

# INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING PROGRAM TO SUPPORT CHILD EX-COMBATANS AND CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT RISK OF RECRUITMENT BY ILLEGAL ARMED GROUPS



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## Acronyms

<b>ACR</b>	Colombian Agency for Reintegration / <i>Agencia Colombiana para la Reintegración</i>
<b>AUC</b>	United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia / <i>Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia</i>
<b>BACRIM</b>	Emerging Criminal Gangs serving drug trafficking / <i>Bandas Criminales Emergentes</i>
<b>CAE</b>	Specialized Assistance Centers / <i>Centro de Atención Especializada</i>
<b>CH&amp;A</b>	Children and adolescents / <i>Niños, niñas y adolescentes (NNA)</i> <sup>1</sup>
<b>CHA&amp;Y</b>	Children, adolescents and youth / <i>Niños, niñas, adolescentes y jóvenes (NNAJ)</i> <sup>2</sup>
<b>CHS</b>	Disengaged Child Soldiers and Youth At-Risk of Recruitment Program / <i>Programa de Atención a Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes Desvinculados y Jóvenes en Riesgo de Reclutamiento (CHS)</i>
<b>CIPRUNA</b>	Inter-Sectoral Commission on the Prevention of Recruitment and Use of Children and Adolescents / <i>Comisión Intersectorial de Prevención del Reclutamiento y Utilización de Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes</i>
<b>COMPOS</b>	Municipal Council for Social Policy / <i>Consejos Municipales de Política Social</i>
<b>ELN</b>	National Liberation Army / <i>Ejército de Liberación Nacional</i>
<b>FARC</b>	Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia / <i>Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia</i>
<b>GOC</b>	Government of Colombia / <i>Gobierno Colombiano</i>
<b>IAG</b>	Illegal Armed Groups / <i>Grupos Armados Organizados al Margen de la Ley (GAOML)</i>
<b>ICBF</b>	Colombian Family Welfare Institute / <i>Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar</i>
<b>ICR</b>	Index on Reintegration Conditions / <i>Índice de Condiciones para la Reintegración</i>
<b>IGO</b>	Inspector General's Office / <i>Procuraduría General de la Nación</i>
<b>INGRUMA</b>	Indigenous Training Center INGRUMA / <i>Centro de Capacitación Indígena INGRUMA</i>
<b>MEN</b>	National Ministry of Education / <i>Ministerio de Educación Nacional</i>
<b>MIMA</b>	Integrated Model for Marketing and Business Administration / <i>Modelo Integral de Mercadeo y Administración de Empresas</i>
<b>MVRO</b>	Vulnerability, Risk and Opportunity Mapping / <i>Mapas de Vulnerabilidades, Riesgos y Oportunidades</i>
<b>PANDI</b>	Agency for Communications and Journalism Allied with Children, Social Development and Research / <i>Agencia de Comunicaciones Periodismo Aliado de la Niñez, el Desarrollo Social y la Investigación</i>
<b>PPP</b>	Productive Educational Projects / <i>Proyectos Pedagógicos Productivos</i>
<b>SAT</b>	Early Warning System / <i>Sistema de Alertas Tempranas (SAT)</i>
<b>SENA</b>	National Apprenticeship System / <i>Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje</i>
<b>SNBF</b>	National System for Family Welfare / <i>Sistema Nacional de Bienestar Familiar</i>
<b>UNAL</b>	National University of Colombia / <i>Universidad Nacional de Colombia</i>

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<sup>1</sup> The ICBF Assistance Program is focused on minors: children and adolescents (CH&A).

<sup>2</sup> Recruitment prevention activities include working with children, adolescents and youth (CHA&Y).

## 1. Executive Summary Context

The strategic objective of the **Disengaged Child Soldiers and Youth at Risk of Recruitment Program (CHS)** for the period of October 2011 to December 2015 is to strengthen the capacity of the Government of Colombia (GOC) to assist disengaged child soldiers and youth at risk. Four intermediate results (IR) contribute to the achievement of this objective:

- **IR 1** – The Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF) implements policies for disengaged child soldiers
- **IR 2** – The GOC implements policies to reduce vulnerabilities to recruitment in high risk areas
- **IR 3** – ICBF and the Inter-Sectoral Commission on the Prevention of Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers (CIPRUNA) improve knowledge management
- **IR 4** – Monitoring, tracking and knowledge management

This report presents the key achievements, progress and activities carried out during **Q2 of FY 2015** (from January 1 to March 31, 2015) under the results framework established in the Work Plan and PMEP, approved by USAID in January 2015. **Significant progress** achieved during the quarter includes the following:

**IR 1 – Assistance efforts** focused on development of a **joint work plan** in coordination with the ICBF Protection Directorate technical team and the Reestablishment of Rights Sub-Directorate and the National System for Family Welfare (SNBF). This new work plan will conclude some actions from the 2014 USAID Work Plan and will also implement a series of new strategies to strengthen the ICBF Assistance Program for disengaged CH&A, to strengthen community-based reintegration efforts (based on *social inclusion*) and to promote participation processes for CH&A victims of the armed conflict. Progress was made on community-based models in Norte del Cauca (indigenous model) and Bogotá (urban model), and Meta, Caquetá and Antioquia regions were targeted to create and implement new *socio-familiar and community-based models*. A joint work plan was also established with the Victims Unit. A total of **59 children and adolescents** (CH&A) disengaged from illegal armed groups (IAG) enrolled in the ICBF Assistance Program during the quarter.

**IR 2 – Prevention activities** development of a **joint work plan** with CIPRUNA's Technical Secretariat to track implementation of 15 local prevention plans developed in 2013 and develop and implement prevention initiatives within the framework of local-level strengthening of civil society institutions. CHS participated in various inter-institutional management scenarios for development and strengthening of recruitment prevention themes. A variety of prevention projects continued to contribute to the strengthening of the Prevention of Recruitment Policy at the local level. A number of Memorandums of Understanding were developed between CHS and partner institutions.

**IR 3 – Peace pedagogy activities** including the publishing of a book, *Pedagogy for a Sustainable Peace: Constructing citizenship, democracy and equity*, the product of a consultancy carried out in 2014. CHS is working on finalizing another 13 documents on *A stable and lasting peace, responsive to children, adolescents and youth*, with a tentative launch date of May. A state of art document called *“Restorative justice as a transitional justice model for CH&A victims”* was created, and the project development stage began to strengthen the Judicial Branch on childhood and gender issues.

**IR 4 – Knowledge management** focused on the continued development of the CHS Documentation Center. To date, 246 publications and digital documents have been included, organized and classified as relevant research material. The CIPRUNA Technical Secretariat Observatory presented significant progress regarding quantitative, qualitative and geographical information generation about the armed conflict dynamics, with a special emphasis on recruitment, use and sexual violence against children and adolescents. The International Experts on CH&A Reintegration Technical Workshop was organized and planned during this quarter, to take place next quarter. A series of reflections were produced around migration, childhood and adolescence as a consequence of the

Childhood and Migration Bulletins. During the quarter, in total, 6 publications were developed by the ICBF Child Welfare Observatory, and 5 Bulletins on Migration and Childhood and 1 document on Peace Pedagogy were produced by the CHS Program.

Implementation of the CHS Program has been impacted by a number of **challenging circumstances**. Despite being in the second quarter of execution of the USAID Project, the timeline for the joint work plan and internal changes in the ICBF made the implementation of activities difficult. However, CHS simultaneously initiated the process of coordinating activities through permanent technical meetings with the ICBF in order to explain the origins of the project, distribute the results achieved in 2013, and explore future needs in terms of strengthening this institution.

Finally, in the context of ongoing peace negotiations between the GOC and the FARC, it is necessary to continue to identify technical and financial resources to help ICBF to respond to a potential **massive disengagement and reintegration** of disengaged CH&A and at the same time to strengthen and further develop issues associated with **peace pedagogy** and **peace culture** in the context of new needs concerning reconciliation and the reconstruction of the social fabric.

**Priorities for the next quarter** include advancing in the implementation of joint work plans, consolidating the design and implementation of community attention and reintegration models, continuing to strengthen the CIPRUNA technical secretariat for monitoring of 15 local recruitment prevention plans, and advance in the creation of analytical documents related to peace pedagogy and the process of distributing these documents at the regional level.

## 2. Context

During this quarter, peace negotiations continued between the Government of Colombia (GOC) and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). Within this framework, and in order to promote a “de-escalation” of the conflict, the GOC made two announcements. First, it ordered a one-month cessation of bombing campaigns against FARC camps.<sup>3</sup> Second, both parties announced an agreement to ask the Norwegian People’s Aid Organization to lead and coordinate de-mining project in rural areas<sup>4</sup>.

On February 12<sup>th</sup>, the International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers, FARC made two announcements. First, it announced its commitment to stop recruiting children under 17 and denied the fact they have ever forcibly recruited any minors. This decision is based on the Optional Protocol of the Convention on the Rights of the Child regarding CH&A engagement in armed conflicts. In addition, the FARC quoted its recruitment law, which does not allow recruitment of children under 15 years of age, implying that engagement in the group is completely “personal, voluntary and conscious” between 15 and 30 years of age.

President Juan Manuel Santos considered this announcement as a positive but not sufficient step towards a de-escalation of the conflict, regarding the situation of children and adolescents (CH&A).<sup>5</sup> For this reason, he called for an acceleration of the Havana peace process, considering dialogue as the fastest way to end child recruitment. The Director of the Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF) also celebrated the announcement made by the FARC, considering it an important step toward achieving peace, but requested an immediate liberation of CH&A recruited who belong already to the armed group<sup>6</sup>.

