role has also included efforts to identify and open constructive channels of communication and cooperation between CSOs, key government actors and international cooperation entities.

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

During this quarter, the CPRG component awarded (4) new grants, described as follows:

- i Two (2) Transparency Research and Advocacy Grants (TRAGs) awarded to C-LIBRE. A grant for USD\$ 35,000 to prepare an alternative report on compliance to the Transparency and Access to Public Information Law; and a second grant for USD \$50,000 to investigate the management of Security Tax funds intended for violence prevention in 4 municipalities of the country.
- i A Public Information Campaign (PICG) to FOSDEH for citizen auditing of the public debt.
- i One Rapid Response Grant (RRG) for USD\$60,000 for "Strengthening capacities of new congress members to contribute to democracy and the sound management of Congress". With this grant, 70% of the new congress members will be trained on parliamentary techniques and negotiation policies.

The following table identifies the grants described above:

<u>CSOs</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Type of Grant</u>	<u>Signed</u>	<u>Value in U.S.</u> <u>\$</u>
C-LIBRE	CPRG	Transparency Research and Advocacy Grant	02/01/2014	32,000
C-LIBRE	CPRG	Transparency Research and Advocacy Grant	02/01/2014	50,000
FOSDEH	CPRG	Public Information Campaign Grant	02/01/2014	40,000
CIPRODEH	CPRG	Rapid Response Funds	12/03/2014	60,000

During this reporting period, the program continued monitoring 14 open grants and was able to administratively close another 23 grants. As of March 31, 2014, CPRG has implemented 37 grants for a total amount of USD \$ 2,579,703.09 (including cost share).

During the reporting period cost-share was validated for 18 grantees with a value of \$203,383.30. This amount, added to the US \$311,974.44 validated at the end of December 2013, results in a total cost-share of \$515,357.74 representing 47% of the Impactos length of program (LOP) cost-share commitment.

The grants team recorded and reviewed 99 financial reports and 56 cost share reports for the quarter. Financial support assistance and oversight provided by the team included 33 visits to 14 CSOs and 5 management support visits to program CSOs, to analyze and evaluate programmatic and financial performance of 14 grants.

Impactos staff, with support from the Central American Technological University (UNITEC), have begun the process of producing short educational videos on correct grant management procedures, with the aim of strengthening the technical and administrative capacities of CSO grantee partner staff. These short videos will provide steps for the correct application of administrative processes in managing grants. The videos are scheduled to be completed in the upcoming quarter.

With the assistance of the Impactos program communications officer, who is responsible for ensuring compliance to the Branding Strategy (BSMP), the grants team reviewed the contents in the Grants Agreement, sections 3.1.6 and 10.6 with an eye to correcting contradictions with the approved BSMP. The proposal approved by HQ is immediately applicable and allows alignment of the Grant Agreements content with the BSMP, thus eliminating any confusion on the use of logos (including the use of the USAID logo).

1.3 Competitively select four (4) Intermediary Support Organization Partners

The selection of four (4) ISOs (FOSDEH, FOPRIDEH, CIPRODEH and CASM) was made the first semester of 2013.

The beginning of close-outs for the current 2013-2014 Training and Implementation Grant (TIG) cycle was scheduled to begin February 2014. However, the ISOs requested to delay these closures such that they would be able to rapidly assess and respond to the changing context of implementation assumptions and opportunities presented by the government transition period. As such, the grants will be closed next quarter. Simultaneously, the program will enter negotiations for the new technical and financial proposals of each ISO (TIG Grant Cycle 2014-2015), so as not to effect the continuity of the implemented activities. Renewal of grant agreements with the 4 ISOs will be made based on evaluations of their past programmatic performance and achievement of corresponding results.

In this reporting quarter, the 4 ISOs have implemented plans using a variety of skills training and technical assistance activities supporting CSOs within their respective core networks. Relevant activities developed by the ISOs are described in the following:

CIPRODEH

CIPRODEH has continued developing a Diploma Certificate course (*diplomado*) on “Integral Public Safety Respectful of Rule of Law: a Condition for Peaceful Coexistence and Governance. On February 13 and 14, a third module of this training was conducted entitled “Political Advocacy and Effective Negotiation on Citizen Security.” 24 people attended the training (6 female; 18 male) of which 4 were youth. For this module, CIPRODEH disseminated a resources “toolkit” to each participant containing 7 publications:

- i The Constitution of the Republic of Honduras;
 - i Proposed Guidelines for Public Policy on Citizen Security (Process of consultation with Honduran civil society);
 - i Human Rights and Values Manual for Citizen’s Access to Justice;
 - i An orientation manual on issues of Citizen Security;
 - i How to design strategies for Violence Prevention and delinquency in the community;
 - i Integral comparative analysis of National Police Department reforms and citizen’s interest.
- This document was published with the financial support of the Impactos Program.

On March 3 and 4, 2014 CIPRODEH held a National Forum entitled “Exchange of Successful Experiences in Citizen Security at the Municipal Level.” Local authorities and citizen opinion leaders from thirteen (13) Honduran municipalities participated in the event. During the forum, participants shared experiences from the municipalities of Puerto Cortés, Comayagua, Nueva Arcadia and Santa Rosa de Copán; these municipalities have developed local crime prevention policies and strategies. The Governor from Coahuila, Mexico, also attended this Forum. He spoke about his experiences fighting crime and violence in his State. Costs for this CIPRODEH Forum, which is part of the aforementioned *diplomado* certification course’s mandatory activities, were also provided by the American Embassy. Among participating municipalities were eight (8) municipalities from CAP’s area of influence. A total of 78 participants attended the event (27 women and 51 men).

On March 25, 2014 at a session of the National Congress, a motion was approved to discuss once again a draft law on firearms and explosives control. The issue in Honduras is of grave concern because of indiscriminate proliferation of firearm ownership and the increase in crime using weapons, as described by supporters of the bill. This is important because of CIPRODEH’s participation in drafting of the bill, and because advocacy for its approval forms part of the case studies contained in the curriculum of the Diploma certificate program that CIPRODEH is currently developing. The CPRG team has accompanied the process of the Diploma training program development, encouraging CIPRODEH to ensure that course content and analysis reflect alternative viewpoints in what even in the US makes for a lively dialogue and debate.

The quarter ends with discussions seeking consensus on the form and substance of technical training measures to be undertaken to strengthen advocacy capacities of 6 CSOs⁶ engaged on the topic of citizen security or public safety issues. To respond to the demand for technical assistance from CSOs, CIPRODEH uses as a guide an assessment named, “Capabilities and interests of civil society organizations on Citizen Security issues” (*Capacidades e intereses de organizaciones de la sociedad civil en materia de Seguridad Ciudadana*). The assessment was carried out by CIPRODEH in January and February, when 24 CSOs were interviewed, including 12 from Tegucigalpa and 8 from San Pedro Sula. The diagnostic analysis identified abilities and degrees of interest of CSOs to undertake and fulfill a role in the Citizen Security policy agenda, and from responses identified priority areas for civil society action to advance citizen security goals. Following the diagnostic analysis, the participants will design proposals for plans and courses of action for their respective organizations.

FOSDEH:

On February 6 and 7, 2014 FOSDEH developed the fourth and last module of the Fiscal Research for Political Advocacy Diploma Certificate, titled “Principal Fiscal Issues in Honduras and their Impact on the Lives of Persons” (*Principales problemas fiscales de Honduras y su impacto en la vida de las personas*). The Diploma course, which concluded on March 7, offered opportunities for participants to exchange experiences, which ranged from processes, mechanisms and methodologies used in the conduct of research on related topics and in advocacy of sound fiscal and anti-corruption policies. The closing activity was preceded by a methodology fair in which 18 researcher presenters shared the findings produced by 22 CSOs. The topics most prevalent in research and the presentations were linked to municipal governance issues, transparency and inadequacy of local budgets and care for women. 17 women and 10 men participated in the Diploma program, which was technically supported by the National University of Honduras (UNAH). Please see Annex B for more information.

FOPRIDEH:

With the inauguration of the new Honduran President, Juan Orlando Hernandez, a restructuring of the new government began, building on new institutional frameworks enacted by the previous Congress. The new government has generated various activities and policy dialogues in which FOPRIDEH, by virtue of its enviable position as an accepted collaborator with the GOH, can help advance reform agendas on behalf of civil society interests. For example, FOPRIDEH is currently advising the Ministry of the Presidency Office for Transparency on public consultation processes in preparation for the second Open Government Action Plan in Honduras. Technical assistance

⁶ CDH, GSC, Casa Alianza, CODEH, CPTR & Compartir Project.

provided by FOPRIDEH includes the announcement, design, planning and development of Citizen Consultation Workshops in Santa Rosa de Copan, San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa.

