



**LAPPOP – Vanderbilt University
Observatorio de la Democracia – Universidad de los Andes**

Quarterly Report: October-December, 2014

This was a period dedicated to (1) dissemination of the 2013 report; (2) designing the sample and questionnaire for USAID's CSDI special study; (3) ongoing activities of the Observatorio de la Democracia (OD).

Accomplishments

1. Dissemination of the 2013 report

- Dissemination of the 2013 report included the following presentations:
 - o On 10/9/2014 Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga presented the 2013 results to Olimpo Espinosa, General Secretary of the Liberal Party. The meeting took place at the Liberal Party's headquarters.
 - o On 10/16/2014 Miguel García presented to the *Confederación Colombiana de ONGs* the 2013 results on the peace talks and post conflict. Some of the NGOs that attended were:
 - Federación Antioqueña de ONG
 - Federación de ONG del Quindío
 - Fedecaribe
 - Federación de ONG de Santander
 - Asociación Cristiana de Jóvenes
 - Asociación de Fundaciones Petroleras
 - Fundación Cepei (Centro De Pensamiento Estratégico Internacional)

- Fundación Cepsiger (Desarrollo, envejecimiento y transcurso de la vida)
 - Fundación Mario Santo Domingo
 - Fundación Peydi (servicios dirigidos a desarrollar y fortalecer capacidades y comportamientos estratégicos en: Individuos, Familias, Grupos, Organizaciones y Redes)
 - Fundación Social
- On 10/17/2014 Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga presented the 2013 results at the USAID's implementing partners meeting.
 - On 10/23/2014 Miguel García presented these results at the Embassy of Uruguay. The meeting was held with Martín Lorigo, the Embassy's consul.
 - On 10/23/2014 Miguel García presented the results to the KAS Foundation. Hubert Gehring (Representative of the Office in Colombia) and Margarita Cuervo (Project Coordinator) attended the meeting.
 - On 10/29/2014 Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga presented the 2013 results to the EU Delegation in Colombia. The audience included Ivo Hoefkens, Chief of the Cooperation Delegation, Marrk Sciriha, First Secretary of the Politics, Media and Information section, Jose Luis de Francisco Abad, and Dorota Koiberowska, First Secretary of the Embassy of Poland.
 - On 11/6/2014 Miguel García presented the 2013 results and a preview of the 2014 data to the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Colombia (FESCOL). Lothar Witte, FESCOL's Director, Catalina Niño, Alejandra Trujillo, Juliana Vergara, and Saruy Tolosa, Project Coordinators, attended the presentation.
 - On 11/13/2014 Miguel García presented the 2013 results to Ana Ramos, Vice Minister of Justice Promotion and Federico Merchán, the Vice minister's advisor.
 - On 11/24/2014 Miguel García presented the 2013 results to ANDI – Soy Capaz foundation. The meeting was held with Isabella Barrios Morales, Director of the foundation.
 - On 11/25/2014 Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga presented the 2013 results in a forum organized by Transparency Colombia. The audience included Elisabeth Ungar Bleier, director of Transparency Colombia, and representatives of several foundations and NGOs, (including Foro Nacional por Colombia, Ocaso, Fundación para la Libertad de Prensa, Dejusticia, Fundación Ideas para la Paz, Fundación Corona, Congreso Visible, Corporación Excelencia en la Justicia, Misión de Observación Electoral, Somos Más, and Comisión Nacional Ciudadana para la Lucha contra la Corrupción).
 - On 11/27/2014 Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga presented at the Interior Ministry the 2013 results on the peace talks and post conflict. To the meeting attended Luz Karime Falla and Juan Sanchez, Advisors of the Director for Democracy, Civic Participation and Community Action.
 - On 12/1/2014 Miguel García presented to the World Bank. The meeting was attended by Issam A Abousleiman, Manager of the WB in Colombia,

Marcelo Jorge Fabre, Senior Specialist on Social Development, Maria Clara Ucrós, Communications Director, and additional members of the WB team in Colombia. In addition, the WB headquarters at Washington and Mexico attended the meeting by teleconference.

- On 12/2/2014 Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga presented to ACNUDH the 2013 results. The presentation was attended by ACNUDH members interested in Human Rights and peace, as well as representatives of ACNUDH's offices in different cities of Colombia.
- On 12/17/2014 Miguel García presented the 2013 and 2014 results to the director of Agencia Colombiana de Reintegración (ACR).