A second announcement was made by the FARC, alias “Iván Marquez”, regarding forced recruitment: the decision to “disengage” a group of 15 year old children belonging to the group as “refugees.” However, he also declared that there are only 13 children with this condition currently inside the group, a number that is significantly lower than those estimated by ICBF.<sup>7</sup>

Despite these announcements, the FARC and ELN continue to recruit children under 11 according to a report by the Ministry of Defense, and recruitment rates have actually risen in some departments because these groups use children to replace other combatants who die or demobilize. For example, recruitment figures remain constant in departments like Antioquia, Cauca, Norte de Santander and Tolima. The Ministry stated that the number of CH&A inside the groups is high while recognizing that there are no reliable figures available; the most reliable information available is on the numbers of disengaged CH&A. As an example, ICBF information for 2014 estimates there are about 2,263 minors in the FARC,<sup>8</sup> while a Ministry report states about 4,100 CH&A left guerrilla and other criminal groups between 2000 and 2014.<sup>9</sup>

Likewise, the Agency for Communications and Journalism Allied with Children, Social Development and Research (PANDI) released a report about children as victims within armed conflicts. The numbers indicate that 78% of

<sup>3</sup> “Suspensión de bombardeos no es un cese bilateral al fuego disfrazado”, El Tiempo, Marzo 11 2015, <http://www.eltiempo.com/politica/proceso-de-paz/cese-de-bombardeos-a-las-farc-habla-de-la-calle/15376675>

<sup>4</sup> “Tras anuncio de desminado, piden más pasos para el desescalamiento del conflicto”, Marzo 9 2015, <http://www.elpais.com.co/elpais/judicial/noticias/tras-anuncio-desminado-piden-pasos-para-desescalamiento-conflicto>

<sup>5</sup> “FARC: “No reclutaremos menores de 17 años”, Semana, Febrero 12 2015 <http://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/farc-anuncian-que-no-reclutaran-menores-de-17-anos/417677-3>

<sup>6</sup> “Derechos de niños y adolescentes no son negociables: ICBF a anuncio de las Farc”, El Espectador, Febrero 13 2015), <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/paz/derechos-de-ninos-y-adolescentes-no-son-negociables-icbf-articulo-543877>

<sup>7</sup> “Las Farc afirman que sólo tienen 13 menores de 15 años mientras que el ICBF se prepara para recibir a más de 2.000 menores de 18 años en una eventual desmovilización del grupo guerrillero. Ahora las Bacrim reclutan más niños que las guerrillas”, Verdad Abierta, Febrero 23 2015, <http://www.verdadabierta.com/victimas-seccion/reclutamiento-de-menores/5629-cuantos-ninos-hay-en-la-guerra>

<sup>8</sup> “El ICBF estableció que 2263 menores de edad están en la filas de las Farc”, Caracol Radio, February 24 2015, [http://colombia.mmi-e.com/portal/tmp/zona\\_5/mm/20150224LA08.WMA](http://colombia.mmi-e.com/portal/tmp/zona_5/mm/20150224LA08.WMA)

<sup>9</sup> “Guerrillas siguen reclutando niños desde los 11 años: Mindefensa”, Caracol Radio, February 12 2015, <http://www.caracol.com.co/noticias/actualidad/guerrillas-siguen-reclutando-ninos-desde-los-11-anos-mindefensa/20150212/nota/2630046.aspx>

children once engaged in illegal armed groups have faced at least one situation in which their lives were at risk, while more than 70% of girls engaged in these criminal groups started their sex life before the age of 14.<sup>10</sup> According to the Victims Unit, 7,722 CH&A were registered as victims of recruitment between 1985 and 2014.

Despite this rise in recruitment numbers, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) revealed that 619 children entered the ICBF Assistance Program for disengaged CH&A during January 2013. In one of its reports about humanitarian trends, there is evidence of 452 children (73%) who left the FARC since the Havana process started.<sup>11</sup>

Forced recruitment is not the only kind of violence faced by CH&A. In Santander, the number of youth being recruited for micro trafficking has risen. According to three different Police information sources, 173 youth were captured in 2014 and 67 in the first three months of 2015 for micro trafficking. Most of the cases were reported in Bucaramanga: 66 youth were arrested in 2014 and already 42 have been captured in this first quarter of this year – which represents almost 63% of the total captures the whole of the last year.<sup>12</sup>

In this quarter, the International Criminal Court (ICC) visited Colombia and announced its concern for the peace process, warning the GOC about the need to guarantee a minimum level of justice for victims, especially in relation to the crimes against humanity committed within the context of the armed conflict. To help achieve this minimum level of justice, the ICC announced its interest in working in Colombia to provide direct advice to the Inspector General's office, not only on the crimes that directly concerns the ICC but also on those related to child recruitment, kidnapping and massacres.<sup>13</sup>

The Committee on the Rights of the Child stated that high rates of child recruitment continue in Colombia, with many of these children and adolescents still being persecuted as criminals rather than as victims. During January, this Committee carried out a periodic review of Colombia and requested that the country work to avoid this situation by any means, including legal reforms, especially in the most affected regions.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> 7.722 niños fueron víctimas de reclutamiento forzado entre 1985 y 2014", La Opinión, Febrero 15 2015 [http://colombia.mmi-e.com/portal/tmp/zona\\_5/pdf/20150215OP011.PDF](http://colombia.mmi-e.com/portal/tmp/zona_5/pdf/20150215OP011.PDF)

<sup>11</sup> "Se han desvinculado 452 niños de las Farc", Diario del Sur, Marzo 25 2015, [http://colombia.mmi-e.com/portal/tmp/zona\\_5/pdf/20150325DS004.PDF](http://colombia.mmi-e.com/portal/tmp/zona_5/pdf/20150325DS004.PDF)

<sup>12</sup> "Se dispara reclutamiento de jóvenes para el microtráfico", El Tiempo, Marzo 18 2015, <http://www.eltiempo.com/colombia/otras-ciudades/aumenta-reclutamiento-de-jovenes/15423195>

<sup>13</sup> "Corte Penal Internacional pone los ojos en el proceso de paz", Caracol Radio, February 4 2015, <http://www.caracol.com.co/noticias/actualidad/corte-penal-internacional-pone-los-ojos-en-el-proceso-de-paz/20150204/nota/2617275.aspx>

<sup>14</sup> "ONU alerta que continúa reclutamiento infantil en Colombia", El Espectador, Febrero 04 2015 <http://www.elespectador.com/noticias/politica/onu-alerta-continua-reclutamiento-infantil-colombia-articulo-541946>

### 3. Progress made against indicators and targets during the reporting period

The table below shows progress made against indicators for the strategic objective, each intermediate result and each sub-intermediate result during the reporting period, along with the cumulative progress made throughout the fiscal year:

Result Number	Indicator Name (#)	Target 2015	Progress in this Period	Cumulative Progress	Observations
DO - 2	# of child soldiers identified (1)	260	59	134	During the quarter, <b>59 disengaged CH&amp;A were new beneficiaries</b> of the ICBF Assistance Program: 41 boys (73%) and 18 girls (27%); 10 afro-Colombian (16%) and 13 from indigenous groups (19%); 8 between 12-14 years (39%), 50 between 15-17 years (57%), and 1 older than 17 years (4%). <b>Progress against the indicator:</b> <b>In total, 56% of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved.</b>
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	% of disengaged child soldiers receiving tailored services (2)	10%	2%	25%	In relation to progress made in the incorporation of a differential approach, of the 59 new beneficiaries assisted by the ICBF Assistance Program during the quarter, <b>41 CH&amp;A received tailored services</b> using a differential approach (gender, ethnicity). In total, <b>2%</b> of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved. Since community-based models were still in the initial design, planning and coordination phase, CH&A have not yet been assisted through community-based models. <b>Progress against the indicator:</b> <b>In total, 25% of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved</b>
	# of youth at risk that benefit from prevention strategies (3)	10,000	274	1,597	During the reporting period, <b>274 CH&amp;A at risk of recruitment</b> were new beneficiaries of prevention activities carried out by CIPRUNA's Technical Secretariat with support from CHS. <b>Progress against the indicator:</b> <b>In total, 15% of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved.</b>
	% of institutional strengthening for operations of the ICBF Assistance Program and CIPRUNA (4)	70%	38%	38%	<b>Progress against the indicator:</b> During the first semester of FY 2015, institutional strengthening reaches <b>38%</b> . This is due to the fact that the CHS Program continues to provide technical and financial resources for assistance to disengaged CH&A in the context of the Victims Law and peacebuilding processes and recruitment prevention processes in target high-risk areas.

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<b>IR 1</b>	# of disengaged CH&A receiving assistance through socio-familiar and community-based models (5)	<b>500</b>	59	134	<p>During the reporting period, 59 new beneficiaries were assisted by the ICBF Assistance Program (<i>socio-familiar model</i>): 41 boys (69%) and 18 girls (31%); 10 afro-Colombians (17%) and 13 from indigenous groups (22%); 8 were between 12-14 years old (13%); 50 between 15-17 years (85%); and 1 were over 17 years of age (2%). 35 were in primary school (60%), 15 in secondary school (25%), 3 in vocational school (5%) and 6 were not in school (10%). Disengaged CH&amp;A, CH&amp;A victims and CH&amp;A from the community have yet to be assisted by the <i>community-based model</i>, as the model is in the initial phases of the process. <b>Progress against the indicator:</b>  <b>In total, 44% of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved.</b></p>
<b>IR 1.1</b>	# of community models implemented (6)	<b>3</b>	0	0	<p>During the reporting period, no quantitative progress was made against the indicator for this sub-intermediate result, given that implementation is only considered complete once all of the four steps are completed, as established in the PMP (work plan creation, work plan validation with communities, design of a community-based model, and follow-up). Still, progress was made through the completion of step three (Designing the community-based model, its monitoring and follow up) for the two community-based models (indigenous groups, women victims) that CHS worked on during the quarter in Toribio and the city of Bogotá.</p>
<b>IR 2</b>	% of CH&A in high risk areas, with basic rights guaranteed (7)	<b>10% more</b>	0%	0%	<p>Progress against this indicator will be reported in the final quarter (Q4 of FY 2015), in accordance with the results framework, after collecting and analyzing the initial and final surveys (verification of rights).</p>
<b>IR 2.1</b>	# of prevention plans with implementation monitored (8)	<b>27</b>	0	12	<p>During the quarter, although no quantitative progress was made against the indicator, CHS made progress in the monitoring of the 15 local prevention plans that were implemented in FY 2014</p>
<b>IR 3</b>	# of people who participate in processes to share knowledge products on peace pedagogy (9)	<b>150</b>	0	65	<p>During this quarter, no quantitative progress was made against the indicator for this sub-intermediate result.  <b>Progress against the indicator:</b>  <b>In total, 43% of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved.</b></p>

<b>IR 4</b>	# of analyses produced and forums held (16)	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	During the quarter, 6 publications were developed by the ICBF Child Welfare Observatory. 5 Bulletins on Migration and Childhood, and 1 document on Peace Pedagogy were produced by the CHS Program. <b><u>Progress against the indicator:</u></b> In total, <b>60%</b> of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved.
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#### 4. Progress made towards realizing intermediate results

##### **Strategic Objective: Strengthen GOC capacity to assist disengaged child soldiers and youth at risk**

CHS maintained the same first **three indicators** used by USAID to track progress across its global programs. All are directly related to the intermediate results established in the new Work Plan and Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (PMEP) and respond to the strategic objective of the CHS Program. The following results were achieved in this quarter:

**# of child soldiers identified (Indicator 1):** During the quarter, **59 disengaged CH&A were new beneficiaries** of the ICBF Assistance Program for disengaged CH&A: 41 boys (73%), 18 girls (27%); 10 afro-Colombians (16%) and 13 from indigenous groups (19%); 8 were 12-14 years old (39%), 50 were 15-17 years old (57%) and 1 was older than 17 years (4%). *During the quarter 33% of the target for FY 2015 was achieved, with accumulated progress of **56% of the target** achieved to date for FY 2015 (134 CH&A disengaged in total).*

**% of disengaged child soldiers receiving tailored services (Indicator 2):** In relation to progress made in the incorporation of a differential approach, of the 59 new beneficiaries assisted by the ICBF Assistance Program during the quarter, **41 CH&A received tailored services** using a differential approach (gender, ethnicity). In total, **2%** of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved. Since community-based models were still in the initial design, planning and coordination phase, CH&A have not yet been assisted through community-based models. **In total, 25% of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved.**

**# of youth at risk that benefit from prevention strategies (Indicator 3):** During the quarter, **274 CHA&Y** at risk of recruitment were new beneficiaries of prevention activities carried out by CIPRUNA's Technical Secretariat with the support of CHS. *In total, **15% of the target** was achieved (1,596 against the target of 10,000 CH&A).*

**% of institutional strengthening for the operations of the ICBF Assistance Program and CIPRUNA (Indicator 4):** During the first semester of FY 2015, this indicator reached **38%**. This is due to the fact that the CHS Program continues to provide technical and financial resources for assistance to disengaged CH&A in the context of the Victims Law and peacebuilding processes and recruitment prevention processes in target high-risk areas.