Other CSOs involved alongside FOPRIDEH in these dialogues with the government are ASJ and Caritas, both of whom are also Impactos grantees. CSOs participating in the roundtables include: Civil Society Group (GSC) and the National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA), as well as representatives of the private sector. It is expected that the conformation of the Technical Coordination Committee will be held in April, FOPRIDEH is expected to attend the event. This Committee shall be responsible for coordinating/monitoring the development and implementation of the second action plan.

On Friday, March 28, 2014 against the backdrop of the annual partner meetings attended by eighty two (82) participating CSOs affiliated with FOPRIDEH's federation, a cooperation agreement was signed between the Ministry of Human Rights, Justice, Interior and Decentralization and FOPRIDEH, an act witnessed by what organizers described as "honored representatives" of the Impactos Program. The purpose of this agreement is to strengthen the Executive branch Unit for Registration and Monitoring of Civil Society Organizations (URSAC - *Unidad de Registro y Seguimiento de Asociaciones Civiles*), and to enable URSAC to effectively apply the Development Non-Government Organizations (NGOD) Law and its regulations. This cooperative effort opens up new dialogue opportunities for the NGOD organized civil society sector to reach agreements on implementation civil society laws and regulatory frameworks, creating a healthy and enabling environment upholding civil society roles and functions in a democratic society. Under this agreement, FOPRIDEH has committed to fostering continued compliance of its affiliates, in meeting the obligations assumed under the legal framework. In addition, FOPRIDEH – with technical advice from the Impactos Program and ICNL – is committed to providing technical support to URSAC's staff members, to help them achieve professional and civil society friendly performance within their institutional functions and frameworks. With immediate effect, FOPRIDEH, CASM and the URSAC agreed to hold two workshops with URSAC officials in the month of April (a workshop on the proper implementation of NGOD Law and regulations and a workshop on best international practices for forging constructive relationships between public officials and CSOs. Impactos' partner ICNL will be supporting these efforts in the coming quarters.

This quarter a review of the document, "Analysis of URSAC procedures in furthering Compliance of the Special Law for Promotion of Development NGOs" was concluded. This document aims to elucidate URSAC's application of the new legislation, while simultaneously providing a clear description of related tools and procedures. The content of this document was reviewed by the Impactos Program Communications Officer, so that it would be appropriately edited and in alignment with Impactos' BSMP.

CASM

CASM's overall programmatic mission is to strengthen its own internal organizational development, however it is cooperating with Impactos to implement a broader pilot program wherein CASM works with partners to build a CSO self-regulation regimen and standards. To accomplish both tasks, CASM has launched an action plan, described below (for more information on the pilot program on self-regulation please see section 1.8):

- i The systematization (compilation, review and documentation)of CASM’s recent experiences over the past few years in processes of accountability and self-regulation, and with an eye to replicability by other CSOs,
- i Analysis of CASM’s self-assessment which was conducted in coordination with Counterpart’s Organizational Development Specialist, in order to reach consensus along an “Organizational Strengthening Plan of Action” for CASM to improve its own organizational capacity as assessed by Counterpart Organizational Development Tool.
- i Creating a training program for URSAC officials, in coordination with FOPRIDEH, to enable URSAC officials to be better able to implement the NGOD law.

1.4 Design and Deliver Customized Program Trainings

Impactos’ staff focused our technical assistance to CSOs along the theme of public policy advocacy this quarter; this targeted thematic approach was considered necessary given the transition period with the incoming government. The two primary approaches that our staff imparted to our partner CSOs were: (1) creating spaces for and imparting the necessity for dialogues between CSOs and government officials, and (2) creating opportunities for Civil Society to impact decision making by governance sector actors. CPRG staff and our partners approached these two goals through the delivery and/or creation of the following trainings:

CPRG

- i **Manual, Tools and Organizational Development** - Counterpart International’s Organizational Development Process is a phased approach to increasing the organizational capacity of CSOs worldwide. This process was introduced to Impactos’ and our partners’ staff last quarter. This quarter the CPRG team further refined the tools, handbook, and associated documents and conducted an internal self-assessment/baseline with CASM. The remaining 3 ISOs will be assessed in the coming quarter.
- i **Training of Trainers (TOT)** – From January 21st to the 24th, Impactos held a workshop with 11 ISO trainers (7 women, 4 men) using the Experiential Learning Cycle methodology to create/strengthen participant skills in Experiential Learning. In addition to the 11 ISO trainers, two male officials from the Institute for Access to Public Information (IAIP), whom were interested in improving their training facilitation skills, participated in the event.
- i **Use, management and maintenance of Web Pages** – On March 26 and 27, Impactos held a training session for all EROC’s staff in Santa Rosa de Copán (3 women, 4 men, 2 youth) on topics relevant to improving web based operations, including: institutional image, news dissemination, writing, Search Engine Optimization (SEO) and EROC’s web architecture, the latter designed with technical advice from the program⁷.

⁷ Please see: <http://www.erochn.org/>

- i **Report Writing** - On January 17, as part of the Impactos Program's internal strengthening process, a workshop was held with Impactos' staff members in Tegucigalpa (16 women, 9 men, of which 4 of the 25 total were youth). The goal of the training was to share tools and strategies for improving the content and presentation of the program's own reports (Quarterly Report, Monthly Update and Weekly Update). Practical exercises were carried out and a step by step review was undertaken of each of the report structures and for each of the report formats.
- i **Project Management Strategies** – CASM's subpartner CSOs showed a specific interest in understanding programmatic cycle management; and as such CASM created a training workshop on and in response to this demand, CASM provided a workshop on that topic. The workshop was attended by 31 people (15 women, 16 men) from 17 CSOs attended the workshop.

CASM

- i **Institutional Sustainability** - On January 29, CASM conducted a workshop focusing on institutional sustainability; 49 representatives from 20 CSOs (30 women, 19 men) attended the workshop. The objective of the training was to strengthen the knowledge and skills of CSOs to improve their operational sustainability, and thus contribute to fulfillment of their vision and mission.
- i **Organizational Development Workshop** - On March 3 and 4, Impactos held a workshop with 12 of CASM's technical staff (8 women, 4 men). This group was comprised of regional coordinators and technical and administrative staff. The purpose of the workshop was to build skills to perform organizational assessments of CSOs linked to the CASM led initiative. This training exercise was repeated on March 11, in Copan Ruinas with 6 CASM regional technicians (3 women, 3 men).
- i **Self-regulatory systems for CSOs** - With the technical assistance of Impactos, on March 28, 2014 CASM conducted a workshop as part of the initial design process for the self-regulation pilot program for Honduran CSOs. 21 representatives (9 women, 12 men) from 12 CSOs attended the workshop.

FOPRIDEH

- i **"Pact for Honduras"** - Under the dialogue framework convened by the President of the Republic, on February 14th, FOPRIDEH led CSOs participation in Working Group No. 4, which addressed civil society related topics. The working group's overall task is "to responsibly build a culture of honesty, lawfulness and transparency (*"plasmar con responsabilidad la instalación de una cultura de honestidad, legalidad y transparencia"*)."
In its role as an ISO, FOPRIDEH has given technical assistance to CSO members in this working group, during weekly meetings providing them with updated knowledge and learning resources on topics such as: Open government, transparency and accountability.
- i **Internal Strengthening of the Foundation's CSO affiliates** - On February 13 and March 26, FOPRIDHEH carried out two workshops with the executives of the federation's affiliated CSOs. Participants developed a national context analysis of the country's current

program implementation environment context, as well as challenges and opportunities within their own organizations⁸. As an output and result of this conference, each CSO identified inputs, information and needs for network collaboration to strengthen their individual capacity to advocate on issues of Governance and Transparency.

FDsF

- i **Scope of the Law of Access to Public Information** - On March 19, nine (9) technical staff and managers (3 female; 6 male) of the Foundation for Democracy without Borders (FDsF) participated in a training session developed by the Honduran government's IAIP on the provisions and content of the Law on Access to Public Information, as well as on methodology to evaluate the transparency of public sector entities websites, the latter part of the Open Government initiative.

