

**SUPPORT
PROGRAM FOR EX-COMBATANT
CHILDREN - COLOMBIA**

26th QUARTERLY REPORT



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OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is the 26th quarterly report for the Support Program for Ex combatant Children, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and implemented with the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare and other public and private institutions. This quarter, the Program was able to assist 109 ex combatant boys girls and adolescents for a total 3,577, out of which 254 are indigenous or Afro Colombian.

According to the reports of several Reference and Opportunity Centers (CROJs in Spanish), the safety of ex combatant boys girls and adolescents formerly recruited by illegal armed groups (IAG) was affected by intensified threats to their lives and those of the CROJ field monitors and coordinators; such is the case of four children killed in the Department of Antioquia when a landmine exploded in a schoolyard.

The Program, through the *Assistance Component*, assisted 535 boys, girls and adolescents this quarter through the family, health, psychosocial assistance, education subsidies, training, supply, recreation and culture areas of the program. ICBF indicates that an average of 535 boys, girls and adolescents in the program kept in touch with their families this quarter and 114 had family visits in the zone centres.

Support was provided in Meta for the massive exit of seven youths from an “emerging group” from the AUC, who were transported to different Transit Homes in Medellín and Cali to begin their reinsertion process. Support was given in supplies, transportation and technical assistance.

The CROJ, in articulation with the regional representatives of ACR, moved forward in the implementation of the Independent Home modality benefiting 173 youths this quarter. To date, 1.408 youths have been contacted by the CROJs, out of which 736 were active this quarter. A total of 107 youths (for an accumulated total of 917) had access to the General System of National Security as a result of the referral and support services received from the CROJ network. With regard to formal education, a total of 800 youths have been referred to date to the education system, out of which 396 have received school subsidies. Likewise, 786 have been referred to employment training courses and 437 received subsidies to access these courses.

This quarter, 320 youths participated in the training courses at SENA and other institutions. Regarding employment opportunities, 73 youths have been referred to different companies to go through the selection process. A total of 70 youths obtained employment this quarter for a program total of 497. Likewise, 1.083 youths have participated in socio-cultural activities, 561 families (of the youths in the program) have been referred to the CROJ network institutions, 923 have been accompanied to obtain legal documentation, and the total number of institutions in the network at national level is 669.

The *Recruitment Prevention component* continues with the dissemination of the Childhood and Adolescence Code. Likewise it continues to apply the Vulnerability, Risk and Opportunity Maps methodology, with the participation of 152 youths and their families and 190 community members.

The strategy with ethnic groups has been focused participation, accompaniment and follow up on the activities of each Project, and the inclusion of these groups in territorial policies. This quarter, 2.288 indigenous youths and their communities have benefited from the Program in the departments of Nariño, Cauca, César, Meta, Sucre,(342 Sikuanis in Meta, 24 Arhuacos in César, 54 Zenues, 868 Pastos in Nariño and 1000 Paeces, Guambianos, Yanaconas, Kokonucos in Cauca).

The ethno education models continued to be implemented this quarter, as well as the incorporation process to institutional educational projects. Projects implemented include nine ethno-educational projects, three support projects for educational initiatives, one cultural project and two productive projects. This quarter, technical and financial support was provided to 15 initiatives.

2. CONTEXT

During the reporting period, the demobilization process has been affected by the political-judicial situation of the country. The Supreme Court stated that the crimes committed by ex combatants could not be considered as political crimes and thus the benefits of the Justice and Peace Law could not be granted. This statement left over 19,000 demobilized individuals in an uncertain situation. The government has proposed a new law to change the status of these individuals so they can benefit from above-mentioned Law.

Likewise, in the political context several public servants renounced to their posts after their participation with paramilitary groups was exposed by the media. Security measures for former paramilitaries were reinforced after it was discovered that an ex paramilitary was participating in drug-dealing activities from prison.

Regarding the 11 congressmen murdered while kept captive by the FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia), their bodies were returned to their families this quarter. The liberation of kidnapped individuals is being negotiated by the government. These negotiations continue without positive results, in spite the liberation of 200 guerrilla members by the Colombian Government. The presidents of Venezuela and France are involved in the negotiations.

According to the reports of several Reference and Opportunity Centres (CROJs in Spanish), including those in Santander, Bucaramanga, Coffee-Growing Region, Meta, Bolivar, Cartagena, etc., the safety of ex combatant boys girls and adolescents formerly recruited by illegal armed groups (IAG) was affected by intensified threats to their lives and those of the CROJ field monitors and coordinators. Schools and businesses have also been affected and threatened by IAG and drug dealers, as is the case of four children killed in the Department of Antioquia when a landmine exploded in the schoolyard. Te report also states that over 25 demobilized individuals have been murdered this period.

Likewise, 212 ex combatant boys and girls from the “Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia” -AUC- (self-defense groups) were not reported to ICBF after the last demobilizations (the number of children released through the demobilizations was 429). The most numerous groups had 86 children, who were released by the ‘Bloque Central Bolívar’, lead by ‘Jorge 40’ (El Tiempo newspaper). Lastly, ICBF has recently identified a new category: boys and girls demobilized from emerging groups employed by drug dealers.

3. RESULTS

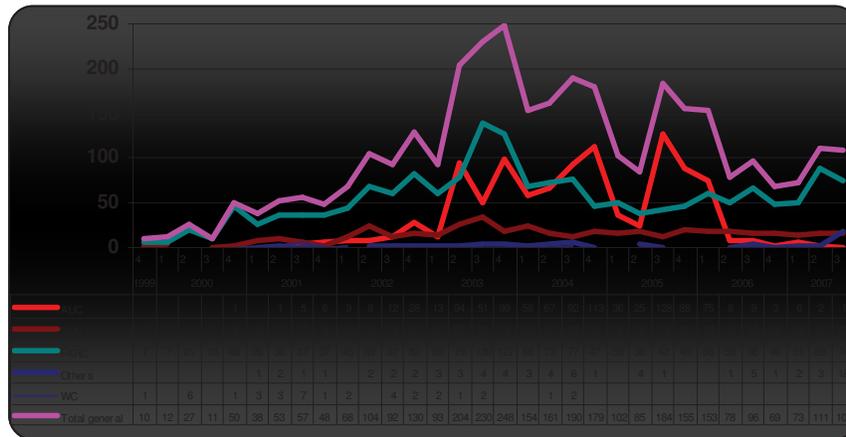
a) Accumulated results for the Quarter July-September 2007			
Indicators	Accumulated	This Quarter	Comments
Job Creation	1.441	70	Through the Reference and Opportunity Centres strategy, 70 new employment opportunities were generated and 73 youth were referred to different companies to participate in a selection process for employment.
Employment Training	2.966	94	During this reporting period, 94 new youths attended the different training courses at SENA (National Learning Service), including the initial module. A total of 320 youths are participating in training activities.
Access to Education	3.232	109	School coverage this quarter was 80%, which means that 248 youths in the CAEs (Specialized Assistance Centre), Youth Homes (CJ), and Foster Homes were part of the national education system. Subsidies for transportation and school supplies were provided for 83 youths. This quarter, 84 new youths entered the school system.
Access to Health Services	3.323	109	This quarter, 109 new youths received medical checkups and assistance through municipal health centres in the different regions. A total of 401 youths accessed health services through health cards or the affiliation to the Subsidized Regime Administrator (ARS).
Family Reunification	725	36	This quarter, 36 ex combatant youths reintegrated to their families, according to ICBF.
Ethnic Minorities (prevention)	254	0	No indigenous or Afro Colombian children entered the program this quarter.
Beneficiaries at risk of recruitment	23.515	152	This quarter, 152 boys and girls at risk of recruitment from the departments of Antioquia, Cundinamarca, Bolívar, Santander, Sucre, Putumayo, Nariño, Córdoba and Valle del Cauca joined the Program.
Ex-combatant children	3.577	109	Out of a total of 3.577 children assisted, 3.323 have benefited from the programs implemented by the ICBF and 254 of these are indigenous and Afro-Colombian children who benefit through the Prevention program. Also, 109 young people joined the ICBF Program this quarter and 0 indigenous and Afro-Colombians were ex-combatant