##### **IR 1 – ICBF and communities implement socio-familial and community-based assistance models for CH&A**

During this quarter a **joint work plan** was developed and agreed upon, in coordination with the ICBF Protection Directorate technical team and the Reestablishment of Rights Sub-Directorate and the National System for Family

Welfare (SNBF), responding to the identifying technical and financial needs of ICBF and in order to achieve the expected results under the USAID Work Plan. This new work plan will conclude some actions from the 2014 USAID Work Plan and will also implement a series of new strategies to strengthen the ICBF Assistance Program for disengaged CH&A, to strengthen community-based reintegration efforts (based on *social inclusion*) and to promote participation processes for CH&A victims of the armed conflict (*See Annex 1*).

Progress was also made on implementation of community-based models in Norte del Cauca (indigenous model) and Bogotá (urban model). Likewise, Meta, Caquetá and Antioquia regions were targeted to build and implement new *socio-familiar and community-based models*, achieving the identification of the main areas of work and the initiation of a consultation process with strategic partners. These new models complement the ones already in use by the ICBF Assistance Program, and strengthen the reestablishment of rights and social inclusion processes of disengaged CH&A.

With the Victims Unit, a joint work plan was also established to promote reflective processes and create space for discussions about the participation of CH&A victims, in order to help position this topic within agendas and create conditions in which the voices and opinions of CH&A victims can be heard and taken into account (*See Annex 2*).

**Progress made:** During the reporting period, **59 new beneficiaries** were assisted by the ICBF Assistance Program (*socio-familiar model*): 41 boys (69%) and 18 girls (31%); 10 afro-Colombians (17%) and 13 from indigenous groups (22%); 8 were between 12-14 years old (13%); 50 between 15-17 years (85%); and 1 were over 17 years of age (2%). 35 were in primary school (60%), 15 in secondary school (25%), 3 in vocational school (5%) and 6 were not in school (10%). Disengaged CH&A, CH&A victims and CH&A from the community have yet to be assisted by the *community-based model*, as the model is in the initial phases of the process. **Progress against the indicator:** In total, **44% of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved.**

During the reporting period, 59 new disengaged CH&A entered the ICBF Assistance Program: 41 boys (69%) and 18 girls (31%); 10 afro-Colombians (17%) and 13 from indigenous groups (22%); 8 were between 12-14 years old (13%); 50 between 15-17 years (85%) and 1 was over 17 years of age (2%). 35 were in primary school (60%), 15 in secondary school (25%), 3 in vocational school (5%) and 6 were not in school (10%).

During this quarter, 365 disengaged were assisted through the ICBF Assistance Program (socio-familiar model): 214 boys (59%) and 151 girls (41%); 52 afro-Colombians (14%) and 76 from indigenous groups (20%); 26 were between 12-14 years old (7%); 238 between 15-17 years (65%) and 101 were over 17 years of age (28%). 225 were in primary school (62%), 97 in secondary school (27%), 16 in vocational school (4%) and 27 were not in school (7%). Disengaged CH&A, CH&A victims and CH&A from the community have yet to be assisted by the community-based model, as the model is in the initial phases of the process.

### ***IR 1.1: Comprehensive community-based reparation models for CH&A are implemented***

During this quarter, the CHS Program made progress on the conceptualization of community-based models and the territorial-level management required for implementation, through agreements reached with communities and strategic partners. Progress was also made in the implementation of community-based models in Bogotá (urban model) and Norte del Cauca (indigenous model). Additional community-models were planned:

two in Caquetá and one in Meta. The first has an educational and Productive Educational Projects (PPP) component while the second is based on forgiveness and reconciliation with support of civil society (*See Annex 3*).

**Project title: “Community-based model for assisting CH&A who disengage from illegal armed groups, from the Nasa indigenous group”**

A joint work plan was agreed upon to develop a model, in coordination with the target communities and the strategic partners supporting the project. Encouraged by the exercise, the community took advantage of the *family tulpa*, a space for dialogue among families, and the visits made by the technical team to present their productive initiatives along the various paths of the eco-tourism route. New stops along the route and some of its sub-components were presented and shared with CH&A and their families, with the objective of including them in specific sub-projects (*minor species production, lodging, family tulpa, handicrafts, and trout fishing and production, among others*).

Currently, the information obtained through the family tulpa and visit carried out by the technical visits is being analyzed. The proposals to be included in the eco-touristic route will be selected based on the above process, and then the CHS Program will provide technical support to strengthen community management capacities, in order to support the project’s sustainability. Coordination arrangements were developed with the Toribio Indigenous Council and Nasa Projects as well as with the Mayor’s Office Project working in the Isabelilla River basin through the Family Commission (*Family component*).

A thought center (*minga de pensamiento*) was constructed to include 50 disengaged youth and raise awareness among the community about the multiple implications of CH&A recruitment in the armed conflict and their needs for reestablishment of rights and social inclusion processes. Currently there are 500 CH&A from the community, 50 CH&A victims and 200 families targeted to be part of the project and to contribute to the social inclusion, reconciliation and social network reconstruction processes.

To clarify concerns and doubts and coordinate local-level actions to implement the project, a meeting was held with representatives of local and indigenous authorities: Council, Mayor’s Office, Nasa Project Representatives and the Association of Northern Cauca’s Indigenous Cabildos (ACIN). The following issues were discussed:

- The ACIN delegate explained the context of the project. He stated that he was aware of the fact that the community itself had asked the CHS Program for technical and financial assistance to strengthen their ten-years work in the Isabelilla River basin. Currently, they expect that the 172 FARC combatants they have identified can return to civilian life through the ongoing community-based model.
- The Indigenous Council Governor reaffirmed his commitment as the community authority and assured that they are committed to actively participate in the project.
- The Nasa Project coordinator shared the background of the work carried out with CEDIDIC for more than six years and recognized the existence of internal problems among the indigenous groups. He apologized to the CHS Program and asked them to continue supporting the Norte del Cauca Indigenous Child Observatory.
- The Government Secretariat confirmed his support for the project through coordination of work with the Mayor’s Office on a royalties’ project for psychosocial families’ assistance.

**Project title: “Community-based model to prevent and assist CH&A victims of sexual violence, recruitment and use, with the leadership of women and adolescent victims of sexual violence”**

The hiring process with Corporation MSMP (*Mujer Sigue mis Pasos*, “Women, Follow my Footsteps”) advanced for the implementation of the community-based model in Bogotá. As leaders of the strategy, three women victims of

sexual violence and two youth victims of recruitment were chosen. CHS continued to give technical support to strengthen institutional capacities of the Corporation.

A graphic was proposed to raise awareness among society about the impact of recruitment and sexual violence in the armed conflict. The project, carried out jointly with Challenger Foundation, also had the goal of increasing visibility of the co-responsibility of State, families and society in the reconciliation and peace building processes.

Support was given to issue the Decree on the “Intersectoral Guarantee Commission for Women Leaders and Human Rights Defendants and regulates different aspects related to the Comprehensive Guarantee Program for Women Leaders and Human Rights Defendants”, within the context of promoting legal advances regarding sexual violence, recruitment and use of CH&A. This decree aims to adapt the Comprehensive Guarantee Program in favor of these specific women and their children who have to face risks and threats because of their struggles.

A collective complaint workshop was supported in Nariño, through training processes for women, girls and young women victims of sexual violence on issues such as human rights and psychosocial support. During the workshop 59 complaints were presented (52 from women and 7 from men). Of these, 19 came from CH&A (12 from girls and 7 from boys). The ICBF also participated to support reestablishment of rights processes.

During this quarter a consultant was hired to identify institutional and social processes regarding experiences of assistance for sexual violence, recruitment and illegal use cases. The goal was to build community-based models for CH&A in order to promote institutional change processes and support the victims of these crimes to build transitional justice proposals and to access justice. The following actions were carried out within this work:

- Support was provided to prepare a report by the National Gender Commission of the Judicial Branch (CNG) and to elaborate a document for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. As a result, an agreement letter was prepared by the Technical Committee and the re-elected Magistrate, to elaborate a transitional justice proposal regarding gender crimes like sexual violence, family violence, recruitment and illegal use of CH&A.
- The consultant hired by CHS attended meetings between Corporation MSMP representatives and the ICBF Directorate, within the framework of institutional strengthening. The ICBF gave structural support during the workshops to develop the following actions: **i)** Carrying out collective workshops to denounce and register sexual violence cases; **ii)** Developing transitional justice proposals; **iii)** Implementing community-based models for post-conflict prevention of sexual violence, recruitment and use of CH&A.
- The process of reviewing cases presented through the collective workshops is currently being supported, especially those included in the Annex of the Constitutional Court 009 Decree of 2015 (*60% of these annexed cases were presented by the Corporation MSMP*).
- The consultant also participated in a UN WOMEN conference on transitional justice challenges in peace building led by experts Daniela Kravetz and Patricia Sellers. Part of the debate was about the challenges for institutions to correctly apply the Justice and Peace Law on behalf of women and CH&A.
- Support was also provided for alliances between Corporation MSMP and private companies, such as the Challenger Foundation and DELIMA.

**Project title: “Civil society community-based model for reconciliation, peace building and social reintegration of CH&A disengaged from illegal armed groups”**

During the reporting period, an agreement was reached with the Agape Foundation to develop a community-based model for reconciliation, peace building and social reintegration of disengaged CH&A in the municipalities of Villavicencio and Cumaral. The following guidelines were established to develop the project:

- **Facilitate reconciliation and civil society reparation processes:** Reconciliation must be achieved through

the restoration of trusting relations, peaceful coexistence, and recognition and restitution of human rights. An initial forgiveness and reconciliation process must complement the inclusion model within a structure of meetings for symbolic reparation, led by the civil society and with the participation of victims, disengaged CH&A and freed members of public security forces. An ongoing communication and awareness raising campaign will also be held with the community, to prepare for the post-conflict.

