

**QUARTERLY
REPORT**
**Rural Value Chains
Project**



**Cooperative Agreement No.
AID-520-A-12-00003**

**Corresponding up to Quarter
January – March 2015**

Guatemala, April 2015

Presented by:

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General Information

Executor	Consortium Rural Value chains Project
Consortium Representative	Guatemalan Exporters Association (AGEXPORT). www.export.com.gt/ / www.encadenamientoempresariales.com
Name of the project	Rural Value chains Project
Cooperation Agreement	AID 520-A-12-000003
Sub Grantees	Save the Children. www.savethechildren.org
Sub Contracts	INCAP www.incap.org Vital Voices Guatemala www.vitalvoicesguatemala.org Sotz'il www.sotzil.org IICA www.iica.int/esp/regiones/central/guatemala/ School of Foreign Trade
Strategic Alliances	Associations, Cooperatives, Services Providers, Brokers, Organizations and public and private institutions, International Cooperation, Financial Institutions, SESAN, MAGA, and others.
Period of RVCP	May 29 th , 2012 – May 22 nd , 2017
Geographic Area	12 municipalities at the department of Quiché, Totonicapán, and Quetzaltenango.
Priorized Sectors	Horticulture, Coffee and Crafts
Total Budget	US\$ 23,000,000
General Goal of the Project	To expand families from rural area participation in the chosen value chains in order to increase their income.
Name of the document	Quarterly Report from January to March 2015

Acronyms

AGEXPORT	Guatemalan Exporters Association	INCAP	Nutritional Institute of Central America and Panama
AGREQUIMA	Guild of Agricultural Chemical Association	INIFAT	Fundamental Research Institute of Tropical Agriculture
BPA's	Good Agricultural Practices	MAGA	Ministry of Agriculture
CCDESAN	SAN Demonstration Community Centers	MARN	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
CEDECO	Educational Corporation for Costa Rican Development	M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
CGP+L	Guatemalan Cleaner Production Center	MSME's	Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises
CNCG	Climate, Nature, and Guatemalan Communities	M & E	Monitoring and Evaluation
COANEPA	New Hope Comprehensive Agricultural Cooperative	OMM	Municipal Offices for Women
CONPRODA	Council of Agricultural Production	ORCAFI	Coffee network organizations at Ixil
COVENORTE	Apex North Cooperative	PEE	Chain Business Program
DQA	Data Quality Assessment	PMA	Produce Marketing Association
EE	Business Chains	ADINA	New Alliance Integral Development Association
ENCOVI	Life Conditions National Polls	PCSAN-G	Community Promoter SAN and Gender
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	SME's	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
FIDA	International Fund of Agriculture Development	SAN	Food and Nutritional Security
GABAS	Food-Based Dietary Guidelines for Guatemala	SC-RVCP	Save The Children – Rural Value chains Project
GTI	Technical Group of INCAP	SESAN	Food and Nutritional Security Secretariat
HIVOS	Humanist Institute for Development Cooperation	USAID	United States Agency for International Development of the United States
IARNA	Institute of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	UVG	Del Valle University of Guatemala
IICA	Interamerican Institute of Cooperation on Agriculture	VESTEX	Textile Industry Association of Apparel and Textiles
INACOP	National Institute of Cooperatives	VVG	Vital Voices Guatemala

CONTENT INDEX

I.	Introduction.....	7
II.	Objectives and scope of the Project.....	8
III.	Coordination with other projects of USAID.....	9
IV.	Progress in fulfilling goals and results “core indicators”	10
V.	Period Results Advances	15
	COMPONENT 1: Improve competitiveness of value chains	15
	Advances in Promotion of Nutritional and Food Security:	22
	COMPONENT 2. Expand participation in the rural value chains	23
	COMPONENT 3: IMPROVE AGRICULTURE PRODUCTIVITY.....	27
	COMPONENT 4: Expand markets and commercialization through innovation of private sector.....	29
	COMPONENT 5: Extend the crops productivity for home consumption and improve food usage ..	29
	COMPONENT 6: Improve competitiveness of crafts value chains	41
VI.	Cross-Cutting Themes	48
	Environmental Sustainability	48
	Promotion of Gender Equity (Vital Voices -VVG)	49
VII.	Limitations and Possible solutions	51
VIII.	Activities for the next Quarter	51
IX.	Administration.....	53
X.	Total Execution from January to March 2015	60

Index Charts

Chart No. 1 Progress in “core indicators”	10
Chart No.2 Business chains on execution C1	15
Chart No. 3 Sales (US\$) of Component 1	20
Chart No.4 Chains and Beneficiary of Component 2.....	24
Chart No. 5 Trained persons in Health and Nutrition	32
Chart No.6 Trained families in educational sessions that received counseling.....	33
Chart No.7 Families of component 1 that received educational sessions and counseling visits.....	37
Chart No.8 Families of component 6 that received educational sessions and counseling visits.....	38
Chart No.9 Number of ballots of domicile visits applied to Rural Value Chains of vegetables and Coffee, Phase 1	39
Chart No.10 Advances and achievements of conformation and technical support strategy to COSANE	41
Chart No.11 Approved Craft Chains	42
Chart No.12 Sales of Component 6	46

QUARTERLY REPORT JANUARY – MARCH 2015

RURAL VALUE CHAINS PROJECT

I. Introduction

The Guatemalan Exporters Association –AGEXPORT-, leader of consortium of Rural Value chains Project –RVCP-, presents the main results for the period from January to March 2015, as part of the consortium are: **Save the Children, Rainforest Alliance, Central America and Panama Nutrition Center –INCAP-, Vital Voices Guatemala, Sotzi'l Association, and Interamerican Cooperation Institute for Agriculture –IICA-**.

During the present period AGEXPORT as leader of the consortium presented USAID the strategically proposal to develop onion Chains in the village of *Sacapulas* and cardamom chain in the *Uspantán* area, both in the department of *Quiché*. Through the proposal, the project RVCP will develop an integral attention with a wide land coverage, which not only will allow to benefit a large number of producers, but as well, the productivity of the chains of onion and cardamom will be enhanced, faced to improve the quality of the production and commercialization with the perspective of promoting an increase on the income of families dedicated to these chores.

About the results achieved by the project during the present quarter, it was achieved to incorporate three new groups, which participate in the activities of component 2 of the project. Even though it is reported the drop of other two organizations (one group of component 1 and the other of craft component 6) that did not accomplished the requests to incorporate into the project. The RVCP has achieved to advance with a total of 101 chains, (67 chains of the vegetables sector, 8 chains of the sector coffee, 5 chains of cardamom, 4 of vegetables and 17 chains of the craft sector.), benefitting with services of technical assistance, access to business market and development, a total of 9,894 producers, distributed in 6,630 men and 3,264 women, that makes participation of 33% of women.

On this period there was achieved sales for US\$1,559,428.58 from which US\$1,092,217 were vegetables, US\$440,070 coffee, and US\$27,141.58 crafts. The wages obtained by the productive activities were 94,228, which are equivalent to 362 agriculture employments (59 jobs were done by women).

In general, the RVCP has been able to promote accumulated sales for a total of US\$9,756,091 and generated a total of 571,912 wages, representing 2,199 jobs.

Training events to improve the knowledge and agriculture productivity benefit a total of 1313 producers (840 men and 473 women) of the chains in component 1 and 2, the themes developed were the good agriculture practices, pruning of fruit trees, safe handling of pesticides among other subjects.

Related to food and nutrition security, INCAP and Save the Children trained a total of 1,993 families (708 families of 29 chains of component 1 and 1,285 from chains of component 2 under the responsibility of Save the Children).

The Craft Commission through actions of component 6, achieved to train 120 women crafters, providing technics and knowledge in the elaboration of Craft with pine and palm leaves, dressmaking, accessories with plastic beds, woodcarving and bamboo products.

Vital Voices of Guatemala conducted activities for personnel, reinforcing leadership and entrepreneur of 130 women partners and not partners of 7 rural productive organizations in *Quiché* from component 1.

The Project through the environmental cross-cut advanced with the implementation promoted by USAID, the valutors in field visits were accompanied and now we are waiting for the final report to take up again the emitted recommendations to improve implementation of environmental mitigation plans and of the contained standards in PERSUAP.

II. Objectives and scope of the Project

Improve the sustainable economic growth powered by markets access through value chains in rural zone, as a mean to reduce sustainably rural poverty and malnutrition, reaching the global objective of the Initiative of Feed the Future (FTF) from the United States Government which is “to sustainably reduce worldwide poverty and hunger”.

General Objective of the Project

Increase the sustainable economic growth powered by markets access through value chains in rural zones as a mean to reduce sustainably poverty and malnutrition.

Strategic Objectives:

1. Improve competitiveness and productivity of value chains increasing family participation.
2. Improve household productivity to increase income and food availability.

Specific Objectives:

The specific objectives have direct relation with the implementation components of the project, and as a whole include the following:

1. Improve competitiveness and extend the capabilities in associative selected MSMEs through specialized technical assistance to increase the capacity and market access.
2. Expand the coffee and horticultural production and sales model in favor of poor rural households.
3. Improve agricultural productivity through the access to new technologies for innovation, mitigation and adaption to climate change, good agricultural practices, and certifications demanded by the market to improve the competitiveness of MSMEs associations.

4. Develop a project to expand horticultural crops production and commercialization with direct participation of 4 *Pinos* in alliance with the Cooperatives Federation of *Quiche*, for this products commercialization.
5. Increase crops productivity in rural households for domestic consumption and improve its usage.
6. Strengthen women participation in craft value chains and increase productivity and competitiveness of MSMEs that produce crafts.

III. Coordination with other projects of USAID

AGEXPORT has continued and maintained an active participation in the coordination of RVCP and of the Integrated Program of USAID in the Western Highlands of Guatemala (WHIP).