4. ACTIVITIES

A. ASSISTANCE COMPONENT

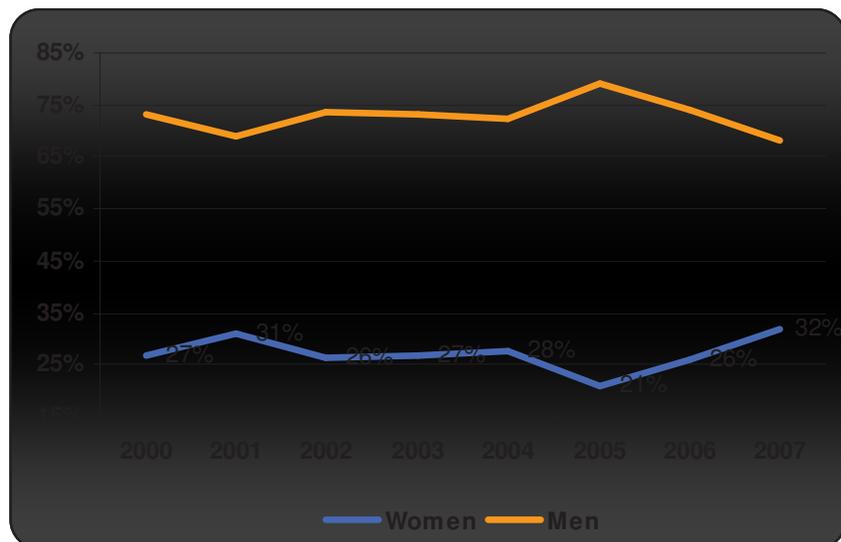
1. TRENDS

Graph #1 Program entries



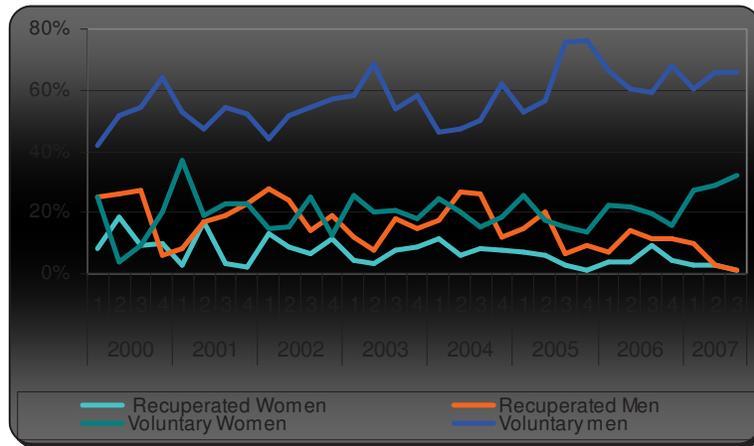
Program entries have been erratic since the beginning of the program. Nevertheless, two clear behaviours have been identified: an increase in entries that reached its peak the third quarter of 2003, and an erratic decrease ever since. A third behaviour that shows more stable numbers was revealed in the last quarters. This behaviour answers to the stabilized entries of children recruited by FARC and ELN, which balance the lack of entries from children recruited by AUC.

Graph # 2 – Percentage of entries by gender vs. date of entry



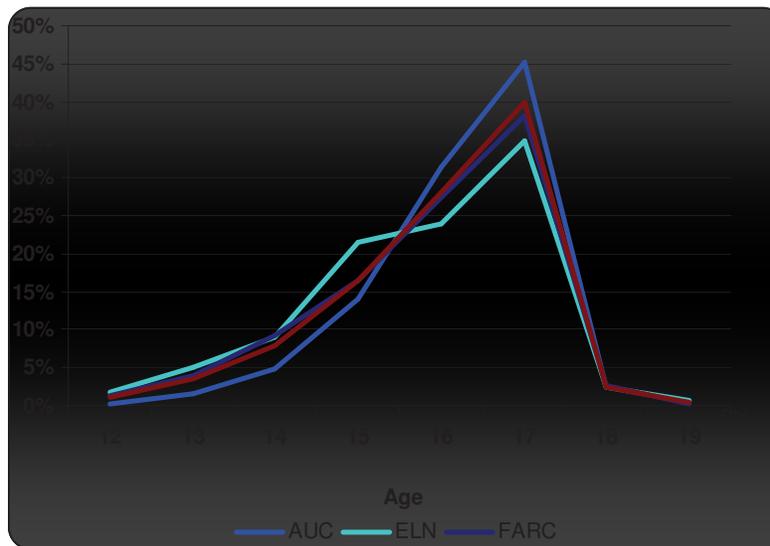
The graph shows entries to the program by gender; this percentage has been stable, but this quarter there was a considerable increase in the number of girls that entered the program (around 32%), the highest in programme history. This increase is explained by the behaviour of FARC, the group that most recruits girls.

Graph # 3 –Percentage of entries by Gender vs. date of entry and type of entry to the programme



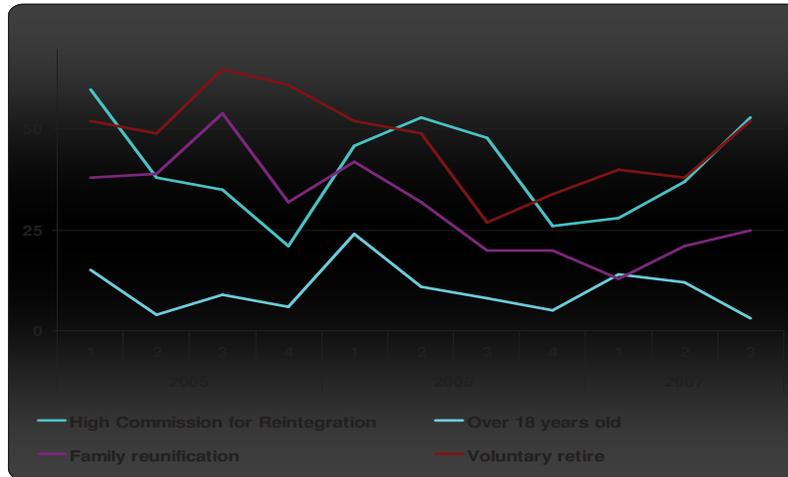
Children and adolescents can access the Programme two ways, voluntary entry or recuperation from illegal armed groups. The graph shows the behaviour for entries to the Programme, which has always been higher for male. The numbers for women in the Programme indicate that the percentage of recuperated women is decreasing; meanwhile the percentage of women that enter the Programme voluntarily is increasing. This is the main reason why the number of entries for women increased this quarter.

Graph # 4 –Relation between age and illegal armed group



This graph shows the relationship between age of entry to the programme and the illegal armed group they belonged to. Adolescents (12-15) demobilized from AUC are less than those coming from any other group, but as they get older, this changes. The trend for entries from ELN is exactly opposite to that of the AUC.

Graph # 5 - Reasons for leaving the Programme vs. date of exit



The graph shows the different reasons for leaving the programme, which are family reunification, voluntary retire, transference to the ACR or turning 18 years old. In the past, some individuals that turned 18, didn't have the legal documents to allow them to be transferred to the ACR. As a result these youngsters didn't receive governmental assistance after leaving the programme. New legislation (2006) allowed the ACR to assist this population, which is why the number of youngsters transferred from the programme to the ACR has increased in the last four quarters, and the number of exits for turning 18 has dropped. To date, every youth leaving the programme continues to receive government assistance.