- **Promoting peace pedagogy, with CH&A as peace promoters:** Disengaged CH&A will be active members of reconciliation processes, with a special importance due to their double condition of criminals and victims. Their presence, participation and testimonies transform them into reconciliation agents, who can invite a peace dialogue capable of transforming the existing perceptions and representations.
- **Identification, sensitivity and preparation of “families in solidarity”:** Families willing to participate and voluntarily accept disengaged CH&A must be identified, so they can support the development of life plans and goals within a loving and protective environment.
- **Social inclusion of disengaged CH&A:** Disengaged CH&A can play an active role in social reconstruction processes if reconciliation is seen as an inclusive process and CH&A are included in community processes.

**Project title: “Community-based rapid impact strategy for assisting children and adolescents in a post-conflict scenario”**

A document that proposes the implementation of a *Community-based rapid impact strategy for assisting children and adolescents in a post-conflict scenario* is currently in the final review and design phase, to be published as a bulletin next quarter. This document aims to serve as a tool to promote community-based reestablishment of rights processes and comprehensive protection of CH&A from vulnerable communities or victims of the armed conflict. Likewise, it aims to help create and strengthen family, community and local prevention environments, and to strengthen civil society within a framework of co-responsibility for CH&A protection based on an approach of reconciliation and promotion of peacebuilding processes.

***Progress made:** During the reporting period, no quantitative progress was made against the indicator for this sub-intermediate result, given that implementation is only considered complete once all of the four steps are completed, as established in the PEMP (work plan creation, work plan validation with communities, design of a community-based model, and follow-up). Still, progress was made through the completion of step three (designing the community-based model, monitoring and follow-up) for the two community-based models (indigenous groups, women victims) that CHS worked on during the quarter in Toribio and the city of Bogotá.*

**The following results regarding institutional strengthening were also achieved within the ICBF *joint work plan* framework:**

The services contract to develop with the Montserrat Clinic the strategy of **mental health assistance for children and adolescents victims of illegal recruitment** was signed, and the initial meeting was held with ICBF, resulting in approval of Areas of action and identification of focal points for each institution. A first technical meeting was also carried out; the ICBF Assistance Program was presented to the Montserrat Clinic team and the work plan for the first technical workshop on assistance pathways was defined.

Coordinated efforts continued with the ICBF Protection Directorate and the UGRTD to **adapt the land restitution segment of Law 1448 of 2011 and its obligatory decrees for CH&A**. The objective process is to align it to the

UGRTD technical and graphic approach for its children's webpage, to present a unified institutional message to CH&A beneficiaries, their families and public servants throughout the process.

PANDI and the Victims Unit are also now lending support to this institutional goal. They will support the content adaptation process and the validation among CH&A as active actors. They will also share the product at local levels and especially among isolated communities, where access to technology is limited and there is an urgent need for educational and recreational content.

The publication process of the **Meaningful Reparations Toolbox** was completed. This document is a working methodology aimed at professionals involved in reestablishment of rights processes, and those involved in assistance and comprehensive reparation for CH&A victims of the conflict. The narratives it provides help to support and strengthen this population as subjects of rights, which has the objective of giving a meaning to the comprehensive reparation. This tool box complements and widens the contents of *Meaningful Reparation: Guide to promote the meaning construction around comprehensive reparation in children and adolescents victims of illegal recruitment*. It is composed of four booklets: *i) The compass*, a guide about how to carry out activities with CH&A proposed in the other three booklets; *ii) Let's look over the past*, enabling a closer look at to the memories of CH&A who have suffered the consequences of the armed conflict; *iii) Let's place ourselves in the present*, facilitating the exploration of the present along with CH&A, to help CH&A victims give meaning to the comprehensive reparations process; *iv) Let's walk towards the future*, a guide to promote narratives between CH&A so they can make plans, dream, imagine and form expectations based on what they think about themselves, about their environments and the opportunities they can access as subjects of rights (*See Annex XX*). By training the professionals who work in the psychosocial teams and family attorney's offices continuity actions for the Tool Box usage were defined during this period.

A first Technical Committee was carried out to work in the urban area of Necoclí and rural areas of Bobal, El Totumo and San Sebastián, within the framework of the **Justice and Peace project: a pedagogical process for the Necoclí municipality in Antioquia, responding to the sentence against Fredy Rendón Herrera (alias "El Alemán")**. Implementation of the work plan began, with identification and training of community leaders, sharing the project among public institutions and the selection of target CH&A in nearby municipalities (which faced process multiple difficulties due to a lack of current demographic information). An information gathering process was also started using the Vulnerability, Risk and Opportunity Mapping (MVRO) methodology, with the participation of 141 CH&A, 27 people from the community and 5 public servants. Participants identified and described threats, risks and opportunities present in their municipality, as well as protective environments that can be strengthened by the project. CHS continues to support coordination processes between ACR, Victims Unit, ICBF and the Mayor's Office within the Fredy Rendón sentence framework.

Last year ICB, the Victims Unit and IOM created a Resolution on the **Protocol for Children and Adolescents Victims' Participation**, which became a powerful tool to increase visibility of CH&A victims. There is a need for the creation of spaces for listening to and taking into account CH&A voices, and reflective processes are needed around the importance of the issue. Within this framework, a **joint work plan** with the Victims Unit was created, which establishes actions to articulate the differential approach for CH&Y within comprehensive reparations processes. The following action lines were agreed upon:

- Linking the differential approach (childhood, adolescence and youth) with other differential approaches during the comprehensive reparation implementation.
- Carrying out two national encounters of children for peace, socialize their proposals and form the "children playing for peace" initiative.
- Strengthening the "adolescents and youth peace builders" network through four regional encounters, which will allow the Protocol empowerment.

- Implementation of the Protocol for Children and Adolescents victims' participation in target areas.
- Strengthening scenarios that promote rights guarantee and protection, and participation of CH&A victims within a peace and reconciliation culture framework.

The implementation of these action lines allow the direct participation of 500 CH&A in Guajira, Bolívar, Nariño, Córdoba, Chocó, Antioquia, Cauca, Caquetá, Norte de Santander and Cundinamarca (Bogotá). It also promotes the strengthening of the participation programs led by the Victims Unit and ICBF.

With the Challenger Foundation, CHS provided technical assistance to the Intercultural Thought Center “*Shush Urek Kusreik Ya*” (Learning House for Little Children). This project provides comprehensive assistance to children of early childhood, mostly from the Misak Indigenous group, under the guidelines and standards of the Social Integration District Secretariat (SDIS). Jointly with the Foundation, and according to needs identified by the Thought Center, the following action lines were established:

- Design of a proposal for the district that integrates quality standards accordingly to the worldview and beliefs of the Misak indiegneous group. The aim is to provide answers for comprehensive assistance according to operational guidelines, in accordance with their ethnic identity and habits.
- Designing a proposal for children to transition to the formal education system.
- Developing a training process for families that combines a educational work with adolescents and youth and working with families, and which integrates the Thought Center operational model.

A technical team with Challenger Foundation, Thought Center and IOM participants will be formed to consolidate a proposal, to be presented to the district. The proposal will be agreed with the Guambian Indigenous Council to guarantee the Misak Group participation and approval, and the sustainability of the proposal implementation in order to replicate it.

## **IR 2 – GOC and communities generate knowledge management on pedagogical strategies for building peace with a focus on CH&A**

### ***IR 2 Number of CH&A in high-risk areas whose basic rights are guaranteed***

During this quarter, development of the **joint work plan** continued with CIPRUNA's Technical Secretariat to track implementation of 15 local prevention plans developed in 2013 and develop and implement prevention initiatives within the framework of local-level strengthening of civil society institutions.

***Progress made: Progress against this indicator will be reported in the final quarter (Q4 of FY 2015), in accordance with the results framework, after collecting and analyzing the initial and final surveys (verification of rights).***

### ***IR 2.1 Targeted high-risk areas have territorial prevention plans***

During this quarter, the Inspector General's Office and CHS supported development of a process to track and strengthen the 12 local prevention plans created in Antioquia with the support and leadership of Governor in 2014, carried out within the framework of the public accountability process.

The following actions were implemented within a framework of strengthening CIPRUNA's Technical Secretariat: i) Transferring public policies and identifying assistance routes, with a special emphasis on municipalities targeted in 2014, in order to elaborate and implement local prevention plans; ii) Review of the modification to the 0552

Decree (2012); iii) Prioritization exercise for 2015.

During this quarter, CHS participated in various inter-institutional management scenarios for development and strengthening of recruitment prevention themes:

- Departmental Recruitment Prevention Working Group, with the Office of the Governor of Cesar.
- Technical meeting with Huila Governor's Office and CIPRUNA's Technical Secretariat to ensure support on the development of prevention themes.
- Technical meeting with ICB, Victims Unit and CIPRUNA's Technical Secretariat to design and adjust contingency mechanisms aimed at preparing for a hypothetical disengagement of CH&A from the FARC.
- Tracked progress on recommendations made by CIPRUNA's Technical Secretariat regarding recruitment prevention in Cumaribo.
- Technical meeting with the Valle del Cauca Departmental Planning Secretariat to include a rights-based and differential approach in the SIG process of strategic planning and in policy development.
- Tracking carried out on the Decree that established the Quibdó Prevention of Recruitment Working Group; a meeting was settled with the Childhood and Adolescence Police to get to know the 2015 action plan and coordinate actions with CIPRUNA Technical Secretariat. These different actors agreed to share the script worked in Itzimina for a play and for the radio program.

***Progress made:*** *During the quarter, although no quantitative progress was made against the indicator, CHS made progress in the monitoring of the 15 local prevention plans that were implemented in FY 2014.*

Additionally, the main results of the developing ***prevention projects*** that contribute to the strengthening of the Prevention of Recruitment Policy in the territory include the following:

**Project Title:** *ALIAS MARÍA, audiovisual and artistic platforms to promote protection of CHA&Y rights and prevent violations, particularly recruitment and use, in the context of the armed conflict*

During this quarter, audiovisual workshops were carried out in Meta with the participation of 30 CH&A between the ages of 12 and 17. These workshops provided tools for narrative creation, acting, art direction in a visual product, familiarity with the cameras and audiovisual language, postproduction and the experience of recording their own short film. This project allowed the consolidation of strategies for a positive use of free time as a measure to prevent recruitment of CH&A and to create protective environments.

**Project Title:** *Strengthen and develop skills among CHA&Y at risk of recruitment in Medellín*

A methodology was developed to systematize and design information registry formats. Two workshops were held to increase motivation and induction into the process, with the participation of 39 adolescents and youth. A timeline was created jointly with the implementing team and four sessions with the Historic Memory Unit were held. As a result of the project, adolescents and youth have gained bases for understanding concepts of historical memory and they learned the importance of working in community memory processes.

CHS also participated in the Departmental Childhood and Adolescence Working Group, providing support to the 2015 action plan review process. CHS also participated in the Recruitment Prevention Working Group by supporting the action plan design, specifically on prevention routes and the construction of the Decennial Plan of Early Childhood, Childhood and Adolescence for Medellín 2016-2028, a city model that aims to create in a 12 years period a process of support and protection of rights for and with children and adolescents in Medellín.

