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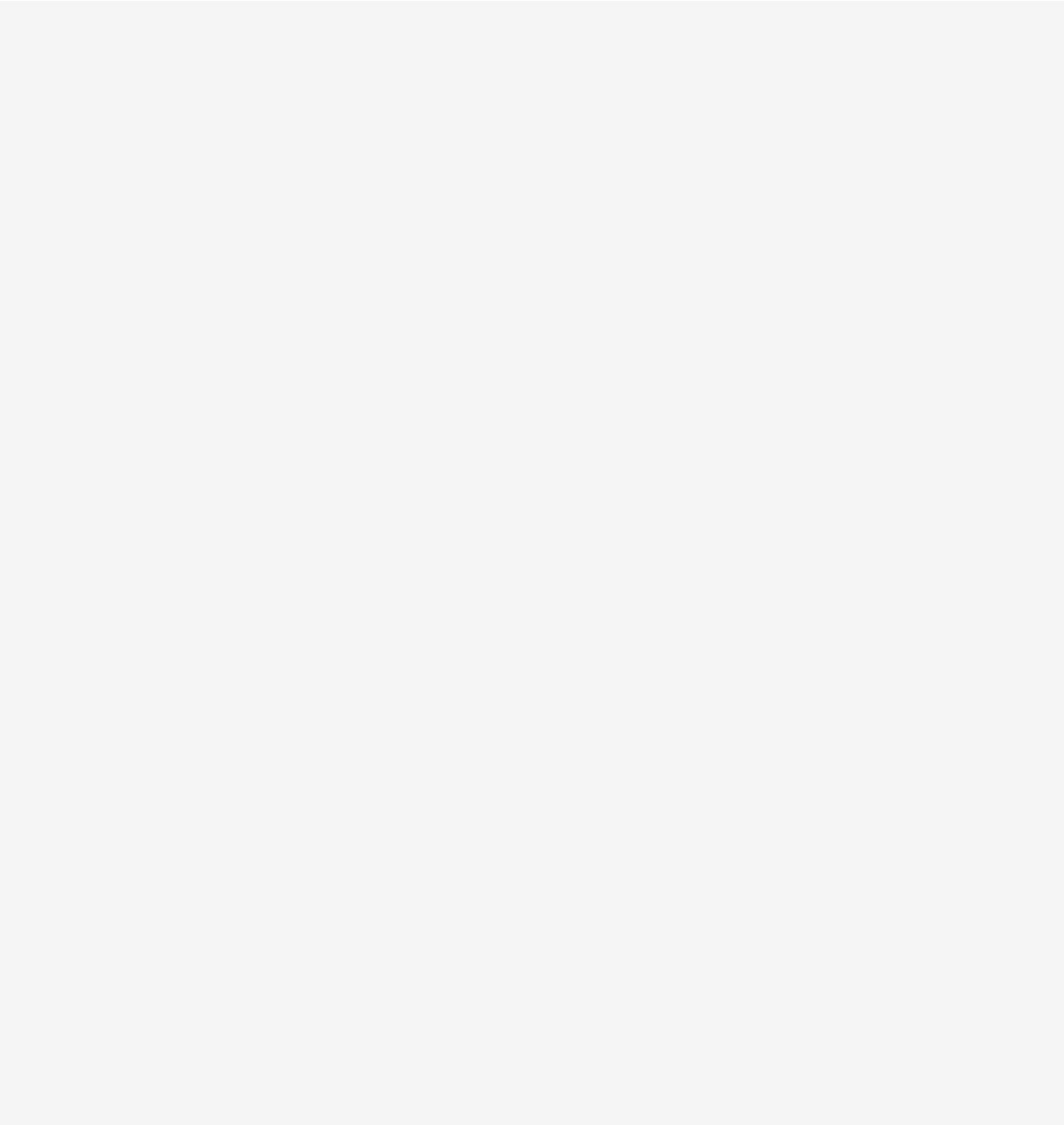
COMMUNITY-ORIENTED REINTEGRATION OF EX-COMBATANTS - CORE

AWARD: AID-514-A-00-06-00305-00



TWENTY SIXTH QUARTERLY REPORT TO USAID/COLOMBIA
October – December 2012
December 31, 2012

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Photograph caption

Juan José is an ex-combatant from AUC, who is currently enrolled in the reintegration process led by the ACR in Barrancabermeja (Santander). Thanks to the resources provided by USAID –IOM CORE program, he started up his own business on welding of doors and windows.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACR	Colombian Agency for Reintegration (Agencia Colombiana para la Reintegración)
AG	Attorney General's Office (Fiscalía General de la Nación)
AUC	United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia)
CDP	Center for Productive Development of Leather Footwear and Leather Goods
CORE	Community-Oriented Reintegration of Ex-combatants
CMH	Historical Memory Center (Centro de Memoria Historica)
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration
ELN	National Liberation Army
FARC-EP	Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia- People's Army
FENALCO	National Trade Federation
GOC	Government of Colombia
IDESAN	Financial Institute for Development in Santander
IECC	Graduation Competencies Evaluation Instrument (Instrumento de Evaluación por Competencias para la Culminación), which measures social, psychological and civic skills of ex - combatants deemed necessary for reintegration
ISUN	Instrument to Monitor Business Units (Instrumento de Seguimiento a las Unidades de Negocio), which measures advances in the operation of productive projects
Law 975/05	Justice and Peace Law
Law 1592	Reform of the Justice and Peace Law
Law 1424/10	Legal Status for Ex - Combatants Law
MADR	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MAPP/OEA	Mission to Support the Peace Process of the OAS
OACP	Office of the High Commission for Peace
OAS	Organization of American States
PAICMA	Presidential Program for Action against Mines
SIJYP	Inter-institutional Information System – Justice and Peace
SIRDEC	Information System for Network of Disappeared Persons and Remains
VISP	Victims Institutional Strengthening Program

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1. Executive Summary

The present report covers CORE programming for the period from October 1 to December 31, 2012. The report provides a review of developments in the Colombian and international context that impact or are likely to impact the Program; a quantitative overview of quarterly and cumulative progress against established indicators; a status report on key activities and achievements in the quarter that contribute to CORE's results and objective; difficulties encountered during implementation; priorities for the upcoming quarter; and a financial report.

The most important contextual developments for the Program include the launch of the graduation of ex-combatants process, led by the Colombian Agency for Reintegration (ACR), as well as the reform of the Justice and Peace Law. Both events reflect the Government of Colombia's (GOC) commitment to strengthening the reintegration route by marking an end-point to ACR assistance and clarifying legal procedures to resolve the status of ex-combatants accused of crimes against humanity. Also notable is the continuation of the peace process between the GOC and the FARC-EP, with the start of talks in Havana on November 15.

CORE has focused energies on supporting the GOC to lay the foundations – institutional, strategic and procedural – for effective reintegration, working in partnership with the different entities.

The Program also has been working with actors in the judicial process to design, test and adjust procedures critical to the legal processing of former combatants.

CORE also incorporated an innovative component: support to the GOC to design its program for reparations to implement assistance projects for victims and the designing of routes for individual and collective reparations, and land restitution.

Since 2006, CORE has served more than 20.000 ex combatants in process of reintegration, and more than 176.000 victims who applied for reparations.

During this quarter CORE contributed to the graduation of 630 excombatants and 167 non-combatants.

In programmatic terms, the most important developments in the quarter relate to the revision of the Program to reflect a stronger focus on capacity building and new circumstances, including the start of the Victims Institutional Strengthening Programming (VISP), and corresponding phase-out of victim's activities under CORE, as well as the peace process. This revision was expressed in a series of documents, including a restructured logical framework, an end state analysis identifying GOC and CORE desired end states under each intermediate result, a Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) and the 2013 annual work plan.

Product of the process described above, the 2013 annual work plan was approved on December 6, 2012, more than two months into the first quarter of the current fiscal year, which generates a temporary lag in program implementation. As CORE did not have an approved work plan for most of the reporting period and did not commence new activities, this lag is reflected in the present document. Nonetheless, the progress report covers, among other accomplishments, CORE's ongoing support to the ACR to reach graduation targets, the continuation or culmination of income generating projects that result in different models for economic reintegration for transfer to the ACR and advanced preparations with the Center for Historical Memory (CMH) and ACR to build their capacity to fulfill their respective mandates relating to resolving the legal status of ex-combatants.

Finally, as agreed with USAID, CORE closed or transferred to VISP a package of projects for assistance to victims and institutional strengthening for GOC entities with mandates in victim's issues. These projects are reported in the Annexes.

2. Context

During the reporting period, the CORE-supported reintegration policy was affected by situations that fall under four categories:

The graduation strategy for demobilized persons in ACR's reintegration program began implementation

In 2010 the ACR adjusted the regulations relating to reintegration and specifically to measuring completion of the graduation route. ACR also structured a process aiming to ensure that graduates of the reintegration program¹ are prepared – in social, economic and psychosocial terms – for transformation to civilian life. Specifically, in order to successfully graduate, an ex-combatant is required to show specific competencies, measured through follow-up instruments designed with support of CORE. In the last quarter of 2012, ACR graduated 807 participants, mainly in the cities of Bogotá, Cali, Cartagena, Medellín and Ibagué. CORE will continue to support the ACR to assess readiness of ex-combatants to graduate, to assist current candidates to meet the requirements, and to learn from the first groups of graduates how to improve ACR services to ensure a higher rate of readiness.

New report on recidivism within the demobilized population

In October of 2012, ACR produced an internal document called “Recidivism within the Demobilized Population”. The report defines ‘demobilization’ as the legal acceptance of committing the crime of pertaining to an illegal armed group in the absence of a court sentence. The report continues by defining ‘recidivism’ as committing a new crime after the date of official demobilization. The ACR recognizes two types of recidivists: 1) “Potential recidivists” are those who demobilized but are still considered high-risk due to their known connection to a given crime or those who have not been convicted of a crime but were captured in the act of a crime (where criminal proceedings are still pending). 2) “Proven recidivists” are those who have been convicted for a crime after demobilization as well as those who died in combat, fighting as an illegal combatant, against another illegal armed group or the armed forces.

The report estimates a 20% (10,941 people) overall recidivism rate among the demobilized population.² Of this 20%, 9.9% (5,387 people) are “potential recidivists” and 10.1% (5,554 people) are “proven recidivists”. Compared across illegal armed groups, recidivism by former members of the AUC is 24.7% (8,737 people); 11.2% (1,171 people) in FARC; and 11.3% (360 people) in ELN.