2.1 RESULTS FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD – ASSISTANCE DURING THE FOUR PHASES

2.1.1 COVERAGE AND ASSISTANCE

During this reporting period, 100% of the entrance requests were accepted. Emphasis continued to be placed on the family modalities.

ICBF maintains the costs of the available spaces for implementing NGOs, improving sustainability conditions for the operators that facilitate the restitution of rights. According to ICBF's information system, the average for the period is 73% male and 27% female, with 98% voluntary entries and 2% recovered youths.

This quarter, 17 youths from the groups denominated by ICBF as "emerging groups" entered the program.

implemented and six are being studied for approval.

Cesar Regional Office:

The accompaniment provided by the support unit facilitated the access of youths and their families to services such as SENA and formal education. Since the contract with the implementing entity expired, a social worker was hired to continue implementing the PLATINFA (Integral Assistance Family Plan) for youths protected by ICBF. An average of 13 youths was assisted.

Bogotá Regional Office:

The support unit will continue its services until the month of December, with an average coverage of 19 youths. The PLATINFA is now being implemented with the team from the ICBF Zone Centre in Puente Aranda.

“HAZ PAZ” (make peace) Family Coexistence Policy:

- This quarter, four workshops were held in the departments of Arauca, Sucre, Cesar and Santander in order to adjust the 2007 work plans and set off a monitoring and evaluation process. Likewise, follow up tools for ten departments were developed for the National Family Welfare Headquarters. A total of 71 functionaries from different institutions members of the National Family Welfare System participated in the workshops.
- The Guide to Assist Boys, Girls and Adolescents Victims of Sexual Violence was published this quarter. Likewise, five transference and training workshops for the guide were imparted to 160 functionaries of the National Family Welfare System in the cities of Bogotá, Medellín, Cali, Bucaramanga and Cúcuta. Additionally, the consultant designed a follow up and monitoring tool for ICBF to verify the implementation of the guide in the crime units of the five cities.

Mayor’s Office

- Implementation of the agreement with the Foundation for Reconciliation began this quarter. The main objective of the Foundation is to implement two Reconciliation Centres in Bogota, in the areas of Ciudad Bolívar and Suba, with projections for Usme and Engativa to improve the quality of life of demobilized and/or vulnerable populations.
- With regard to education, 600 school kits were delivered to sons and daughters of demobilized/reincorporated individuals in the city of Bogotá. Additionally, the first contact meetings were held with the “Enlazando Vidas” theatre group to support them in the presentation and dissemination of a theatre play focused on recruitment prevention. This play was created and is acted by a group of 11 ex combatant individuals.
- In the family modalities, implementation of the agreement with Foundation ICDP began this quarter, to transfer the ICDP (International Child Development Programs) methodology through three workshops to professionals in charge of assisting demobilized populations, including boys, girls and adolescents at risk.
- With regards to recreation, the Theatre Festival was held this quarter with the participation of 2.400 children from ICBF and from the Mayor’s Office programs in Bogotá. Additionally, two recreational journeys took place where two movies were projected. The first was presented in the Maloka Dome movie theatre with the attendance of 280 children from Engativa, Bosa, Ciudad Bolívar, Kennedy, San Cristóbal, Rafael Uribe, Puente Aranda, Suba, Mártires and Tunjuelito in Bogotá. The second movie was presented in the District theatre with the participation of 60 people mostly made up of children from the Martires community. Also in this area, an agreement is being elaborated with Mimo Productions to stage the children’s carnival, for sons and daughters of reincorporated individuals in the city of Bogotá.

2.1.3 CONTINGENCY PLANS

Support was provided in Meta for the massive exit of seven youths from an “emerging group” from the AUC, who were transported to different Transit Homes to begin their reinsertion process. Support was given in supplies, transportation and technical assistance.

2.2 FAMILY REUNIFICATION SERVICES

2.2.1 Technical Guidelines

A technical committee was established between ICBF and IOM to unify criteria for the publication of the family guidelines document. Publication of the document was approved and the legal page was designed and is now in the publication process. As part of the monitoring and follow up activities, the

appropriation process of the solidarity model guidelines was accompanied. ICBF reports that this period 36 youths were reintegrated to their families.

2.2.2 Family Meetings

ICBF indicates that an average of 535 boys, girls and adolescents in the program kept in touch with their families this quarter and 114 had family visits in the zone centres.

2.3 HEALTH

2.3.1 Preventing the Consumption of Psychoactive Substances

Regarding ambulatory assistance for boys, girls and adolescents with SPA consumption problems, the pilot project for Bucaramanga began this quarter to assist 15 youths. The process started with the evaluation of 16 youths, with close up meetings and the description of the process to each youth. Nevertheless, local articulation and the capacity of the operator to take over the ambulatory assistance model was insufficient. After evaluating the process with ICBF, it was decided not to continue working the ambulatory program with Elogios Association. The Program will work towards establishing an agreement with “Empresa de Salud del Estado”-ESE- (State Health Company) so that the ambulatory assistance model can be handled from the health sector. The same is being done in the ESE in Cali.

The pilot project in Cali with Caminos Corporation began with the diagnosis of 15 youths who participated in the therapy process. In Medellin, the agreement with the University Foundation Luis Amigó is in progress and seven youths are in the assistance process, out of which two have stopped consuming SPA and are strengthening personal aspects with their life projects. The other five youths have reduced consumption. In Armenia, Faro Foundation was chosen to be the operator and the agreement is being elaborated.

2.3.2 Medical Services

2.3.2.1 Ministry of social protection	2.3.2.2 Medical Services
<p>The consultancy to elaborate the Processes and Procedures to Access Health Services manual took place this quarter. Inputs and procedures for the elaboration of an illustrative booklet for public functionaries and youths will be established in October.</p> <p>During this quarter, it was agreed with the Ministry of Social Protection to finance a Project to strengthen its capacity and that of the Health Offices to guarantee the right to health of the beneficiary boys, girls and adolescents.</p> <p>The Ministry will establish a national work plan to strengthen the response and assistance capacity of the municipal Health Offices, where the program operates the family, SPA, and psychiatric and psychosocial assistance components.</p>	<p>This quarter, 109 youths that entered the program received medical assistance and treatment.</p> <p>Health services were accessed by 401 youths as follows: 70% through the health card and 30% through the ARS affiliation card, which could be due to the rotation of the youths.</p> <p>This quarter, it was identified that 40 youths (7.5%) had some level of SPA consumption problems. Likewise, three pregnant girls entered the program as well as ten youths with diagnosed psychiatric disorders, three physically handicapped and two mentally handicapped. Specialized assistance is being provided for each of these cases.</p> <p>The Program coordinated actions with the “Teleton” Clinic in Bogotá to evaluate and determine the physical rehabilitation needs of eight youths from the program. The evaluation processes for these youths will begin the third week of October.</p>
2.3.2.3 Joint Project, HIV/AIDS Program	2.3.2.4 Psychosocial Assistance
<p>Regarding the HIV/AIDS program, the consultant terminated the contract for personal reasons, which made following up on the process in the regions difficult. This period, 31 results and their counseling sessions post test were delivered.</p>	<p>The first draft of the early warnings manual elaborated with Montserrat Clinic was finished and is now under technical review.</p> <p>Likewise, the elaboration of the virtual course is moving forward and is programmed to begin February 2008. The agendas for the teleconferences must be finished before the end of</p>

	<p>the year.</p> <p>An average of 61 youths referred by the CROJ and ICBF were assisted this period. A protocol for the remission of cases from ICBF to the Clinic was elaborated and is now being approved by the technical committee.</p>
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2.3.2.5 Human Development

The project with Foundation for Reconciliation concluded this quarter with a good evaluation and excellent participation from the youths from the six CROJ and schools, within the framework of the recruitment prevention component. In total, 1.093 youths participated in these activities: 18 counseling sessions with the participation of 870 youths, 14 activities on memory and reparation with the participation of 28 youth leaders from the CROJ, the Network for Reconciliation camp with the participation of 160 youths, and a systematization video of the experience is being elaborated.