2. Designing the sample and questionnaire for USAID's CSDI special study

- On October, USAID and the OD with the assistance of CNC worked on the sample design for the 2014 study on CSDI municipalities. With the help of LAPOP and Vanderbilt University, the OD defined the list of municipalities to be included in the sample. This work included a discussion on some technical issues regarding which municipalities should be included in the study to avoid unbalancing the sample.
- The OD also designed the questionnaire in an incremental process discussed with USAID in order to meet their requests and needs.
- Both the sample design and the questionnaire design took more time than expected which resulted in scheduling the beginning of the fieldwork in early February, 2015.

3. *Observatorio de la Democracia* (OD)

- The OD was involved in all activities related to dissemination activities for the 2013 report.
- The OD has been responding to numerous information and data requests by civil society organizations and universities, including information on attitudes towards demobilization, reintegration, gender issues, trust in political institutions, and elections, among other topics. Some of these requests came from people living in regions other than Bogotá, which shows the interest in the project across the entire nation.
- In order to improve its website, the OD is planning an update to new technological advances. The development of the new website, which will be done by Dattis, is scheduled to start early in the first quarter of 2015.
- The OD has been holding weekly meetings with Dattis in order to work on scheduling presentations of the 2013 report, and in preparing the upcoming presentations.

What was not accomplished

Although the Colombian data for the 2014 study is already available, the writing of the 2014 report on Colombia in comparative perspective will begin on January 2015.

The dissemination of the mini-series on the Millennium goals and the AmericasBarometer Insights has been delayed given some technical problems with the OD's website which are being addressed.

Also, the fieldwork of USAID's special CSDI study will only start in February, 2015, given some delays in the sample and questionnaire designs.

Work plan for the next quarter

Observatorio de la Democracia (OD)

- Dattis will start working on the new OD's website. This work is expected to be completed during the next quarter.
- The OD will coordinate with the CNC the fieldwork for the 2014 oversample on CSDI municipalities. In addition, the OD will begin the data analysis for this the study.
- The OD will begin drafting the 2014 report.
- The OD will keep weekly meetings with Dattis to ensure the coordination of further dissemination events.
- The OD will keep organizing presentations for further dissemination of the 2013 and 2014 findings.

Issues of importance for USAID/Colombia

The 2014 Americas Barometer/LAPOP study on Colombia, currently in progress, will complete 11 years of annual studies on the attitudes, beliefs, behavior, and values of Colombian citizens regarding their political institutions. The 2014 study will be particularly important since: (a) It involves studies done simultaneously in 28 countries in the region; and (b) It focuses, among other issues, on the 2014 general election and on evolving attitudes towards the peace talks between the national government and the FARC. With the launching of the comparative 2014 study, the AmericasBarometer/LAPOP on Colombia will make an even stronger impact on the scholar and policy communities.

New dissemination strategies, designed by Dattis, will be continuously sought to address the need to reach specific audiences, including government agencies and officials and decision-makers, elected officials and policy-makers, NGOs, and the media.

Analysis of the progress towards the targeted levels of performance

The 2014 round completes 11 years of gathering and disseminating valuable data and information, including comparative data from 28 countries in the Americas. We are very grateful to LAPOP at Vanderbilt for helping us grown and mature into an institution of unprecedented quality and visibility in Colombia. In addition to the usual topics erlated to democracy and its institutions, this round includes citizens' perceptions and behavior related to the general election held in Colombia in 2014. Moreover, the 2014 study will be a highly valuable source of information regarding Colombians' evolving attitudes towards peace and the conflict, the current peace talks, and the post-conflict scenario, which are the most important issues in Colombia today.

The *Observatorio* is consolidated, and we consider this a central achievement in institution and local capacity building, as envisioned in the original project. This goal is being accomplished at Universidad de los Andes but other educational institutions and policy-making agencies are increasingly making use of the AmericasBarometer data in teaching and research activities, as well as in policy-making processes. The reach of the information provided by the study has been importantly expanded with the help of Dattis as the firm in charge of the communication strategy of the *Observatorio*. The increasing interest on the AmericasBarometer data by highly placed representatives of the National Government (such as chief negotiator Mr. Humberto de la Calle) is clear evidence of this.

The OD remains concerned that it has not yet been informed of future plans and opportunities to continue its relationship with USAID beyond the of the current Cooperative Agreement, which expires on June, 2015