The report concludes that continued strengthening of inter-institutional coordination for information sharing is needed and reiterates the importance of quantitative and qualitative research tools as inputs to the reintegration policy and Colombia's security policy. Recidivism analysis is important to the Program insofar as the GOC seeks to reduce recidivism by providing ex-combatants with social and economic opportunities to live within the law.

¹ This process is described as “responsible culmination” in Resolution No. 163 of 2010.

² This data comes from the Attorney General's Office, the National Prison Institute and the National Police.

Reform of the Peace and Justice Law

On December 3, 2012, the President of the Republic signed Law 1592 to reform the Justice and Peace Process, launched in 2005 with Law 975. The purpose of this reform is to 1) streamline criminal proceedings against ex-combatants, 2) coordinate GOC efforts to effectively compensate victims, 3) promote coherence among the various transitional justice instruments (e.g. Victims Law, Justice and Peace Law, Legal Status of Ex-combatants and Legal Framework for Peace), and 4) create conditions for future peace processes with illegal armed groups.

The reform reinforces the obligation of ex-combatants who registered under the Law to turn over their goods, amends articles related to the right for truth, justice and reparations and links to the Victims and Land Restitution Law (Law 1448 of 2010) for greater consistency within the GOC's transitional justice framework.

The success of the future peace process depends in part on credibility of the Justice and Peace process. Given the recent constitutional reform that created a legal framework for peace and the possibility to reach agreements with the FARC and ELN, consolidating an integrated, State-implemented model of transitional justice is paramount.

The reform of the Justice and Peace Law is an important step for the GOC to resolve the legal status of ex-combatants in a clearer and timelier manner. CORE will support key actors in the Justice and Peace process to address the related challenges.

Official peace negotiations began between FARC and GOC

Peace talks started on November 15, 2012, in Havana, Cuba. The negotiation table is comprised of five negotiators from the FARC and five negotiators from the GOC. The agenda has five main themes: 1) Comprehensive rural development: includes topics such as the access and use of land, land-focused programs, infrastructure and land improvement, social development, incentives for agriculture and livestock, a supportive and cooperative economy, and food security systems. 2) Political participation: includes rights and guarantees for political opposition, democratic mechanisms of citizenship participation and effective measures for promoting political participation. 3) End of the conflict: includes cessation of hostilities, surrender of weapons and the reincorporation of FARC-EP members to civilian life. There will also be a review of the situation regarding people in prison, under trial or condemned due to membership in the insurgent group. 4) Drug trafficking: this includes crop substitution programs as well as programs aimed to prevent the consumption and marketing of narcotics. 5) Victims: this includes respect for the fundamental rights of the victims and access to the truth. Additionally, the agreement establishes steps for the implementation, verification and endorsement of any peace agreements as well as the rules of operation for the peace negotiations. The GOC will also undertake reforms and institutional adjustments in order to address the challenges implied by a peace agreement.

In the event of a negotiated settlement and demobilization, most analysts agree that the number of ex-combatants will exceed – by a significant margin – the number of active FARC members. Several experts put the number at 30,000, which would include FARC militias and support structure; however, the final number is

likely to be subject to negotiation between the GOC and the FARC.³ A FARC process is expected to differ from the AUC demobilizations in a number of important ways: (1) the legal framework will vary, and the new framework will reflect lessons learned in the Justice and Peace process; (2) political participation will feature strongly in the current process; (3) as a rule, FARC combatants have a more rural profile than the AUC; and (4) gender and age sensitive approaches will be required with a larger portion of the demobilized caseload.

³Pizarro León Gómez, Eduardo. Las Farc: 1949-2011 De la guerrilla campesina a máquina de guerra, Eduardo Pizarro León Gómez. Editorial Norma, 2012. y Echandía Castilla, Camilo. “Situación actual de las FARC: Un análisis de los cambios en las estrategias y la territorialidad (1990-2011)”, Fundación Ideas para la Paz, Serie Informes # 13, Septiembre 2011. Nussio, Enzo, and Kimberly Howe. 2012. “What If the FARC Demobilizes?” *Stability: International Journal of Security & Development* 1. <http://www.stabilityjournal.org/article/view/sta.aj/24>

Program Indicators: Quarterly and Cumulative Progress and Goals ⁴

Indicator Number	IR	Name of Indicator	Target (year 1)	Reporting Period Achievements (Cumulative in parentheses)	Observations (15 words)
1	SO	Percentage of ex combatants who are involved in income generation activities and law abiding after graduation	60%		
1.1	IR1	# ex-combatants graduated from the reintegration program	1.700	630	476 men, 154 women
1.2		Percentage increase of ACR in the Institutional strengthening index	50%		
1.3	IR 1.1	# ex-combatants evaluated according to their social abilities	2.777		
1.4		# ex-combatants evaluated according to their economic capacities	1.000		
1.5	IR 1.2	# of ex-combatants, armed belligerents, who complete USG-assisted transformational programs	3.000	242 (20.035)	75% receptor communities; 25% demobilized population; 143 men, 99 women
1.6		Percentage of female participants in USG-Assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources (assets credit, income or employment)	10%		
2.1	IR2	# of ex-combatants with certified requirements to access legal benefits through Law 1424/10 mechanisms	3.667		
2.2		# of cases fully prepared for prosecution under Justice and Peace Law	80		
2.3	IR 2.1	# of government officials in key institutions that enhance skills on reintegration components of transitional justice	70		
2.4		Number of prosecutions supported	250		
2.5	IR 2.2	Number of ex-combatants certified for community services requirement under ACR designed methodology	3.667		
2.6		# of ex-combatants certified for truth-telling requirement	7.000		
3	IR3	# of conflict management initiatives identified and requested by the GOC	3		
3.1	IR 3.1	# of conflict analyses and fora	12 reports 4 research documents 3 Fora		
3.2		# of conflict management inputs handed over to the GOC	3		
1.3.2-7		Number of non-combatants assisted by USG-funded reintegration programs	0	167 (176.530)	93 men, 74 women
		Number of communities assisted by USG funded reintegration programs	25		
		Number of entities strengthened by USG funded assistance*	0		

⁴ During the reporting period new indicators were set up to be used for the 2013-2014 CORE's phase. This USAID-IOM joint decision was conceived to keep reporting the four (4) former indicators plus fifteen (15) new ones. In this period advances are reported only on three (3) of them, which correspond to the activities performed by CORE between October and December 2012. In the following quarter, advances of new indicators are expected to be reported.

3. Intermediate Results: Narrative Progress

IR 1: ACR DESIGNS AND IMPLEMENTS THE GOC REINTEGRATION POLICY

Through the ACR, the GOC has been implementing a reintegration policy with the following objectives: 1) create conditions allowing demobilized members to become independent citizens, 2) strengthen socio-economic conditions in receptor communities, and 3) promote national reconciliation. In the last quarter, CORE has supported ACR in the assessment of competencies of ex-combatants who are nearing completion of the ACR reintegration route to “graduate” those who are ready for civilian life and find solutions for those who are not.

IR 1.1 Processes in place for implementing the reintegration process

TRACKING MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM (SAME)

SAME is the information system that monitors the reintegration process of all ex-combatants participating in the GOC reintegration route. Since 2010, SAME has provided technical assistance to design strategies and models to measure the progress of demobilized individuals along the reintegration route, including the creation of two monitoring instruments that enable ACR to identify participants who are prepared to graduate from the reintegration process.⁵ As from 2009 ACR has been developing a database system that reports all the reintegration process, CORE program has made particular emphasis on carrying out a technology-transfer task to avoid double efforts. The data compiled and assessed by SAME is currently being typed into the Reintegration Information System (Spanish: SIR). The historic information of the process (socio-economic polls to establish a baseline at the individual, family and community levels), the data on location and provision of services prior to ACR’s creation is available at SAME’s technological platform. This data is constantly reviewed by the ACR.

Project results this quarter are as follows:

- SAME supported ACR to administer and analyze 3,614 Graduation Skills Evaluation Instrument (IECC) in the following cities: Bogotá, Cali, Cartagena, Medellín and Ibagué.
- Slightly under half (49%) of the participants evaluated met the psychosocial skills requirements for graduation.
- Pursuant to the results of the IECC, 807 participants graduated this quarter. Of these, 78% (630) had received educational, social and/or economic reintegration services supported by CORE.
- SAME supported the ACR to apply and tabulate 307 monitoring visits to business units (individual productive projects) that received seed capital disbursements between 2008 and 2011.

⁵ The Graduation Skills Evaluation Instrument assesses the skills and competencies developed by demobilized individuals as a result of the services they receive from the reintegration program. The Business Unit Monitoring Instrument measures progress or difficulties experienced by the productive projects created or strengthened by demobilized individuals using seed capital received from ACR or IOM.

IR 1.2 ACR provides comprehensive assistance to graduate participants

URBAN PRODUCTIVE PROJECTS

- **Project: Comprehensive Labor Linkages**

In cooperation with the Bogotá and Ciudad Bolívar mayoral offices, CORE implemented this project between February 2011 and November 2012 with the goal of assisting local authorities to place ex combatants, their families and members of receptor communities in stable employment. The project involved identification of vacancies; profiling of beneficiaries; and accompaniment of the beneficiary and the hiring company in the employment process.

The following quarterly achievements are highlighted:

- The methodology was adjusted to reinforce the post-recruitment accompaniment as a measure to improve sustainability of the job placement.
- The methodology and results of the project were presented in a public closure event in November with participation of beneficiaries, employers, local authorities and civil society.
- A video was produced to share the project among others, including private sector actors who may have potential to hire ex-combatants.

Overall results include:

- 230 individuals, including 83 ex – combatants, 22 family members and 128 members of receptor communities, were placed in jobs in 53 companies in the construction, manufacturing, trade and services sectors. Forty percent of the beneficiaries were women.
- Participating entities have expressed a strong interest in undertaking a second phase of the project.
- CORE and ACR have agreed that the model tested in this project will be transferred to the ACR for replication.

- **Project: Mini Market Franchises**

This project, started in February 2011, is designed to establish and launch a network of 15 franchise⁶ mini markets, benefiting 46 ex-combatants, in Barranquilla (Atlántico), Cartagena (Bolívar), Carmen de Bolívar (Bolívar), Sincelejo (Sucre) and Corozal (Sucre). Funded with resources provided by CORE and COLTABACO, the project supports the ex-combatant economic reintegration process developed by ACR.⁷ During the quarter, three new mini markets were set up in Barranquilla, Sincelejo and Corozal, benefiting 9 ex-combatants, for a cumulative total (to date) of 4 mini markets and 13 direct beneficiaries.