Central Coordination Committee of Projects of USAID

During this quarter started the approach with the project “*Buena Milpa*” executed by CIMMYT, whose main purpose is to encourage innovation to reduce poverty and malnutrition and increase sustainability in corn systems of the Highlands of Guatemala, for AGEXPORT is very important the joint implementation with activities facing food security, reason for which will be coordinated the intervention with the CIMMYT to benefit families of the Chains.

Departmental Coordination Committee for USAID QUICHE projects

During this period, AGEXPORT continued with the WHIP coordination from *Quiché*, facing the overview and the analysis actions done during the year 2014 and the need to raise new strategies of broader scope towards 2015.

Together with the members of WHIP was done an analysis of the strategies, coverage and scope of the coordination in order to achieve a wider impact in the USAID operations of the area, through the work of the different partner entities. Based on the previous, new strategies, scope ad defeats, that were integrated to the new vision and strategic frame 2014 from the WHIP of *Quiché* were posed, where stands out the work on municipal level in mainstays such as economic development, citizenship participation and food security, where each social entity set up the actions according to its command and agreement with USAID.

On the other side, by USAID-Guatemala invitation, a presentation about the experience of coordination of the USAID partners in *Quiché* was carried out to the table of cooperation partners from Guatemala integrated by: PNUD, IICA, FAO, BID, UNICEF, USAID, AECID, etc., where stand out the importance of continuous and complementary work among the cooperation entities for rural development in Guatemala.

IV. Progress in fulfilling goals and results “core indicators”.

The advance of the Project indicators for the quarter and its total accumulated are presented as follows.

Chart No. 1 Progress in “core indicators”

INDICATOR NUMBER AND TITLE	UNIT OF MEASURE	DISAGGREGATION	FY 2015 2TH QUARTER
GOAL LEVEL STATEMENT: Improved Levels of Economic Growth and Social Development in Western Highlands			
4.5.2-5 Number of farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance	Number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: New, Continuing Sex: Male, Female 	New Male 0 Female 0 Total 0 Continuing Agriculture- handicrafts Male 5,095 Female 2,224 Total 7,319 7,319 Cumulative Total
4.5.2-7 Number of Individuals who have received USG supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training	Number: To count individuals receiving training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type of individual: _Producers _People in government _People in private sector _People in civil society Sex: Male, Female 	New Male 1,535 Female 1,040 Total 2,575 Continuing Agriculture- handicrafts Male 5,095 Female 2,224 Total 7,319 9,894 Cumulative Total
4.5.2-11 Number of food security private enterprises (for profit), producers organizations, water users associations, women’s groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance.	Number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type of organization (see indicator title for principal types) Duration: New, Continuing 	New 2 Horticultura: 2 Continuing Horticultura: 65 Cardamomo: 5 Frutales: 4 Café: 8 Artesanías: 17 Total 101 producers organizations
4.5.2-12 Number of public-private partnerships formed as a result of FTF assistance	Number	Partnership <i>primary focus</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural production Agricultural post-harvest transformation Nutrition Other Multi-focus 	New 1 public - agriculture 1 Financial Continuing 15 agricultural production 3 Nutrition 4 private-commercial companies (handicrafts)

INDICATOR NUMBER AND TITLE	UNIT OF MEASURE	DISAGGREGATION	FY 2015 2TH QUARTER
GOAL LEVEL STATEMENT: Improved Levels of Economic Growth and Social Development in Western Highlands			
PURPOSE LEVEL STATEMENT: Broad Based Economic Growth and Food Security Improve			
4.5-9 Per Capita Expenditures (as a proxy for income) of USG targeted beneficiaries	US Dollar	Gendered Household Type: • Adult Female no Adult Male (FNM) • Adult Male no Adult	
OUTPUT 1. LEVEL STATEMENT: Agriculture Productivity and rural Employment Expanded			
4.5.2 Number of Jobs Attributed to FTF implementation	Number Full Time Employment (FTE)	• Location: Urban, rural • Duration: New, Continuing • Sex of job-holder: Male, Female	Rural New Male 302.95 Female 59.42 Total 362.37 Continuing Male 1,509.01 Female 328.19 2,199.57 Cumulative Total
4.5.4 Gross Margin per Unit of Land of Selected Products (horticulture and coffee)	US Dollars per hectare (crops)	• Targeted commodity (type of crop) • Sex of farmer: Male,	
4.5.2-2 Number of hectares under improved technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance	Hectares	• Technology Type • Duration: New, Continuing • Sex: Male, Female • Association-applied	Continuing 69 Has. conversion of sprinkler irrigation to drip. 13 association-applied.
			Continuing 2642.44 has. with management in good agricultural practices.
			New 20 association-applied
			Continuing 28 association-applied
			New 50.20 has with mulch. New 21 association-applied

GOAL LEVEL STATEMENT: Improved Levels of Economic Growth and Social Development in Western Highlands			
4.5.2-13 Number of rural Households Benefiting Directly from to USG interventions	Number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duration: New, Continuing • Gendered Household type: _Adult Female no Adult Male (FNM), _Adult Male no Adult Female (MNF), _Male and Female Adult (M&F), _Child no Adults (CNA)	New Male 1,535 Female 1,040 Total 2,575 Continuing Agriculture-handicrafts Male 5,095 Female 2,224 Total 7,319 9,894 Cumulative Total
4.5.2-28 Number of private enterprises, producers organizations, water users associations, women's groups, trade and business associations and community-based organizations (CBOs) that applied new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance	Number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type of organization (see indicator title) • Duration: New, Continuing 	Producers organizations Horticultura: 67 Café: 8 Cardamomo: 5 Frutales: 4 Artesanías: 17
4.5.2-38 Value of new private sector investment in the agriculture sector or food chain leveraged by FTF implementation	US Dollars	N/A	US\$ 781,836.13 (this period) US\$ 2,447,417.81 Cumulative Total
4.5.2-39 Number of technologies or management practices in one of the phases of development: Phase I: under research as a result of USG assistance Phase II: under field testing as a result of USG assistance Phase III: made available for transfer as a result of USG assistance	Number	Phase III: Made available for transfer	Continuing 6 Sprinkler, soil and water conservation, handling of pesticides, managment in good agricultural practices, mulch.
4.8.2-8 Number of Climate Mitigation and/or adaptation tools, technologies, and methodologies developed, tested and/or adopted as a result of USG assistance	Number of technologies and methodologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REDD+ • Clean Energy • Adaptation • Crosscutting 	Technologies Adaptacion: 3 Reconversion de riego, Mulch, Prácticas de conservación de suelo

OUTPUT 2. LEVEL STATEMENT: Access to Market Expanded			
4.5.2-23 Value of Incremental Sales (collected at farm level) attributed to USG interventions	US Dollar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture products • Handicrafts 	Total del Período US\$ 1,559,428.58 Horticulture: US\$ 1,092,217 Café: US\$440,070 Artesanías: US\$ 27,141.58 US\$ 9,756,091.58 Cumulative Total
4.5.2-30 Number of MSMEs, including farmers, receiving USG assistance to access bank loans	Number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sex of owner/producer: Male, Female • Joint-held MSMEs 	Continuing 2 Small Enterprises
4.5.2-36 Value of Exports of Targeted Agricultural/Handicraft Commodities as a result of USG assistance	US Dollar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commodity _ Crop _ Handicrafts 	US\$ 940,070 (this period) Horticulture and coffee. US\$ 8,298,122.54 Cumulative Total

OUTPUT 3. LEVEL STATEMENT: Resiliency of Vulnerable Communities and Households Increased			
3.1.9-1 Number of people trained in child health and nutrition through USG-supported programs	Number	Sex: Male, Female	Participantes durante el periodo: 2,017 Male: 321 Female: 1,696
3.1.9-15 Number of children under five reached by USG-supported nutrition programs	Number	Sex: Male, Female	Continuing 2,061
4.5.2-14 Number of Vulnerable Households Benefiting Directly from USG assistance	Number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duration: New, Continuing • Gendered Household type: _Adult Female no Adult Male (FNM) _Adult Male no Adult Female (MNF) _Male and Female Adults (M&F) _Child no Adults (CNA) 	New Male 1,535 Female 1,040 Total 2,575 Continuing Agriculture-handicrafts Male 5,095 Female 2,224 Total 7,319 9,894 Cumulative Total
PRIVATE SECTOR COMPETITIVENESS			
4.6.2-9 Number of private sector firms that have improved management practices as a result of USG assistance	Number	N/A	Continuing: Horticultura: 60 Café: 7 Artesanías: 10 Total: 77 producers organizations
4.6.2-10 Number of firms receiving USG assistance to invest in improved technologies	Number	Rural, Urban	Continuing: Horticultura: 31 Café: 7 Artesanías: 5 Total: 43 rural firms.
CROSS CUTTING ISSUES: GENDER			
GNDR-2 Proportion of female participants in USG assisted program designed to increase access to productive economic resources (assets, credit, income or employment)	Percent	N/A	Continuing Agricultura-artesanías Female: 1,874

v. Period Results Advances

In the following section, the advances of each one of the components of the project are presented.

COMPONENT 1: Improve competitiveness of value chains

Leader of C1: AGEXPORT

Strategic Objective: Improve the competitiveness and expand the capabilities of rural associates MSMEs through the specialized technical assistance that increases its productive capabilities and its market access management.

The progress of the quarter January to March 2015 of Component 1, are known according to the performed activities and obtained advances with the approved chains that are in full execution.

Chains Executions

The Project RVCP develops actions with a total of 45 entrepreneur chains from which; 31 are for vegetables, 8 for coffee, 5 for cardamom and 1 for fruits. On this period the *Cacubén group*, identified in November was given up due to the difficulty to ensure the participation of the partners, which created insecurity of achievement results traced in their business plan. In Chart 2, the list of chains in execution of component 1 and the households' benefits are presented.