2.4 EDUCATION

This quarter, school coverage was 80%. This percentage decreased this quarter because some youths entered the CAE phase at the end of the quarter and the education institutions were not able to place them in the required levels fast enough.

Complementary support in the Caldas and Villavicencio Foster Homes and in the Medellín Transit Home guaranteed transportation and school supplies for a total of 83 youths. The final phase of the Project “Evaluation of Results of Educational Assistance” began this quarter as well as the preparation of the final report. A period of two months was established to carry out closure visits to the regional offices to gather pending information from educational institutions. Likewise, follow up on the beneficiary youths who were tested during first phase of the evaluation was carried out to verify their location to allow the program to determine the conditions for the second test. The closing of this project and the delivery of final results is programmed for March 2008.

Regarding project CLG (General Labor Competencies), the third module workshops on training and transference of the “methodological route” were held this quarter. A total of nine workshops on general labour competencies were carried out with the participation of 92 public servants (ICBF and SENA functionaries, teachers, principals and professionals from the assistance centres).

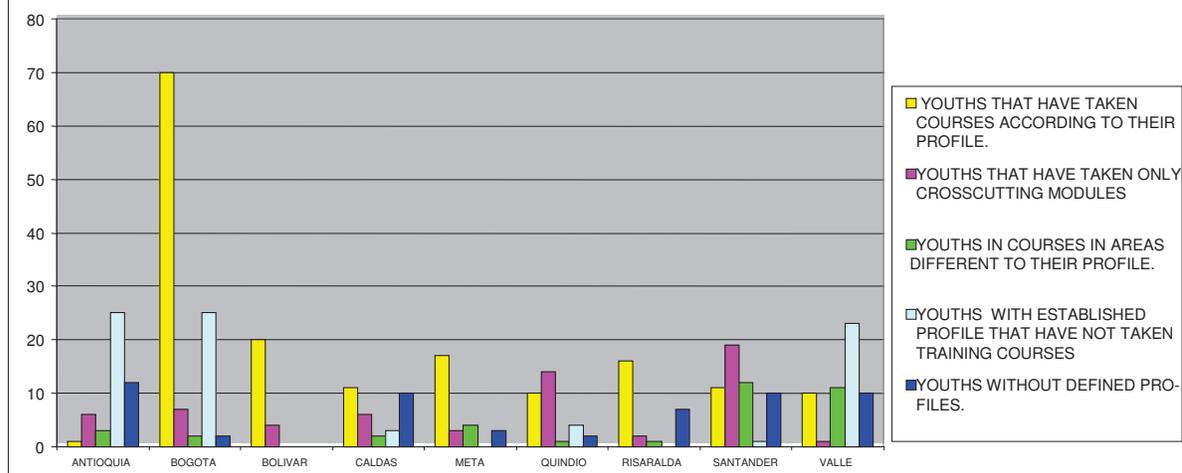
2.5 EMPLOYMENT PREPARATION

This quarter, 320 youths participated in the training courses at SENA and other institutions such as Comfenalco Antioquia, Comfenalco Quindio, Comfenalco Bolivar, Cajasan, Don Bosco training centre and the MAC foundation in Cali. Out of this total, 90 received training through the initial module in the departments of Santander, Bolívar, Cundinamarca, Valle del Cauca and Antioquia, then proceeding to receive training on courses related to their first and second occupational profile. Likewise, three more groups are projected to be formed for the initial module in Antioquia, Santander and Tolima.

A videoconference to officialise the transference to SENA of the MIMA tool was held by IOM and the institution was accompanied through four training workshops for 90 instructors from the entrepreneurship units of the Regional Office of Cundinamarca. Institutions such as the Mario Santo Domingo foundation and Acción Social also participate in these workshops.

A profile analysis of the youngsters and the most effective way for them to receive employment training was done this quarter after the initial module. Below a chart with the results.

ANALYSIS OF PROFILES VS. TRAINING



About 41% of the youngsters that completed the induction module are receiving training in accordance to their profile, 15% are being trained on crosscutting areas useful for their profile, and there is the challenge to include the 20% of youngsters that having completed the initial module have not yet begun training processes. This is because the education calendars of ICBF and SENA do not match and because the number of youths does not meet the minimum required for opening a course.

2.6 INCOME GENERATION

This is the second phase for the alliance with the “Tejido Humano” Association. A total of 10 productive and housing projects received funding this quarter. Likewise, a total of 51 projects from the CROJs were presented for approval.

Regarding the Gastronomy Workshop implemented with “Fundación Escuela Taller de Bogotá”, youths have shown commitment towards all the assigned activities, as well as responsibility with schedules and attendance. An average of 13 youths is attending out of a total of 15.

For the Pueblo Bello Project, the constitution of the cooperative of youths from the Arahuacos indigenous group was established. The process received support from an instructor from the SENA Cesar Regional Office. The project will continue to be accompanied by SENA until 15 December 2007, with an increase of 100 hours for the production of soaps with natural essences. Thanks to the support from CCI a videoconference was held for youths, where the issues of chemical analysis and extraction of oils to produce soaps were addressed. The video conference was given by a chemical engineer, expert on the subject. On the other hand, youths are being counselled to obtain the certification from the botanical garden, as it would favour production at environmental level; with this CCI seeks to add value to the production of soaps.

2.7.1 Coordination with the ACR

The presentation of productive projects from the CROJs to the ACR was resumed this quarter so that youths can access seed capital; the High Counsellor stated in a meeting that until the new strategy is established for the income generation component of the ACR, youths may continue presenting their projects and agreed to provide special assistance to those youths in the CROJ that completed the ICBF process.

A meeting was held with CROJ coordinators and coordinators of the psychosocial, income generation, financial and educational areas of ACR, where protocols and articulation procedures were established for the assistance and referral of youths. Another meeting was held with the coordinator of the psychosocial area to ratify the agreements established in the last meeting with the coordinators.

The CROJ, in articulation with the regional representatives of ACR, moved forward in the

implementation of the Independent Home modality benefiting 173 youths this quarter. Likewise, progress was made on the implementation of the new accompaniment policy of ACR, for which 29 more youths have applied.

2.8 REFERENCE AND OPPORTUNITY CENTERS

To date, 1.408 youths have been contacted by the CROJs, out of which 736 were active this quarter. A total of 107 youths (for an accumulated total of 917) had access to the General System of National Security as a result of the referral and support services received from the CROJ network. With regard to formal education, a total of 800 youths have been referred to date to the education system, out of which 396 have received school subsidies. Likewise, 786 have been referred to employment training courses and 437 received subsidies to access these courses.

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During this reporting period, progress was made in the logistical support to be provided by the CROJ to the recruitment prevention area to carry out 303 interviews with youths for the research project Maya Nasa.

Regarding security of beneficiary youths and CROJ professionals, follow up activities provided the following results: (it is important to highlight that the information supplied by the CROJ is based on the testimonies of the youngsters, community information and the testimonies of field workers)

CASES WITH YOUTHS.