The following table summarizes the trainings led by the ISOs and other CSOs funded during the quarter:

Table 1: Trainings held by CSOs

CSO	PMEP Indicator	Topics	Dates	Participants			
				Y	M	F	Total
CIPRODEH	Number of CSO staff involved in training processes in citizen security.	Diploma Certificate Module III in citizen security.	13 and 14 February, 2014	4	6	18	24
FOSDEH	N/A	Modules II & IV	6-7 February and 6-7 March, 2014		11	23	34
FDSF	Number of National Congress officials trained in accountability and transparency processes.	Verifying information on IAIPs transparency web site	March 19, 2014		5	11	16
FOROSIDA	Number of people from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and beneficiaries trained in social auditing, transparency, ethics and accountability.	Health system, social auditing and its tools. Research techniques (How to carry out an interview).	March 1-2, 2014		1	5	6
EROC	N/A	Management and maintenance of web pages	March 27-28, 2014	2	4	3	9
CASM	Number of people from CSOs trained in organizational	Institutional Sustainability	January 29, 2014	15	30	19	49

⁸ Please see Annex I&J for details about Foprideh's *national context analysis*.

	development issues; sustainability, organizational and managerial strategies and project cycles	Project Management Strategy	March 27, 2014	15	16	15	31
		CSO Self- Regulation System	March 28, 2014		9	12	21
Impactos	Writing reports		January 17, 2014	4	16	9	29

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

On December 9, 2013, the United States (US) Ambassador to Honduras, Ms. Lisa Kubiske, requested a meeting with Impactos’ staff and the Executive Directors of our ISOs. Following this meeting, on January 23, 2014, just four days before the inauguration of the new Honduran government administration, Impactos’ staff convened a follow up meeting to discuss our and our ISO leaders’ perspectives on the various challenges and opportunities that we anticipated emerging in the year ahead. Highlighted during the meeting was the need to develop and articulate a consolidated civil society “voice”, the articulation of a shared vision and reform agenda on vital issues - particularly strengthening of democratic governance with respect for rule-of-law - that can be addressed within the Impactos framework.

In an effort to show a proactive force, the ISOs suggested that they formulate an initiative to convene a major national Forum of CSOs to be held within the first 100 days of President Juan Orlando Hernandez’ government, to be known in Spanish as a “*Gran Encuentro de la Sociedad Civil*”. The ISOs technical staff is currently in the advanced stages of preparation for this major national Forum, and CPRG has been supporting the development through targeted technical assistance and oversight. Benchmarks completed to date to advance the organization of the event include: promotion of the event among potential participating organizations, development of guest lists, documentation of proposed event facilitation methodology, and assignment of the responsibilities of each ISO to ensure the success of the event. The final date of the event is still under consideration.

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

During this, the second quarter of FY14, CPRG supported 4 of our grantee CSOs as they implement their National government oversight projects; The National AIDS Forum (FOROSIDA), Foundation for Democracy without Borders (FDsF), Social Pastoral Ministry of Honduras (CARITAS) and Civil Society Regional Platform of the West (EROC). Below is an account of the achievements accomplished by the 4 CSOs, respectively:

FOROSIDA

FOROSIDA implemented the project, “Social Audit of health services recovery fee funds at the National Cardiopulmonary Institute (Thorax Hospital), and the impact of the fee on national responses against HIV and AIDS epidemics”.

In January, FOROSIDA completed the analysis of the quality of the services provided by the National Comprehensive Care Center (Spanish acronym, CAI) of the National Cardiopulmonary Institute. Specifically, FOROSIDA assessed CAI’s institutional services and also helped identify barriers to access, service availability, health insurance, and the efficacy of the usage of recovery fees obtained by CAI.

This analysis is the first formative step toward conducting a civil society social audit, and FOROSIDA followed the assessment with a training for 6 Comprehensive Care Center (CAI) volunteers on social auditing methodologies and the tools to be used to conduct such an audit. These participants will assume an audit team role within CAI. The social audit is expected to be completed in May and the results are scheduled to be shared in June.

Between the months of February and March FOROSIDA has held multiple meetings with the Superior Court of Accounts (TSC) and the IAIP to establish partnerships and effective coordination, as well as for monitoring and supporting FOROSIDA’s citizen oversight processes.

Given the nature of CAI’s activities supporting people affected by HIV and AIDS, a Bioethics Committee has been formed to provide oversight for the use and management of the **recovery fee funds**. FOROSIDA has held preliminary meetings with this Committee in order to ascertain if it would be possible to broaden the Committee’s responsibilities to include aspects of transparency and accountability. With that purpose, FOROSIDA has developed at least three training workshops to empower the committee, and to provide new knowledge and methodological tools. The last workshop conducted on March 1-2, 2014 was focused on social auditing and its principles and methodologies.

In terms of concrete advocacy actions related to the national response to the ongoing HIV-AIDS epidemic, on March 7 the FOROSIDA team attended a meeting with the Oversight, Monitoring and Evaluation HIV Committee (known as PENSIDA III), to discuss progress in the development of an operational plan for the HIV-AIDS National Response Plan. The objective of this and other subsequent meetings was to review the structure of the PENSIDA’s III Operating Plan document, given that the government and civil society are currently debating the possibility of updating PENSIDA III, addressing new epidemiological challenges and potentially developing a PENSIDA IV plan.

FOROSIDA proposes to elaborate a new PENSIDA and advocate for the elimination of the recovery fee, since analysis to date indicates that the fee represents a barrier to care for poor and socially disadvantaged people living with the virus, because of their inability to pay, essentially denying them access to institutional healthcare.

FDsF developed a Citizen Oversight Project focused on issues of transparency and accountability of specific legislators of the Honduran National Congress, specifically the representatives from the Department of Francisco Morazán.

This quarter, interviews were conducted using a survey form to evaluate the performance of selected legislators in their management of the Departmental Development Fund (FDD), and another survey form for measuring Fund expenditures by implementing organizations and beneficiaries of the projects funded by the FDD. The interviews conducted, disaggregated by target audience, are detailed below:

Target audience	Number of respondents		
	M	F	Total
Members of Congress	7	18	25
Project Beneficiaries	29	21	50
Implementing organizations	12 organizations		

The relevant results on the management of the Departmental Development Funds by Congressional members from Francisco Morazán are the following:

- i Of the total amount of FDD Fund resources assigned in the Third Legislative Session, National Party members of Congress managed the largest amount of resources, L.15,000,000.00, equivalent to 53% of the funds allocated to Francisco Morazán (approximately USD \$785,000).
- i 89% of the FDD resources were allocated to legislators from Francisco Morazán for projects and programs with social impact.
- i The majority of congressmen do not know how FDD resources are managed, and in the majority of cases they have no relation with the organizations or institutions implementing the projects, and are unaware of the actual benefits obtained by communities receiving the fund development resources.
- i The settlement of disbursements received by the Congress members follows a rigorous review process by the Internal Auditor of the Ministry of Finance; however, some of the assessments submitted by the executing agencies or organizations have a number inconsistencies, such as duplication of recipient names in different lists of assistance and a lack of evidence showing that the funds were disbursed on behalf of individuals or legal entities listed as beneficiaries of such funds.
- i Weaknesses persist in the transparency of Fund expenditure processes, for example on many occasions document photocopies are accepted as “proof” that costs were incurred in the execution of projects.
- i While it is true that most deputies who manage projects do not get involved nor engage in follow-up to the development results ostensibly generated within the beneficiary

communities, there are resources and organizations controlled indirectly by the legislators, who use their offices and staff to implement projects.

- i The results indicate that challenges faced by the development NGOs (NGODs) involved in FDD funded projects include society in general not being aware of the transparency mechanisms established in the national legislation. To date, there is no legal regulation of the publically funded grants or “subsidies” managed by the National Congress (NC), due to these funds being managed under discretionary authority of the President and Board of Directors (*Junta Directiva*) of the Honduran National Congress. The final version of the Citizen Oversight assessment report on use of FDD funds is scheduled for completion in April and will be sent via email to Congress and also shared with other organizations interested in knowing the report results.

To support the analysis derived from this project and within the parameters of relevant legislation on transparent use of public funds; on March 12, 2014 the FDsF signed a strategic Inter-institutional cooperation agreement with the IAIP with the objective of strengthening the transparency of use of public funds managed by the National Congress. According to the agreement, responsibilities of the IAIP include empowering legislators and their staff to use or develop transparency mechanisms, suggesting the promotion of web sites/internet sources as a means to demonstrate accountability for funds received.

EROC

Conduct a Social Audit of the Commission for Promotion of Public-Private Alliances (COALIANZA) to verify the transparency of contract awards for the reconstruction of the CA-4 highway, which is a logistics corridor in western Honduras.

EROC as lead for the CSO network in western Honduras, with support from the Citizen Coalition for the Reconstruction of the CA-4 International Highway, promoted advocacy initiatives related to the construction of the highway. In the process, EROC has garnered the respect of COALIANZA officials, and their willingness to communicate and cooperate on social audits.