Chart No.2 Business chains on execution C1

No.	Name of the Organization	Village	Department	M	W	T	% of women	Crop	Company
1	Chajulense Association	San Gaspar Chajul, San Juan Cotzal	Quiche	532	43	575	7.5	Organic coffee	Green Mountain Coffee
2	Chajulense Association	San Gaspar Chajul, San Juan Cotzal	Quiche	528	41	569	7.2	Organic coffee	Green Mountain Coffee
3	ADIP	San Miguel Uspantan	Quiche	41	10	51	19.6	French beans	Coop. Cuatro Pinos
4	COANEPA-Pamaria	Santa Lucia la Reforma	Totonicapán	39	29	68	42.6	French string beans, sweet peas, snow peas	UNISPICE

5	AGRIUF	Santa Lucia la Reforma	Totonicapán	25	25	50	50.0	French string beans, snow peas	San Juan Agroexport
6	ADINA	Momostenango	Totonicapán	26	30	56	53.6	French string beans, snow peas	San Juan Agroexport
7	Agua Viva	Santa Lucia la Reforma	Totonicapán	60	20	80	25.0	French string beans, snow peas	San Juan Agroexport
8	Progress	Sacapulas	Quiche	163	30	193	15.5	French string beans	UNISPICE
9	Agros Ixil	Santa Maria Nebaj, San Gaspar Chajul, San Juan Cotzal	Quiche	275	75	350	21.4	Peas, sweet peas, french string beans	SIESA, Alimentos Congelados S.A.
10	CAFÉ IXIL-APROCAFI	Santa Maria Nebaj, San Gaspar Chajul, San Juan Cotzal	Quiche	214	86	300	28.7	Conventional Coffee	Atlas Coffee Importers
11	AIDA	Cunen	Quiche	90	20	110	18.2	French string bean	SIESA
12	ADECIGUA	Sacapulas	Quiche	139	18	157	11.5	French string bean	SIESA
13	APRODEFI	Chajul	Quiche	114	110	224	49.1	French string bean, snow peas, sweet peas, peas in grain	San Juan Agroexport
14	ASIES	Nebaj	Quiche	211	227	438	51.8	, snow peas, sweet peas, peas in grain, French string beans	UNISPICE, San Juan Agroexport, Alimentos Congelados S.A
15	CINASEM	San Miguel Uspantan	Quiche	192	138	330	41.8	French string beans	FRUTESA, Globalex Inc.
16	ADPRA	Santa Maria Cunen	Quiche	41	39	80	48.8	French string beans, sweet peas	Cuatro Pinos, Alimentos Congelados S.A.
17	ADIES	Sacapulas	Quiche	70	43	113	38.1	Onions	CENMA

18	ADIBA	Chichicastenango	Quiche	134	25	159	15.7	Sweet peas	Servicios Internacionales de Exportación S.A. SIESA
19	Cooperative Vertex of North COVENORTE	Nebaj y Chajul	Quiche	196	29	225	12.9	Organic coffee	FEDECOCA GUA
20	Flor del Café-Estrella Polar	Chajul	Quiche	66	17	83	20.5	Organic coffee	FEDECOCA GUA
21	Integral Cooperative Agrícola "Las Pilas"	Chajul	Quiche	116	42	158	26.6	Organic coffee	FEDECOCA GUA
22	ASODINE	Santa Lucia la Reforma	Totonicapán	35	15	50	30.0	French string beans, snow peas sweet peas, corn	GHORTEX S.A.
23	COPECAFE R.L.	San Juan Ostuncalco	Quetzaltenango	56	12	68	17.6	Organic coffee	FECCEG
24	Rabinal Vargas, Civil Society	Chichicastenango	Quiche	124	28	152	18.4	Sweet peas and snow peas.	Servicios Internacionales de Exportación S.A. SIESA
25	Integral Association of Potatoes growers from Ostuncalco - AIPO-	Aldea Los Alonzos, San Juan Ostuncalco	Quetzaltenango	60	15	75	20.0	Fava beans, Potatoes	SIESA
26	Ostuncalquense Association for the Earth, the water and Integral Rural Development - ASOTADIR-	San Juan Ostuncalco	Quetzaltenango	50	10	60	16.7	Fava beans, Potatoes	SIESA
27	"Association for the Integral Development Agrícola Pulay ONG" -ADIAP-	Pulay, Nebaj	Quiché	108	18	126	14.3	Sweet peas	San Juan Agroexport
28	Growers Association of the Village Pozo Verde	Aldea Pozo Verde, Cunen	Quiché	59	41	100	41.0	Sweet peas	Legumex

29	Growers Association from Village Flores Pajales	Aldea Flores Pajales, Cunen	Quiché	114	23	137	16.8	Snow Peas	Legumex
30	Community Association of Integral Development Pamq'a Ajtikonel - ACODIPA-	Rincón de los Leones, Zacualpa	Quiché	48	5	53	9.4	French string beans	SIESA
31	Producers Association Tikonel	Aldea Flores Pajales, Cunen	Quiché	63	27	90	30.0	Snow Peas and string beans	Legumex
32	Development Association for producers of Cerro Siete Orejas - ADACSO-	Concepción Chiquirichapa	Quetzaltenango	46	4	50	0.1	Loma Potatoes and FL Potatoes	Fritolay y Centro de mayoreo de papa en Concepción Chiquirichapa
33	Integral Cooperative Comercialización Maya Ixil R.L	Cotzal	Quiché	159	11	170	0.1	Organic Coffee	Interamerican Coffee
34	National Association of Producers of Fruit and (deciduous) Región Chichicastenango - ANADPECH	Chichicastenango	Quiché	45	5	50	0.1	Apple	Walmart y el Centro de Mayoreo CENMA.
35	Producers Committee EMMANUEL	Chichicastenango	Quiché	40	20	60	0.3	Sweet peas and snow peas	Grupo CEIS
36	Producer Group Progress–Cunén.	Santa Maria Cunen	Quiché	70	15	85	0.2	French Sting beans / snow peas	SIESA / La Cumbre, S.A. / Agrícola
37	Agriculture association for Development of Concepción Chiquirichapa Quetzaltenango -ADECHIQ-“	Concepción Chiquirichapa	Quetzaltenango	45	5	50	0.1	Potato and Fava beans	SIESA

38	Integral Association commentary Agroforestal - ADIAGRO	Momostenango	Totonicapán	35	15	50	0.3	French string beans/ snow peas	San Juan Agroexport
39	Regional Coordination Association of integral cooperatives - CORCI-	Chichicastenango	Quiché	45	18	63	0.3	Sweet peas/ snow peas	Grupo CEIS
40	Producer Group of Sicalbe	Momostenango	Totonicapán	35	15	50	0.3	French String beans/ sweet peas	San Juan Agroexport
41	ASIAPZR,	Queen Zone Uspantan	Quiché	686	119	805	0.1	Cardamom	Cardamom Commission
42	APEDINE								
43	ASOFDIT								
44	ASUVS								
45	ASODIG								
45 organizations Component 1				5195	1518	6713	22		

The relevant activities done during the present period are the following:

Business Management: During this quarter, the development of the Methodology and tools to reinforce the Organizational and Business model of the value chains from AGEXPORT was concluded, which will be incorporating and enforcing from the second semester of 2015 in the new chains that are being supported.

The methodology contemplates tools of diagnosis, categorization of development level of the organizations, counseling strategies, business coaching and a seal of quality in good business practices. All this tools will be incorporated to the strategies of accompaniment to the chains of the RVCP.

Technical Assistance: In this quarter the technical personnel supported in permanent way the value chains approved in the previous periods.

Within the main activities, the more relevant done by the technicians and promoters are:

For the case of the organizations of coffee producers the actions were focused on:

- Follow up the process of harvest and post-harvest of coffee and preparation of plants for the following cycle.



- Support the organization for production registration.
- Preparation of practices for coffee rust handling and control.
- Follow up to the implementation of management of agricultural practices, like pruning, handling of shades, soil conservation and technical assistance in nurseries.

For the organizations that produce vegetables, the actions were focused on:

- Supervision of the quality production, handling of crops, harvest and collection.
- Follow up and verification of PERSUAP which ensures the usage of allowed products.
- Implementation of Good Agricultural Practices

Agriculture Training: The process of qualification of different themes has continued, in order to strengthen and improve agricultural production. During this quarter, through the assigned personnel in field, a total of 439 producers from which 332 are men and 107 are women were trained. The main given topics are:



- Institutional strengthening
- Nutrition plantation
- Identification of Phytosanitary problems in crops
- Good Agriculture Practices in coffee
- Handling of fruit trees - pruning
- Cleaning and calibration of back pack

Commercialization: During the present period, 15 chains of component 1 of RVCP reported sales valued sales in US\$960,147, from which were commercialized US\$520,077 in variety of vegetables and US\$440,070 in coffee sale.

Chart No. 3 Sales (US\$) of Component 1

No.	Name of the organization	CROP OR CRAFT	Quarter January – March - 2015
			QUARTERLY TOTAL IN USD
1	ADIP	French string beans	\$ 29,690.17
2	AGRIUF	Snow Peas	\$ 2,131.79
		French string beans	\$ 4,561.50
3	Agua Viva	Snow Peas	\$ 14,223.76
		French string beans	\$ 4,148.15

4	Progresar	French string beans	\$ 58,814.59
5	ADECIGUA	French string beans	\$ 53,328.64
6	ADPRA	French string beans	\$ 10,289.75
7	ADIBA	Sweet peas	\$130,800.05
8	COVENORTE	Organic coffee	\$ 91,743.12
9	Flor del Café-Estrella Polar	Organic coffee	\$ 11,238.53
10	Las Pilas	Organic coffee	\$120,159.17
11	ASODINE	Sweet peas	\$ 21,513.30
		French string beans	\$ 27,590.74
12	COPECAFE R.L.	Organic coffee	\$216,929.37
13	Rabinal Vargas, Sociedad Civil	Sweet peas	\$ 35,112.42
		Sweet peas	\$ 26,557.85
14	Integral Association of Potato producers Ostuncalco -AIPO-	Potato	\$ 17,588.47
		Potato seed.	\$ 8,794.23
15	ACODIPA-	French string beans	\$ 74,932.31
total			\$ 960,147.92

The commercialized production during this quarter rises up to 120,861 quintals, from which 117,604.78 quintals correspond to horticultural products (peas, French string beans, potatoes and potato seed) and a total of 3,256.23 *quintals* of coffee.