The processes for recruitment of participants, monitoring and technical assistance to each small business are carried out in partnership with ACR; the knowledge-transfer process has been performed since the beginning of project. The likeliness of further implementation of this initiative depends on securing

⁶ Franchises are business models in which franchisors (FENALCO ATLÁNTICO in this case) provide commercial rights to their technology and brand positioning and access to existing networks of economies of scale to a franchisee or business investor (associations of 3 to 5 participants in the reintegration process in this case).

⁷ Each mini market requires an investment of [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]).

additional financial sources – public and private – allowing to guarantee that necessary resources are available to startup the mini markets.

- **Project: Establish, launch, and strengthen productive units led by ex-combatants in Santander**

The project aims to provide sustainable income generation alternatives for demobilized persons participating in the ACR program by creating and strengthening productive units. Implementation began in November 2011 when the strategic alliance between IOM, the Mayor's Office in Barrancabermeja (Santander) and IDESAN was established: 98 participants have benefited from this project. As part of this project, a comprehensive methodology was developed to accompany ex-combatant entrepreneurs, which will be transferred to the ACR as part of a strategy to build its capacity in productive projects.

The following accomplishments during this quarter are noted:

- Account management: each participant received a kit that includes: an accounting ledger and folder, notebook and calculator.
- Marketing support: marketing plans were developed for each productive unit and assistance is being provided to implement these plans.

- **Project: Training and labor linking for shoe manufacturing assistants**

This project supported "School Workshops" to train and provide employment to ex-combatants and victims in the manufacture of shoes in Bogota, Cali and Pereira. Project duration was twelve months ending in December 2012.

The most important achievements of the project were:

- Training to some 260 beneficiaries in Bogota, Cali and Pereira, out of which 204 beneficiaries obtained a job in this sector.
- The training and placement scheme was strengthened through management contracts with companies in the shoe manufacturing sector such as: Croydon (Bogotá), Manisol (Pereira) and Calzado La Maravilla (Cali).

ACR is responsible for identifying participants in accordance to the skills required for participating into the project, and for following up implementation, accompaniment. Monitoring of participants is carried out jointly by ACR and CORE program

- **Project: Reintegration and Community Development Program in Antioquia and Sucre**

This project, completed in December 2012, was carried out in cooperation with the Argos cement company, in support of the ACR's income generation services and, more specifically, the GOC's efforts to involve the private sector in ex-combatant reintegration. The project was developed in areas of Antioquia and Sucre where the impact of demobilization was strongly felt.

The primary objective of the project was to provide income generation opportunities to families through agricultural projects. Over six years, the project accompanied three growers associations that were created and

strengthened during project implementation, which have accumulated important resources as a result of the production and sale of ají chilies, plantain and yucca. Lessons learned and methodologies, will be transferred to ACR as a model of income generation activities

In addition to progress in terms of agricultural production (acreage, tonnage) and quality improvements, project results this quarter are as follows:

- A Board of Directors for each association was organized and participated in capacity-building activities such as strengthening management practices in each of the municipalities.
- The regional committees met to formalize the transfer of project implementation to the associations of each municipality, which led to the development of technical, administrative and financial processes for business management.
- Infrastructure projects were completed in Puerto Triunfo and San Onofre to guarantee greater production and sustainability in agricultural processes.

Notable overall project results include:

- 552 individuals benefited directly through income generating activities
- Completed the design and implementation of an information system to maintain updated project information on progress being made in each of the municipalities.
- Three supply centers were built in each of the municipalities to meet the project needs.
- Drip irrigation systems were installed on 70 hectares to guarantee sustainability
- The project serves as a good example of creating partnerships with the private sector to achieve reintegration goals; in the course of the project, Argos Cement Company contributed more than 2,000,000 USD to the project, provided technical assistance and participated actively in the project's development.

STRENGTHENING THE OAS MISSION TO SUPPORT THE PEACE PROCESS IN COLOMBIA (MAPP/OEA)

USAID and IOM work with the OAS Mission to Support the Peace Process (referring to AUC demobilizations) in Colombia (MAPP/OEA) by providing the tools and resources necessary to implement the organization's mandate specifically as it pertains to post-demobilized monitoring and verification, institutional strengthening, and accompanying local initiatives that affect quality of life improvements for demobilized and host populations.

MAPP continued monitoring and verification activities for the reintegration program, the Justice and Peace Law and the current state of security. Activities include:

- Issued 36 reports on DDR, covering security issues, the circumstances facing ex-combatants and host communities.
- In the context of monitoring the reintegration process and ACR policies, facilitated 10 focus groups and presented key conclusions.
- Monitoring of advances carried out by the Special Prosecutor's Offices for the implementation of the Ex-Combatants Legal Status Law (Law 1424).
- A special monitoring exercise on early pilots of the "Community Services" component of Law 1424 throughout the country by Regional Offices revealed that the initiative has made little headway towards accomplishing reconciliation.
- Monitoring of the first hearings of ex-combatants under Law 1424.

- Implementation of the survey on ex-combatants' recidivism. Between November and mid December, MAPP applied the surveys in more than 20 jails throughout the country and shared the content of this exercise.

Although the MAPP project includes support to the Inspector General's Office for the participatory assessment of collective harms⁸ committed by ex-combatants judged under the Justice and Peace Law, the recent reform to this Law obviates this step. Accordingly, CORE and MAPP will re-structure the project in the next quarter.

PSYCHOSOCIAL APPROACH: EX-COMBATANT REINTEGRATION

Responding to needs analyses undertaken in CORE-supported project as well as IOM's experience globally, CORE developed a training strategy for partners to build their capacity to develop actions that promote mental and psychosocial wellbeing of ex-combatant beneficiaries, thereby improving their chances for successful reintegration. Under this strategy, CORE facilitated three training sessions in Valledupar, Cali and Bogota in connection with rural and urban income generating projects. The project began in June 2011 and ended in December 2012.

The training sessions were conceived to provide IOM's implementing partners (on income generation projects and working directly with ex-combatant population) with psychosocial tools. These guidelines have been disseminated among GOC entities such as the Victims Unit, the Justice and Peace Court, and the Ministry of Health. These guidelines have been used as important outputs to support some of their psychosocial assistance policies. In the future, this toolbox may be used as a benchmark for programming, implementing and evaluating the psychosocial response of specific populations such as ex-combatants. This is to be done through lessons learned and identification of best practices.

General project results include:

- 20 operators and 62 professionals trained in the IOM psychosocial approach, as well as in the use of different types of programming, monitoring and evaluation tools
- Training methodology and workshop materials designed and produced
- 1,500 toolboxes were prepared and distributed to counterparts

IR 2: OPERATIONAL MECHANISMS TO ESTABLISH DEFINITIVE LEGAL STATUS OF EX-COMBATANTS

The GOC reintegration policy covers the legal treatment of ex-combatants who registered under the Justice and Peace Law (Law 975 of 2005) as being culpable of crimes against humanity, as well as the legal standing of rank-and-file ex-combatants covered under the Legal Status for Ex-Combatants Law (Law 1424 of 2010), which allows for these ex-combatants to avoid jail time in exchange for fulfilling community service, truth-telling and participation in the GOC's reintegration program. In the last quarter, CORE made substantial progress in its assistance to the ACR in formulating a model of the community service requirement, as well as with the CMH to design an institutional strengthening project related to the truth-telling component.

⁸ Under the Justice and Peace Law, one element in the criminal proceedings against ex-combatants was the "incidente de reparación," which involved a presentation on behalf of victims of the collective harms they had suffered at the hands of the accused.

IR 2.1: Attorney General's Office, MOJ, Inspector General's Office and Court system increase capacities for judicial processing of ex-combatants

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

- Project: Support for the Justice and Peace Unit

The Attorney General's Office is charged with investigating the processes for all demobilized individuals that seek benefits under the Justice and Peace Law. CORE has provided support to the Office since 2006. Under the approved work plan for 2013, the Attorney General's Office continues to be one of the Program's most important partners. However, activities relating to victims (such as prior support to the Attorney General's Office Sub-unit for Victims Services) have been phased out in view of the start of the USAID/IOM VISP Program. Future activities with the Attorney General's Office will relate to legal processing of ex-combatants under the Justice and Peace Law and Legal Status of Ex-Combatants Law.

Project results this quarter include:

- Social workers and psychologists supported attorneys through direct assistance to 458 victims in Bogotá, who recurred to these services due to psychosocial harm from violent events or from their participation in the oral testimonies (versiones libres) provided by ex-combatants.
- Social workers and lawyers supported state attorney to review documentation relating to 88 victims of the FARC-EP.
- The team psychologists and lawyers provided assistance to 88 victims of the FARC-EP who wanted to report their incidents to authorities.
- The call center received and processed 1,081 calls from victims.
- The missing persons database (SIRDEC) was updated with a total of 29 new entries of missing persons reported by family members.
- A total of 2,299 news items, hearings and notices from the Justice and Peace process were uploaded to the website. Eighty cases were documented for the historical memory files.
- A ceremony to return remains was held in Pereira. A total of 17 corpses were returned to their families and 60 relatives attended the ceremony and received psychosocial services.
- Genetics experts assisted with the identification of remains: 24 cases were analyzed and 15 positive identifications were completed.
- Lawyers supported the Attorney General's Office Asset Retrieval Unit to analyze 412 cases related to property restitution and provided assistance to 258 victims of forced displacement pursuing land restitution. These cases were remitted to the Land Restitution Unit.

INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE

- Project: Preventive control and monitoring of public policies on benefits to the demobilized population

Since 2007, USAID and IOM have been working with the Inspector General's Office to support their role in verifying GOC adherence to commitments on disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of ex-combatants. Through the project, the Inspector General's Office has been able to provide regular follow-up of the reintegration process, give early warnings on problematic situations and issue recommendations to

responsible GOC entities, such as the ACR, the National Police, for example. During the reporting period, the project focused on technical assistance for information management.

Component 1: Monitoring administrative and socioeconomic benefits

- A computer system professional was hired to design, validate and launch the web tool for application of a set of indicators designed by the project team. The web tool is part of the sustainability strategy, as the tool will be transferred to the Inspector General's Office upon project completion. In addition, a schedule has been defined with the consultant for the development of the required deliverables.
- As part of its sustainability strategy, the project team developed an IT tool that allows the Inspector General's Office responsible GOC entities to provide data online on services and programs for ex-combatants for regular monitoring by the Inspector General's Office. The tool will be validated and transferred to the GOC in May 2013.

Component 2: Monitoring the granting of legal benefits

Under this component, CORE assisted the Inspector General's Office to create information tools allowing inspectors to input information on their interventions in judicial processes. The component closed in December 2012 and in the last quarter the project supported the Office to integrate these information tools into their regular information system.