With the purpose of strengthening the Coalition’s ability to fulfill its role, EROC developed and conducted a training with the objective of improving the knowledge of members of this organization on the content of the Government Procurement and Public Private Alliances Law. On January 22, a total of 23 people (14 men and 9 women) participated in the training in Santa Rosa de Copan to learn the essential elements of the law governing bidding processes to be undertaken for this important logistics corridor. These actions also contribute to strengthening the partnership and collaboration between EROC and the Coalition for the Reconstruction of the CA-4 International Highway and with the Supreme Court of Accounts (TSC), while serving as the basis for citizen audits or social oversight and institutionalization of civil society proposals to foster transparency in procurement and project implementation processes.

From 5 to 7 March, EROC conducted a workshop with local members of the Regional Coalition and Transparency Commission on the use of tools for operating the National Observatory for Road Transparency; 41 participants (26 men and 15 women) attended the event.

On March 6, 2014 EROC contracted a consulting service to develop a manual and tools for constructive citizen participation and oversight, through COALIANZA, of the financing, reconstruction, rehabilitation, expansion and maintenance of the CA-4, CA-10, and CA-11 highways. This manual will be completed, published, and disseminated to target audience/users in the upcoming quarter.

On March 27 and 28, 2014 EROC participated in the International Development Bank sponsored meeting of Civil Society Consulting Groups (ConSOCs) of Honduras, Paraguay and Colombia; aimed at increasing knowledge and reflecting on public policy in the use of the mechanism of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) in Latin America. These experiences and best practices were shared by the ConSOC⁹ in these countries, especially on the issue of incentives to improve CSO participation in transferring strategies and methodologies in transparency programs and the fight against corruption¹⁰.

CARITAS

CARITAS Honduras, with support of the Impactos Program, implemented the project "Social audit of the Electoral Campaign in the general election process of 2013".

The general elections held on November 24, 2013 in Honduras were the most novel since the country returned the path of electoral democracy in 1981. These elections marked a new stage in the history of the country with a loss of the monolithic bi-partisan hegemony by the two major political parties (i.e. National Party and Liberal Party), and presented, for the first time, a diversity of choice as new parties were represented on the national elections ballot. Until recently, a wide range of social sectors did not feel adequately represented by the main, legally recognized, political parties. Nine political parties were able to field candidates at the three (Presidential, Congressional and Municipal Mayor) election levels, with the exception of *Unificación Democrática* (UD) and the *Frente Amplio Político Electoral en Resistencia* (FAPER), who presented themselves as an alliance on the presidential ballot.

The election results ratified by the Supreme Electoral Court (TSE), found the winning Presidential candidate was announced to be Juan Orlando Hernandez of the National Party of Honduras (NP), with 1,149,302 votes (36.89%); followed by Xiomara Castro, of the *Partido Libertad y Refundación*

⁹ *Grupos Consultivos de la Sociedad Civil* (ConSOCS), main collaboration platform used by the Bank in the project implementation.

¹⁰ Please see: <http://www.iadb.org/es/sociedad-civil/grupos-consultivos-de-la-sociedad-civil-consocs,7238.html>

(LIBRE), with 896.498 votes (28.78%); Mauricio Villeda, of the *Partido Liberal* (PL), with 632.320 (20.3%) and Salvador Nasralla, of the *Partido Anticorrupción* (PAC), with 418.443 (13.43%). None of the other political parties reached 1% of valid votes counted in the Presidential contest, not even when adding the results of the five parties combined.¹¹

The following is a summary of the distribution of votes among parties is as follows:

<u>Political Party</u>	<u>Members of Congress</u>	<u>City Councils</u>
Nacional	48	183
Libre	37	31
Liberal	27	83
Anticorrupción	13	no mayor's office (but came close to winning San Pedro Sula)
PINU-SD	1	0
Unificación Democrática	1	0
Democracia Cristiana	1	1

CARITAS developed a series of documents and materials that reflect the electoral process experience, findings of campaign monitoring and the recommendations and proposed changes to the electoral law in the country.

On February 22, CARITAS presented the report, "Towards more democratic and transparent electoral processes" to directors of civil society organizations.

The report also emphasizes the social audit findings that all political parties violated the Law on Elections and Political Organizations (LEOP) regarding:



Violated articles of LEOP	Examples of violations documented by the Social Audit
Article 141 - states: "No radio stations, television stations, newspapers and other State media for propaganda purposes can be used."	The official channel (National Honduran Television- TNH) transmitted campaign messages of the candidate's ruling party.
Article 142 - Prohibits public officials	This was one of the most violated articles, especially by candidates of

¹¹ These are: *Alianza UD- Faper*, *Partido Innovación y Unidad - Social Demócrata (PINU-SD)*, *Partido Demócrata Cristiano de Honduras (PDCH)*, *partido Alianza Patriótica (AP)*. Faper y AP lost their legal registration and political party status for not having complied with requirements of the Electoral and Political Organization Laws (LEOP)

<p>and employees from: 1) Attending political meetings during normal business hours; 2) Use their authority, resources and influences from their positions to favor individuals or political organizations; 3) Use the activities for government to partisan propaganda of any kind; and 4) Use funds or state property for making political propaganda.</p>	<p>the National Party. Some examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i Cossete López, Secretary of the Central District Municipality and candidate for Congress, on Monday, November 4, 2013, at 8:12 a.m., appeared on the Hable como Habla (HCH) channel, to promote her campaign. i David Chávez, former director of the National Institute of Professional Development (INFOP), appeared on the same channel, on November 5, 2013, at 8:43 a.m., and used his previous position to promote himself as a candidate for Congress. i Lena Gutiérrez, on the same HCH channel, appeared on November 13 at 7:37 a.m., transmitted an ad using National Congress “solidarity bags” to promote her campaign. i Congress candidate Celín Discua appeared in newspaper El Heraldo on 22 November 2013 handing awards to the Ministry of Education in Danlí, El Paraíso. i
<p>Section 148 - prohibits fixing or painting posters, signs or other similar announcements on buildings, furniture or equipment used by or owned by the State, public monuments, religious buildings, traffic signs, etc..</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i In San Pedro Sula, many cases were documented of candidate posters, from all political parties, being posted on electric poles in boulevards, streets and avenues, as well as on traffic signs. i In La Ceiba, stickers, posters and banners of all parties were located at public kindergartens, health clinics, public schools, religious buildings and on electric poles
<p>Section 150 - Prohibits conducting political meetings within 200 meters of bridges, the intersections of public roads, churches, fire stations, Red Cross facilities, hospitals, police and school facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i No party respected this rule and meetings were even conducted in the vicinity of these places, with the permission of electoral authority.

In addition to the aforementioned policies, Honduran law states that no national symbols can be used at rallies. On November 22, The National Party used the national flag at a rally; LIBRE hired reggae-ton dancing girls at a LIBRE rally in Tegucigalpa; electoral propaganda materials of political opponents were destroyed, and the most serious, campaign financing sources remained hidden (with few exceptions) by most political parties.

The TSE’s permissive behavior in not imposing sanctions established in the LEOP law indicates that the problem is less in the normative behaviors of the parties, and rather more in the lacking political will to comply and enforce the laws.

These findings generated analysis and reflection among participants at the event to publish the electoral monitoring report, where the need was raised to start building a common agenda with government, political parties and members of National Congress, to establish an electoral observatory including citizen participation for promoting changes to the current Electoral Law.

CARITAS developed a video documentary to inform the general population of the importance of identifying weaknesses still resident within the electoral system, promote compliance with the Electoral Law, and to verify the exercise of fair electoral processes and free and unfettered voting during Honduran elections. CARITAS proposes that the video be used as an advocacy tool to influence decision makers; including the Superior Court of Elections, political leaders and civil society organizations; to promote respect for and adherence to electoral law and processes. Through this grant, CARITAS is the first CSO to have developed a pre-election election management monitoring activity in Honduras.

1.7 Provide Targeted Consultations on Government Oversight and Increased Government Transparency

During the quarter, the CPRG technical team advised EROC in the development and drafting of a terms of reference (ToR) in order to establish a consultancy for "Enhancing Transparency in the process of implementation of the project for the financing, reconstruction, rehabilitation, expansion, operation and maintenance of the CA- 4 CA-10, CA-11 highways through a social audit to COALIANZA". The consultancy deliverables will be documented methodologies and tools that CSOs and other concerned stakeholders may use as they conduct social audits during their analyses of fund management in various settings. The project implemented by EROC is innovative for Honduras, in that for the first time CSOs will be auditing actions undertaken using the mechanism of public private partnerships in monitoring construction of roads.

Impactos recommended that EROC select the consultant from the pool of expert consultants registered by the Program and who have proven experience and knowledge in the subject matter expert areas required by the work.

1.8 Develop a CSO Self-Regulatory and Accountability System

Impactos, through its partner ICNL, has provided technical assistance to CASM in the design of a self-regulation pilot system for Honduran CSOs. This quarter, CASM refined the operational strategy of the grant project, in order to respond to emerging challenges and opportunities presented by the new political context, which offers expanded opportunities for key CSOs to exercise freedom of association rights in a more enabling environment conducive to the work required of CSOs in Honduras.