Detail	Number of Cases
Cases with pressure from IAG to participate in specific tasks such as selling drugs	1
Cases with pressure to become part of the IAG (house visits, phone calls, mail, etc.)	12
Cases of youths that were relocated for security reasons	6
Cases of youths presumably re-recruited by IAG	3
Cases of youths caught committing crimes	2
Cases of murdered youths that belonged to IAG or gangs	1
Cases of youths working as "daily chargers" (modality related to IAG)	5
Cases of disappeared youths reported to the police or the ACR	1

CASES IDENTIFIED BY CROJ PROFESSIONALES

Detail	Number of Cases
Cases of threats to CROJ professionals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threat made by a youth part of the CROJ Caribe. The youngster is receiving 100% assistance as per request of ACR. 	1
Cases of obstruction of activities by IAG members (obstruction to perform follow up visits, and to access some sectors or neighbourhoods; visits from demobilized adults to the CROJ)	12

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The strategies being used by IAG to recruit youngsters is to offer them different ranks according to their experience in the groups with higher salaries than before; this strategy is used mainly by a group called "Aguilas Negras" (Black Eagles) which operates in the departments of Cesar, Córdoba, Magdalena, Meta and Santander. Another situation is the control of IAG such as FARC and ELN of areas such as Meta, where census of children are taken and they are forbidden to travel to other cities. At the same time, children members of IAG do not wear uniforms, as they are used for intelligence activities.

2.9 CULTURE AND RECREATION

Due to the difficulties faced with Coldeportes and the Ministry of Culture, actions and negotiations have taken place with different implementers from the different areas to guarantee access to culture and sports spaces. Some youths have continued to participate in training schools for sports such as boxing.

This reporting period, 304 boys, girls and adolescents participated in recreational, sports and cultural activities. Likewise, work with "Corporacion Colombia Subacuatica" (Subaquatic Colombia Corporation) began this quarter on complementary sports and cultural activities with youths from the program in the cities of Cali and Medellín. This project seeks to promote training spaces in areas such as swimming (with its different modalities) and physical training and conditioning, and to promote cultural activities and youth participation in artistic activities such as drawing, painting, photography and music.

The process started in the city of Medellín with three sports schools, three physical conditioning groups, and training in arts: music, theatre and painting. Currently, 75 youths are participating in these activities, which also include recreational outings and practices in open spaces.

In the city of Cali, the process began with a sports school and two artistic groups: dance and theatre, with the participation of 48 youths. This process has been valued not only for generating recreational, sports and artistic spaces, but for being a complementary activity to address the SPA consumption problem of some youths.

2.10 MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM

2.10.1 SIMONI	2.10.2 IICR
<p>This quarter, two training workshops were held by IOM for ICBF national headquarters staff; there was a presentation of the status of the process to the new Sub director of Direct Interventions.</p> <p>The server has been presenting some problems, which are being dealt with at the moment, but the transference to ICBF must be reprogrammed.</p>	<p>The CROJ continue with the implementation of the IICR as part of the accompaniment process for youths. For this period, IOM's Monitoring and Evaluation Unit reported an average of 85 applications.</p> <p>The accumulated results for the year 2007 are 256 youngsters evaluated.</p> <p>Implementation of this instrument by ICBF must begin in the month of December.</p>
2.10.3 SAME	
<p>This reporting period, a total of 65 beneficiaries were entered into the system, for an accumulated total of 939 registered youths; regarding transferences from one CROJ to the other, 13 took place this quarter for a program total of 115 .</p>	

2.11 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

By the end of this quarter the results of the legal process are as follows:

Total Adolescents	Legal Situation			Administrative Situation	Adolescents Certified with CODA	Adolescents With Documents
	Adolescents With Open Legal Processes	Adolescents With Closed Legal Processes	Starting Legal Process	Adolescents with Open Administrative Processes		
535	157	274	104	535	355	465
%	29,35	51,21	19,44	100,00	66.36	86.9

It is important to note that since the month of August, the High Council determined that the CODA (certificate of disarmament) no longer expire and thus youngsters whose CODA was given to them in 2003 will be assisted and supported through the different components. Those with CODA dated before February 2003 are being studied.

A BENEFICIARY'S STORY

Looking for Opportunities Outside the War.

Fernando, from the village of Rio Sucio, municipality of Inzá, Cauca, is the fourth of six children. He lived with his mother and his two younger brothers, after his parents divorced when he was five. He became his younger brothers' role model and he established a very close relationship with one of his brothers, Manuel, who was taken from his mother's side by his father when he was seven years old. This separation marked both children's life. Fernando becomes the role model, with the task to raise his two younger brothers and be the emotional support his mother needed, thus becoming an adult at a very early age.

His brothers entered the program with the intention of living with his mother and thus make up for the time he had been separated from her. Always rebellious, quiet, feeling locked up and seeking for freedom, without knowing where to find it, as he was rejected by his father and his father's family, who labelled him as a "difficult" youth. He could not go back to his mother's house because of the presence of illegal armed groups in the region, Fernando then becomes his support. Fernando travelled from Inzá to visit his brother and get him to continue in the program when he was 14, advising him and telling him how difficult it was to live in the town, living hi at ease with the economical situation.

However, Fernando still in his town of origin, and living with his mother, performed undercover operations for the guerrilla, a job he had done since he was little and one that was common for the community. Him and his brother Manuel were in charge of informing the guerrilla when the military were in town; they ran errands and did other investigative work in their town and neighbouring towns.

Finally, Fernando enters the program because he cannot go back home for he had been identified by the military and is afraid to go back. The indigenous community he belonged to had also begun to point him out and discriminate him. He goes to live in Cali, in his fathers' and his stepmother's, with whom he has a conflictive and distant relationship. Both brothers identify their father as being absent and disinterested.

Fernando presented himself at the ICBF centre explaining his situation, feeling guilty for leaving his mother and brother and asking for help; by that time, Manuel had already abandoned the program trying to live independently, living in his father's house and working occasionally. Between Inzá and Cali, a year of the brothers' life went by without going to school, without health services, without family life, without emotional stability, without the possibility to work and without knowing what to do with their lives. Their only interest was to live with their mother in a safe place for them, but unable to do it due to their economical situation.

Fernando also felt that he was usurping his brother's place in the program and was constantly rejecting the support. He only wanted to study, and to have a place to go to and be safe. He expressed that he wanted to study and be young and experience everything he had missed. He started studying again and passed sixth and seventh grades, and is now studying 8th and 9th grades. He finished his occupational workshop on computer systems and maintenance, and entered a National Red Cross program as a Security Brigadier, providing first aid and community support, which granted him the privilege of being acknowledged as a responsible person and a leader.

He is now doing his internship in administration as the assistant of an employment agency. His bosses know him to be a responsible person and he is authorized to sign important paperwork. He plans to continue studying systems and administration. He continues to be in contact with his family, he is visited by his brother and is contacted by phone by his mother.

Fernando's story is worth telling, as he is preparing for his professional future so he can help his family and his community.

B) PREVENTION

Main Objective

The Prevention Component seeks to provide technical and financial support to Government entities, communities, private sector and civil society organizations to strengthen policies and programs that help develop and protect the life of boys, girls and adolescents at risk due to the effects of the armed conflict that afflicts the country, and to prevent their recruitment by illegal armed groups.

1. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

1.1. Childhood and Adolescence Code

Dissemination and follow up activities were carried out for the implementation of the Childhood and Adolescence Code, addressing 850 public functionaries (family commissaries, family attorneys and ICBF teams) and 450 local implementers from the “Buen Trato” networks, trained on integral protection and on reestablishment of rights.