- **Project: Strengthening the response of the delegate from the Inspector General's Office on Penal Affairs to the legal representatives of the victims due to collective injury in the reparation incident.**

In 2010, a second project was started to strengthen institutional capacity of the Inspector General's Office to represent victims for collective damages under the Justice and Peace Law. Activities this quarter concentrated on completing cases that were being prepared last quarter (completed as of December 31, 2012).

General project results include:

- An analysis of collective damages and victims reparations measures attributed to Rodrigo Pérez Alzate, alias Julián Bolívar, commander of the AUC Central Bolívar Front.
- A document on collective reparation measures for victims of the El Naya massacre attributed to José Ever Veloza García, alias "HH," commander of the AUC Calima Front.
- An analysis of collective damages of the AUC Héctor Julio Peinado Front, led by Juan Francisco Prada Márquez, alias "Juancho Prada," operating in the southern areas of Cesar and in Norte de Santander.
- An analysis of collective damages and reparation measures for victims of the AUC Central Bolívar Front operating in the Magdalena Medio area, led by Carlos Mangonez Lugo, alias "Carlos Tijeras."
- An analysis of the regional context for the area where the AUC Peasant Self-Defense groups operated and a report outlining the general context of the AUC Elmer Cardenas Front operations.

The documents developed by the project team, according to the reform of the Justice and Peace Law, which eliminates the "incidente de reparación", will be submitted to the judiciary within the framework of the hearings on identification of damages caused to victims. The courts will subsequently submit the documents to the Victims Unit in order to continue the process of collective reparation to the affected communities.

INTERINSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE

Decree 3460 of 2007, a regulation under the Justice and Peace Law, created the Inter-institutional Committee for Justice and Peace to coordinate institutions with responsibilities under the Law.⁹ The Committee created technical working groups to generate inputs for decision-making on policy. One of these working groups, focused on Information Systems, took on the challenge of structuring a single information system for the Justice and Peace process.

- **Project: Interinstitutional Information System for Justice and Peace (SIJYP)**

The SIJYP was designed to consolidate all of the data related to the implementation of the Justice and Peace Law. Since 2007, CORE has assisted the GOC to manage the creation of the terms of reference, development and implementation of the system.

Project results this quarter are as follows:

- The firm that is developing SIJYP software undertook activities to assure that the separate institutional systems can “communicate” with the SIJYP, thereby enabling real-time exchange in pertinent information.
- Currently, the system is being used by the following institutions: Attorney General’s Office, Ministry of Justice and Law, Office of the Ombudsman, and the Victims Unit.
- As of December, 2012, the SIJYP has 81 active users from las entidades listas arriba. The Office of the Ombudsman has provided system access to 29 regional offices and the other three entities use the system in their central offices.

- Currently, the following modules are in operation:
 - Assets: Gathers information on assets delivered to the Attorney General’s Office by ex-combatants judged under the Justice and Peace Law; this information is shared with the Victims Reparations Fund.
 - Victim’s Assistance Route: Allows institutions to report online any services provided to victims under the Justice and Peace Law. It tracks all information relating to the judicial process pursued by each victim and promotes coordination among service-providers.
 - Ex-combatants judged under Law 975: Contains all information on this group of ex-combatants, including personal and identification data, participation in the AUC and other relevant data.
 - Individuals: Provides basic data on third parties involved in each case, including attorneys, victims and family members.
 - System Audits and Security: Allows for monitoring of who accesses the system and establishes security filters, promoting data security.

Two additional modules will be completed in the next quarter: the Judicial Process Management module, which gathers information from all other modules to create a full profile of each excombatant case, and the Victims and Witness Protection module, which outlines the route a person should follow when reporting to authorities a high-risk situation.

⁹ By law, the Committee includes the Vice-President’s Office, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Office of the High Commissioner for Peace, *Acción Social* (now the Department of Social Prosperity), Attorney General’s Office, High Judicial Council, Supreme Court, National Ombudsman’s Office, Inspector General’s Office, National Family Welfare Institute, National Commission for Reparations and Reconciliation (now defunct), and High Commissioner for Reintegration (now the ACR).

- The technical team developed three matrices with data from the Justice and Peace process, which were distributed to the entities that make up the Interinstitutional Committee on Justice and Peace, charged with consolidating official information on the Justice and Peace process.

CORE met with the Ministry of Justice to formulate support in the next quarter for the creation of a Transitional Justice Information System, which will expand the SIJYP to consolidate in one information system on persons who demobilized under different legal frameworks.

IR 2.2: ACR, CMH and Court system assist ex-combatants to meet conditions for legal benefits

Efforts focused on working with CMH, ACR and the Court System to define specific activities to be developed this year includes:

Justice and Peace (Law 975 of 2005 and Law 1592 of 2012)

- During the quarter, CORE met with key partners for inputs into the new work plan and to identify specific activity lines responding to partner priorities and in line with CORE's institutional strengthening approach.
- CORE met with the Justice and Peace Unit of the Attorney General's Office, a key Program partner and GOC leader of the Justice and Peace process. However, staff changes and restructuring of the Unit required a postponement in the formulation of specific activity lines until the next quarter.
- CORE met also with the Transitional Justice Directorate of the Ministry of Justice to review possible lines of coordination, especially with respect to preparing regulations for Law 1592.

Legal Status of Ex - Combatants Law (Law 1424 of 2010)

- A sub-project was developed with the CMH to build its capacity to implement the truth-telling component under Law 1424¹⁰ through, among other activities, constructing and validating the methodology and tools to collect and systematize information provided by ex-combatants and developing regional contexts that will allow the CMH to make sense of the information provided.
- Following the entry into an agreement with ACR at the end of the last quarter relating to the community service component under Law 1424, CORE and ACR carried out a selection process for 9 regional operators of community service activities in Bogota, Cali, Pereira, Medellín, Apartadó, Sincelejo, Cartagena, Cúcuta and Valledupar. An important value-added of CORE's support in this area is the design and application of a model for evaluating community service components to measure its impact on ex-combatants, communities and institutions.
- CORE worked with ACR on a communications strategy aiming to give guidance to ex-combatants on the implications, procedures and benefits under the Legal Status of Ex-Combatants Law (Law 1424 of 2010).

¹⁰ Ex-combatants pursuing a suspended sentence under Law 1424 were required to enter into the Agreement for Contribution to Historical Truth and Reparations in which each ex-combatant commits to contributing information on the make-up of the armed group and his or her participation in the group as well as sharing knowledge gained as a result of participation in the group on illegal activities.

IR 3: GOC SUPPORTED TO DEVELOP CONFLICT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Under this result, CORE will strengthen the GOC by responding to GOC requests for conflict management inputs, through analysis, dialogue fora, knowledge management support, and other initiatives that enhance the GOC's conflict management capacity. Activities under this result will focus on building knowledge as well as technical and operational capacities of the GOC for conflict management. It is expected that these activities will incorporate a tailored approach to gender and ethnicity, as the Colombian experience shows that these groups are impacted differently by conflict and peace, and international best practice counsels for incorporating differentiated perspectives into peacebuilding strategies.

Although peace building and reconciliation were incorporated in CORE's prior strategy, the start of the GOC-FARC peace process and the political complexities associated with this process cast this component in a very different light. Accordingly, CORE did not move forward with activities under Result 3 until approval of the work plan. However, the following actions are noteworthy:

- Devised in coordination with USAID a template for weekly reporting on the peace process and submitted reports on a weekly basis throughout the quarter. The reports include news, developments and concise context notes.
- CORE received a proposal from the Ideas for Peace Foundation (FIP) to produce analysis and information on the conflict and peace process.
- Receipt and assessment of sub-project proposal from the Office of the High Commissioner for Peace (OACP) to systematize the voluminous inputs received by the negotiation table from civil society organizations, individuals and others (for implementation by FIP).
- CORE worked with ACR on its proposal to hire a team of experts to produce information and analysis relating to reintegration, including reintegration issues emerging at the negotiation table.
- CORE developed terms of reference for an information analysis team, the objective of which would be to generate timely analysis on specific agenda items, peace scenarios, and so forth. The team is part of an information strategy, that may include external inputs, such as research and analysis from FIP if their proposal is approved in the next quarter.

PROJECTS IN TRANSITION

As agreed with USAID, CORE ended or transferred to VISP those projects that aimed to improve assistance to victims and build institutional capacity of GOC entities with mandates in this area. Recent accomplishments under this component include:

- In the area of reparations, CORE assisted the GOC to pilot a model for collective reparations, which model has been transferred to the Victims Unit. The seven collectives included in the pilot have been prioritized by the Victims Unit for assistance under its collective reparations route.
- CORE's support to the CMH for communications, including dissemination of its General Report, has been taken up by VISP.
- Likewise CORE carried out a number of activities to strengthen institutional capacity to integrate a psychosocial approach in the GOC's work with victims, which has only been taken up by VISP as one of its four intermediate results.
- CORE concluded its income generation activities aimed at improving economic conditions facing victims. In the rural context, one important project was the Rural Woman Project, which is being

systematized for transfer to the project's GOC partners (MADR and Incoder). Urban projects with victims have generated good practices and models that will be transferred to the ACR for application with its ex-combatant caseload.

CORE has concluded its activities related to land restitution. The most significant recent activities are support to the Land Restitution to implement the Victims and Land Restitution Law at the local level in the departments of Antioquia, Bolivar and Sucre; piloting of an innovative "sweep" methodology for large-scale land titling; and training of judges responsible for decisions on restitution.

These projects are covered in more detail in the Annexes.

4. Challenges Encountered and Actions Taken

Three challenges were encountered this quarter: the annual work plan approval timeframe, assuring partners (including GOC entities and sub-grantees) understand the new results-based strategy, and institutional turnover.

PMP and annual work plan approval timeframes

Overall the work plan and PMP approval process timeframe have set back Program implementation schedules. However, the Program was able to achieve the following, which in the long term will provide a stronger foundation for future work:

- Clarified the targets and scope of each intermediate result
- Aligned strategic program objectives and results with GOC priorities
- Clarified end-state outcomes for the program and its contribution to support GOC responsibilities
- Structured a PMP with a set of impact indicators to monitor and evaluate results
- Structured an annual work plan with specific activities to contribute to completing the results stipulated in the logical framework and PMP

Bringing on board project partners

As the PMP and work plan have adjusted the CORE Program with a stronger focus on institutional strengthening and a more rigorous monitoring and evaluation framework, efforts were required to ensure that strategic partners understood how this change would affect them, their activities and their reporting.