In this regard, ICNL's technical support has been continuous this reporting period, to include the assistance directed to CASM as well as work with the CPRG technical team. During this quarter, CASM, ICNL and CPRG staff have focused their efforts on shaping and preparing the conceptual and methodological frameworks and understandings of self-regulation amongst themselves so that next quarter a working group can be formed to continue the work on design and validation of the pilot system of CSO self-regulation.

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

On February 11, 2014 FOSDEH signed a grant agreement for the development of the "Citizen Audit of the Public Debt" campaign, which aims to inform citizens on the need for their participation in creating dialogue aimed improving the government's handling of the public debt, as a factor for development and not merely an element of financial risk for the country. The target audiences are the authorities of the Executive and Legislature branches, citizens of the national level urban and rural middle classes, and organized civic organizations.

FOSDEH has developed their own and used a number of available documents on public debt and fiscal policy to further validate their key campaign messages that they are currently disseminating through radio ads, paid ads in newspapers, posters, stickers, publications and meetings with target audiences.

As an organization that specializes in financial and public budget matters, FOSDEH constantly garners the attention of communication media, enabling the wide distribution of their analysis and action plan proposals. For example, this quarter, FOSDEH held 84 interviews¹², of which at least 10 were directly related to the public debt.

1.10 Support Targeted Advocacy Campaigns to Improve Civil Society Operating Environment

On the enabling environment for the performance of the Honduran CSOs, please refer to section 1.8

1.11 Support Non-Partisan Policy Research and Advocacy Initiatives

FOSDEH concluded its Transparency, Research and Advocacy Grant (TRAG) on April 30th with its research project entitled "Process of increasing visibility on the status and impact of the floating debt - fostering favorable conditions for transparency and accountability." The document summarizes key findings and is now in its editing phase. Current plans are for it to be published in the upcoming quarter. Furthermore, with this grant funding FOSDEH has developed a data base (PivotTables) that gathers and consolidates information on public debt, information presentation that previous to this research was scattered among different government institutions. The information is now put at the disposal of new public sector authorities, civil society organizations and citizens in general.

C-Libre is in the midst of implementing its two TRAG grants. The first is set to investigate the management of Security Tax funds destined for violence prevention in four (4) municipalities in the country.¹³ The research project is utilizing an innovative mechanism for data collection, wherein C-Libre will be training journalists in the use of investigative journalism techniques to collect the data for this story research. To guide the research process, C-Libre has developed a methodological document that has been shared with key actors, eight (8) investigative journalists, who will be

¹² Fosdeh's registration

¹³ The municipalities are: San Pedro Sula, Puerto Cortés, Nacaome and Juticalpa

undertaking this research effort. In order to facilitate the research, on March 14 and 15, 2014 C-LIBRE held training with 10 journalists selected from the 4 municipalities participating in the research project. The purpose of the training was for the participants to acquire the strategies and tools of investigative journalism. The training further served to deepen trainees' understanding of public safety and the principles of open government (OGP) as well as to define the path researchers/investigating journalists will follow based on the proposed methodologies. The workshop featured technical advice from the Impactos Program Communications Officer and the C-LIBRE technical team. The technique of journalism using rigorous investigative techniques is new for C-LIBRE; therefore, this first phase of trainings was developed jointly with Impactos so that our staff would be able to support C-LIBRE as they fine tune their training.

The second grant implemented by C-LIBRE is for the development of an independent civil society "alternative report" that will measure compliance with the Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information, particularly as it applies to Article 13 of the Law.¹⁴ This project is particularly relevant given the recent publication of the Law on Classification of Public Documents related to the defense of National Security, Legislative Decree 418-2013, which many CSOs fear may risk the current government's mandate for transparency of government operations and limit citizens access to public information overall, not just that related to true issues of national security and defense.

Under this grant, on March 10, 2014 C-LIBRE signed a cooperation agreement with the IAIP, which supports the conduct of investigations of how well public institutions are complying with the Law. Currently, C-LIBRE is carrying out an initial assessment of public information access in the period following the recently installed government. This diagnosis will allow the identification of key elements to support the development of the civil society "Alternative Report" on freedom of information.

1.12 Organize Civil Society Organization Networking, Collaboration and Coordination Events

During this quarter, members of the CPRG technical team have participated in many events led by CSOs working on issues related to citizen participation, transparency and accountability. A summary of the relevant events for the reporting quarter is provided, below:

Exchange Forum of Experiences in Citizen Security: This event was organized by the Embassy of the United States in Honduras and CIPRODEH. Participants included; officials from the U.S. Embassy, the Governor of Coahuila, Mexico, the Under Secretary for Security, the mayors of Comayagua, Puerto Cortes, Choloma, Santa Rosa de Copan, aldermen from the city government of

¹⁴ So called "alternative reports" are civil society organization or coalition reports that supplement or present alternative information to official government reports or information. These reports are not meant to substitute for monitoring and quantitative evaluation by State authorities but to channel local knowledge into national and international policy processes and reflect on the quality and outcomes of government measures.

Tegucigalpa, the Association of Municipalities of Honduras (AHMON), the National Police, citizen commissions on transparency from 3 municipalities and CSOs

Specific Purposes of the Forum

- Encourage local authorities to adopt comprehensive elements in the design, approval and implementation of public policies for citizen security
- Disseminate best practices for fighting against crime and violence prevention through implementation of local public policies for security.
- Acknowledge that citizen participation is a fundamental element in the design and implementation of public policies on citizen security (See **Picture 1**).



Picture 1: Exchange Forum of Experiences in Citizen Security

Cooperation agreement between The FDsF and The Institute of Access to Public Information.

The purpose of this agreement is foster a collaborative relationship between the two institutions, particularly to strengthen joint work to ensure access to public information for promoting transparency activities in National Congress and other government entities.



FOROSIDA led training for public officials of the CAI – the Cardiopulmonary Hospital (Thorax Hospital). The training, on social audits, was attended by 13 members of the Bioethics Committee of the CAI.



Picture 3: FOROSIDA led training for public officials of the CAI



Picture 4: FOSDEHs Diploma Certificate Program

Graduation of FOSDEHs Diploma Certificate Program on Tax Research for Political Advocacy. FOSDEH, with the academic support of

the National Autonomous University of Honduras (UNAH), closed the diploma program by certifying the studies of 27 participants representing 22 CSOs from all the regions of the country. This activity was carried out under the TIG's grant framework. (See **Picture 4**)



Picture 5: Training of 10 journalists from the Alert and Protection Network of Journalists of Honduras (RAPCOs)

Training of 10 journalists from the Honduran Alert and Protection Network of Journalists (RAPCOs): Training held by C-LIBRE with the technical assistance of the Impactos Program on investigative journalism techniques and tools. (See **Picture 5**).

Launch of the National System of Public Information SINAIP

On March 10, The IAIP launched SINAIP (National System for Public Information) and disseminated five (5) reference documents to improve access to public information by citizens and related entities.



1.13 Decision to not proceed with Pilot Opportunities for Youth Model

Based on the need to realign program budget priorities to enable CPRG to support unforeseen civil society opportunities and GOH requests for assistance in CPRG core areas, we are proposing plans for the "Youth Opportunity" grant pilot project be cancelled. The grant was designed at the suggestion of USAID technical office, and subsequently approved in the Impactos Program modification of April 2013. At that time, synergies were sought between the CAP and CPRG components in the municipal sector, to promote employment opportunities for young people in three municipalities, with support of three (3) CSOs selected based on their leadership and accrued capacities to implement the model (CASM in San Pedro Sula, FUNADEH in Choloma and ADELSAR in Santa Rosa de Copan). Subsequent to the modification, activity standup delays generated by uncertainties in the pre-election period, and new opportunities for civil society to

work with the new Honduran government administration on a wide range of open government and good governance initiatives (areas well within the core competencies of CPRG), suggest the YOG is not the best return on CPRG investments.

The TOR for the grant RFAs were agreed to by both CAP and CPRG in the previous quarter and the RFAs were to have been released early next quarter, so now is the opportune time to make a firm decision to not proceed with the initiative.

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

In the previous quarter report, communication processes and ASJ and Impactos Program agreements regarding the continuation of GEDEONs implementation were detailed. As a result of the transition to a new government administration, ASJ prioritized its activities and decided not to proceed with the initiative.