**Project Title:** *Youth Eco-tourism Guides*

Implementation of the *Youth Eco-tourism Guides* project continued during this quarter through joint efforts between the Puerto Bahía Foundation, Escuela Taller Foundation and Colpatría, with the goal of supporting and strengthening protective environments for CH&A through a construction of a park and renovating community soccer field, to decrease risks of engagement risk of CH&A in and use by criminal groups and illegal armed groups.

This project aims to beautify Bocachica Island, in order to support recovery of its cultural heritage and to ensure that CH&A will have recreational spaces where they can make positive use of their free time, and as a consequence, stay away from various types of violence. Within this framework, the following actions will be carried out through two activities and a delivery event: i) Construction of 250 square feet of a child park (preliminaries, foundations, concrete structure and landscaping); ii) adaptation of 1.200 square feet of the field (preliminaries, masonry, metal structure, stairs and landscaping); iii) Community event of work delivery.

To advance in the construction of these works in the island, a previous consultation was made with the Bocachica Community Council who gave their approval for the construction. The works will be completed within a month, led by the Cartagena Escuela Taller Foundation, which is involved in the recovery of local heritage sites.

**Project Title:** *Strengthening public policies for CH&A in Buenaventura and Jamundí (Valle del Cauca)*

In Buenaventura, the technical assistance process continued with support for the development of the public policy on children and adolescents. Currently, the municipal Childhood and Adolescence Working Group is creating its work plan, which has as one of its main areas of work the development of public policies. This plan has the following work lines: i) Formation and development of technical capacities; ii) Public Policy of Childhood, Adolescence and Youth; iii) Restructuring and strengthening the request; iv) Prevention and assistance routes regarding violence against CH&A; v) Institutional services for socialization and strategic coordination.

**Project Title:** *Youth Peacebuilders*

The implementation of the *Youth Peacebuilders* project continued during this quarter, in the Potrero Grande neighborhood located in the 21<sup>st</sup> commune of Cali. Through application of the MVRO methodology, potential threats, vulnerabilities and risks were identified, and based on these results a need to consolidate the process was identified. The idea is to incorporate the psychosocial assistance for the families and the empowerment and leadership of CH&A, families and community, in order to generate scenarios and tools to create a peace culture and consolidate protective environments and positive referents to break cycles of violence.

As a result, a proposal was made to develop a second phase of the project oriented to transform behaviors within families, community and institutions, preventing all forms of violence and promoting participation of CH&A. The most significant cause identified in the social cartography of the MVRO process was the erosion of family as a protective environment. This is evident in two specific aspects of the national context: i) Violence and exploitation in their various modalities that affect CH&A in their family and community environments; ii) Family, community and social contexts don't recognize CH&A as subjects of rights. These two main problems generate dynamics that increase risks of recruitment by criminal groups and illegal armed groups and other rights violations. The second stage of the project will seek to guarantee continuity of the process using a more targeted intervention towards family, to strengthen it as social structure that supports values, culture and criteria needed to develop healthy societies. A psychosocial support model for families and CH&A will be designed and implemented to promote capacities, abilities and skills and develop initiatives for reconciliation and peace culture creation.

**Project Title:** *Wayuu Akaipa Cultural Thought Center*

The AKAUIPA Thought Center and the Community Educational Project (PEC) was shared with the Bahía Portete Wayuu community, along with World Coach Foundation, Wayuumunsurat Foundation (Mujeres Tejiendo Paz, “Women Building Peace”), and with the support of the Victims Unit and ICBF. 15 people from the community were selected to participate on the MVRO methodology implementation and 5 more belonging to the Wayuumunsurat Foundation will help structuring the content and units development of *shepherding, fishing, knitting, art and culture* that are part of the Akaipa Thought Center.

The MVRO methodology was transferred using simultaneous Wayunaiki translation, and an operational plan for collective reparations was then created in coordination with the Wayuumunsurat Foundation, traditional Wayuu authorities and community leaders. For CH&A beneficiaries, the emphasis was placed on reconnection with the ancestral territory, recovery of identity, strengthening family bonds and guaranteeing educational rights.

**Project Title:** *Analysis of the Experience of the Francisco Esperanza Youth Restoration Centers*

The following actions were developed during the planning phase of this project:

- Participative design of the work plan with steps and activities to systematize experiences, incorporating the contributions made by Paz y Bien Foundation.
- The work schedule was defined, with the time required for each step, activities and sub-activities of the systematization process; contractual times; elements related to the activities calendar of the Foundation.
- A methodological document was elaborated to explain how activities will be carried out, according to time, space, place and resource needs, as well as objectives.
- A participative workshop was held to design tools and methods for collecting primary source information and identifying characteristics according to participation in application of the pedagogical model.
- The interview formats, application instructions and questions were designed, adapting them to each group of participants according to their demographic characteristics to obtain more accurate information.
- The information received by the Paz y Bien Foundation was reviewed and classified according to its content. Processing, reviewing, selecting and analyzing processes were completed for 70% of the primary sources and 80% of secondary sources. An information matrix was created to review and classify the information gathered through the desk review research, resulting in processes of 80% of sources.

**Project Title:** *Rights promotion of children, adolescents and youth (CH&AY) and PPP development within the Wayuu Cosmogony entrepreneurship culture. Siapana (Guajira).*

This project was a product of the “Borders Plan” project between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and IOM, which works under the Ministry of Education Policy on youth entrepreneurship and PPP development. Its goal is to *strengthen institutional capacities of the Government of Colombia to develop policies that decrease CH&A vulnerabilities towards recruitment and illegal use by illegal armed groups and criminal organizations in border areas, considered as high risk*. In order to help achieve this goal, the project aims to benefit 600 CH&A through two components: i) PPP development through an ancestral productive strategy combined with incorporation of youth entrepreneurship policies; ii) Incorporation of pedagogical practices to prevent all kinds of violence against CH&A, especially those arisen within the armed conflict context.

**Project Title:** *Strengthening of protective environments for children and adolescents through pedagogical activities, and of community educational capacities in three educational institutions and the Fortul Ludic House in*

*Arauca.*

During this quarter, management and logistical actions were developed to purchase supplies for the pedagogical initiatives that will benefit more than 400 CH&A (handcrafting, tropical fruit ice-cream elaboration, opening of four sport schools). In the Fortul Mayor's Office the products will be delivered, with the participation of delegates from the different entities involved (Pablo Sexto Educational Institution, Tierra Seca Educational Institution, Ludic House, SENA, Fortul Mayor's Office, Government Secretariat and CHS).

**Project Title:** *Building and agreement of a route to render visible and assist the indigenous childhood and youth situation from the Caño Mochuelo Indigenous Reservation (Casanare).*

The route was agreed upon during this quarter with the ONIC youth organization, targeting 9 villages of the Caño Mochuelo Indigenous Reservation. The project will include the following stages: **i)** Development of the work plan previously agreed with the target indigenous community; **ii)** Creation of the "state of the art" on the Caño Mochuelo Reservation situation; **iii)** Agreement, definition and sharing the route with authorities and indigenous community leaders from the 9 villages; **iv)** Design of an advocacy/action plan to increase visibility and comprehensive assistance for childhood and youth in the Reservation; **v)** Design of a communication strategy to increase visibility and support for children and youth; **vi)** Delivery of the documents produced during the process.

**Project Title:** *Technical Assistance and institutional strengthening to the Youth National System Directorate – Colombia Joven*

Pradera, Florida and Candelaria municipalities were targeted in Valle del Cauce to strengthen the Youth National System Directorate through the construction and development of a youth policy on a territorial level. In a meeting held by the Valle Governor and Colombia Joven, the following activities were proposed:

- a. Formation of the technical team (CHS and Colombia Joven)
- b. Identification of the target area (territory and population)
- c. Sharing and formalization of the project with the mayor's offices
- d. Agreements with the mayor's office to ensure their commitment to the process
- e. Identification of relevant actors (youth, institutions, opinion generator leaders)
- f. Compilation of quantitative information
- g. Rapid participative diagnosis (Second stage JUACO)
- h. MVRO workshops (families, CH&A, institutions)
- i. Identification of youth themes on the development plans and POAI
- j. Technical assistance to support the management systems actualization
- k. Two inter-sectorial forums/working days in each municipality
- l. Elaboration of a public policy document
- m. Validation and socialization work day with the participant actors
- n. Socialization, appropriation and circulation of the document

**Project Title:** *Peace facilitators in agreement with Cali Mayor's Office*

The third and fourth stages of the project were completed during this quarter: *Medítele: La paz es un cuento de colores* and *La paz te enseña* ("Think about it: peace is a color story" and "Peace teaches you"). The information obtained with the MVRO process is being organized, including identification of risks, threats, vulnerabilities and opportunities for CH&A in the Mojica 1 neighborhood. Six youth initiatives were developed to vindicate and promote the CH&A rights in the Isaías Duarte Cancino school. These initiatives seek to strengthen:

- a. Communication and leadership processes with “Radio Escondite” (Hiding Radio), a youth broadcasting
- b. Cultural and music creation scenarios with “Folrapza – Folkore, Rap and Zamba- and Urban Swing”, salsa, afro and traditional music.
- c. Artistic and alternative development spaces with “Arte Street” muralism.
- d. Sport spaces with “Generación Ultimate” (Ultimate Generation) Frisbee.
- e. Scenarios of collective work, discipline and national values “Banda Marcial de Paz” (Martial Peace Band).

**Project Title:** *Preventive, Forming and Transforming life*

A project will be developed jointly with **San Juan Bosco Center** and its planning stage started during this quarter. The project will have 60 direct and 120 indirect youth beneficiaries. Its first stage is now being developed, to create strategies that promote a positive use of free time through sport (soccer) and dancing (break dance) in San Juan Bosco Center facilities located in Ciudad Bolivar. These strategies have the goal of establishing new horizons for CH&A, to keep them away from recruitment by illegal armed groups, gangs and criminal organizations. To achieve this objective, the Center and CHS are targeting 60 youth who will be able to use these spaces at night and during the weekends.

**Project Title:** *Misak Youth working for peace in Bogota*

This project, implemented with **Challenger Foundation**, seeks to strengthen educational and social inclusion processes for early childhood, adolescence, youth and peace building in which Misak families are working in Bogota with the neighborhood community. The following areas of work were identified: **i)** Technical assistance with a differential approach; **ii)** Implementation of a Mobile Classroom to promote TICs and renewable energies; **iii)** Publics exposures and peace pedagogies; **iv)** Surveys. The work plan is currently being presented as well as the public places organization in order to implement the project activities.

**Project Title:** *Rap Pedagogy for Peace*

This project, being implemented by the Ayara Family Foundation, is carrying out a training process for artists and leaders from the hip hop movement, combined with social mobilization and communication strategies. Its goal is to involve, train and raise awareness among adolescents and youth about peace pedagogy, to teach them about peaceful conflict resolution and help build a peaceful and democratic culture. This methodology uses the Ayara “Rap Debate” model combined with the CHS Program’s “Peace Pedagogy” strategy. The Ayara team was trained by IOM consultant Manuel Rojas on themes related to peace pedagogy (*education, communication and social mobilization*).