Besides, a total of 60,972 wages equivalent to 234.51 jobs (from which 19 were done by women of the different groups) were generated.

Participation in AGRITADE fair:

During March, the AGRITADE fair took place, event that joint business people, local and international, suppliers, producers of all the country, as well as, the participation of 56 producers representing the benefitted chains in the RVCP.

Is important to stand out that by means of commercial promotion platform from AGEXPORT was possible to make 21 business appointments where producers from the chains participated directly contacting different business people interested in their product, having achieved important results as the case of the group AIPO who contacted a buyer achieving to commercialize certified potato seed for a value of US\$9,000.

The producers got knowledge through their participation in the forum “Analysis of Market Tendencies of the European and United States Market”, as well as through the given conference about the Climate Change and smart climatic Agriculture.

Advances in Promotion of Nutritional and Food Security:

INCAP (partner of the consortium) during the period developed activities for the “Promotion of Nutritional and Food Security” in the families that are members of the chains of Component 1, being these the followings:

i. Training for promoters for developing diagnosis

A training workshop was performed by the Center of Learning and Exchange of knowledge –CAIS- participating 20PCSAN-G and 2 departmental surveyors, with the themes of: complementary feeding, promotion of health services, anthropometric standardization among other themes.

ii. Domicile Counseling

Visits were done by promoters in SAN and Gender to 642 households of phase 2 from the clusters of component 1, promoting recommended behaviors related with nutrition in pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers, 24 women partners of the chain of crafts were trained in the theme of basic health services.

iii. Collecting diagnosis to chains of C1

The 13 diagnoses of phase 2 which started in the previous quarter are now in report phase, and it is expected the on the following months will be performed the presentation of the respective reports.

Up to now, 39 community Diagnoses in Value Chains have been done: 31 in chains of vegetables, coffee and 8 in craft chains.

The request for information from last chains (15 in total) including the Zona Reyna has initiated, it is projected that in the next quarter will advance in the georeferencing of households with at least 11 chains of the 15 new chains.

iv. Training Centers in SAN (CCDESAN)

Reported advances are basically to ensure that managers of organizations AGROSIXIL at the municipality of *Nebaj* in *Quiché* and ASODINE in *Totonicapán*, have consent to establish demonstration sites in their own lands, which have been already identified.

COMPONENT 2. Expand participation in the rural value chains

Leader of C2: Save the Children

Strategic Objective: Expand horticultural and coffee production, as well as, sales model in favor of poor rural households.

Component Objective: Improve competitiveness and extend the capabilities in associative selected MSMEs through specialized technical assistance to increase the capacity and market access.

Advances in the implementation of field Component 2¹

- **Rural Poor Households participated directly in the activity of productivity of the rural associative MSMEs (70% men and 30% women).**

According to the actions of component 2 was established that a total of 2,104 rural poor households are participating in productive activities of the chains where 45% corresponds to women, in the departments of *Quiché* (1,230 beneficiaries where 24% are women), *Quetzaltenango* (874 beneficiaries where 69.79% are women) and in *Zona Reina* (295 beneficiaries where 53% are women).

During this quarter, the incorporation of two new Chains in the department of *Quetzaltenango* was registered with memberships of 117 and 43 incorporated families. With the incorporation of these groups, component 2 accumulates a total of 39 groups for a total of 2,104 beneficiaries (1,204 men and 900 women).

¹ The information reported in component 2, collects data from the previous quarter (Oct-Dic 2014 and the current Jan -Mar 2015), due to the recommendations made in the Report of Internal Rating by AGEXPORT, which required a thorough review of supporting documentation of indicators.

Chart No.4 Chains and Beneficiary of Component 2

Code	Name	Beneficiaries			
		Total	Men	Women	% Women
01	Producers Group Caracolito.	52	40	12	23%
02	Agricultural Association for integral development Carrizalences.	80	54	26	33%
03	Agricultural Civil Association of integral development	82	64	18	22%
04	Group "Center for development and indigenous defense"	100	58	42	42%
05	Agricultural Group Pamaxan.	23	22	1	4%
06	Association for integral development of the villages San Luis Las Anonas and Poblaj Maya Uspantánense.	45	31	14	31%
07	Agricultural Association of integral development Ixil.	48	45	3	6%
08	Nuevo Amanecer Association from Nebaj.	63	53	10	16%
09	Agricultural Association for integral development Zacualpense.	89	79	10	11%
10	Agricultural Group Chitapol.	55	52	3	5%
11	Association of integral development Zacualpense.	55	41	14	25%
12	Agricultural Group Nueva Misión Santa Clara.	80	58	22	28%
13	Agricultural Group Zacualpense.	45	38	7	16%
14	Association of Agricultural for Integral Development Cinaguense.	48	43	5	10%
15	Agricultural Groups Ixlaj y Sotza.	72	38	34	47%
16	Group La Cumbre.	28	22	6	21%
17	Agricultural Group of development Bellaflores.	75	38	37	49%
18	Association of peach producers Rio Camanibal.	35	31	4	16%
19	Agricultural Integral Cooperative Chipaquense.	29	24	5	17%
20	Agricultural Association "Jupuk Winaq" Semeja III	23	19	4	17%

Code	Name	Beneficiaries			
		Total	Men	Women	% Women
21	Peach Producers Committee Chunimalenses.	43	43	0	0%
22	Producer Association El Quiché Integral and Development Ixil.	60	47	13	22%
Total El Quiché		1,230	940	290	24%
23	Association of Integral Development Chiquirichapense.	68	46	22	47%
24	Agricultural Association Chiquirichapa.	22	18	4	18%
25	Association for the Future Buena Vista.	17	12	5	29%
26	Evangelical Community Committee of Health "ECS"	44	18	26	60%
27	Producers Committee La Victoria	17	16	1	99%
28	Agricultural Association El Buen Sembrador	80	10	70	100%
29	Women Group Flor del Campo	35	1	34	99%
30	Group of Sowers Visión de la Aldea La Victoria	82	3	79	86%
31	Farmers of Tuipox	96	11	85	100%
32	Group of organized women from Concepción Chiquirichapa	33	16	17	35%
33	Producers Nuevo Amanecer	80	17	63	83%
34	Producers La Esperanza	35	12	23	75%
35	Group of producers Las Estrellas del Tizate	51	2	49	100%
36	Group of rural women form the area Mam Flor del Durazno	32	3	29	100%
37	Association of organic agriculture Ancestral	22	20	2	9%
38	Agricultural development Committee, Aldea Las Barrancas, San Juan Ostuncalco	117	59	58	52%
39	Women Group Triunfadoras de Monrrovia	43	0	43	100%
Total Quetzaltenango:		874	264	610	69.79%

Code	Name	Beneficiaries			
		Total	Men	Women	% Women
Total SC:		2,104	1,204	900	42.78%

There are advances with deployment of the professional team in *Zona Reina*, having identified 12 new Chains with the cardamom cultivation, which would add up 295 additional families from which 139 has an active participation of women. These Chains are in process of formalization through a start letter of intervention, so its inclusion to the project will be reported the next quarter.

- **Poor Rural Households received SDE and technical assistance (30% women and 70% men)**

During this quarter, 92 events of training for the Chains of C2 were developed, in which participated a total of 1.319 producers (44% women) who received Services of Entrepreneurial Development (SDE), a total of 61 events were conducted with the groups of the department of *Quiché*, with the participation of 1,045 families, involving 41% of women and 31 events were in *Quetzaltenango*, with the participation of 274 families where 56% were women.

The topics covered during the training were diverse, which are broken down as follows:

- Organizational Themes: 66 events were conducted, to which 931 beneficiaries assisted from which 50.5% were women.
- Administrative Themes: 38 events were conducted, where assisted 555 beneficiaries with participation of 38.74 % women.

- **Training in charge of the company BEJO and other institutions**

A total of 22 agricultures participated in camp day promoted by Bejo Zaden Guatemala, enhancing the capacities of promoters and producers of the organizations.

Five producers of two organizations of *Quiché (Zacapula)* were trained in themes related with pelages and diseases, such event was promoted by USDA and they took action in the training process of professionals of the *Del Valle University from Guatemala*.

- **Specialized Technical assistance**

During this quarter, 33 visits of technical assistance were done to enhance the organizational and administrative capabilities to the Chains of the departments of Quiche and Quetzaltenango.

On their behalf, during the months of October to December 500 Households received technical assistance, 247 beneficiaries with a participation of 30% of women in Quiché and 253 beneficiaries with 65% participation of women of the groups from Quetzaltenango.

- **Generated employments in rural associative MSMEs**

During this quarter, 7,708 wages were registered, 10.3% was done by female labor, generated with the operations of 11 chains. With the generated wages in the quarter, a total of 29.6 full time jobs were achieved. (3 correspond to women).

The report informs that in the quarter from October to December, 21 groups of component 2, were able to generate 98.26 jobs from which 38% corresponds to women labor, equivalent to 25,548 wages (9,708 wages correspond to women).