It is important to mention that in the May 2013 modification approved for this grant, ASJ was identified as uniquely qualified and with predominant capability – e.g. capacity, leadership and experience -- to implement the grant, and for that reason a less than fully competitive process was used. In spite of this, inquiries on CSOs working with Justice and Human Rights issues (e.g. Caritas, CDH and FDsF) were considered. But they were not able to carry out the grant in short term because they were fully engaged in activities monitoring the electoral process and in the implementation of grants previously allocated to them. Consequently, a decision was ratified among stakeholders to not proceed with the grant. In the previous report, the reallocation of funds originally assigned to GEDEON to strengthen other grant processes had been proposed.

Since then, the National Congress has now selected a new Ombudsman, and new opportunities are emerging for dialogue and coordination to strengthen the Human Rights legal framework for populations at risk. Next quarter, Counterpart International will begin its new grant cycle and is committed to including in the RFAs a rights-based approach. This requirement will enable CSO participants to incorporate their experience and methodologies developed in the field of human rights at local and national levels.

In its FY 2014 grant roll out, Counterpart is planning to reallocate funds now made available from the GEDEON budget, a total of USD \$ 101,200 to be made available for strengthening other grants, and for which USAID has requested our consideration. Appendix F illustrates the proposed changes in the distribution of the funds. These have been included in the pending budget amendment to be submitted for approval to USAID in the next quarter.



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

ALAC provides free legal assistance to witnesses and victims of corruption. It also serves as a complaint center, documenting and reporting cases which are then routed to the Public Ministry for further investigation and prosecution.

In the previous quarter ALAC reported a reduction in the number of complaints received, due perhaps in part to the reality that citizens are not aware of the services ALAC provides. In order to remedy this issue, this quarter ASJ, in collaboration with the Impactos Program, has embarked on an initiative to design a more robust communications/marketing strategy for ALAC encouraging citizens to report corruption.

The strategy is as follows:

1. ASJ and CPRG conducted a “promotional tour” in the four (4) universities of the Sula Valley, in the central region (Siguatepeque, Comayagua and Tegucigalpa), southern region (Choluteca, San Lorenzo and Nacaome), eastern region (Danlí and Juticalpa), western region (Santa Rosa de Copan and Ocotepeque) and in northern Honduras (La Ceiba and San Pedro Sula) – where ASJ and CPRG staff held press conferences and spoke about the work of ALAC presenting it simultaneously to local and national media outlets in the various cities mentioned above in order to increase awareness.
2. In order to reduce costs constraints to individuals utilizing the hotline to report corruption, ASJ advocated for and received a free hotline service from the National Commission on Telecommunications (CONATEL)¹⁵.
3. Preparations are underway to commemorate the National Day of Integrity and the Fight against Corruption, to be held on June 4, 2014. Event activities are expected to include: a “fight against corruption” Marathon, a “Transparency Fair” involving CSOs, youth networks, government agencies, the private sector and cooperation agencies, and a Film Festival highlighting short films that promote anti-corruption and transparency.

The results of the strategies have already shown a dramatic turnaround in usage as described below:

Complaints reported by ALAC as a result of the Communications and Outreach Strategy (as of 31 March 2014)

ALAC Headquarters	Number of calls received on the 131 Hotline	Number of documented cases of	Cases in process of being prosecuted
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¹⁵For More information on:

La Prensa please see: <http://www.laprensa.hn/lasultimas24/524989-98/habilitan-el-131-para-denunciar-corrupcion-en-honduras>

El Tiempo please see: <http://www.tiempo.hn/nacion/noticias/131-es-la-linea-para-denunciar-corrupcion>

		corruption	
ALAC Tegucigalpa	58 complaints	10 complaints filed with the Prosecutor against Corruption	Meetings were held with different stakeholders, such as; the Special Prosecutor against Corruption, the Attorney General, the Chief Prosecutor of Common Crimes, authorities of the Property Institute, the oversight board of the IHSS, Public Ministry officials and the President of IAIP, to manage streamlining the investigation processes and prosecution of corruption cases filed by ALAC.
ALAC San Pedro Sula	168 calls reported on 100 cases of corruption in the municipality of SPS and 40 cases in the Institute of Property (IP)	52 cases of corruption in the process of documentation	ALAC staff is collaborating as an observer in oral proceedings in corruption cases. There is also collaboration with the Inspectorate of Tribunals in priority cases of judicial or justice sector corruption

Additionally, the Impactos Program’s Communications Officer provided technical assistance to ALAC as they created materials to market the “131” free hotline telephone number. Materials produced include: launch event documents, launch event invitations, presentations, and two promotional videos.

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 achieved in the first grants cycle, facilitating the implementation of advocacy strategies aligned to institutional and legal frameworks in CSO-government interactions. As a result, CSOs now enjoy an environment more conducive to activities promoting transparency and accountability in a democratic environment.

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

During the Quarter, the Learning Community achieved the following:

- i On 23 January, the four ISOs, under the direction of the CPRG team, came up with a strategic agenda on common themes/issues/challenges to share with US Ambassador Lisa Kubiske.
- i On January 24, a meeting was held between US Ambassador Lisa Kubiske, the ISO Directors, and the Impactos Program’s Senior Staff. In this meeting, the ISOs discussed the convention of a Civil Society Forum, spoke to Ambassador Kubiske about the current government and public policies that relate to CSOs, and they advanced that they will seek continued support from the U.S. Embassy, new government and participants of the G16s roundtables. For more information on this meeting please see Section 1.5.

- i At the meeting with Ambassador Kubiske, the ISOs agreed to convene a major national forum (*Gran Encuentro*) of CSOs to discuss three themes, all central to the Honduran development challenges of governance and violence. The three topics are: citizen security, fiscal policy, and transparency. The goal of the *Gran Encuentro*, or Civil Society Forum, is to forge a common civil society agenda under the public administration good governance frameworks assumed by the new administration. The Civil Society Forum is the first of its kind in Honduras, bringing together CSOs from across sectors, political lines, and ideological leanings. Preparations for the Forum have been ongoing throughout the quarter; and the Forum itself is set to be held in April.
- i On February 21, 2014 the CRG team and the ISOs held a meeting with the Impactos “Learning Community” informing them about the Forum and seeking to garner their feedback as well as to discuss opportunities for broader civil society consensus, synergy building and joining of forces to construct a national civil society public policy advocacy agenda.
- i On March 17, a conference was held to share a document called “A Practical Guide for Public Policy Advocacy,” created with inputs from the ISOs technical staff and facilitated by consultant Mario Posas. The validation process included a methodological process which included practical analysis of CIPRODEH’s advocacy experience, gained through implementation of their Citizen Security and Human Rights programs. For this particular conference, a tool was designed for this conference, titled "Phases or steps for effective advocacy on public policies”. The guide and its application tool are currently under further construction and refinement as a collective learning process.
- i On 20 March, a stakeholder mapping workshop was held to identify the spectrum of decision makers and opinion leaders at the national level, needed as reference for ISO policy advocacy processes.

To date, civil society affiliates and the ISOs have achieved a negotiated consensus in terms of the range of topics relevant to the national context, and to priority public policy issues, and the need to focus on strengthening advocacy capacity. This experience highlights the benefits of civil society organizations working and learning together, while acknowledging the thematic leadership of each individual ISO, and at the same time, demonstrates that while disagreements on strategies, tools and tactics may emerge, the debate among civil society partners can be conducted with respect for differences, while shared understandings and agreements can be reached on the essential aspects of public policy. Consolidations and consultative processes like these and the upcoming Civil Society Forum are not the norm for Honduran Civil Society, however, as Impactos continues to utilize such measures we are hopeful that we are engendering in our ISOs and through them the greater CSO community an appreciation for the benefits of consultative/consolidated Civil Society voices.

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

Under the dialogue framework convened by the President of the Republic, FOPRIDEH led Working Group No. 4, which addresses civil society related topics. The working group’s task is to influence conditions for "a culture of honesty, lawfulness and transparency." The attorney Renan Sagastume, head of the Presidential Office on Transparency and State Reform, is the Coordinator of Committee 4. Civil Society has set the following as conditions for participating in this dialogue:

- i It shall not be a consultative process, but rather a construction of policy recommendations by each of the work groups, or committees.
- i Final decisions are not made in the committee; however, participating members are free to take the proposals to their respective CSOs for comprehensive and participatory analysis and consideration.
- i Agreements are incorporated and implemented by the Government.

In the actions and situations framework described above, FOPRIDEH intends to advocate for CSOs to have a position in the Open Government Action Plan.

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

On January 21, a training of trainers (ToT) workshop to strengthen skills of training facilitators designated to work with ISO technical staff. The ToT audience was taught Methodologies of Facilitation during workshop discussions which turned to defining exactly what knowledge and skills of ISO staff members are needed to effectively advocate in the public policies arenas.