The CORE team invested time in meeting with strategic partners individually, as this was the most effective way to assure full understanding of the new strategy. CORE expects this to pay off with increased awareness by partners and specifically with better reporting.

Institutional Turnover and Inter-Agency Coordination

CORE faced several difficulties with institutional turnover in the Attorney General's Office. The Peace and Justice Prosecutor and division prosecutors changed, leaving CORE to reestablish working relationships. Furthermore, CORE has perceived increasing failures in coordination among GOC agencies with responsibilities relating to reintegration.

Accordingly, CORE has facilitated meetings among representatives from the Attorney General's Office, CMH and ACR to identify and propose solutions to bottlenecks and other instances where coordination should be improved.

5. Priorities for Next Quarter

Key priorities for next quarter include:

With ACR:

- Identify and implement income generation projects focusing on employability strategies and the creation or strengthening of productive units for demobilized persons in the intermediate or advanced stages of the reintegration route
- Design and approve a transfer strategy for urban income generation projects
- SAME will continue to support the implementation of IECC, ISUN and monitoring community service activities toward the goal of graduating ex-combatants
- Carry out the community service project developed by CORE and ACR, including an M&E system that may be applied to community service activities nationally. The evaluation model designed by CORE and ACR to support the community service project is intended to be totally transferred to the ACR.
- In coordination with other partners, design a project to develop training for judges who will hear cases under the Legal Status of Ex-combatants Law (Law 1424 of 2010)
- Design a project to construct and implement a communications strategy of Law 1424
- Strengthen a gender, ethnicity, disability and age sensitive approach in CORE's support to the ACR
- Pending approval, start project with ACR for information and analysis on reintegration, including as it relates to the peace process

With other GOC partners:

- Start project to build CMH capacity for implementation of the truth-telling component under Law 1424 of 2010.
- Work jointly with the Attorney General's Office Justice and Peace Unit to support and expedite the judicial processes for ex-combatants accused of crimes against humanity
- Define a work plan with the Ministry of Justice's Department of Transitional Justice to further joint initiatives.

Internal information and analysis

- Implement a peace process information analysis strategy with external inputs (e.g. from FIP) and internal analysis and writing
- Improve the weekly peace report submitted to USAID and develop new information products, including in-depth monthly analysis documents on emerging issues

6. Expenditures and Resource Utilization

Summary table this quarter:

Reporting Period:	October 1st to December 31st , 2012
New Projects Approved:	5 ¹¹
New Project IOM Financial Obligations:	██████████
Total Expenses for Reporting Period:	██████████

Component		Projects Approved	Number of Beneficiaries*
A.	Tracking and Monitoring	0	0
B.	Support to GOC Reintegration Program	0	0
C.	Inspector General's Office	0	0
D.	Support to Demobilized Population	0	0
E.	Verification to the Process	0	0
F.	Justice and Peace- Assistance to Victims	5	0
G.	Peace initiatives and Conflict Resolution	0	0
TOTAL		5	0

Table 1: Projects approved this quarter-by component and beneficiaries

Summary table-Cumulative figures

Total Projects Approved	
Total Projects Approved (Second phase):	161
Total Project IOM Financial Obligations (Second Phase):	██████████

¹¹ New additions to currently executed activities were approved during this period. For this reason these 5 activities are not added to the total (161).

Total Expenses (Cumulative figures):

██████████

Second Phase					
Component		Projects Approved	Number of Beneficiaries*	Obligated in USD** Total	Obligated in USD** IOM
A.	Tracking and Monitoring	0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0
B.	Support to GOC Reintegration Program	0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0
C.	Inspector General's Office	2	0	██████████	██████████
D.	Support to Demobilized Population	37	2.911	██████████	██████████
E.	Verification to the Process	3	0	██████████	██████████
F.	Justice and Peace-Assistance to Victims	115	63.754	██████████	██████████
G.	Peace initiatives and Conflict Resolution	4	420	██████████	██████████
TOTAL		161	67.085	██████████	██████████

Table 2: Projects Approved (Cumulative figures) by component, beneficiaries. Second Phase

Phase	Projects Approved	Number of Beneficiaries*	Obligated in USD** Total	Obligated in USD** IOM
First Phase	333	91.465	██████████	██████████
Second Phase	161	67.085	██████████	██████████

Projects in Transition and Closure: Victims and Land

The following projects are in transition to IOM's Victims Institutional Strengthening Program (VISP) and are reported in VISP's quarterly report or have ended this quarter. Below a short description of each project is provided.

REPARATION AND RECONCILIATION

- Collective reparation transfer

Based on the experience of the pilot projects regarding collective reparation and the PIRC, this project supports the Victims Unit to implement collective reparation measures in seven cases as well as the transfer of skills in collective reparation nationwide.

- Reconciliation Index

This project seeks to include reconciliation in local and national agendas based on the development of the following themes: 1. Development of inclusive reconciliation agreements; 2. Community actions for the reconciliation policy; 3. Development plans that include a peace and reconciliation component; 4. Development of an impact assessment strategy for local reconciliation policies; and 5. Dissemination strategy of the conclusions.

- Buenaventura collective reparation

In conjunction with the community councils, community based organizations, organizations of women, youth and other people from the Afro-descendant community of Buenaventura, socialize and develop a pedagogical process for a consolidated document of the Autonomous Proposal of Collective Reparation of the Afro-descendant Community. Develop an institutional advocacy strategy for the national, regional and local governments that facilitates effective implementation of the proposal.

HISTORICAL MEMORY

- **Implementation of the communication strategy and dissemination of the CMH's general report**

Strengthen the communications team and implement a strategy to generate public impact of the CMH's general report.

PSYCHOSOCIAL APPROACH

Five projects relating to the psychosocial approach in working with victims were undertaken, which are briefly described below.

- **Training strategy for top officials providing attention to victims**

This project was implemented in coordination with the Victims Unit to train high-level officials from different entities in a psychosocial approach. Participants came from the Ministry of Health, Mayor's Office of Bogota, Land Restitution Unit, CMH, PAICMA, IRD and the International Red Cross.

- **Strengthening the psychosocial approach of the Victims Unit**
This project was implemented in coordination with the Victims Unit to build its capacity to integrate a psychosocial approach in its services delivered to victims.
- **Specialized training to assist conflict victims**
This project designed and implemented a two-tier training based on trainings carried out in coordination with Foundation VIVO International, the IOM/USAID Child Soldiers Program and the National University.
- **Design of the victims component in municipal action plans**
This project was implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Justice to provide guidance to local authorities in 42 municipalities in the design and inclusion of victims in municipal action plans.
- **Design of community oversight committees for Victims Law implementation**
This project created monitoring instruments for victims' organizations to oversee the Victims Law implementation at the local level.

The following projects ended this quarter. The population served by these projects was victims of armed conflict and / or institutions responsible for implementing assistance strategies for victims.

LAND RESTITUTION

- Pilot Projects for Land Restitution

The land restitution projects implemented between October 2011 and December 2012 had two primary objectives:

1. Support the implementation of the GOC land restitution policy by establishing a new public institutional structure for land restitution outlined in Law 1448 of 2011.
2. Provide technical assistance to launch implementation of the administrative component for land restitution being directed by the Special Administrative Unit for the Restitution of Dispossessed Lands.

Project implementation was finalized in December 2012 for the implementation of land restitution pilot projects in Montes de María-Bolívar and Urabá; the pilot project in María-Sucre will be closed on January 31, 2013 and will be documented in the next quarterly report.

Key project results include:

- The Regional Directorate Offices for Land Restitution in Antioquia, Bolívar and Sucre were created and equipped with computers, GPS and security equipment
- A multi-disciplinary work group of six consultants was contracted for each pilot project (Urabá, Montes de María-Bolívar and Montes de María-Sucre) to support the regional directorates in Apartadó, Bolívar and Sucre.
- The Regional Directorate Offices for Land Restitution received a total of 2,330 applications for inclusion in the dispossessed land registry: 816 in Urabá, 859 in Montes de María-Sucre and 655 in Montes de María-Bolívar.

In order to address the requirements for a gradual and progressive process outlined in Law 1448, both macro- and micro- focus¹² processes were applied in the land restitution pilot project areas to select the geographic areas where studies on the applications received would be performed. Several areas were reviewed in each pilot project using the micro-focus process:

- 3 in the Urabá pilot
- 5 in the Montes de María Bolívar pilot
- 6 in the Montes de María Sucre pilot

The following table presents the results obtained in each area where micro-focus was applied in each of the pilot projects selected by the UAEGRT:

Pilot Project	# of properties with registry applications in the micro focus areas	# of processes documented and registered	# of applications not included in the registry
Urabá	377	72	5
Montes de María Bolívar	435	126	28
Montes de María Sucre	231	196	36

(Source: UAEGRT December, 2012)

Of the total number of applications added to the land restitution registry, 196 claims were presented to land restitution judges:

- 32 for the Urabá pilot
- 37 for the Montes de María Sucre pilot (from a total of 171 applications)
- 127 for the Montes de María Bolívar pilot

It should be noted that to date, the courts have ruled favorably in 44 claims from Montes de María Bolívar, in the Mampuján village. The rulings resulted in the formalization of the respective lots included in the three judgments from the Special Land Restitution Court in Carmen de Bolívar.

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

- **Project: Design and implement a capacity-building program for the Special Administrative Unit for Restitution of Dispossessed Lands and produce a study on Transitional Justice and Probation Flexibility**

¹² Micro-focus is a planning tool that takes into account several variables such as the density of dispossession, security conditions in the area, and existing institutional conditions for returning property, which allows the GOC to target the areas where restitution is most viable.

The project aimed to support institutional strengthening called for in Law 1448 of 2011 by providing training modules and producing conceptual, political, legal and historical studies on the development and application of Traditional Justice. It also sought to provide training for 150 officials from the Land Restitution Unit as well as to judges that would be hearing restitution cases.

Project results this quarter include:

- Two capacity-building exercises in October 2012, one in Cartagena and another in Medellin, were held for staff from the regional offices of the Administrative Special Unit for the Restitution of Dispossessed Lands. The methodology applied during these exercises was based on the analysis and discussion of cases of land restitution determined to be highly relevant to the capacity-building modules.

The project culminated in the delivery of the final versions of the nine capacity-building modules:

- Land restitution for judges
 - Land restitution for the Victims Unit
 - Transitional Civil Justice
 - Research
 - Differential approaches for Indigenous peoples
 - Differential approaches for women, children and youth
 - Property regularization
 - Protection
 - Compensation
- **Project: Empowering Local and Regional Governments and institutions managing rural property regularization**

The project objective was to support the GOC to implement the Rural Property Regularization Program by providing training for officials from the regional entities and institutions charged with rural property regularization. It sought to support the development of manuals on processes and procedures in order to reduce informalities found in rural properties and to support legal certainty, rural development, and the well-being of the community by issuing titles that would provide them with access to credit and development programs.