The grand total of generated employment in the two quarters is 127.86 from which 40 are women labor; in terms of wages a total of 33,256 were accumulated of which 10,501 were made through the female labor.

- **Accumulative generated sales and horticultural and cardamom production volume**

The generated sales in this quarter were obtained from 3 chains which reach up to US\$ 134,176.98². The groups *Chitapol*, *Ixlaj* and *Sotza* from Quiche, reported sales of US\$ 121, 296.74 and the Agricultural Association of *Chiquirrichapa*.

A total of 3,610 quintals of horticultural products was commercialized. The Group *Chitapol* commercialized 2,765.90 quintals of French green beans and the groups *Ixlaj* and *Sotza* commercialized 89 quintals of grain peas. The agricultural association of *Chiquirrichapa* sold 755.62 quintals of potatoes.

After the document revision of the generated sales by the groups of component 2, during the first quarter (October - December 2014), in this report was included an amount of US\$ 437,962.16 that were generated by the groups of Quiché (US\$ 6,428.38) and Quetzaltenango (US\$ 431,533.78).

The total of sales to be reported is of US\$ 572,139.14 for a volume of produced quintals of 23,927.90 from cultivation of potato, French Green beans and grain peas.

COMPONENT 3: IMPROVE AGRICULTURE PRODUCTIVITY

LEADER OF C3: AGEXPORT

Strategic Objective: Improve the agricultural productivity through accessing new technologies for innovation, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, good agricultural practices, and demanded certifications to improve competitiveness of associative MSMEs.

The main actions led to improve agriculture productivity of the producers were focused for this period as follows:

² Exchange rate approved by USAID to December 2014; US \$ 1.00 equals Q 7.638

- **Good Agricultural Practices**

During this period, a monitoring and follow up to implementation of good practices was made with 24 groups reported in the precious quarter and 7 new groups with BPA's implementation dealt during the reported period, benefitting 4241 producers. Equipment with backpacks for fumigation, protection suits, masks, gloves, boots, material to surround parcels, labeling and different lab analysis for water, land and cholinesterase has contributed for the chains to accomplish with regulations of harmlessness and quality in the production of vegetables for export required by companies.

Advances in boosting onion chain

The RVCP has held several meetings with the partners of WHIP to contextualize and socialize the strategy of the onion chain which focuses on:

- **Territorial Focus/Productive Potential:** Prioritizes a chain with productive and commercial potential that integrates actors of various producers, communities and organizations, buyers and providers.
- **Integral Focus:** Integration among economics, social and environmental.
- **Multi-actors Alliances:** These alliances will ease the integration of public and private efforts for the development of chains.
- **Resource optimization:** Increases the intervention scale in terms of coverage, technical assistance, production volumes, sales, income, and employment generation.
- **Improve Scale:** Extends the possibility of incorporate more beneficiaries and participants of the chain as the services Offerors.
- **Ease coordination:** Improves coordination to achieve a major scale of the impact of RVCP and WHIP.

The scope of the proposed approach for the chain of onion revolves around:

General Objective

To contribute to economic and social development of the families which participate in the process of production of the onion chain at the municipalities of *Sacapulas* and *Cunen* at the department of *Quiche*.

Specific Objectives

- **Improve the productive offer:** Improves the productivity and competitiveness of production and commercialization of onion in the organizations of producers of the municipality of *Sacapulas* under the focus of value chains.
- **Strengthen the organizational capacity:** Strengthens associativity of the different actors of the chain, in order to reach efficient and equitable cooperation relations among them.
- **Improve access to markets:** Links up producers to market in order to guide production according to requirements, taking advantage of the opportunities and niche markets both internally and externally. Improves conditions at the chain.

- **Infrastructure:** Improves the infrastructure productive network in a way that facilitates the adaptation of onion production to the requirements of volume, quality, and deliver conditions in different segments of market.
- **Nutritional and Food Security:** Facilitates the access to health services, birth control, and nutritional and food security.

The previewed goals are the following:

- Territorial Scope: 12 communities
- Attention: 1,500 producers
- Area: 300 Ha.
- Production: 300,000 quintals
- Employments: 1,400.
- Generated sales: US\$ 2.9 millions
- Number of organizations: 15 organizations
- Intervention period: 2 years (May 2015 – May 2017)

COMPONENT 4: Expand markets and commercialization through innovation of private sector

Leader of C4: AGEXPORT y *Cuatro Pinos* Cooperative

Strategic Objective: Facilitate through the creation of a Federation of Cooperatives the incorporation of small producers of non-traditional producers of vegetables to export markets through its insertion to value chains of vegetables, generating productive exportable offer, expanded services, transformation, and commercialization of their production, in a strategic alliance with the *Cuatro Pinos* Cooperative and its horticultural development model.

For this quarter it has a first version of the proposal which is oriented to invest in strategic productive infrastructure in the territorial chains of coffee, vegetables and cardamom, implementing strategies of co-investment and competitive funding between organizations of producer participants in the RVCP. This proposal will be submitted to USAID in the next quarter.

COMPONENT 5: Extend the crops productivity for home consumption and improve food usage

Leader of C5: Save the Children and INCAP

Strategic Objective: Increase the productivity of crops grown in rural households for domestic consumption and improve the usage thereof.

a) Advances in execution of Component 5

- **Households increase yields of food crops for domestic consumption. (C2 direct households participating in productive activities)**

The established alliance with the Project *Mas Frijol* (More Beans) has continued, for the implementation of 1265 parcels of beans with equal number of families at the departments of Quetzaltenango and Quiché. 68 participants were trained about technical maintenance of corn crops, usage of improved seeds for corn cultivation, and usage of improved seeds for beans cultivation.

To achieve the increase of corn yield, the implementation of 1610 parcels of corn with the varieties of White Compound and ICTA B7 was planned, in equal number of families, for the departments of Quiché and Quetzaltenango the White Compound, and for the zone Reina and the municipality of *Zacualpa* at Quiché the ICTA B7.

- **Households adopted alternatives to increase productivity of staple foods.**

A total of 38 households have been trained about the implementation of family orchards as an alternative for the increase of production and availability of vegetables for domestic consumption, the implementation of family orchards is contemplated with the arrival of rainy season from May onwards.

The implementation of 1,456 home orchards is contemplated in equal number of households, with which would facilitate the availability of diversified food and the sale of surplus thereof. It is expected that families can access other quality food.

- **Households using techniques of preparation and storage of improved food.**

During the first quarter was achieved that 36 households were trained in the management of grain storage and preparation of food. The purchase process for the acquisition of silo bags, as a technologic alternative for storage of grains/seeds has started, with this will be linking the beneficiaries and groups in the usage of new storage technologies and will improve the actual storage practices.

- **Trained households in food usage through value chains and in implementation of horticultural gardens for domestic consumption and promotion of a diversified diet.**

A total of 77 trained households in conservation techniques management and food storage, adequate combination of food and preparation of nutritive recipes.

- **Households increase their knowledge for animal husbandry as an alternative for home consumption**

209 participants were trained about the importance of locking up poultry, protecting them from predators, facilitating its handling and egg collecting, and avoiding damage of home orchards.

- **Households improve alimentary behaviors related to nutrition**

A total of 80 trained participants in actions related with the improvement of their nutritional behaviors of the members of their families, especially from the little ones. The taught themes to promote the change of behaviors have been “Tips for adequate family nutrition and personal hygiene and housing”.

- **Trained persons in health and nutrition of children , through supported programs by the project**

In this period 368 households were trained in actions related with the improvement of health and nutrition in children. The taught topics and the number of participants are described as follows:

- Principal newborn danger signs: 297 participants were trained.
- Exclusive breastfeeding: 29 persons participated.
- Warning signs of childhood: 42 persons participated.

Chart No. 5 Trained persons in Health and Nutrition

Result and description of trainings	Participants			
	Total	Men	Women	% Women
Conservation and Storage food Techniques	23	10	13	57%
Right combination of Food	311	62	249	80%
Preparation of Nutritive recipes	267	29	238	89%
Conservation and Storage food Techniques	176	55	121	69%
Sub-total:	777	156	621	80%
Tips for right feeding of families	50	19	31	62%
Personal Hygiene and Housing	30	15	15	50%
Sub-total:	80	34	46	58%
Right Feeding of pregnant woman	17	9	8	47%
Danger signs of Pregnant and puerperal woman	43	28	15	35%
Sub-total:	60	37	23	38%
Exclusive breastfeeding	29	0	29	100%
Principal newborn danger signs	297	90	207	70%
Childhood danger signs	42	3	39	93%
Sub-total:	368	93	275	75%
TOTAL	1,285	320	965	75%

- **Children under five years covered by the nutrition programs supported by the project**

There are a total of 2061 children under five years, covered by nutrition programs supported or related with RVCP.

COMPONENT 5: INCAP Activities

Objective 1: *Improve availability of nutritious and safe food resulting from the productive activities for domestic consumption, ensuring a bigger diversity for the family diet by the promotion of good agricultural practices, implementation of vegetables and fruit orchards for domestic consumption, promoting consumption of animal breeding and poultry and its*

sub products, production and consumption of improved basic grains, as well as, the good practices for post-harvest storage of basic grains and household usage of them.

i. (60) Community promoters in the main areas of execution of the project, trained for development of community diagnoses and for the implementation of proposed activities in the specific objectives.

In compliance with the commitment to strengthen the skills and knowledge of local staff and comply with specific objectives, the INCAP in the January-March quarter tracked the educational strategy, conducting an educational workshop, aimed at promoters and supervisors of SAN and Gender. The training workshop was held at the Center for Learning and Knowledge Exchange - CAIS in the period from 15 to 20 February 2015. The event involved 20 PCSAN-G and 2 departmental supervisors, the topics covered were:

- Complementary feeding
- Feeding of ill children
- Promotion of basic health services
- Vaccination, supplementation and growth monitoring
- Anthropometric standardization of PCSANG and not standardized supervisors
- Community self-management
- COSANE: presentation of oversight information and work methodology
- Educational strategy for craft chains
- Supervision proposal: Model discussion, instruments, preparation and deliver of reports.