The results of these discussions, identification of essential knowledge and skills sets, are summarized as follows:

Knowledge of:	Skills for:
Regulatory and political context of the country	Political analysis, compromise and negotiation
Learning facilitation techniques with target audiences	Reflective, orderly and systematic thinking
Rules of oral and written communication	Oral and written communication, argumentation
Negotiation, deliberation and compromise	Facilitating learning with diverse audiences

At the completion of the first 3 months of the new government administration, the process of creating new institutions and appointing qualified middle management is acknowledged to be taking longer than expected or desired. The reasons for delay are due in part to public administration reforms having been enacted in the last waning days of the previous GOH administration. For this reason, plans to assess the training needs of public officials, an important benchmark for refining Program training strategies and identifying specific GOH target audiences, is delayed. The Organizational Development and Training subcomponent of the Impactos Program is currently redefining new strategies to strengthen the ISOs, to include defining what training topics and mechanisms will be used for public officials training next quarter.

These following grants reported training and technical assistance of public officials:

CSO	PMEP Indicator	Topics	Public Institution	Dates	Participants			
					And	M	F	Total

FOROSIDA (NGOG)	Number of health officials who receive training on social audits, transparency, ethics and accountability.	Social Auditing and Access to Public Information	Cardiopulmonary Institute, Center for Comprehensive Care	03/19/2014	0	3	10	13
FOSDEH (TRAG)	Number of public servants who have been trained in issues of transparency and accountability of the floating debt	Public debt	Superior Court of Accounts, Control of Public Debt Office	03/05/2014	0	1	6	7
		Accountability, floating debt and its impact on public entities.	Public information officers of 56 public institutions	03/28/2014	0	29	39	68
FOPRIDEH (TIG)	Number of civil servants trained in transparency, accountability, the role of civil society and governance	TOT Workshop, experiential learning cycle	Institute of Access to Public Information.	21 & 24 /01/2014	0	2	0	2

In January FOPRIDEH requested that CPRG support the training of two technicians from the IAIP on Experiential Learning (please see Section 1.4 for further details). Following this training, the IAIP sent a formal letter to FOPRIDEH requesting that FOPRIDEH create an additional training for other members of the IAIP staff as well as other CSOs and government officials. At this request FOPRIDEH will hold a second TOT on Experiential Learning techniques next quarter.

2.4 Support the Implementation of Increased Government Transparency

FOPRIDEH established a collaborative relationship with the Presidential Office on Transparency and State Reform, which falls under the Secretariat for General Coordination of the Government (*Secretaria de Coordinación General de Gobierno*) this quarter, and is in the process of assisting the government with the draft of a new Open Government Plan, to be jointly presented to the public next quarter with the Honduran Government.

FOPRIDEH is also collaborating with the Presidential Office on Transparency and State Reform and the IAIP, to design a joint training plan for public officials on the following topics:

- i IAIP: Law of Access to Public Information and Transparency website
- i Directorate for Transparency: Strengthening the Office of the Rules and Procurement of the State (ONCAE) and the National Bureau of Comprehensive Development Control for Internal Public Institutions (ONADICI) and approval of a new Comprehensive Anticorruption Policy.
- i FOPRIDEH: Support for new OGP plan and Code of Ethics for public officials.

For further information, please refer to sections 1.6 (National Government Oversight Grants) and Section 1.11 (Technical Research and Advocacy Grants).

2.5 - Establish and Award Rapid Response Grants (RRG)

On March 13, CIPRODEH signed a grant agreement to implement a project entitled "Strengthening the capacities of new Members of Congress to contribute to democracy and good governance of the National Congress." The project expects to train 70% of the new members of Congress in parliamentary and political negotiation techniques. To ensure project success and a positive impact, CIPRODEH has two strategic partners: the United States based George Washington University and the National Autonomous University of Honduras (UNAH); the latter is also offering a diploma certificate program offers to members of the National Congress.

Following the recent national elections the Honduran National Congress has become rather diverse politically, with now 7 political parties represented in the Congress. This diversity provides an opportunity for particular CSOs to lobby for a more independent and strengthened (v.v. the Executive branch) legislative function.

Since mid-March, dialogues were held with the aforementioned GW and UNAH universities, to agree on conditions and requirements for the development of the diploma program and with Congress agreeing on strategies and schedules for legislators to participate in the new member orientation/training process.

In order to lead the development of the curriculum of the diploma program, Attorney Edmundo Orellana was hired. He serves as academic coordinator of the project. The proposed curriculum, developed by Dr. Orellana, will be discussed with renowned scholars in the first week of April. These scholars include Leticia Salomón (Sociologist, Professor UNAH), Donaldo Reyes Avelar (Member of the National Party), Ana Pineda (Former Minister of Justice and Human Rights and parliamentary law professor, UNAH), Omar Casco (Ex UNAH rector and former member of the Truth Commission), Elvia Argentina Valle (Congressperson for LIBRE) and José Alfredo Saavedra Paz (former President of the National Congress, Liberal Congressperson and university professor).

V. Monitoring and Evaluation

CPRG

Monitoring verification visits.

During this period, a total of 32 monitoring visits were performed with grantee CSOs. The Impactos Program team provided technical assistance and monitoring of compliance to established goals, indicators and outputs of the 14 grants.

Knowledge Management System (KMS) trainings

During the quarter, The Impactos team conducted five training sessions on the use of Counterpart's internal Knowledge Management Portal (KMP) for 2 new Impactos program staff and 3 new members of CSOs (CIPRODEH, FOROSIDA, and ALAC). Technical assistance was also provided to 7 CSO who were experiencing difficulties with the KMP.

Baseline

- i February 14 - CIPRODEH applied its second round of training surveys to participants in the diploma/ certificate sessions.
- i March 14, FOSDEH completed its last baseline survey for this quarter, for training services and technical assistance to *diplomado* program participants.
- i March 27 and 28, CASM undertook its first baseline survey on participant satisfaction with the Self-Regulation and Organizational Development training course processes.

Case studies protocol

On February 5 the Impactos Team participated in a meeting with the USAID AOR and the M & E specialist of the local USAID mission. During the meeting the Program presented the first version of the Methodologies and Toolkit for the Case Studies. On February 14, observations and recommendations for improving the approach of the protocol were received, with the following observations:

- i Sustained bibliography for the Case Studies
- i Complementarity of the case studies with PMEP of each component. (CAP and CPRG IRS used as reference and quantitative indicators complementing qualitative indicators.
- i Selection Criteria for Case Studies.

The mission recommended hiring an external investigation team that allows an objective point of view of the process based on validation and reliability standards of. Hiring this team and scheduled activities began on April, after USAID approval.

Please Refer to Annex C for more information of the Case Study Protocol.

VI. ACHIEVEMENTS

PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

The CPRG component focused its efforts on enhancing the skills and competencies of the subsidized Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) *in order to (1) conduct advocacy on public policies for transparency and accountability; (2) improve the capacity of public institutions to address loopholes and 3) facilitate an enabling environment for CSOs to carry out their activities in the national context.*

Such efforts have been led by the Intermediate Service Organizations (ISO), and by other CSOs subsidized by Impactos. The inauguration of President Juan Orlando Hernández's administration and the processes promoted by his government stand out during this quarter; here are the important achievements of the period:

TRANSPARENCY

- i FOPRIDEH was able to position itself as an adviser to the Office of Transparency and to the Ministry of the Presidency in the process of formulation of the second Action Plan for the Open Government Plan of Honduras (OGP).
- i CARITAS published the report, "On the road to more a Democratic and Transparent Election Processes", which revealed that all the political parties involved, violated the Electoral Law during the presidential election. Motivating civil society organizations directors to establish a roundtable, to improve the application of the Electoral Law and consequently have a more transparent democratic processes
- i FOSDEH trained 68 information officials from 56 public institutions on accountability, floating debt and its impact on state agencies.
- i ALAC-ASJ set up the *131 toll-free phone numbers* to extend legal assistance services and citizen complaints at national level, receiving 168 complaints, 10 of which were admitted to the Special Anti-Corruption Prosecutors Office, and 52 complaints are in the evidence gathering stage.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- i Two (2) CSO Impactos Program partners signed collaboration agreements with IAIP to improve the application of the Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information in social audits and empower National Congress officials.
- i FOSDEH participated in 84 interviews and media appearances to publicize specialized information on tax and public budgets. At least 10 interviews were directly related to public indebtedness of the nation.
- i FOSDEH created a database (spreadsheets) gathering and consolidating information on public debt, the information was previously scattered in different government institutions. Now, the information is made available to the new authorities of public institutions, CSOs and to the citizenship in general.