The following project deliverables were developed:

- Communication pieces were designed and printed and the communication tone was determined for the Rural Property Regularization Program developed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- The design of the manual as well as the development, validation and standardization of the processes included in the methodology for the regularization program as well as standardization of the processes that will be implemented in each region.
- Design, set-up and web upload for the basic procedural manual of the Rural Property Formalization Program developed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- Development of 36 capacity-building workshops for local agents that participate in the formalization program as well as for local institutions competent in the process in Boyacá,

Cundinamarca, Huila, Nariño, Valle and Cauca. The workshops trained agents and representatives of local institutions in the newly integrated and participatory methodology of property formalization through mass media campaigns on the cleanup of private property and titling of vacant lands by the Rural Property Formalization Program.

- **Project: Develop the participatory stage of the Diagnostic Pilot Project to facilitate access of victims of Monterrey- Simití in the south of Bolivar Region to land restitution procedures and to collective and individual reparations**

This project facilitated an identification of potential types of rights needing reparations and potential routes to accessing the means of reparations regulated by the GOC. In addition, it outlined the steps to be taken to apply for land restitution as a means to guarantee victims rights and to bolster the procedures and routes for reparations and land restitution prescribed in Law 1448 of 2011.

Final project deliverables are as follows:

- Community profiles in the five jurisdictions covered by the project
- A proposal for an appropriate route for integrated reparation
- Activity systematization and recommendations for the relevant governmental agencies

The project concluded with an official event for the community and public institutions to report the results of the participatory assessment of damages caused by the violence of armed conflict and the violations of human rights, the proposals corresponding to the reparations and the lessons learned from the project. The event took place on September 8, 2012, in San Blas, Simití, in conjunction with representatives of public institutions competent in land restitution and reparation processes, representatives of international cooperation agencies and the communities of the five jurisdictions covered by the project.

PRODUCTIVE PROJECTS

RURAL PRODUCTIVE PROJECTS

- **Project: Mujer Rural/Rural Woman**

The Rural Woman Project was designed to benefit women who are victim's of the armed conflict, to rebuild social capital by creating collective values, strengthening women-led productive units, increasing their income and skills through knowledge transfer gained from training, technology tours, exchange of experiences and technical assistance. IOM designed the intervention model per GOC public policy and directed the process as the resource manager with the active participation of MADR and INCODER.¹³

The project had the following impacts on the Colombian government:

- Support to build knowledge and to consolidate the administrative and technical processes needed to manage a productive project such as how to operate associations, update and implement internal statutes and regulations, create and operate rotating funds that allows access to resources that can maintain project activities, and group participation guidelines that minimize personal conflicts.

¹³ The total value of six signed agreements was COP\$2,508,799,750, the agreement covered provided [REDACTED], leveraging approximately [REDACTED] in counterpart funds.

- Support the process to increase association income, presentations at workshops to leverage new resources, and increase the number of women members.
- Support the process to improve living conditions by facilitating access to health services, education and credit.
- A sustainability strategy was established as both the MADR and the INCODER to continue to implement these models.

Final project results are as follows:

- Support provided to 690 people with productive activities and other project components, grouped in 28 legally established associations
- Technical assistance was provided to the Colombian government, specifically to the MADR on adjusting intervention components
- A national workshop was organized to share the experiences and to gather information to be included in the systematization documents to be distributed to other stakeholders
- Nine documents were produced in the roundtables organized to gather initial information for the systematization document on the project experiences. The experience was systemized to provide resources for MADR and INCODER for future interventions as part of the Rural Woman Program
- More than 100 products from the project were exhibited and dialogues were initiated between the National Association of Rural Women and the regional associations to leverage mutually beneficial support
- Supported knowledge gathering and life plan projects for 148 women in Norte de Santander to assist them to rebuild self-esteem through family gatherings, cultural activities and by providing access to health and education services
- Supported the development of conflict resolution strategies at the inter-family and community level during psychosocial workshops developed by the operating agencies
- Psychosocial strategies were established to promote community participation
- Supported development of new technical and administrative tools to manage productive projects, the production guidelines for association management and the creation and launch of a rotating fund that will provide access to other resources to maintain project activities.

- **Project: Nariño Business Project (ENA): Sustainable Development for Coffee Growing Families Who Are Victims of Armed Conflict in Nariño**

The purpose of this project was to benefit small coffee growers in Nariño, specifically in the seven towns victimized by violence. It sought to expand the participation of these growers in the specialty coffee production chain and to solidify certification processes (Rainforest Alliance and FairTrade USA) to make them more competitive.

Project achievements this quarter include:

- The audit process was developed by the firm SCS (Scientific Certification Systems) under Fair Trade regulations; this is the first pilot project developed in Colombia designed to improve market conditions for more than 300 families in Samaniego.

- 350 first-aid kits and elements to manage agrochemicals required by FairTrade regulations were provided to meet the requirements established by the FairTrade USA regulations for small-scale coffee producers.
- The capacity-building process to train 350 beneficiaries on the FairTrade USA regulations for small-scale coffee producers was developed. It was the first pilot under implementation and is currently being evaluated.
- Re-certification was obtained for 273 under the Rainforest Alliance Seal to guarantee the sustainability of certification processes that positively benefit market coffee prices.
- The technical assistance process for project beneficiaries in Samaniego concluded on October 31, 2012.
- Eight associations were created and legalized under the “FairTrade USA” pilot project. These associations provide growers with stronger negotiating capacity in marketing their coffee.
- The first Executive Committee of Producers was created with the participation of 16 representatives of the associations. The committee will represent the interests of more than 350 certified farms from the FairTrade USA pilot.
- The purchasing process for fair trade coffee was carried out with the support of companies in Nariño where the coffee is currently expected to be sold and the social premium gained from the sale of certified coffee will produce social dynamics and the Fair Trade norms establish expectations for social investment.
- The first pilot project implemented in Colombia in a zone affected by violence (Samaniego, Nariño) expects to perform an impact assessment of the FairTrade USA pilot for small-scale coffee producers next year.

General project achievements include:

- Technical assistance in coffee crop management was provided to 1,150 beneficiaries.
- 556 beneficiaries achieved Rainforest Alliance and FairTrade USA certification and were able to receive higher prices for their product as a result.
- 335 areas for coffee drying were constructed, a key contribution to improve the infrastructure for small-scale coffee growers.
- 114 special structures for coffee drying were built.
- A monitoring activity led to soil protection management by planting “live barriers” used to prevent soil erosion.
- Supported the design of infrastructure needed for wastewater treatment to protect water sources, wetlands, and forest reserves.

URBAN PRODUCTIVE PROJECTS

The projects reported below ended in December 2012. The models designed in these four projects will be part of the income generation model to be transferred to ACR. This transfer is part of the 2012 – 2013 workplan.

- **Project: Job opportunities for victims of violence in the Eje Cafetero (Risaralda, Quindío and Norte Del Valle)**

Since January 2012, the West Central Regional (ACOPI) runs a program to assess the profiles of victims of the armed conflict to be inserted into the formal labor market in Caldas, Quindio and Risaralda. To this end, a career guidance process is implemented and employment opportunities are identified. When employment opportunities coincide with beneficiary profiles the beneficiaries are put in touch with the company to participate in the selection process.

The project implemented support and monitoring activities for employers and project beneficiaries in order to increase the chances of employment sustainability. Participants were certified in a ceremony in Pereira.

The most important achievements of the project were:

- 45 victims of the conflict were provided employment in 15 companies in Caldas, Quindio and Risaralda
- The employability model designed by IOM and ACOPI was consolidated. This model will be transferred to the ACR for their reintegration programs' income generation component

- **Project: Assembly, commissioning and strengthening of production units for victims of violence**

The objective of this project was to provide sustainable alternatives for income generation for victims of violence through the creation and strengthening of productive units. From January 2012 four operators in Antioquia, Casanare, Meta and Risaralda implemented four projects that accompanied beneficiaries in the assembly and start-up and / or strengthening of a production unit.

The most important achievements of the project were:

- 304 victims of the armed conflict in Antioquia, Casanare, Meta and Risaralda received benefits from the commissioning, development and/or strengthening of one production unit as a source of income for the beneficiaries and their respective families.
- Assistance and monitoring activities were developed, focusing on the following topics:
 - Account management
 - Marketing support: a marketing plan was developed for each production unit including advising for implementation
 - Financial resources management
 - Technical assistance for the improvement of the quality of products and services.
 - Participants were certified in a ceremony that took place in each of the cities where the projects has been implemented.

Project: Training and job opportunities in processes related to the development of gas network infrastructure

The Chamber of Commerce in Dosquebradas (Risaralda) has been implementing a program since June 2011 that aims to train victims of armed conflict in trades related to the installation of residential gas networks and links them with companies in the sector through employment.

The most important achievements of the project were:

- 100 victims of violence received training in activities related to the development of residential gas network infrastructure through an agreement signed with the Chamber of Commerce for the Dosquebradas-Risaralda Region with the following results:
 - 40 gas network installers
 - 40 civil engineering assistants to install gas networks
 - 20 pipe insulation assistants to install gas networks

- Job opportunities for these participants were provided at gas companies

Service Summary Table

Department		Labor Training	Human Development & Psychological Attention	Formal Education	Profiles & Vocational Orientation	Employability & Productive Projects	TOTAL * DEPARTMENT
National Coverage	Projected	1.612	0	229	0	850	2.691
	Actual	38	0	0	0	0	38
Antioquia	Projected	3.112	3.201	700	4.150	1.558	12.721
	Actual	0	707	275	0	37	1.019
Atlantico	Projected	125	125	0	0	150	400
	Actual	3	0	0	0	13	16
Bogotá	Projected	835	7.897	0	1.000	574	10.306
	Actual	0	0	0	0	28	28
Bolívar	Projected	188	985	0	200	225	1.598
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caldas	Projected	15	0	0	0	0	15
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Casanare	Projected	100	50	0	0	50	200
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cesar	Projected	676	505	0	1.825	815	3.821
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Córdoba	Projected	639	646	0	2.025	680	3.990
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Guajira	Projected	0	0	0	0	34	34
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Magdalena	Projected	495	728	0	1.000	532	2.755
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meta	Projected	220	383	0	500	430	1.533
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Norte de Santander	Projected	50	520	0	500	240	1.310
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Quindío	Projected	50	150	0	0	150	350
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Risaralda	Projected	515	490	0	150	700	1.855
	Actual	0	0	0	0	4	4
Santander	Projected	64	297	0	400	489	1.250
	Actual	0	65	0	0	66	131
Sucre	Projected	230	251	100	500	377	1.458
	Actual	0	0	0	0	26	26
Tolima	Projected	0	50	0	400	50	500
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Valle de Cauca	Projected	85	908	0	1.000	238	2.231
	Actual	0	0	0	0	21	21
TOTAL PROJECTED		8.911	17.136	1.029	13.650	8.092	49.018
TOTAL ACTUAL		41	772	275	0	195	1.283

Services provided to desmobilized individuals, family members and victims by department and type.