Chart No.6 Trained families in educational sessions that received counseling

PCSAN-G	Women	Men	RURAL VALUE CHAIN
Angela Mendoza, link of ADIAP	1		CHAJULENSE I
			CHAJULENSE II
			AGROS IXIL
			APROCAFI
			ADIAP
Elena Juan, link of Las Pilas	1		LAS PILAS
			COVENORTE
Clarita Laynez	1		CHAJULENSE I
			CHAJULENSE II
			ADIAP
			COVENORTE
Cecilia del Barrio, link of CHAJULENSE II	1		CHAJULENSE I
			CHAJULENSE II
			LAS PILAS
			FLOR DEL CAFÉ
			ADIAP
Tereza Chávez	1		CHAJULENSE I
			LAS PILAS
			COVENORTE
María Chávez	1		CHAJULENSE I
			LAS PILAS
Juan Pantaleón, link of CHAJULENSE I		1	CHAJULENSE I
			CHAJULENSE II
			APROCAFI
			FLOR DEL CAFÉ

			LAS PILAS
			COVENORTE
Nohemí Sánchez, link of ADIAP	1		CHAJULENSE I
			APROCAFI
			AGROS IXIL
			APRODEFI
Olga Marcos Pérez, link of APROCAFI y AGROS IXIL	1		CHAJULENSE II
			APROCAFI
			COVENORTE
Savina Velasco, link of COVENORTE	1		CHAJULENSE II
			AGROS IXIL
			APRODEFI
			COVENORTE
			ADIAP
			CHAJULENSE I
Argelia Cox , link of PRODEFI	1		CHAJULENSE II
			APRODEFI
			AGROS IXIL
			APROCAFI
			ADIAP
			COVENORTE
Rosario Tum, link of FUNDACIÓN PROGRESAR y ADECIGUA	1		FUNDACION PROGRESAR
			ADECIGUA
Catarina Tum, link of ADIES	1		FUNDACION PROGRESAR
			ADPRA
			ADIES
			ADECIGUA
Leandra Yat, link of CINASEM y TIKONEL	1		CINASEM
			TIKONEL
Jesica Carrillo, link of ADIP y AIDA	1		ADIP
			AIDA
			TIKONEL
Alicia Tiquiram , link of Flores Pajales y Pozo Verde	1		FLORES PAJALES
			POZO VERDE
			TIKONEL
Rosa del Carmen Par Guarcax, link of ADIBA y Rabinal Vargas	1		ADIBA
			RABINAL VARGAS
Leticia Toj, link of ACODIPA	1		RABINAL VARGAS
			ACODIPA
Marta Victoria Baten Vicente, link of Nueva Esperanza, Ríos de Agua Viva, AGRIUF y ASODINE	1		Nueva Esperanza
			Ríos de Agua Viva
			AGRIUF
			ASODINE
María del Rosario Navarro, link of ADINA	1		ADINA
Elvira Cabrera, link of COPECAFE, AIPO y ASOTADIR	1		COPECAFE
			AIPO
			ASOTADIR
Elisabeth Cobo	1		Supervisora Departamental
Feliciana Cedillo	1		Supervisora Departamental
	23	1	



ii. Diagnósticos comunitarios

Up to now, community diagnoses of 39 value chains have been done, for 31 vegetables and coffee chains and 8 craft chains.

- Community diagnoses in 13 agricultural value chains of phase 2

From the collection of data in the previous quarter, it has begun publishing and data processing, which will, in the coming months, perform the required analysis and report and presentations at the central level and in each of the chains.

- Geo-referencing and identification of households partners in 11 agricultural chains of Phase 3

In preparation for the development of community diagnoses under the responsibility of community Promoters of SAN and gender, we are planning and scheduling the next round of visits to communities that make up 11 agricultural value chains of phase 3 of the project (April and May) in order to take the points of georeferencing of households and identify eligible families that will receive the support of SAN.

- Development of community diagnoses of Crafts

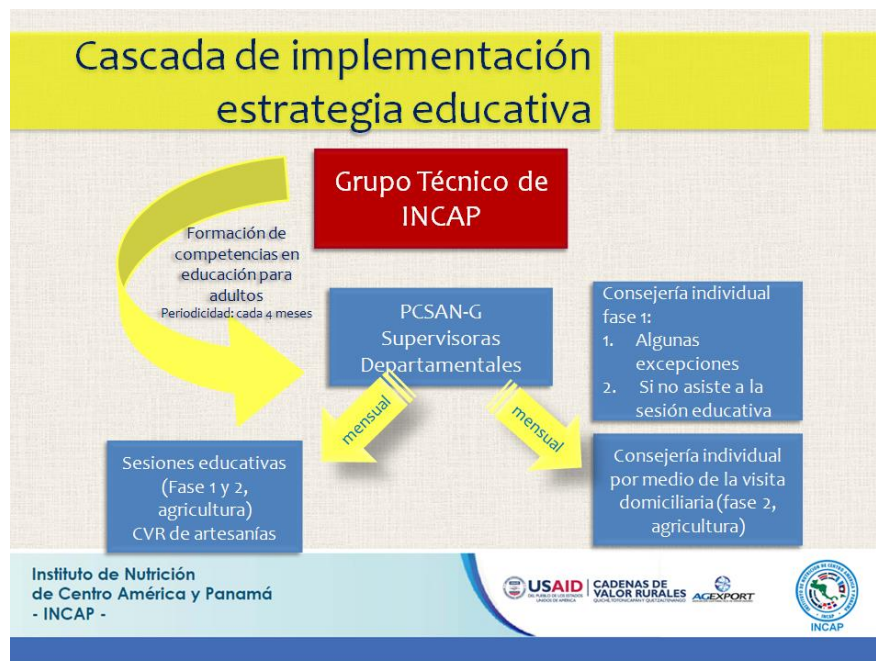
Eight final reports have been done and its respective presentations with data of community diagnoses: one global report and seven specific reports of the first diagnoses of the craft chains of phase 1. Together with AGEXPORT, a tour to present the results in 6 of the 8 craft chains of phase 1 has conducted.

In this quarter, the collection of data in AMTEDICH was performed in order to complete the eight diagnoses of the first phase. Additionally, the process of data collection has begun for one if the chains of phase 2: ADIMIC of *San Juan Cotzal*.

- iii. **Families with children under 2 years of 60 EE (business chains) of vegetables and coffee have received technical assistance and counseling and 30 EE (business chains) of crafts have participated in educational activities.**

INCAP designed and negotiated with the Craft Commission (COMART) a work plan for 2015, oriented to strengthen the SAN component in households of chain partners. In function of this plan, in this quarter educational group activities were performed in the chains of women: Chajulense, ASODIMAC, COPIMARI, APRODEFI, and Ixil Concept.

From 2015, with the incorporation of new value chains, the educational strategy changed, placing each promoter geographically, in a way that a RVC has more than one promoter serving the communities where partners live.



Through group educational sessions for eligible families of Phase 1 and Phase 2, plus counseling home visits in the homes of the families of Phase 2, it has continued the educational strategy.

Visits were performed by promoter in SAN and Gender to 642 households of phase 2, promoting recommended behaviors related with nutrition in pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers, and 24 women of the craft chains were trained in the theme of promotion of basic services of health.

The counseling themes in households were: feeding of pregnant women, feeding in breastfeeding period, breastfeeding in the first six months and promotion of health services.

Chart No.7 Families of component 1 that received educational sessions and counseling visits

RVC	Total of families that received educational sessions			Total of families that received counseling		
	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
CHAJULENSE I	111	0	111	28	0	22
CHAJULENSE II	72	0	72	14	1	15
AGROS IXIL	50	0	50	6	0	6
APROCAFI	21	0	21	1	0	1
APRODEFI	42	0	42	4	0	4
ADIES	10	0	10	31	0	31
ADPRA	4	0	4	12	0	12
PROGRESAR	15	0	15	39	0	39
ADECIGUA	21	0	21	47	0	47
ADIP	0	0	0	9	0	9
AIDA	10	0	10	0	0	0
CINASEM	26	0	26	57	2	59
NUEVA ESPERANZA	24	0	24	0	0	0
AGRIUF	3	0	3	0	0	0
ADIBA	25	0	25	5	0	5
ADINA	16	1	17	27	1	28
ASODINE	25	0	25	25	0	25
ACODIPA	14	0	14	19	0	19
RABINAL VARGAS	50	0	50	52	0	52
COPECAFE	19	0	19	18	0	18

ASOTADIR	22	0	22	33	0	33
AIPO	0	0	0	4	0	4
ADIAP	8	0	8	20	0	20
LAS PILAS	16	0	16	37	0	37
FLOR DE CAFÉ-COESPO	20	0	20	35	0	35
COVENORTE	45	0	45	68	0	68
FLORES PAJALES	11	0	11	30	0	30
TIKONEL	8	0	8	14	0	14
POZO VERDE	19	0	19	28	0	28
TOTAL	707	1	708	663	4	667

Chart No.8 Families of component 6 that received educational sessions and counseling visits

RVC	Total of families that received educational sessions		
	Women	Men	Total
CHAJULENSE DE MUJERES	4	0	4
ASODIMAC	3	0	3
COPIMARI	6	0	6
APRODEFI	4	0	4
CONCEPTO IXIL	7	0	7
TOTAL	24	0	24

Visit activities of counseling performed in Vegetable and Coffee rural value chains



Activities of group educational sessions performed in craft rural value chains



iv. Community Demonstratives Centers for Nutritional and Food Security-CCDESAN

In order to follow the implementation of CCDESAN, two meetings in ASODINE (*Totonicapan*), and 2 others in AGROS FOUNDATION were held. Besides, the following activities were held:

- An agreement with Rafael Landivar University was made, for the design elaboration and space distribution in CCDESAN.
- Support of RVC's to give a ground for CCDESAN
- Disposition of municipality of *Uspantan* for the ground preparation

v. Implementation of nutritional oversight

During the trainings of promoters and supervisors that were held in February 2015, it was used to review the data collection instrument that will be used from now to measure dietary diversity of eligible women in households. This will join the oversight ballot used in biannual visits, will aim to determine changes in the structure of the diet that are taken from the educational activities performed by Promoters and Managers.