During the reporting period, a training process was carried out for youth leaders and artists in Cali and Bogota. Some 120 adolescents and youth responded to the initial call for participants, far surpassing expectations. All initial participants received training on peace pedagogy, with further training provided to a group of 30 youth selected to continue. Of these 30, a core group of 16 adolescents and youth were selected to receive more extensive training on peace issues and the methodologies used, so that they can replicate the model in their neighborhoods and communities.

Following an initial training process, these adolescents and youth led social mobilization and “rap debate” events with a peace pedagogy approach. The majority of these mobilizations took place during the week of February 12<sup>th</sup> as part of a commemoration of the International Day against Child Recruitment, under the “Dreaming is a

Right” strategy and thereby helping to continue this strategy that was started in previous years with CHS support.

The communication strategy for Dreaming is a Right obtained significant results, reaching 33,470 people through Facebook and 8,933 through Twitter, and directly raising awareness among some 3,500 individuals present at the social mobilization events. In total, 14 social mobilizations were held in Bogotá, Cali, San José del Guaviare y San Vicente del Caguán. A closing activity was also held on February 15<sup>th</sup> in central Plaza de Bolívar in Bogotá, with the participation of over 700 people. In each rap debate, freestyle rap was used to discuss peacebuilding and peace pedagogy issues, with information and tips provided to promote learning among youth using artistic expression. The final 16 youth “promoters of peace” all participated in and helped lead these events.

**Memorandums of understanding** were developed between CHS and the following institutions within the prevention of recruitment framework:

- a. **Minuto de Dios Educational Corporation:** The goal is to strengthen protective environments for children, adolescents and youth belonging to the Minuto de Dios Schools to diminish the risk they face in their community and family contexts. The MVRO methodology is being implemented in 16 Educational Institutions with the participation of 800 teachers and 17 CH&A. Once a base line is completed to assess the current situation of CH&A rights and their perception about protection and prevention, *school plans on human rights* will be anticipatively developed, aimed at integrating plans to strengthen families and the school within an “Open Doors School” model. The plan will prioritize sensitive themes such as sexual abuse, teenage pregnancy, drug use, bullying, learning difficulties, citizen values and labor values. This document, along with the baseline measurement, will be presented to the COMPOS and/or the Municipal and Departmental Prevention Working Groups in July 2015.
- b. **Tolima Governor’s Office:** a territorial prevention policy is being strengthened and consolidated along with Tolima Governor’s Office and CIPRUNA Technical Secretariat in Planadas, Chaparral, Ataco, Rioblanco, Roncesvalles, Rovira and San Antonio municipalities. Likewise, a departmental prevention strategy will be developed along with the Interior Secretariat and the regional and national institutions with an approach based on *peace pedagogy and preparation for post-conflict contexts*. The initial stage began along with the Governor’s Office and the Concern Universal Foundation, in which the MVRO methodology was transferred to 35 teachers in 7 municipalities. CIPRUNA’s Technical Secretariat also participated by providing training on the prevention routes and policies. The work plan was validated and approved. The Inspector General will soon establish a date to present progress and commitments made at the territorial level.
- c. **Huila Governor’s Office:** A meeting is being planned, together with CIPRUNA’s Technical Secretariat, to coordinate national and local-level prevention efforts. Government and planning secretariats of Tolima, Huila and Caquetá departments are participating within the Victims Unit’s Territorial Action Plans, under the Ministry of the Interior coordination. The actions developed in Tolima and Caquetá and the proposal agreed with the Huila Governor to strengthen the department in peace pedagogy are being consolidated.
- d. **Caquetá Governor’s Office:** Two areas of action were agreed upon with the Caquetá Governor’s Office (Educational and Government Secretariats) to promote and strengthen childhood and adolescence public policies within the use and recruitment prevention policy framework: **i)** Strategy of rights promotion and prevention of CH&A recruitment in Montañita, Curillo, Valparaíso and Puerto Rico municipalities; **ii)** Construction of a rural community-based model to facilitate social inclusion of CH&A disengaged and

promote coexistence, peace building and reconciliation processes.

The following advances were registered regarding the **strengthening process of the CIPRUNA Technical Secretariat and its allied institutions:**

### ***Inspector General's Office***

The Delegate Inspector's Office for the Childhood, Adolescence and Family Rights was strengthened through the implementation of the *first stage of the superior surveillance model to the public territorial administration regarding the guarantee of the childhood, adolescence and youth rights*. An analysis was also made about the information given by the territorial entities regarding the situation of the rights composing the "Rights to Childhood and Adolescence Protection" and the "Civil and Politic Youth Rights" with the following results:

- Design of a superior surveillance tool with a territorial administration approach to guarantee CH&A rights to have an impact on the promotion of protective environments and to diminish risk factors of engagement or illegal use of CH&A in the armed conflict.
- This tool has a special unit that includes requests about policy actions, prevention plans implementation and territorial administration of assigned resources to guarantee rights and generation of favorable conditions to protect childhood, adolescence and youth from the armed conflict.
- All the information present in the surveillance tool will be analyzed and processed. Then it will become an important tool to guide national policy on preventing recruitment and illegal use of CH&A in the armed conflict and other types of violence and rights violation.

To assess the receptiveness of the tool among the different inter-institutional scenarios, it was presented to: i) "Hechos y Derechos" Strategic Technical Working Group with the participation of delegates from ICBF, Colombia Joven, Administrative Department of Public Functions, National Audit Office and National Department Federation; ii) CHS Program; iii) Internal teams from the Inspector General's Delegate for Childhood, Adolescence and Family Rights.

An agreement process about the content of the Citizen Dialogue Unit was also held with delegates from the Administrative Department of Public Functions and the National Audit Office.

Technical documents were elaborated related to: **i)** Questions and guiding criteria for the public accounting of the territorial entities regarding their administration on rights guaranteeing; **ii)** Diagrams or conceptual maps of the superior surveillance tool; **iii)** Systematization of the developed process; **iv)** Evaluation and analysis route of the IGO to the information given by the territorial entities.

### ***Ombudsman's Office***

CHS Program established an agreement memo with the Ombudsman's Office to develop a strengthening a qualifying program to the communal scholar committees and educational institutions in target areas. Its main goal is to **track and provide technical assistance** to the 1620 Law of 2013 implementation and the Scholar Communal System implementation in the areas targeted by the project carried out in 2013 and 2014 with the Ombudsman's Office. The Ombudsman's Office is sharing the project with CHS in regional and local levels with the Communal Committees entities and with 20 Educational Institutions targeted in 2013 and 2014.

***IR 3 – GOC and communities generate knowledge management on pedagogical strategies for building peace with a focus on CH&A***

The book “**Pedagogía para una paz sostenible: construyendo ciudadanía, democracia y equidad**” (“Pedagogy for a sustainable Peace: constructing citizenship, democracy and equity”) was published during this quarter. The document is the product of a consultancy made on 2014 within the peace pedagogy framework. It has six chapters: i) Proposal objectives; ii) Background; iii) Conceptual framework; iv) Proposal challenges; v) A pedagogical proposal for transition; vi) Conclusions and recommendations (*See Annex XX*).

CHS is working in the editing, diagramming and publishing process of the 13 documents named “**Una paz estable, duradera y sensible a niños, niñas, adolescentes y jóvenes**” (“A stable and lasting peace, responsive to children, adolescents and youth”). Currently, 9 of the 13 documents are already edited with final design completed. The tentative launch date will be in May.

**Project Title:** *Transitional Justice from the restorative justice listening to children and adolescents victims’ voice, with an emphasis on children and adolescents disengaged from illegal armed groups and victims of sexual abuse within the armed conflict framework.*

A state of art document called “*Restorative justice as a transitional justice model for CH&A victims*” was created during this quarter. It explores possible application models for reestablishment of rights processes of victims, criminal reintegration within the current negotiations framework and possible post-agreement scenarios to empower the victims and the community for solving conflicts, specifically for CH&A victims of illegal recruitment and sexual violence (*See Annex No. XX*).

Based on this document, several additional documents were created: a state of art synthesis, a restorative justice synthesis, search documents and a technical guide for the program and the mission, regarding the characteristics, particularities and similarities between restorative justice and transitional justice (*See Annex No. XX*).

A methodological design was created to collect information for elaborating a pedagogical guide about transitional justice from the perspective of restorative justice for CH&A victims of recruitment and sexual violence. It is aimed at to Justice and Peace Administrative and Judicial Authorities. Research tools were defined as: discussion groups, open interviews with CH&A victims, open interviews with operational team professionals, community leaders or professionals working on related issues. These information collection tools will be implemented next quarter.

**Project Title:** *Strengthening to the Judicial Branch – Childhood and Gender*

The project development stage began during this quarter to strengthen the Judicial Branch on childhood and gender issues. This work was carried out with the Superior Judicature Council Magistrate, Néstor Raúl Correa, as the president of the Gender National Commission President. During this first stage, proposals will be presented to carry out a structural justice reform, putting a special emphasis on government agencies in charge of its administration, such as Family Commissions and Ombudsman offices.

**Progress made:** *During this quarter, no quantitative progress was made against the indicator for this sub-intermediate result. The knowledge management products to be shared are still in the finalization and publication phase, It is important to mention that during the quarter the peace pedagogy book was published. To date, 43% of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved.*

#### ***IR 4 – Monitoring, tracking and knowledge management***

##### ***CHS Program Documentation Center***

The construction process of the CHS Documentation Center continued during this quarter. As of March, there is an Excel catalogue with documents organized by year and component and an abstract to facilitate research. To date, **246 publications and digital documents** have been included and classified as relevant research material for the CHS Program. This system will be validated once all the identified publications are collected and digitized.

The research, data collection and digitization process continues in parallel. Regarding the physical library, the organization and categorization process of the documents and publications has started, aimed at facilitating the digitization process. That process follows a prioritization criterion by which the first documents digitized are the ones published by USAID and IOM. Once those documents are digitized, the process will continue with the rest of publications to use them as digital research material.

The ***CIPRUNA Technical Secretariat Observatory*** presented significant progress regarding quantitative, qualitative and geographical information generation about the armed conflict dynamics, with a special emphasis on recruitment, use and sexual violence against children and adolescents. The main results and achievements are the following:

##### ***a. Strategic actions addressing***

- The final prioritization model for 2015 was chosen. It combines the best spacial information representation with a larger predictive capacity. Advances were made in harmonization, starting and information systematization, and preliminary prioritization models were made.
- The external evaluation of the Prevention of Recruitment Public Policy was implemented, and recommendations and adjustments were made to the preliminary evaluation documents.
- The prevention of recruitment theme was included in the Development Plan Basis document. As a consequence, an article from the 2014-2018 Development Plan Law that asked for special attention for that theme was included.
- Information about recruitment, disengagement and sentences was prepared for the Counselor Minister of Post-conflict, Security and Human Rights. Its objective was to contextualize negotiation issues for the Havana dialogue process.
- The registration matrix of cases of recruitment or use cases was modified and adapted into a database. Procedures for documentation and preparation were established, and progress was achieved on developed of municipal capacity indexes, to create conditions that facilitate the develop of life plans and goals by CH&A.