Services summary Table- Demobilized individuals

Department		Labor Training	Human Development & Psychological Attention	Formal Education	Profiles & Vocational Orientation	Employability & Productive Projects	TOTAL PER DEPARTMENT
National Coverage	Population	38	0	0	0	0	38
	Demobilized	38	0	0	0	0	38
Antioquia	Population	0	707	275	0	37	1.019
	Demobilized	0	552	189	0	1	742
Atlantico	Population	3	0	0	0	13	16
	Demobilized	3	0	0	0	13	16
Bogotá	Population	0	0	0	0	28	28
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	20	20
Bolívar	Population	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caldas	Population	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	0	0
Casanare	Population	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cesar	Population	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	0	0
Córdoba	Population	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	0	0
Guajira	Population	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	0	0
Magdalena	Population	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meta	Population	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	0	0
Norte de Santander	Population	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	0	0
Quindío	Population	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	0	0
Risaralda	Population	0	0	0	0	4	4
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	4	4
Santander	Population	0	65	0	0	66	131
	Demobilized	0	65	0	0	66	131
Sucre	Population	0	0	0	0	26	26
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	10	10
Tolima	Population	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	0	0
Valle del Cauca	Population	0	0	0	0	21	21
	Demobilized	0	0	0	0	21	21
TOTAL POPULATION		41	772	275	0	195	1.283
TOTAL DEMOBILIZED		41	617	189	0	135	982

Services provided to demobilized individuals by department and type

Services summary Table Victims

Department		Labor Training	Human Development & Psychological Attention	Employability & Productive Projects	Land Restitution	Other services	TOTAL * DEPARTMENT
National Coverage	Projected	0	0	370	0	75.300	75.670
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antioquia	Projected	280	80	392	700	160	1.612
	Actual	50	0	283	0	0	333
Atlantico	Projected	0	0	100	0	130	230
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bogotá	Projected	75	75	56	0	0	206
	Actual	0	0	47	0	0	47
Bolívar	Projected	433	360	967	834	80	2.674
	Actual	68	0	68	0	0	136
Boyacá	Projected	0	0	0	360	0	360
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Casanare	Projected	0	50	50	0	0	100
	Actual	0	101	101	0	0	202
Cauca	Projected	0	0	0	1.094	120	1.214
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cesar	Projected	336	0	406	0	0	742
	Actual	203	0	367	0	0	570
Guajira	Projected	0	0	60	0	0	60
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Magdalena	Projected	0	100	100	0	0	200
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meta	Projected	75	168	168	0	0	411
	Actual	0	113	165	0	0	278
Nariño	Projected	0	0	800	712	0	1.512
	Actual	0	0	500	0	0	500
Norte de Santander	Projected	148	0	198	0	0	346
	Actual	0	0	232	0	0	232
Putumayo	Projected	200	0	0	0	1.000	1.200
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Quindío	Projected	0	25	7	0	0	32
	Actual	0	0	1	0	0	1
Risaralda	Projected	90	225	222	0	0	537
	Actual	20	191	264	0	0	475
Santander	Projected	0	0	110	0	0	110
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sucre	Projected	281	20	896	1.104	0	2.301
	Actual	152	0	211	0	0	363
Tolima	Projected	0	0	231	0	10	241
	Actual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Valle de Cauca	Projected	288	288	212	361	930	2.079
	Actual	0	0	45	0	114	159
TOTAL PROJECTED		2.206	1.391	5.345	5.165	77.730	91.837
TOTAL ACTUAL		493	405	2.284	0	114	3.296

Services provided to victims by department and service

*Small Businesses: A hope for 972 reintegrated
demobilized people in the Department of Atlántico*

*Source: El Herald Journal
Date: November 8th 2012*

The pilot project in Ciudad Jardin celebrates its first year of operations.

A second group of reintegrated demobilized people gets ready to start their own project

Milena De La Victoria, Ever Días, Argemiro Mendoza y Arnaldo Rubiano do not change for anyone. They were the first demobilized chosen a year ago for the pilot project of small businesses for populations in the process of reintegration. They are successfully managing a 2x3 Mini-Market, a micro-franchise located in the Ciudad Jardin neighborhood.

The Colombian Agency for Reintegration (ACR), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Coltabaco and Fenalco joined efforts to develop a pilot project on income generation for populations participating in a reintegration process by means of the settlement and startup of micro-franchise stores.

In February 2011, a cooperative agreement between IOM and Fenalco Atlántico was signed – funded by USAID and Coltabaco. This enhanced the alliance established with the Colombian Agency for Reintegration (charged with selecting participants for the program), explained Danka Bolivar, the ACR Manager in Atlántico.

The agreement envisages setting and starting up 15 productive units under the modality of micro-franchise stores in the cities of Barranquilla, Cartagena, Sincelejo and Carmen de Bolivar. Through these stores it will apply strategies on value chain integration, quality assurance, efficiency, client approach, knowledge management and innovation.

Training was provided to program beneficiaries on micro-business management, technical assistance for micro-franchise assembly, advice on administrative, technical and commercial management.

“We left violence behind as a proof of our reintegration and commitment to peace in Colombia and were trained on client service, cash management, inventories, accounting so that we could be allocated to each one of these tasks,” the demobilized persons expressed.

On November 8th 2011, the first 2x3 Minimarket small business was launched, which was located at Cra 42 No 75b-189 in a 160 m² store. This was possible once these participants had passed a selection and training process, and reported a successful performance in their reintegration process.

Milena De la Victoria remembers the difficult times encountered during the first months, given the difficulties to achieve a balance point and position the brand; besides, project had to be adjusted on the run, and both strengths and weaknesses were detected, to serve as a lesson learned for future micro-franchises to be opened.

“We are happy today. Our life has changed, we have a business mind. By the time the other micro-franchises will be opened, we will work together and be a sales force in the northern coast, and later at the national level”, Milena said.

“Within the range of products we offer, there are: liquors, provisions, fast food. In addition, we provide good customer service, we count on delivery service throughout the zone and 2x3 stands out for: quick, efficient and simple”, she added.

The community is happy with this self-service, as there was not a service like this before. Moreover, credit, debit cards payment is also available.

The second group of 972 reintegrated demobilized in Atlantico is currently preparing and training to start their own micro-franchise businesses soon.

Ever Díaz expressed they (the demobilized) hoped for increased support from the private sector to boost small businesses for those participating in the reintegration process.

Despite being in effect for 7 years, the Justice and Peace Law remains unknown

Source: El Nuevo Siglo Journal

Date: November 22nd 2012

Citizens' knowledge about the Justice and Peace Law (No 975) remains low after 7 years of its entry into force, despite the fact that it allowed the demobilization process of a considerable number of paramilitaries.

This is shown by a survey named What do Colombians think after 7 years of the Justice and Peace Law? – A project launched by the Historical Memory Center, The Special Administrative Unit for Comprehensive Treatment and Reparation for Victims, Fundación Social and the Armed Conflict and Peace Building Research Program of the Department of Political Sciences of the University of Los Andes.

The project also counted on the financial and technical support from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). This survey aimed to identify the degree of knowledge and opinions about the transitional justice process in the country and the impact on society.

To this end, different questions were asked to three population groups: the general population (which is also divided into affected and non-affected by conflict); organized victims and experts. The latter is made up from people having a great expertise on the Justice and Peace Law, acquired either by working or researching.

The survey was applied by the Ipsos Napoleón Franco firm on a number of 1843 people (accounting for population in general); 304 people from the organized victims group and 138 citizens from the experts group. It was applied between January 6 and March 12 in six Colombian regions: Caribbean, Central, Pacific, Southeastern, Eastern and Bogota.

The survey asked the following questions: How deep is your knowledge on the Justice and Peace Law? To which, 11% of the general population answered that they had not even heard about the Law. This response was given by 9% of victims, 11% of non-affected persons and 2% of organized victims groups.

Results obtained from the survey showed that most of the population had heard about the Justice and Peace Law, but their knowledge on the law was rather vague. So were the responses of 71% of general population, 67% of victims, 71% of non-affected persons and 56% of organized victims groups.

Most of the people pointed out that the media was the main channel of communication by which the Justice and Peace Law was promoted, followed by “mouth-to-mouth”.

In this regard, this research coincides with a former survey applied the last year - The Americas Barometer - which also asked about the knowledge on the Justice and Peace Law: less than 1 out of each 3 people answered affirmatively.

Appraisal of the Law

The survey also wanted to know the public opinion on the contributions made by the 975 Law to the reconciliation process. In this regard, the law fared well in accordance with the answers delivered by citizens, despite the fact that the law has been criticized on several points: number of prosecutions, the high number of demobilized persons who do not have a final legal status and weaknesses on the reparations from perpetrators to victims.

The survey asked: To you, the Justice and Peace Process is....? 76% of victims considered it as a support to reconciliation; 64% of the general population, 61% of non-affected people, 59% of victims and 58% of experts expressed the same.

In 2005, the demobilization process of the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia and turning over weapons were started within the framework of the Justice and Peace Law. With respect to this, the survey asked: do you have a positive opinion on demobilizations, a negative one, or you do not know what demobilizations are? 65% of victims, 61% of general population and 60% of non-affected people agreed on the positive contributions of demobilizations.

In contrast, 61% of the experts, 54% of organized victim groups, 32% of non-affected, 31% of general population and 28% of victims considered that demobilizations were negative.

Justice

The survey also researched other issues: the public opinion on progress and accomplishments in justice within the framework of the Justice and Peace Law, for which the following question was asked: In your opinion, how has the progress on justice been with regard to former paramilitary groups and the currently demobilized? 29% of the general population, 31% of victims, 29% of non-affected, 20% of organized victims, and 6% of experts believe that there has been significant progress; however, 26% of general population, 33% of victims, 25% of non-affected people, 38% of organized victims and 70% of experts argue that there has not been major achievements in this regard.