The Conceptual Guide for the Formulation of Departmental and Municipal Public Policies on Childhood and Adolescence with emphasis on recruitment prevention by illegal armed groups was elaborated for the departments of Antioquia, Casanare and Meta. The Guide is accompanied by a Tool Box to support the implementation of the methodological route for the formulation of public policies.

2. Dissemination of the Legal Framework

	Technical Processes	Departments	No. of Participating Public Servants	Institutions
Formulation of Public Policies for Meta	Departmental encounter for mayors for the formulation of public policies on childhood and adolescence.	Meta (13 August)	24	Mayors from the municipalities of Acacias, Barranca de Upía, Cabuyaro, Castilla, Cubarral, Cumaral, el Calvario, el Castillo, el Dorado, Fuantedeoro, Granada, Guamal, la Macarena, Lejanías and Mapiripan
Inter institutional Forums for the Childhood and Adolescent Law.	Encounters for candidates for municipal mayors of the sub-region of Uraba, Eastern Antioquia, and the sub-region of Magdalena Medio	Antioquia (31 August, 21, 24 September)	111	Functionaries of ICBF, Attorney General's Office and the Governor's Office of Antioquia.

2.1 National Committee for Recruitment Prevention

This period, technical assistance was provided for the elaboration of the document: Recruitment Prevention Strategy, with the Vice presidency of the Republic.

The Program elaborated an agreement with United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Valle del Cauca, to: Support the elaboration of the Human Development Report for Valle del Cauca: boys, girls and adolescents affected by the armed conflict. The report will establish recommendations for recruitment prevention, and reinsertion policies.

2.2 Attorney General's Office (AGO)

This quarter, progress was made on providing technical feedback for the documents produced through a specialized consultancy to support the AGO in terms of regulations for public policies for recruitment prevention and assistance to ex combatant boys, girls and adolescents: “*Protocolo para Procuradores Judiciales, Reparación Integral, Operadores del ICBF y Código de Infancia como directriz de política pública*” (Protocol for attorneys, integral reparation, ICBF operators and Childhood and Adolescence code as a guide for public policies). After the adjustments were made to the products of the training sessions (Virtual classroom, CD and booklet), regarding the non-penalization of ex combatant boys girls and adolescents recruited by illegal armed groups, these products will be complemented with 10 training workshops in different cities, next year. A methodological design has already been elaborated for implementation.

3. Recruitment Prevention

3.1 Youth Initiatives and Participation

Region	Initiatives/Quarter	Beneficiaries/Quarter
Antioquia	6	314
Cordoba	1	72
Cundinamarca	1	750
Bolívar	29	799
Santander	11	530
Sucre	23	762
Putumayo	7	360
Valle	1	250
Total	79	3.837

This quarter, the program has increased coverage through the application of the Vulnerability, Risk and Opportunities Maps (MVRO) methodology in the municipalities of Montería (Department of Córdoba), Sincelejo, María La Baja, Córdoba, El Guamo (Department of Bolívar) and Los Palmitos, Chalcán, Morroa, San Antonio de Palmito and Colosó (Department of Sucre). A total of 152 boys, girls and youths in the municipalities of Montería and Sincelejo have participated in the application of the MVRO methodology; 16 parents and 32 public servants participated in the process of identifying local vulnerabilities and opportunities for youths at risk of recruitment by IAG.

Technical and financial accompaniment was provided for the improvement of the educational models of the Technical Agricultural Institutes (ITAs) in areas such as infrastructure, training and incorporation of institutional educational models, revolving funds, and food security programs. The Program has provided technical assistance and monitoring services to a total of 15 institutions in 15 municipalities: in the region of Montes de María to eight ITAs (San Onofre, Zambrano, San Jacinto, San Juan Nepomuceno, Carmen de Bolívar, Los Palmitos, María la Baja); in Antioquean Uraba to six educational institutions (Apartadó, Carepa, Chigorodó, Mutatá, Necoclí, Turbo); and in Soacha to one educational institution.

Training activities for youth leaders and community organizations were carried out in the region of Montes de María to promote participation in the formulation of local and departmental public policies for youth, improve management capacities and promote dialogues on public issues in seven municipalities of the Department of Bolívar, and eight municipalities of the Department of Sucre, benefiting a total of 700 youths.

This reporting period technical and financial support was provided to youth initiatives for the improvement of activities developed by youths (recreational, cultural, communication, sports and productive), in aspects including organization, management, institutional articulation, access to services and implementation of pedagogical strategies for recruitment prevention, in the region of Montes de María (15 municipalities), Barrancabermeja and in four municipalities of the department of Putumayo (Mocoa, Puerto Asís, San Miguel and Valle del Guamuez).

Likewise, this period USAID and the local government funded the project Support Groups for Social Coexistence in Cali; this is the final stage of the Project focusing on training of young team supporters and strengthening the organizational dynamics of each soccer support group. The project seeks to strengthen soccer support groups as legitimate forms of social organization by making their actions towards social development and peaceful coexistence visible. The project benefits 250 youths.

A total of 79 initiatives received technical assistance and financial support in eight departments. Likewise, two initiatives to expand coverage of the MVRO strategy were implemented this quarter. The initiatives benefit 152 new boys, girls and adolescents, for a total of 3.837 youths. Actions have focused on leadership, participation in the formulation of public policies, and on the strengthening of youth initiatives (cultural, educational, sports, etc.)

Initiatives Supported by Local Projects		
Line	No. of Initiatives this period	Beneficiaries
Education	31	1762
Culture	21	755
Recreation and Sports	6	247
Organization and Participation	11	704
Productive	9	119
Coexistence	1	250
Total	79	3837

3.2 Sensitizing Campaigns

In the month of July, in the city of Pasto, a training workshop was held for journalists, social communicators, news agencies and social communication media entitled “Childhood and Challenges for Journalism”. A total of 52 journalists attended the workshop, which was aimed at improving competencies for the adequate projection of news regarding childhood issues, particularly those related to the armed conflict and its effects on children, the recruitment and release of children by IAG, etc. The event was implemented with the technical direction of the “Agencia Periodistas Amigos de los Derechos de la Infancia” (PANDI) –journalistic agency in favor of the rights of the child) and “Restrepo Barco” Foundation.

This quarter, two workshops were held in the city of Medellin to highlight the issue of child recruitment and the need for local interinstitutional prevention actions. The Recruitment Prevention Board of Antioquia sponsored the events, with the support of the Human Rights Department of the Governor’s Office and the participation of the Attorney General’s Office –Regional Office Antioquia, OCHA, UNICEF, and various departmental entities and with the technical support and accompaniment of IOM. The events were: a Public Forum in Commune 13 (affected by IAG) with the participation of 450 people from the community and different institutions from the City of Medellin, and a Teleconference of one hour, broadcasted live by Teleantioquia. Experts on the problems generated by the armed conflict, the recruitment of children by IAG and prevention and assistance strategies participated in both events.

A workshop for journalists, news agencies and departmental and municipal communication media, was held by IOM in the municipality of Villavicencio, with the support of the Media for Peace Agency, and the Press Office of the Governor’s Office of Meta. The workshop was part of the formulation of Public Policies on Childhood and Adolescence Process, with emphasis on recruitment prevention.

The purpose of the workshop was to train participants on the adequate handling of issues related to the rights of the child, and the problems of childhood in the armed conflict. A total of eight journalists from different media and journalistic organizations of Villavicencio and other municipalities of the department of Meta, attended the event. IOM, through the local team for the formulation of public policies on childhood, was able to promote the involvement of the Governor’s Office of Meta in the promotion and implementation of the training workshop. The “Agencia Promotora de la Actualización de Periodistas” (Journalists updating agency), supplied the technical contents of the training by request and with the support of IOM.