- Reports of nutritional oversight

The process of data recollection corresponding to the second visit to eligible families has been completed, using for it the instrument of nutritional oversight. Nowadays, the process of edition is beginning in order to prepare the subsequent fingering data.

Chart No.9 Number of ballots of domicile visits applied to Rural Value Chains of vegetables and Coffee, Phase 1

No.	RVC Code	Rural Value Chain	No. Ballots, first visit	No. Ballots, second visit
1	003	ADIBA	51	57
2	004	ADIP	9	9
3	005	ADPRA	13	12
4	006	AIDA	28	30
5	037	ADIES	28	31
6	032	PROGRESAR	41	42
8	033	RIOS DE AGUA VIVA	5	4

7	028	AGRIUF	10	13
9	034	NUEVA ESPERANZA	36	35
11	038	ADECIGUA	47	47
12	031	CINASEM	58	59
13	039	APRODEFI	59	53
10	036	APROCAFI	49	58
14	012	ASIES	88	-
15	035	AGROSIXIL	113	112
16	009	ASOCIACION CHAJULENSE 1	154	167
17	010	ASOCIACION CHAJULENSE 2	136	148
		TOTAL	925	877

vi. Training leaders about COSANES topic

A tour to agricultural RVC of phase 1 was conducted, in order to present the main characteristics of the initiative that promotes support actions to conformation and functioning of COSANES. For this, a work model was designed from the level in which GTI (strategic and technical) acts, incorporating supervisors and promoters in the execution of technical and operational tasks with each one of the chains.

In this regard, supervisors and promoters were responsible for monitoring the various tasks to be done by the presidents, coordinators or legal representatives for approval by the Assembly or the boards of associations or cooperatives, defining who the committee members will be and, finally, developing together with the members of the committee work plans (February to July 2015) in which COSANE strengthening activities were incorporated.

In parallel, the GTI began the process of development and measurement of educational material to be used in each of the scheduled sessions and training workshops. To do this, a systematic literature review process was conducted, which has been the base for the design of the contents, materials and methodological guidance on the following topics:

- Organization and functions of local committees
- Social participation
- SAN and human development
- Leadership and team work
- Community self-management
- Logical framework approach

In April begins the execution of the process of monthly educational sessions with COSANE that have already been established.

Chart No.10 Advances and achievements of conformation and technical support strategy to COSANE

No.	rural value chain	presentation of initiative cvr	approval and definition of members	elaboration of work plan	developed sessions				
					1	2	3	4	workshop
1	ADIBA	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	ADIP	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	ADPRA	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-
4	AIDA	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	ADIES	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-
6	FUNDACIÓN PROGRESAR	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-
7	RIOS DE AGUA VIVA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	AGRIUF	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-
9	NUEVA ESPERANZA	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-
10	ADECIGUA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	CINASEM	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-
12	APRODEFI	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	APROCAFI / AGROSIXIL	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	ASOCIACION CHAJULENSE	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

COMPONENT 6: Improve competitiveness of crafts value chains

Leader of C6: AGEXPORT /Craft Commission.

Strategic objective: Strengthen women participation in crafts value chains and increase productivity and competitiveness of MSME's that produces crafts.

From different developed activities by the crafts component of the Rural Value Chains Project, the advances of the first quarter are presented, being these the followings:

i. Identification of new chains

During this quarter we have worked with 8 new chains of artisans, which mean a total of 1077 benefitted producers (846 women and 231 men). In the past period, 18 chains were reported, however, in this period the Group Horizontes ceased due to its boards and partners presented their resignation for failing to reach internal agreements that allow compliance of criteria that the project RVCP demands.

Chart No.11 Approved Craft Chains

NO.	Name of the organization	Municipality	Department	M	W	T	% women
1	Asociación Chajulense de Mujeres Unidas por la Vida	Chajul	Quiche	0	50	50	100
2	Asociación de Mujeres Tejedoras para el Desarrollo Integral Concepción Chiquirrichapa-AMTEDICH	Concepción Chiquirrichapa	Quetzaltenango	0	31	31	100
3	Fundación Agros, Proyecto Agros-Ixil	Santa María Nebaj, San Gaspar Chajul, San Juan Cotzal	Quiche	0	45	45	100
4	Asociación para el Desarrollo Integral Buenos Aires-ADIBA	Chichicastenango	Quiche	0	20	20	100
5	COPITEM	Momostenango	Totonicapán	30	22	52	42
6	APRODEFI	Nebaj	Quiché	15	25	40	63
7	ASODIMAC	Nebaj	Quiché	2	33	35	94
8	COPIMARI R.L.	Cotzal	Quiché	3	28	31	90
9	ASDIMUS	San Miguel Uspantan	Quiché	0	40	40	100
10	ADEMVE	Santo Tomás Chichicastenango	Quiche	0	30	30	100
11	LAS ORQUIDEAS	Santa María Cunen	Quiche	7	50	57	88
12	ADMI	San Gaspar Chajul	Quiche	10	68	78	87
13	AJ KUNEL	Santa María Cunen	Quiche	60	126	186	68
14	ADIAP	Santa María Nebaj	Quiche	0	50	50	100
15	ADIMIC	San Juan Cotzal	Quiche	0	100	100	100
16	ADMADEC	Chichicastenango	Quiche	75	65	140	46
17	ASUNDECO	Chichicastenango	Quiche	29	63	92	68
17 chains				231	846	1077	78%

Formalmente, a partir de este próximo trimestre se estará trabajando con 17 organizaciones aprobadas y formalizadas. Se espera que seleccionar 13 nuevas organizaciones en el siguiente trimestre para completar la meta de 30 encadenamientos de artesanías.

ii. Design and development of new products

During this Quarter (January to March 2015) the development of products increased in 35%, implementing a cumulative total of 67 new developed collections, composed by 312 new products

elaborated by the artisans and buyer companies of the attended chains. For this quarte there are a total of 21 collections formed by 55 new products.

Among the sub sectors that have been working in developing these products are:

- TEXTILES: Elaboration of typical fabrics in rolls, simple cuts and with the jasper technic, centerpieces, scarves, and *güipiles* among others.
- WOOL: Manufacture of wool carpets, in different sizes and designs.
- WOOD: Spins, *capiruchos*, tables and furniture in general.
- BEADED TEXTILES: Cosmetic bags, wallets, cushions, canvas and other products with ornaments.
- RECYCLING: Elaboration of clothing with pieces of textile, in order to make a reasonable use of resources and environment, which has meant production of difference products.
- VEGETABLE FIBERS: Plaiting Osier and pine leaf baskets, clay, maguey and stuffed animals in different styles and design.

During the samples elaboration and compliance with purchase orders, we are tracing the elaboration of products of each one of the organizations in order to give support in the logistic of delivery, compliance with quality and negotiation with interested buyers.

In the elaboration of new products based on quality criteria that covers the expectatives of different buyer companies, training workshops were developed in order to satisfy customer requirements.



Wood Folding Chairs done by artisans of APRODEFI.



Textile embroidery produced by ASUNDECO group



Wooden candle sticks done by APRODEFI

iii. Business formation

a) Specialized Technical Training

During the first quarter of 2015, six events of formation were performed in seven different themes, in order to strengthen the beneficiaries in productive and commercial technical aspects of 17 organizations linked to the project. A participation of 120 artisans and 3 field technicians, were achieved being 77% women.

Trainings on the following themes were performed: Making crafts with palm tree and pine leaves phase II, Dressmaking, Learning how to make beaded, Woodcarving, and Making Products on Bamboo.

In the framework of the ENLAZARTE 2015 event, 33 representants of 16 organizations of artisans were moved to capital city to train them in the themes: Negotiation strategies, and Costs, Prizes and Quotations; also, 3 field technicians were trained, representing a total of 80% women and 20% men. The workshops were taught by leaders technicians on the themes selected by the Foreign Trade School of AGEXPORT and coordinated with the team of COMART C6. (see Annex III).

b) Organizational Strengthening

Training and technical assistance is given to Boards of the chains related to: structure, functions, rights, obligations, and support in administrative, accounting and legal aspects of the organization.

c) Production Costs

Producers were trained and advised in production costs determination of products that organizations made jointly with the administrative area, in order to create capacities to determine the sales prices with greater certainty.

d) New designs and products

The buyer companies require artisan products to the chains to whom they have supported through trainings or technical assistance to fulfill the established requirements, which generates employment and income to producers of the rural areas.

e) Image and Promotion

The chains have been supported with their new image and promotion, through the elaboration of logos, brochures, presentations cards, banners and catalogues, this has contribute to improve the image and participation of the organization in other spaces in which previously they don't participated. In this quarter two organizations were supported (ADEMVE and ASDIMUS).

iv. Commercial Promotion

In order to expand the market alternatives we participated in the following fairs:

➤ **NEW YORK NOW (NYN)**

In order to increase the buyer contacts of the craft Guatemalan sector, there was participation in the New York Now Fair which was held in the Convention Center Javits in Manhattan, New York from January 13th to February 4th, 2015, where craft products of four chains (AMTEDICH, COPITEM, Agros Foundation and ADIBA) have been promoted through two buyer companies (La Casa Cotzal and The Mayan Store). One-hundred and eleven commercial contacts were generated and also sales valued in US\$32,252 in products of pine, beaded (baskets, napkin rings, placemats, coasters), wool carpets, wool cushions, lamps with wooden spinning tops, and pompons. Additionally, the contact with seven interested wholesalers companies was achieved, among them: Levi's, ABC Home, Calypso, Ten Thousand Villages, CB2, West Elm, and Clic Gallery. Likewise, the contact with diverse communication media of great importance which demonstrated interest about including in their publications some of the exhibited products during the fair was achieved, being these: Better Homes & Gardens y InStyle Magazine.