Likewise, the survey also wanted to know the public opinion on the obstacles facing justice with regard to violations of International Human Rights Law performed within the armed conflict. In this sense, polls showed that the greatest obstacles were the lack of justice and impunity (40% of the general population, 39% of victims, 40% of non-affected, 43% of organized victims and 61% of experts).

The following question was also asked: To what extent do you trust in the Justice and Peace's Judiciary System? The results obtained showed that 48% of general population has "some confidence"; an answer shared by 47% of victims, 48% of non-affected people, 39% of organized victims and 39% of experts. Related to this topic, the investigative work performed by the Attorney General's Office (AGO) is not well credited, as 84% of experts believe the AGO has not made a sufficient investigative task; 79% of organized victims, 79% of victims, 70% of general population and 68% of non-affected think likewise.

Destination for demobilized population

The survey also asked questions on the legal benefits for those who relinquished their guns; this issue has gained relevance, as the National Government and FARC started peace talks to end the conflict. It is worth noting, however, that this survey was applied in a moment where there was no knowledge about the likeliness of peace talks between the FARC and the Colombian government.

In this sense, the survey asked the following question: supposing that there is a possibility to punish all the guerrilla members who committed crimes within the framework of conflict, which of the following options do you agree with? In this regard, several choices were available, such as: punishing leaders only; punishing those who committed atrocities, among others. Nevertheless, most of the people expressed the State was compelled to punish them all; otherwise, victims' rights would be violated.



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Rural women united for well being



Photo: Jadin Samit, IOM archives

“Our current goal is to continue growing, not only to increase our earnings, but also to integrate more women.”

— [REDACTED] (left) attending a conference on the project’s systematization. Bogotá, D.C., November 22, 2012.

According to official data from Colombia’s National Statistics Bureau (DANE), Colombian women account for 52% of Colombia’s total population, out of which 46% live in rural areas and 19.8% are head of household. Recent studies show that poverty is higher in families led by women and that poverty has a larger affect and is more likely to marginalize these households.

[REDACTED] is one of those women. She was born in the La Sierra village, Carmen de Bolívar, in the Montes de María region (Department of Bolívar). At 10-years old she was forcefully displaced by the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC) and was away from her native village for a year. Four years later she once again had to flee from the National Liberation Army at the age of 15, along with her parents and 9 brothers. She has since lived in Ovejas, Sucre.

“Ever since I was very young I learned how to work on a farm with long days tending to crops and animals. This helped me learn the importance of being a farmer. Thanks to my parents and brothers I was raised believing the countryside can provide a high quality of life if you do the right activities, therefore when Prodesarrollo told us about the *Rural Woman* project sponsored by USAID and IOM, I did not hesitate and joined the initiative immediately,” she emphatically states.

In interviewing her on her motivations to join the project, [REDACTED] smiles, feels proud and happily answers, “I saw an opportunity to prove to both myself and my husband I was capable—he always said I was good for nothing.”

Since March 2012, the *Rural Woman* Project has been implemented thanks to a partnership between the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Colombian Institute for Rural Development (INCODER) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) – supported by the International Organization for Migration (IOM). 690 women from Antioquia, Bolívar, Meta, Norte de Santander, Sucre and Cesar have benefited from the project.

This initiative was intended to help displaced women like ██████—who are victims of the armed conflict in Colombia or live in vulnerable conditions—consolidate their community social ties based on trust, reciprocity and cooperation to get common benefits and better access to services provided by regional government agencies (departments and municipalities), thus increasing their income and fostering their independence.

In this sense, the goal was to help Colombian rural women be better involved in rural productive processes in an orderly manner and with a business perspective to increase family incomes. Another goal was to foster their political and social involvement in such a way that this empowerment would increase their food security, thus reducing their levels of poverty and encouraging sustainable development.

To put it in ██████’s words, “through the *Rural Woman* project I started networking with municipal government officials (both women and men). Now people no longer see me as merely somebody’s wife, but as an individual, as ██████ Pérez. This has been one of the greatest battles I have fought: getting public acknowledgement as a woman and a leader. I feel my children look at me differently now . . . they are proud of me.”

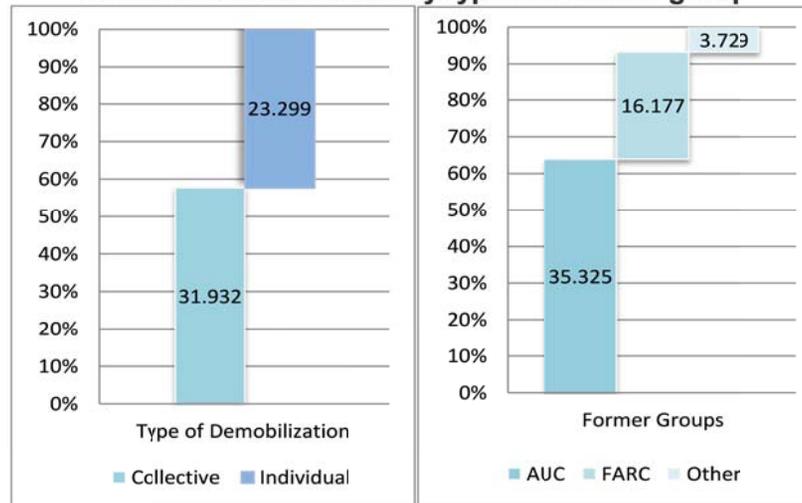
██████ currently works as Treasurer on the board of the Women Headed Households Association (AMO). She is convinced her life has dramatically changed thanks to the project, “my neighbors look at me with respect since I am always talking about women’s rights. Before I was very shy and would depend on others. The way I behave with my children has also changed; I used to be very aggressive with them.”

At 36 years of age, ██████ is mother of three children, 19, 13 and 9 years-old. Her oldest daughter studies at the university, thanks to the yucca, yam and squash crops that were sown by ██████ and 20 other women in the *Rural Woman* project. “Our current goal is to continue growing, not only to increase our earnings, but also to integrate more women”.

1. INFORMATION ON DEMOBILIZATION

55.231 people have demobilized since 2003.
48.679 (88%) are men and **6.552 (12%)** are women.

Chart 1. Demobilization by type and former group

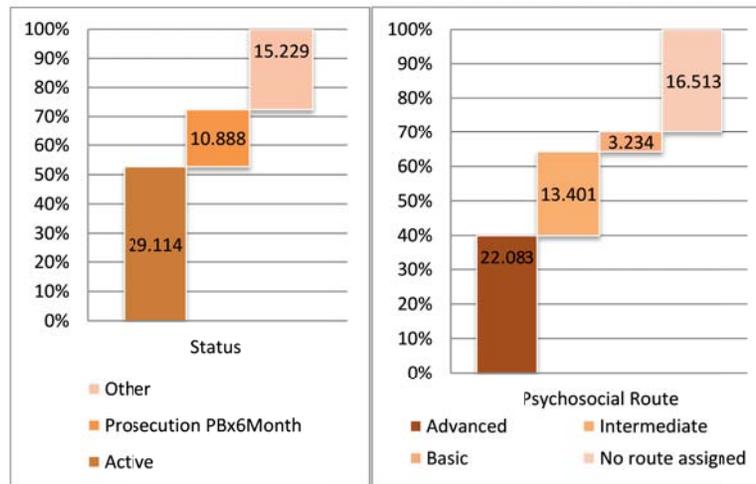


* Others: EPL ELN, ERG, ERP, No data available

2. REINTEGRATION MAP ROUTE

29.114 participants (**53%**) hold an active status in the reintegration process. Out of this number, **22.083** participants (**40%**) are at the advanced-route stage.

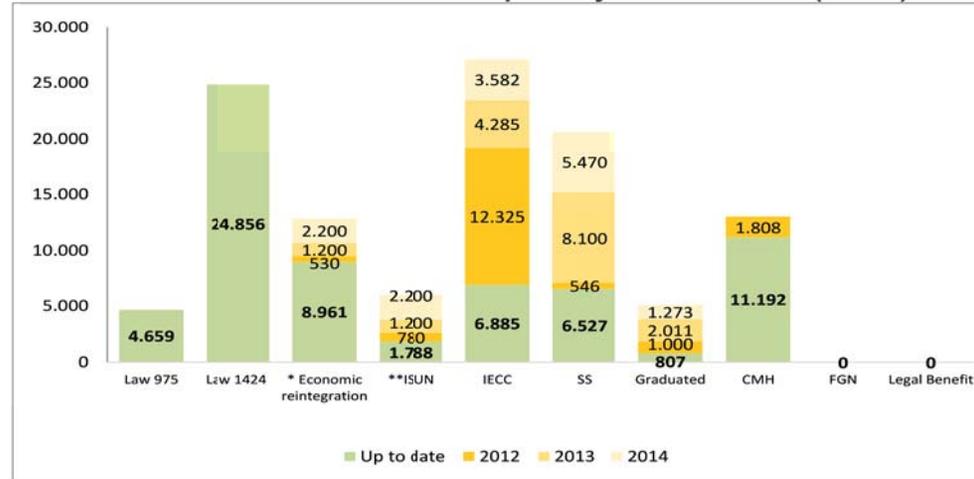
Chart 2. Statuses and Psychosocial Route by Active Participants



* **Others** accounts for participants holding the following statuses: imprisoned (D1059), extradited, dead, suspended, voluntary retrat, idle, loss of benefits, not holding an entry registry and graduated

3. DEMOBILIZED POPULATION CULMINATION PROCESS

Chart 3. Culmination Process of Participants by Active Members (29.114)



8.961 (16%) demobilized have been given support on economic reintegration since 2004. * Priority must be given to the Economic Reintegration Benefit for **15.711 (54%)** participants holding an active status and being at the advanced-route stage who have not received this benefit from the ACR yet.

1.788* (20%) participants have been provided with economic reintegration benefits and been applied the ISUN. Out of this number, **839 (47%)** participants have their business units running, **137(8%)** participants' business units are at risk and **812(45%)** participants have their units out of business.

To date, ACR reports **11.192** participants having signed the Record of the Agreement for the Truth and contributed to Historic Memory

** Economic Integration: participants being granted access to Business Plans, job recruitment or housing subsidies. **ISUN: Business Units Follow-up Instrument. IECC: Culmination Process Competences Assessment Instrument. SS: Social Service. CMH: Participants having subscribed "Agreements for the Truth" with ACR to make liaisons with the Historic Memory Group. FGN: Participants under prosecution by the Attorney General's Office.*

** Corresponds to the monitoring periodically conducted by ACR and/or IOM-TMES.*

Note: yearly goals shown in Chart 3 correspond to official data from ACR's strategic plan, as of December 2012