Giving continuity to the awareness and sensitizing campaign on human rights and the violation of those rights through the recruitment of boys, girls and adolescents to participate in the Colombian

armed conflict, the Program, with financial support from USAID, established an agreement with Maya Nasa Foundation for the development of communication tools that provide boys, girls and adolescents strategic information that makes them less vulnerable to the threats of their environment, that empowers them to exercise their rights and obligations and that gives them simple tools to better understand the challenges of adolescence and the needs of youths in critical ages, specially in high risk areas. The communication tools are: three comic strips, a soap opera demo of 30 minutes and a radio demo of 30 minutes. The comic strips were produced these reporting period and the demos are in the editing phase.

3.3 Strengthening Government Institutions and Civil Organizations

The Cooperation Agreement with the “Colombia Joven” Presidential Program was established this quarter, to support the Regional Youth Forum to be held in Pasto and Tunja. These Forums are debate scenarios on the rights of youths in the country, and their expectations and proposals; they contribute to the understanding of the problems of recruitment and the recruitment prevention program and to promote youth participation in regional and national youth development plans, which will feed the Departmental and Municipal Development Plans for the 2008-2011 period.

Within the frame of the agreement, the Forum “Youth: Potential for Development” was held on 25 August in the city of Pasto, with the participation of 142 youth representatives of the departments of Cauca, Chocó, Nariño, Putumayo and Valle del Cauca. Support was also provided for a youth encounter in Tunja organized by the “Colombia Joven” Presidential Programme. The purpose of the encounter was to empower youths to converse with candidates for mayors about youth problems and plans, as well as of the problem of recruitment and the need to promote recruitment prevention strategies that protect boys, girls, adolescents and youths.

The Program with the financial support of USAID, agreed to provide technical assistance and to strengthen the Governor’s Office of Bogota on its Program “Jóvenes Conviven por Bogotá” (Youths Live Together for Bogota) implemented by the Security Office. The agreement seeks to strengthen the implementation of public policies for vulnerable youths through four lines of action: 1. Support to 160 youth initiatives for coexistence. 2. Systematization of the experiences of the program “Jóvenes Conviven por Bogotá” for the formulation of the strategy as a violence prevention tool. 3. Institutional strengthening of the program inside the Governor’s/Mayor’s Office of Bogota, and 4. Social Mobilization for youths and positive view of their manifestations of identity and their contributions for the construction of peaceful coexistence in the city.

3.4 Monitoring and Follow up

As a result of the specialized consultancy, a first version of the Municipal Information System for Recruitment Prevention of Boys, Girls and Adolescents was produced and is being tested on formulation processes of Public Policies on Childhood and Adolescence with emphasis on recruitment prevention in the Departments of Antioquia and Meta. The indicators’ system will allow the characterization of the recruitment phenomena, based on the analysis of the current situation of the rights of boys, girls and adolescents in the municipalities. Likewise, the system will set in motion an Early Warnings system and will put forward a set of pertinent actions that foster the design and implementation of Recruitment Prevention Plans and Programs at local level.

The Program has begun a research process to elaborate and provide tools that help identify areas of risk and populations vulnerable to recruitment by illegal armed groups at national level. For this purpose, a consultancy has been hired to produce: (1) Field work for the collection of evidences through interview with ex combatant children (assisted by the CROJs in Cali, Medellín, Caribbean Region, Coffee Growing Region and Santander – Assistance Component of the Program); (2) A Monitoring Program for recruitment prevention, based on the application of an econometrical research model, the use of national data bases and the definition of technical criteria for the analysis of the information; (3) An Integral Research Document with a results pre report of the econometrical research model.

4. Special Support to Indigenous and Afro-Colombian Communities

Main Objective

The Prevention Component provides technical and financial support to government entities, ethnic communities and organizations to promote the rights of ethnic groups, social organization, territorial rights, and adequate living standards that help develop and protect the life of children and adolescents, prevent their recruitment by illegal armed groups (IAG), and support the return and insertion processes of indigenous and Afro-Colombian children and youths disengaged from IAG.

4.1 Common Rights and Legal Roadmap

The program continues its actions to support and disseminate the Legal Roadmap for Indigenous populations through indigenous organizations of the departments of Cauca (Paeces, Guambianos, Yanaconas, Kokonucos), Nariño (Pueblos Pastos). Likewise, the Program continues to strengthen indigenous authorities through dialogues on public issues with territorial entities and institutions involved in public policies (ICBF and National Ombudsman).

4.2 Strengthening Organizations and Cultures by Exercising the self-determination principle

With the Sikuani community in Meta, accompaniment actions have taken place for the organization of the Captaincy for operation of the Ethno education school and the implementation of the “Granja Integral para la Vida” (Integral Farm for Life), in its self-governance and food security phases. A total of 342 youths of the Sikuani ethnic group participate in the project.

In Cauca, the pedagogical models of the Technical Agricultural Institutes (ITAs) continue to be strengthened in activities such as training, facilities, adjustments to the PEI (educational program) of the ten communities (Paeces, Guambianos, Yanaconas, Kokonucos - 700 indigenous youngsters). Additionally, for the agreement with the Regional Indigenous Council of Cauca (CRIC) – Youth Program, the following are the most significant activities for the reporting period:: 1) The project “Cultivando Futuro” (cultivating future) was presented in the Indigenous Reservations that will assist in Project development, located in the municipalities of Paez (Belalcázar Reservation), Inzá, Morales (Honduras Reservation), Cajibío (Path-Yu Reservation), Caldono (Pioyá Reservation), Puracé and Silvia, and 2) the criteria for the selection of the youths to be benefited by the revolving fund (300) were established.

With the Pastos indigenous community in Nariño, actions to define the participation of the indigenous community in the Project were carried out in coordination with local reservations, communities and the educational centers of Yascual, Tuquerres, Colimba, Muellamues, Cumbal, Panan, Mallama, and Ipiales. The Project will benefit 444 girls and 424 boys – 455 families and 16 teachers of the municipalities of Aldana, Córdoba, Cuaspud, Potosí, Contadero, Cumbal, Santa Cruz de Guachavez, Túquerres and Ipiales. The First Encounter of Chagreros (small rural properties) is being prepared for the articulation of the Project to the Food Sovereignty crosscutting component and to the Quinoa Project, which is part of the Agreement between the Nariño Governor’s Office, the Pastos community and IOM.

4.3 Support to Social Investment Initiatives with Emphasis on Cultural Respect and Revitalization

Region	No. of Initiatives		Beneficiaries
	Indigenous Communities	Afro-descendant Communities	Indigenous
Cauca	X		1000
Sucre	X		54
Meta	X		342
César	X		24
Nariño	X		868
Total			2.288

The strategy with ethnic groups has been focused on strengthening their participation, accompaniment and follow up of the activities of each Project, and the incorporation of these groups

through the territorial policies that support ethnic communities. This quarter, 2,288 youths, ethnic groups and their communities have benefited from the Program in the departments of Nariño, Cauca, César, Meta, Sucre, (342 Sikuanis in Meta, 24 Arhuacos in César, 54 Zenues, 868 Pastos in Nariño and 1000 Paeces, Guambianos, Yanaconas, Kokonucos in Cauca.

Line	No. Initiatives	Indigenous
Ethno education	9	1770
Education	3	140
Culture	1	54
Productive	2	324
Total	15	2288

The ethno education pedagogical models continued to be implemented this quarter, as well as the incorporation process to institutional educational projects, and support and supply for educational facilities. Likewise, support to food security initiatives and the strengthening of indigenous community organizations continued this reporting period. Projects implemented include nine ethno-educational projects (Cauca, Meta), three support projects for educational initiatives (Cauca), one cultural project (Sucre) and two productive projects (Cauca, César). This quarter, technical and financial support was provided to 15 initiatives.