- i C-LIBRE began implementing 2 TRAG grants using investigative journalism techniques to:
 1. Investigate Security Tax management of the funds intended for Violence Prevention in 4 of the country's municipalities¹⁶ ;
 2. designing an alternative report that will measure compliance with the Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information. (Art. 13 of the Law)

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

- i 78 local leaders from 13 municipalities (mayors, deputy mayors, citizen's transparency commissions, violence prevention units, CSOs) participated in the "Exchange of successful experiences of citizen security at the municipal level" forum, which featured local and international speakers on the presentation of good practices to fight against crime and reduce violence.
- i National Congress accepted to discuss the draft Law on Control of Weapons and Explosives, drafted by CIPRODEH, to reduce firearm-related crimes.
- i 6 CSOs enhanced their advocacy in Citizen Security public policies capacities in matters through a Diploma/Certificate Program led by CIPRODEH.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

- i FOPRIDEH managed to contribute to a GOH decision to revoke a previous Ministry of the Interior's decision in which the URSAC cancelled the legal status of more than 5,000 CSOs and is currently providing technical assistance to improve the URSAC's adherence to the NGOD Law.
- i EROC trained 23 people in Santa Rosa de Copan on learning the essential elements of the law governing the bidding process of the logistics corridor, to improve their capacities as social auditors to Public Private Alliance (COALIANZA) in the construction process of the Western Highway CA-4
- i C-LIBRE together with the Impactos Program trained 10 journalists on investigative journalism techniques to develop research capacities for advocacy at the municipal level, applying Open Government (OGP) principles.

SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT

- i FOSDEH and the National Autonomous University of Honduras certified 26 representatives of 22 CSOs on the diploma certificate program, "Honduras Main fiscal issues and their impact on the lives of people"; they carried out 18 investigations on accountability and transparency at municipal and local level.
- i 101 representatives of 49 CSOs advanced their knowledge and skills to improve organizational, technical and financial sustainability as part of the design process and the implementation of a self-regulatory pilot plan led by CASM.

CPRG (Refer to Annex A- CPRG Achievements Fy14 QR2)

VII. CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY

¹⁶ The municipalities of San Pedro Sula, Puerto Cortes, Nacaome and Juticalpa are to be investigated by C-Libre.

CPRG

During this quarter the CPRG team reviewed the document, “Incorporating Monitoring Gender Equity in the program implementation. This document establishes regulations to incorporate monitoring of gender equity in the implementation of USAID funded programs approved after July 2010. Currently, the program includes an assessment, gender indicators, and a strategic planning document which foresees development of a cross cutting gender analysis during the LOP. All activities have been incorporated in the Gender Action Plan and budgeted in the work plan.

The ISO FOSDEH has been working with UN’s ONUMUJER Office and the gender office of the Ministry of Finance to develop a document on, “Gender in Fiscal Policy, ” as well as an extensive literature review of gender research. The document will be shared in the upcoming semester with the integration of the gender working group and implementation of the gender action plan prepared in the previous quarter for Impactos program.

VIII. SECURITY

With the arrival of the new COP, program key activities on safety matter have been further developed:

- i Official Introduction to the COP to the Protection System Managers and United Nations Security Office.
- i A Prevention and Security Assessment of the COPs residence in Honduras has been completed.

Technical assistance was provided to 11 members of the affiliated partner CSOs of the *Centro de Desarrollo Humano* (CDH) (10 men and 1 man) and 4 ladies of Impactos program. The workshop focused on prevention and security measures at a corporate and personal level. Considering the risk and vulnerability conditions faced by the CSO members in their implementing projects in the La Nueva Capital Sector. With the purpose of avoiding recurrent incidents in the Nueva Capital sector, the Security Office suggested the following:



- i Considering the community kindergarten facilities are safer, the office suggests moving the IT equipment.
- i Hiring of a local guard for surveillance of equipment
- i Installation of proper lightning in the Community Center
- i Support and surveillance groups with neighbors to protect the Community Center.

During this quarter, security mapping of the Program intervention areas continues. Among the advances of this quarter; mapping of security zones in the southern region of Honduras where CAP is implementing projects and monitoring proper functioning of the GPS with this programs service provider.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

The Impactos Program Website is used to promote activities, mechanisms and tools used by partner CSOs and beneficiaries, with the purpose of promoting public policies oriented to encourage transparency and accountability. The website shares information on community revitalization, violence prevention, encourage citizen participation and social empowerment. Below is a cover of the webpage:

During the quarter, the Programs website (www.programaimpactos.org) has been visited 4,605 times by 1,914 people, of which 45.85% are female and 54.15% are male. The user database increased by 33.45%, and now totals 1,141 subscribers (Media, CSOs and Community members). A total of 13 newsletters were published and viewed by 1,946 unique readers, representing a 13.11% read rate.

In the same period, the Facebook page reached a total of 8,683 unique users. There have been 60,427 visits which calculates an average of 6.95 pages visited, per visitor, of which (from user profile contact information) 61% are women and 39% men. The YouTube videos have been viewed 270 times, which implies an increase of 4.25% over the previous quarter.

During months of March and February, the Communications Officer worked on the design of the 2012-2013 CPRG Institutional Memory. This document has been elaborated to share CPRGs contributions through the advocacy interventions in Public Policies lead by partner CSOs. Please Refer to Annex D for the CPRG Institutional Memories.

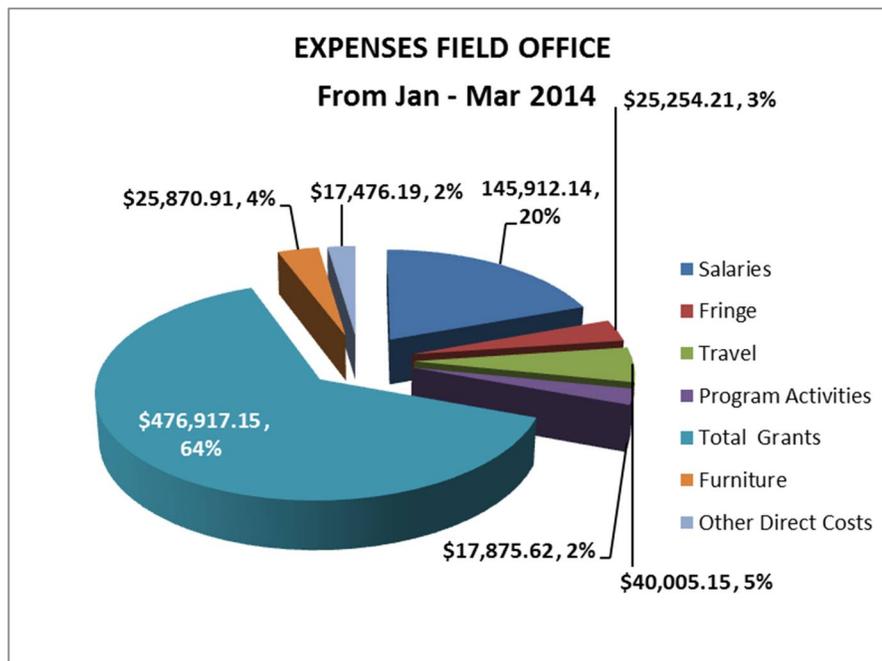
In Annex D a copy of the report to be printed and socialized in the next April is presented.



X. EXPENDITURES

BUDGET EXECUTION

- i Accruals reported: USD \$8,731,172.78 as of the SF-425 submitted to USAID at the close of the quarter (April 2014). This amount represents eighty six percent (86%) of the total obligated amount of USD \$10,168,081.81, and fifty eight percent (58%) of the total approved program budget of UDS \$ 14,966,246.00.
- i Expenditures reported (not inclusive of grantee advances and other cash accruals accounted above): USD \$8,232,051.34. This amount represents eighty one percent (81%) of the total obligated amount of USD \$10,168,081.81, and fifty five percent (55%) of the total approved program budget of UDS \$ 14,966,246.00.
- i Expenditures for the project during the quarter from January to March 2014 is USD \$1,096,445 (not inclusive of cost share) which includes the purchase of a vehicle brand Ford model exhaust value of \$24,750.00 approved by the donor
 - o Expenditures for CPRG during the quarter from January to March 2014 is USD \$527,718.
 - o Expenditures for CAP during the quarter from January to March 2014 is USD \$570,727
- i This quarter the field office received cash advances totaling \$873,257.85, of which \$749,311.37 (86%) was expended and \$123,946.43 (14%) unexpended.
 - o Of the \$749,311.37, expended, \$476,917.15 (64%) were grants and \$272,394.22 (36%) were field costs
 - o The total Grantee validated expenditures of \$476,917.15 are disaggregated as follows: (1) CAP grants \$242,985.45 (51%); (2) CPRG grants \$233,931.70 (49%)
- i Reported \$205,593.64 in cost share



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 refresh 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)