##### ***b. Monitoring implementation of the prevention policy (3673 CONPES of 2010)***

- The closing survey and the 3673 CONPES final report were completed and sent to the institutions to create a final report about the public policy implementation, input for design of a new policy tool.
- The matrix of institutional services available and its characterization were actualized. They are formed by 61 strategies, programs and projects. Many reports and diagnosis were made based on that matrix. These documents were though as supplies for developing territorialization actions and as answers to the

requirements presented by the Early Alerts Inter-sectorial Commission.

- The Technical Secretariat team received support for elaborating the information required for the 1612 Resolution Task Force.
- An internet based information recollection tool was designed to keep track to recruitment, illegal use and sexual violence cases and dynamics. A monitoring proposal was presented to keep track of cases of non-institutional disengagement and recruitment of children and adolescents under 17.

***c. Monitoring and accompaniment to the territorial implementation of the prevention policy***

- Information for the geographical database was compiled, harmonized and systematized. Cartographic information was produced to identify risk factors and municipal institutional offer.
- Geospatial information is available as a product of the policy territorialization workshops for 60 municipalities, which represents more than 4.000 geo-referenced points.

***Technical Workshop of CH&A and Reintegration***

The International Experts on CH&A Reintegration Technical Workshop was organized and planned during this quarter. It will take place next quarter. The main themes to discuss during the workshop with the strategic partners (High Commissioner for Peace and Victims Unit) were settled and the international experts were selected and hired.

It is expected that institutional members of the GOC will participate, as well as civil society organizations and academy members, in order to generate a scenario to exchange experiences and learned lessons regarding DDR processes.

***Publications***

The approval process carried out by the ICBF Publication Committee of the **Exploratory study about children and adolescents trafficking with sexual and labor exploitation objectives** ended. This document, product of the work developed with the ICBF Child Welfare Observatory is now being diagrammed and will be printed shortly to schedule the territorial socialization process.

A series of reflections were made around migration, childhood and adolescence emerged as a consequence of the **Childhood and Migration Bulletins**. The goal is to go in depth and enrich the knowledge existent about this theme in order to improve assistance and protection policies and processes for CH&A migrants. The bulletins were socialized with our strategic partners, within the mission and with other IOM missions.

***Progress made: During the quarter, 6 publications were developed by the ICBF Child Welfare Observatory. 5 Bulletins on Migration and Childhood, and 1 document on Peace Pedagogy were produced by CHS program. Progress against the indicator: In total, 60% of the target for FY 2015 has been achieved.***

## 5. Challenges encountered and actions taken

- Despite being in the second quarter of execution of the USAID Project, the timeline for the joint work plan and internal changes in the ICBF made the implementation of activities difficult. However, CHS simultaneously initiated the process of coordinating activities through permanent technical meetings with the ICBF in order to explain the origins of the project, distribute the results achieved in 2013, and explore future needs in terms of strengthening this institution.

## 6. Priorities for next quarter

Priorities for next quarter include:

- Advance in the implementation of the joint work plans with entities such as the ICBF, CIPRUNA technical secretariat, and the Victims' Unit, which are aligned with the annual work plan and monitoring plan in CHS.
- Consolidate the design and implementation of community attention and reintegration models.
- Continue strengthening the CIPRUNA technical secretariat for monitoring of 15 local recruitment prevention plans.
- Advance in the creation of analysis documents related to peace pedagogy and the process of distributing these documents at the regional level.

## 7. Conclusions

- This quarter, the directive and technical ICBF teams coordinated the joint work plan and progress was made in the definition of products targeting the strengthening of technical human resources capacities and capacities for planning CH&A assistance.
- Concrete actions were planned with the Victims' Unit to promote processes of reflection that allow the topic of CH&A victims' participation to be highlighted in order to generate conditions to hear their voices and guarantee their influence. These actions are part of the promotion of participatory spaces for CH&A in the implementation of the participation protocol across the country.
- The publication of the book *Pedagogy for Sustainable Peace: Constructing citizenship, democracy, and equality* as a significant advance in knowledge management that contributes to the construction of peace and contexts for reconciliation.
- In general, the implementation of the project with USAID has seen important progress in terms of the current peace process and the internal changes in the ICBF, which have both influenced the implementation of the project. Despite these situations, CHS has adapted and managed to consolidate actions with strategic Colombian government partners.

## 8. Annexes

- Annex No. 1 ICBF joint work plan
- Annex No. 2 Victims' unit joint work plan
- Annex No. 3 Conceptualization of community models.
- Annex No. 4 Rapid Impact Strategy document.
- Annex No. 5 Meaningful reparations toolkit.
- Annex No. 6 Pedagogy for sustainable peace book
- Annex No. 7 Restorative Justice state of the art
- Annex No. 8 Restorative Justice and Transitional Justice synthesis
- Annex No. 9 Regional Observatory Publications and Management Plans
- Annex No. 10 Child Welfare Observatory Publications
- Annex No. 11 Migration and Childhood Modules
- Annex No. 12 Maps of Geographic Coverage
- Annex No. 13 Life Stories
- Annex No. 14 Monitor Report

## 9. Expenses and use of resources

*Please see next page*

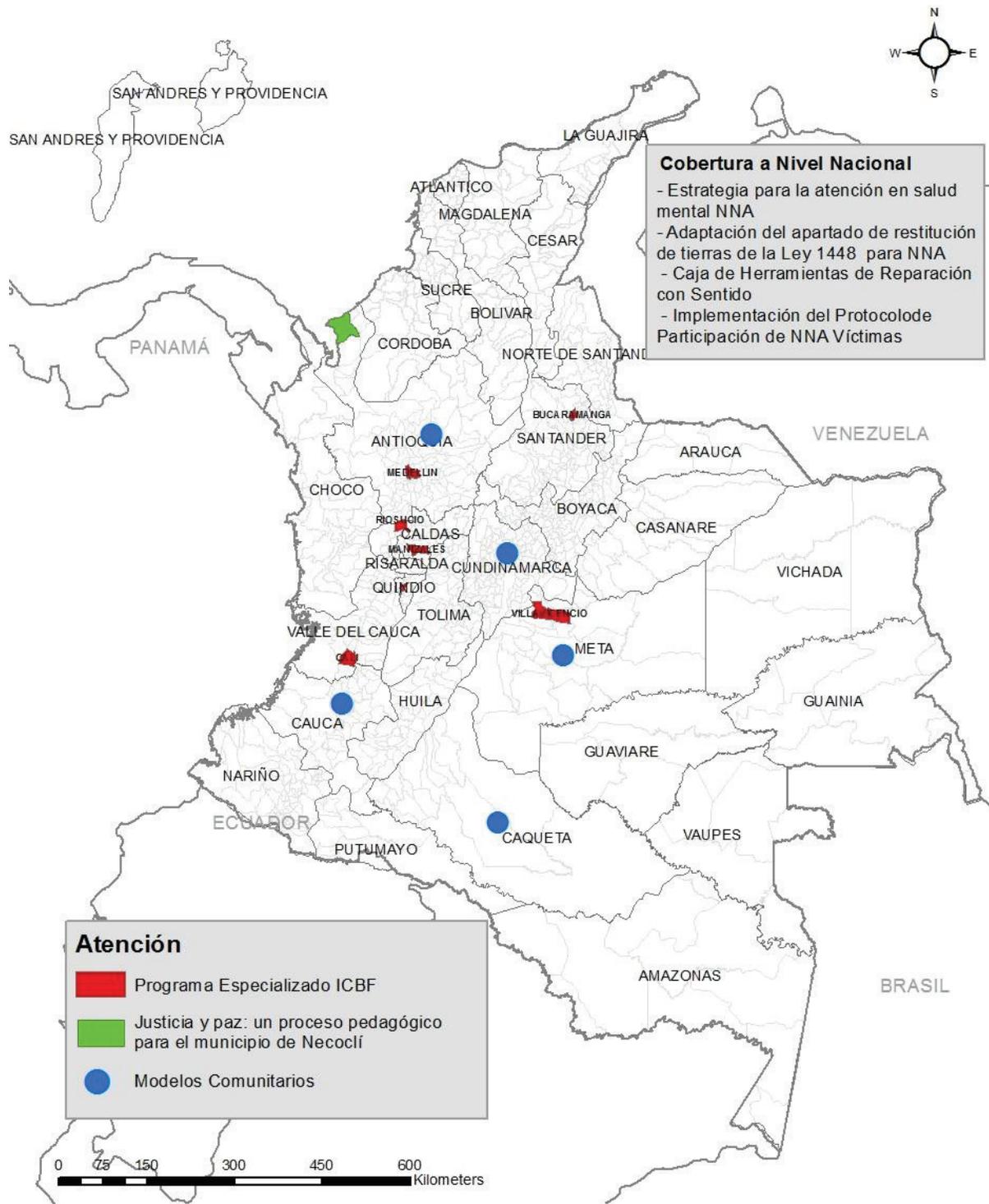
DISENGAGED CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT RISK OF RECRUITMENT PROGRAM  
 QUARTERLY REPORT NO. 25  
 JANUARY – MARCH 2015

**Annex 1 – List of Beneficiaries**

Linea	Código	Nombre	BENEFICIARIOS TRIMESTRE ENERO - MARZO 2015																	
			Etnia			Tipo					Sexo		Total Trimestre	Acumulado Total	Acumulado NNA	Lugar				
			Afro	Indígenas	Otros	Discapacitados	Docente	Niños-Niñas	Personas Comunidad/Familias	Funcionarios Públicos	Miembros ONG	Hombres					Mujeres			
Prevención	FED-0073	Facilitadores de Paz	85	0	0	0	0	0	85	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	46	85	85	Cali
	NAJ-833	Pedagogía de Rap para la Paz	1	0	125	0	0	104	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	119	7	126	126	Bogotá
	PSPJ-2147	PANDI 2015	13	15	18	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	32	46	46	46	Ipiiales, Quibdo, Villavicencio
	FED-0074	Alcaldía de Medellín	1	0	38	0	0	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	16	39	39	39	Medellín
			100	15	181	0	0	274	0	0	22	0	0	195	101	296	296			