ACCUMULATED RESULTS March 2001 through August 2006				
Indicators	Accumulated 2001 - 2005	Current Period	Accumulated During Phase III	Observations (Way in which these results were reached)
Outcome Indicators: Result 1- 2:				
1,500 public employees trained in administrative and legal procedures.	2,104	135	1.282 Public servants	- Technical training of public servants.
Three policy issues addressed and implementation mechanisms in place	The issue of child recruitment included into the: - Public agenda - 10-Year Action Plan for Children - New Statutory Law on Children - Social and Youth Policy Councils in 42 municipalities in 13 departments	- 14 childhood and family boards in Antioquia. - Elaboration of the Diagnosis guide. - Encounter of Mayors of Meta. - Training workshop on information systems.	Three Departments:: Antioquia, Meta and Casanare	- Technical assistance for: -Establishment of the Childhood Boards, -Elaboration of the Guides for Situational Diagnosis of Childhood. -Encounters with territorial entities (Mayors). -Agreement on assistance methodologies for the formulation of public policies for recruitment prevention. -Training on information systems and indicators for public policies on childhood and adolescence with emphasis on recruitment prevention.
Outcome Indicators: Result 3:				
9,000 children and 2,500 adults (27 municipalities in nine departments) participating in prevention activities	8,942 children 394 adults 42 municipalities 10 departments	152 youths	5.200 youths 314 adults 20 municipalities 7 departments	-Application of the MVRO methodology.. -Financial and technical support for the formulation of improved pedagogical models for the ITAs. -Technical and financial assistance for youth

(Vulnerability, Risk and Opportunity Maps – MVRO				initiatives. -Articulation of projects to social services and local institutions. -Strengthening of community and youth organizations. -Technical assistance for the formulation of pedagogical models for recruitment prevention.
500 community leaders trained	1,800	700 youths	1.156 youths	-Training workshops for youths members of youth organizations Talleres de formación a jóvenes participantes de organizaciones juveniles de la región de los Montes de María.
2,000 local civil servants trained	2,078	190 adults	915 civil society members	-Training forum for young leaders on acknowledgement of rights and access to program services to fulfill those rights, projects for public policies on youth. - Workshops on the MVRO methodology.
Awareness campaign targeting in 9,000,000 people	9,368,192 people	- 2 workshops in the Pasto and Villavicencio. 132 journalists. -Forum and Teleconference on recruitment and prevention strategies in the city of Medellín. -Printing of the first comic strip. -Proposal presented for the elaboration of a Television and a Radio Demo.	-Sensitizing actions for media and journalists in State and Government institutions for the implementation of policies. -Revision of the contents of the comic strip.	-Articulation with communication media and Agencies of the United Nations System for the dissemination of recruitment prevention messages. -Elaboration of communication tools for youths, teachers, family and community.
Outcome Indicators: Result 4:				
250 boys and girls from indigenous and Afro – Colombian communities attended in three years.	209	0	45 indigenous children demobilized from illegal armed groups assisted.	Program continues to be in touch with indigenous organizations for the assistance of ex combatant indigenous youths, and youths returned to their communities.
2,500 indigenous and Afro– Colombian children and 1,400 adults participating in prevention activities.	4,349 indigenous and Afro– Colombian children 1,550 adults		2.563 Youths 254 Adults	-Indigenous youths from Cauca, participants of the training workshop for the administration and operation of productive units.
170 indigenous authorities trained.	276 indigenous leaders trained	0	305 indigenous authorities trained.	Transference of the pedagogical tools and the training on collective rights.

5. LESSONS LEARNED

- The transference of tools and models from the Program for demobilized boys and girls to government institutions has proven to be a successful experience as shown by the transference of MIMA to SENA and of the CROJs to ACR to develop the Service Centers for Youth Model based on this experience.
- The implementation of youth initiatives as high-impact, prevention strategies, requires making sure that the vulnerability conditions of the beneficiary populations are overcome, local processes are articulated and participation in the elaboration of public policies and institutional commitments is strengthened, to provide sustainability alternatives.
- The formulation of Public Policies on Childhood and Adolescence with emphasis on recruitment prevention requires public dialogues and articulation with local institutions, competent, committed and responsible for guaranteeing and restituting the rights of boys, girls, adolescents and youths, as demanded by the Childhood and Adolescence Law.
- As acknowledged by the Education Plan, it is urgent to support the design and implementation of pedagogical strategies and portfolios with educational offers capable of responding to the situations, profiles and needs of the affected populations.

6. PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING TERM

- Work with the Hogar Gestor families will be strengthened from the CROJ, as well as the formulation of productive projects to access ACR's seed capital funds.
- The transfer of the MIMA to ACR and institutions such as CCI will be promoted.
- Work with Municipal Education Offices to guarantee spaces for the youths in the program for the year 2008.
- Follow up on the second phase of the Educational Component with "Escuela Nueva Volvamos a la Gente" Foundation.
- Consolidation of the proposal with the Ministry of Social Protection and the Health Office in Cali, coordinating actions to guarantee effective and timely assistance to Program beneficiaries.
- Complete the transfer of the SIMONI to ICBF and the IICR to the Transit Homes.
- Formulation and implementation of Recruitment Prevention Projects aimed at supporting Afro descendant populations, especially those in the regions most affected and exposed to the armed conflict.
- Promote strategies to influence the design of Government plans to ensure that integral assistance to populations affected by the armed conflict is included in said plans, especially boys, girls and adolescents, one of the populations most vulnerable to recruitment by illegal armed groups.
- Support the implementation of national recruitment prevention mechanisms: Interinstitutional Committee – Vice-presidency of the Republic, Departmental Boards for Recruitment Prevention – ICBF.

7. CONSTRAINTS AND ACTIONS TAKEN

- Due to the changes in the Government's Reintegration Policy, and to the fact that only the psychosocial strategy has been defined to date, some youths were discouraged to continue with the processes. In this sense, the CROJs have moved forward in the articulation process with regional and local ACR counterparts, and are also participating in local committees. Likewise, the establishment of local boards in new regions is being coordinated with government entities. The national board, of which ACR, SENA, ICBF and IOM are members, is articulating and designing strategies to respond to the employment training process needs and the assessment of competencies in youths.
- The restructuring of the Ministry of Education affected the interinstitutional dynamics, as it was necessary to wait a while to have new focal points to reestablish the relationship, which meant starting the sensitizing process and the presentation of the Program all over again, to then move to joint actions.
- It has not been easy to consolidate the ambulatory assistance model for SPA consumption

problems at national level, especially in the city of Bucaramanga as the health system does not have experience at this level.

- The technical difficulties with the Server for the SIMONI delayed the transference process to ICBF.

8. CONCLUSIONS

- The Assistance Component continues to provide family, health, education, psychosocial assistance and employment services. The “Hogar Gestor” modality continues to be successfully implemented. The component is supporting the transference of the CROJ to the ACR to make sure youths coming from the ICBF Program receive special assistance.
- Security measures need to be reinforced to guarantee the safety of reintegrated beneficiaries and CROJ professionals.
- The final versions of the pedagogical training tools were delivered to the AGO this quarter (CD, booklet and virtual course on legalization issues) the elaboration of the protocol for public attorneys continues.
- The Prevention component strategies continue to be strengthened with regards to the formulation of public policies on childhood and adolescence, training on and dissemination of the new Childhood and Adolescence Code, support to youth initiatives and participation and sensitizing campaigns.
- Indigenous and Afro Colombian communities are benefited through productive, cultural and educational projects.

9. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Please see attached financial report