**Annex 12 Maps of Geographic Coverage for IR 1, IR 2, IR 3, IR 4**

**MAP IR 1 – ICBF and communities implement socio-familiar and community-based assistance models for CH&A**



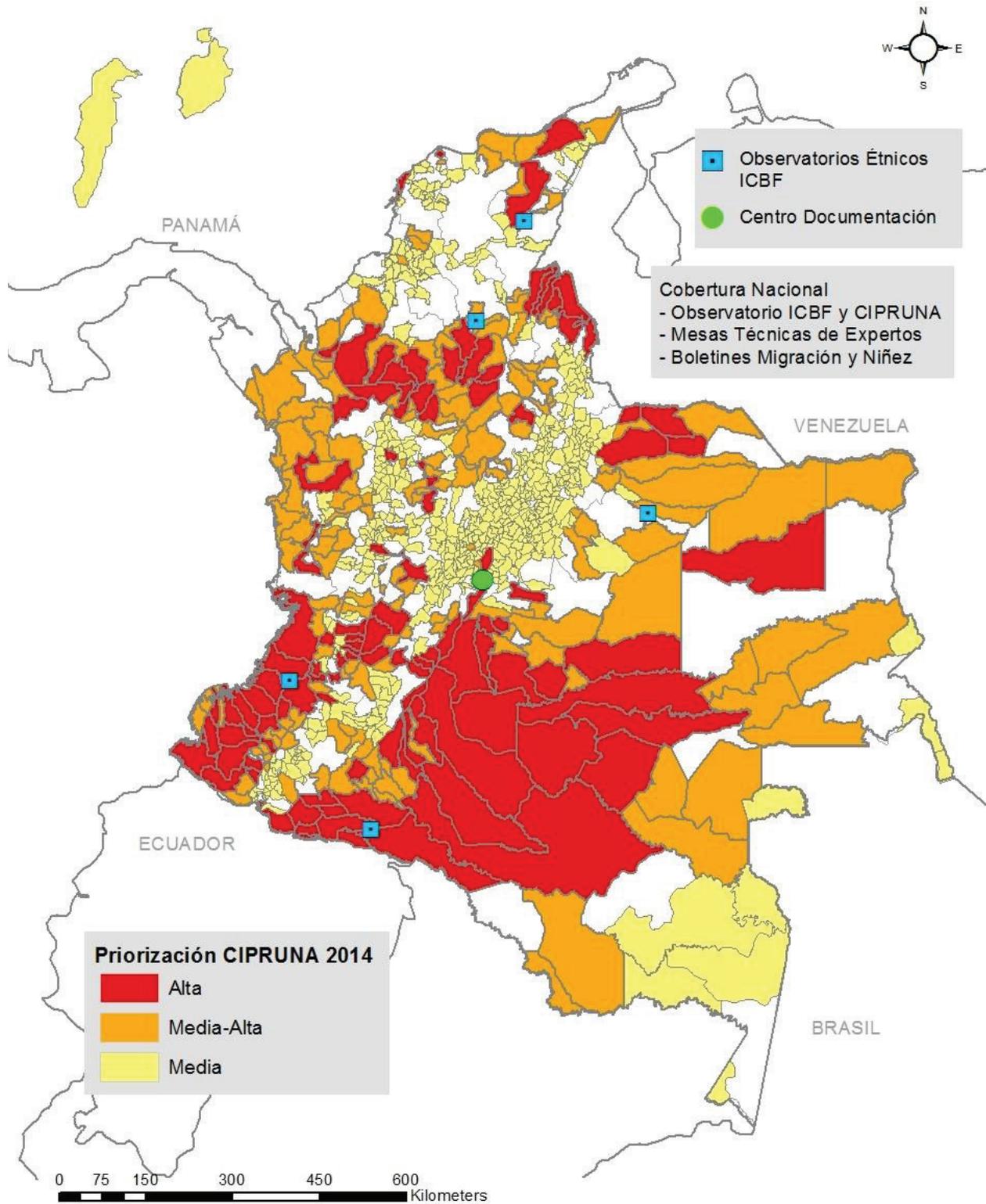
**MAP IR 2 – GOC and communities implement strategies using technological innovations to reduce vulnerabilities to recruitment and use of CH&A in high risk areas**



**MAP IR 3 – GOC and communities generate knowledge management on pedagogical strategies for building peace with a focus on CH&A**



**MAP IR 4 – Monitoring, tracking and knowledge management**



## Annex 13 Life Stories

**“The support I received helped me to overcome the things that had happened to me and to understand that there is hope”**

Marcela, now 18 years old, was only subjected to the direct consequences of war for a short period of time. As her story proves, however, even a brief time as a direct victim can leave a profound and lasting impact that is difficult to overcome. In the case of Marcela, her enormous strength and the assistance she received have helped her to most past the challenges of being a victim of recruitment.

Four years ago, as she describes it, Marcela lived a tranquil life despite facing many economic difficulties – until one day, when members of an illegal armed group entered her house and took her by force. A truck waited outside, and after a long journey by truck and on foot, she arrived at a camp where she was given no explanation, only orders and mistreatment.

She was in the group for a month and a half, carrying out the tasks imposed on her with no right to refuse. As she recalls, “I had to cook for the entire group, be the ‘wife’ of a commander, and fetch firewood. They thought of starting to train me to handle weapons, but never did.”

Suffering sexual abuse by the commander, she was very soon forced to make a decision that could put her life at risk. “My life in the group was a disaster and I had to run away, I couldn’t take it anymore. I escaped using the excuse of going to see my mother. I took advantage of a moment when their guard was down and I started to run toward my freedom.”

Marcela fled with her mother and two sisters from their town to a capital city, where a family friend lived. She had to withstand complex situations, she didn’t have enough to eat and all four of them had to share one mattress. After some time, and a few institutional processes, she was able to enter the specialized assistance program for disengaged children and adolescents offered by the Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF), which is supported by USAID and IOM.

Her and her 20-month old daughter, the result of a relationship she had after she left the armed group, received assistance for one year. “The support that I most value is the psychosocial assistance, because it helped me to overcome the things that had happened to me and to understand that there is hope, and that there is more to life than misfortune.”

Marcela benefitted from the Family Home model, which allowed her to receive assistance while continuing to live with her biological family.

This young woman has since completed high school and is participating in the project “Advice and support for identifying and improving the family intervention strategy,” led by ICBF with support from USAID and IOM. This project promotes restitution of rights for youth, the rebuilding of the social fabric, reconciliation, reparations and economic reintegration. As part of the technical and financial support provided for the project, Marcela initiated a productive project selling fast food, in which her family participates, enabling her to generate income and spend more time with her son.



Marcela feels that the support she received has changed her life. “It has made me very happy. My husband and my family are a blessing for me... I have a beautiful home and this is because we are all better,” she explains.

The goal of this young woman is to establish a new branch of her business. “I dream of being able to have a tranquil live and to strive for more. I want to study gastronomy and business administration to be able to grow my business,” she explains.

To conclude, Marcela reflects on how unfortunate it is that illegal armed groups try to convince youth to join by saying they will give them money, and that “they are going to be able to live like kings. They don’t know what really happens there, especially to the women. Life in an armed group is not an escape, what you find is a tunnel without light, where only death awaits you. You should move forward in life without the help of an armed group.”

“Young people sometimes seek adrenaline and weapons, and combined with necessity and the promise of an income this motivates their decision. Later, they crash into the reality, finding that no one pays them. There is no adrenaline, only fear. Once you are there it is difficult to leave, either you stay your whole life or leave through death. Here on the other side, outside the group, you can grow as a human being, support society and contribute to peace,” she concludes.

**“Art is the best tool for social transformation. It saves lives every day from all types of violence”**

Nael\* is a young man who, for many years now, has found within the hip-hop culture a new direction for his life and an opportunity to plan his future as an artist. However, before starting to take part in the activities offered by the “Ayara Family” Artistic and Social Foundation, he considered himself as “just another artist, an uninformed person, apathetic and too lazy to learn about the possibilities art and the tools to actively participate and be heard,” as he explains.

As an artist and audiovisual producer, Nael divides his time between his art and his other roles as a father, husband, son and brother. But his life wasn’t always this way. Before, he didn’t believe in himself or in the potential of rap as an art form. This young man faced the risks common to many youth in his community including various types of violence caused by the presence of illegal armed groups and gangs, as well as drug and alcohol use, which his society perceives to be associated with youth and artists.

Some time ago, this artist received training to lead implementation of the “rap debate” methodology, an approach that uses rap music to promote the creation of spaces for peaceful conflict resolution, youth participation, community dialogue and interaction, creation of new meaning for local communities, awareness-raising and promotion of rights, and the creation of debate skills.



The development of this methodology was supported by USAID and IOM, and as a result many children, adolescents and youth in the cities of Bogotá and Cali have gained a new participation tool that can help them to contribute to building peace in Colombia.

“The methodology creates participative and democratic spaces for the community in a ‘hip’, friendly and enjoyment way,” explains Nael. This fosters moments of healthy discussion around creating possibilities

for youth to move away from violent paths. “Debate through rap has motivated me to be consistent in what I say and what I do. I can’t be saying something positive in my songs and not do it in real life,” he concludes.

He would like for this methodology to be used in more areas of the country, where he feels it is needed and where it would have very positive effects for adolescents and youth in those areas as well as for the communities.

Like Nael, thanks to hip-hop and rap debate, many other youth have found possibilities to transform their lives using art and culture. In the words of Nael, “art is the best tool for social transformation, it saves lives every day from all forms of violence, even beyond the violence of the armed conflict. It empowers, it transforms... I know many cases in which hip hop has saved lives.”

This artist aims to finish his first music album, called “AWAKE”, and continue growing as an artist and audiovisual producer. He dreams of having his own house for his family and to be recognized nationally and internationally, although the recognition that he fights for every day is that of his family: “I want them to feel proud of my career.”

This young man now feels that there is zero risk of becoming involved in any type of violence, but as he explains, “my children could be at risk. If you don’t continue to create seeds of change, and don’t work to make sure they grow, you won’t be able to pick the fruit: to be able to live in peace.”

\* *Stage name*

**Annex 14 Monitor Report**



Project: All

Type Indicato DO

IR	Indicator	FY2015		FY2015 Total	
		FY2015 Q1	FY2015 Q2	Total FY/ Actual	Total FY / Target
IR 2.2 Impact of illegal armed groups mitigated in targeted communities	APE-05 Percentage of targeted CH&A in high risk areas with basic rights guaranteed		0	0	10
	APE-12 Number of analyses and fora led by GOC observatories		12	12	20
	APE-35 Number of prevention plans with implementation monitored	12	0	12	27
	APE-36 Number of disengaged CH&A receiving assistance through socio-familial and community models	75	59	134	500
	APE-37 Number of community-based models implemented		0	0	3
	APE-38 Number of people who participate in processes to share knowledge products on peace pedagogy	65	0	65	150
	DO2-09 Percentage of disengaged child soldiers receiving tailored services	23	2	25	10
	DO2-13 Number of child soldiers identified (F 1.3.2-11)	75	59	134	260
	DO2-14 Number of youth at risk that benefit from prevention strategies	1.323	274	1.597	10.000
	DO2-15 Percentage of institutional strengthening for ICBFs Assistance Program and CIPRUNA's operations		38	0	70

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