➤ **ENLAZARTE 2015**

The days 23 and 24 of February, the fair ENLAZARTE 2015 was carried out in order to link the beneficiary organizations of the Project with buyers who are partners of the Craft Commission of AGEXPORT, such activity was held in the fourth level of AGEXPORT, where an exhibition area with products of 16 participants organizations of the event was set up, being the 88% women, and the participation of 34 buyer companies was achieved, achieving to generate business for more than US\$40,000.00.

According to a satisfaction survey, the average number of performed contacts by a buyer was among 4-6 and the average of sample requests or quotations was among 2-6 per buyer. Among the most sought after products are: gimped textiles, canvases with beaded, girdles, pompoms, products of natural fibers like maguey, palm and pine.



Craftswomen groups market their products during the fair ENLAZARTE 2015

v. **Commercialization**

During this quarter, the reported commercialization is US\$27,141.58 in products of craft groups. The generation of employment will be estimated until the next quarter, due to the readjustments of the estimation method of artisan wages.

Chart No.12 Sales of Component 6

Artisan Organizations	Article No.	Product Description	Company	Total of sales (US\$)*	Total of sales (US\$)* per org.
ADIBA	8	String Toto type	TMS	\$ 26.32	\$ 1,454.34
	1,500	Purses	LA CASA COTZAL	\$ 328.95	
	8	Beaded canvas	TMS	\$ 231.58	
	7	Beaded Coasters	TMS	\$ 13.82	
	19	Baskets, coasters and napkin rings of pine and beaded jewelry	TMS	\$ 134.87	
	8	Toto type tape	TMS	\$ 26.32	
	90	Cosmetic purse in 5 designs	LA CASA COTZAL	\$ 651.32	
	4	Beaded canvas in 4 designs	LA CASA COTZAL	\$ 41.18	
APRODEFI	72	Rustic spinning tops	TMS	\$ 123.16	\$ 1,362.76
	10	Rustic candlesticks	TMS	\$ 36.18	
	4	Rustic candlesticks	TMS	\$ 14.47	
	6	Rustic spinning tops	TMS	\$ 9.47	
	36	Rustic spinning tops	TMS	\$ 56.84	
	12	Rustic spinning tops	TMS	\$ 18.95	
	18	Rustic spinning tops	TMS	\$ 28.42	
	36	Rustic spinning tops	TMS	\$ 56.84	
	18	Rustic spinning tops	TMS	\$ 28.42	
	42	Rustic spinning tops	TMS	\$ 66.32	
	36	Rustic spinning tops	TMS	\$ 56.84	
	30	Pompons combos in 3 colors	TMS	\$ 17.76	
	9	Tepees in 4 different designs	LA CASA COTZAL	\$ 106.58	
		GENERATED LOCAL SALES 2015			
ASODIMAC	15	Strips and pompons for bag manufacture	MAIZ Y MATIZ	\$ 96.05	\$ 416.71

	8	canvases for processing accessories for women	LA CASA COTZAL	\$ 57.11	
	21	canvases for processing accessories for women	LA CASA COTZAL	\$ 142.50	
		GENERATED LOCAL SALES 2015		\$ 121.05	
AMTEDICH	6	Yards of knot and lightning fabric	MORRALITO	\$ 184.43	\$ 2,702.14
	3	Yards of red string <i>Poptun</i>	MAIZ Y MATIZ	\$ 77.76	
		GENERATED LOCAL SALES 2015		\$2,439.95	
LA CHAJULENSE	24	Blue pompons of 3"	TMS	\$ 39.47	\$ 3,324.82
	50	Pompons of 2.5"	LSA MULTICOLOR	\$ 56.84	
	36	Traditional pompons	TMS	\$ 84.38	
	60	Gimped pompons of 10 cms.	MARIAS BAG	\$ 20.92	
		GENERATED LOCAL SALES 2015		\$3,123.20	
COPITEM	10	Carpets	TMS	\$ 325.66	\$ 3,129.87
	15	Carpets	TMS	\$ 709.54	
	5	Canvases for cushions	TMS	\$ 38.82	
	13	Carpets for cushions and ponchos	TMS	\$ 395.66	
	2	Ponchos	TMS	\$ 85.53	
	27	Various wool products	TMS	1,277.63	
	11	Wool carpets and cushions locally sold	TMS	\$ 297.04	
AGROS	10	Color bags for packing	SETESIK	\$ 32.89	\$ 2,143.43
	50	Meters of wound tape with pompons	NAWAL	\$ 49.34	
		GENERATED LOCAL SALES 2015		\$2,061.19	
COPIMARI	11	Maguey carpet and canvases of cotton and maguey for massage SPA	NATURALART	\$ 126.97	\$ 2,077.76
	11	4 Maguey carpets with leather, 4 cushions and 3 maguey cushions	TEXTILE LEATHER	\$ 375.00	
	15	14 cards with textile and 1 embroidered sweater	TEXTILE LEATHER	\$ 155.26	
	10	Canvases of maguey with cotton threads for individual tablecloths	TEXTILE LEATHER	\$ 85.53	
		GENERATED LOCAL SALES 2015		\$1,335.00	
LAS ORQUIDEAS	12	11 yards of jasje fabric, 1 jacket	MAYAS FASHION GT	\$ 102.63	\$ 10,529.75
		GENERATED LOCAL SALES 2015		\$10,427.11	
				\$27,141.58	\$ 27,141.58

VI. Cross-Cutting Themes

Environmental Sustainability

The RVCP through the Unit of Environmental Management have developed a group of actions in order to promote contained practices in the Environmental Mitigation Plans and SUAP, documents that rule the general guidelines to accomplish with the environmental standards required and approved by USAID mission.

The main actions done during the quarter were the following:

i. Specialized Technical Assistance

In 40 chains there are field personnel that give specialized technical assistance, developed through qualifying events of productive themes, visits to parcels in field, trainings in environment impact and the implementation of the BPA's.

ii. Environmental Evaluation

As a requirement of Bureau Environmental Officer (BEO), an environmental evaluation (EA) is performed to the Rural Value Chains Project (RVCP). The Enterprise Sun Mountain International (SMTN) was selected for doing such evaluation.

The environmental team of AGEXPROT jointly with SMTN performed the planning of the first visit to chains among February 22nd and March 4th, 2015. A total of 15 producer groups distributed in 8 of vegetables, 2 of coffee, 3 of crafts, 1 of cardamom, and 1 of fruits, were visited.

The objective of this EA is to determine which are the impacts, both direct and indirect, that can be caused by the implementation of the Project, and to propose alternatives of mitigation of such impacts, as well as, to evaluate the taken effectiveness with the implementation of proposed mitigation steps in the Plan of Environmental Mitigation (EMPR).

Among the important issues, these have been taken in consideration:

1. Direct, indirect and cumulative impacts of RVCP, especially in the change of soil usage.
2. Impacts in the fertilization methods of crops.
3. Impacts in the production process.
4. Water processing for agricultural production.
5. Process and handling of agricultural waste.
6. Management and integrated usage of pesticides.
7. Other impacts of the post-harvest process.

At the moment, a draft statement of the scope has generated and it is in process of approval by USAID.

iii. Implementation of Good Agricultural Practices

BPA's implementation in different chains is one of the activities that have great scope to mitigate the actions that generates impact in agriculture, in the safety for the producer, consumer, and the environment. The scope in this period is:

- The implementation process of BPA's has continued during this period, managing the contracts for its implementation in 15 new chains including both of cardamom and fruits.

iv. Training of the technical team of RVCP for design and implementation of demonstrative parcels of adaption to climate change.

Within the innovator development of PEE, the usage of a series of technical options has been promoted, for the small producers may use in a more efficient way their own resources of the parcels and the production systems, to generate environmental benefits and to execute BPA's. To facilitate the technology transfer process by the technicians of PEE, as well as, to strengthen the capabilities of small producers, the PEE of AGEXPORT developed a methodology to identify which are the more frequent technologies of adaption to climate change, more effectives, more legitimates, and with major probability of local execution inside chains.

In March, the workshop "Parcels Design for adaption to climate change and BPA's" was held in *Santa María Nebaj* at *Quiche*, in which 35 agricultural technicians of the Rural Value Chains Project (RVCP) participated.

This workshop was divided in a theory part and a field practice, where the first designs of parcels for adaption to climate change were raised by the team of agricultural technicians.

With this methodology, designs and implementation of parcels for adaption to climate change will be performing in at least 30 chains for the second half of 2015.

Promotion of Gender Equity (Vital Voices -VVG)

Strategic Objective: Promote the incorporation of the rural women in the development of their community, enhancing their active participation in the association through gender equity promotion, strengthening of their leadership and access to improve their economic, personal and technical capabilities.

Advances on the Execution:

- Identify benefited women from the Project with potential and characteristics of leaders in different areas of the productive organizations: economic, social and/or development.**

During this quarter continue the identification of women with leadership potential, at the moment there are 196 women.

- Actividades de capacitación con los grupos de mujeres con potencial de liderazgo.**

During the quarter from January to March 2015, VVG conducted a training activity with 130 women of 7 productive organizations located in *El Quiché*.



Likewise, the first module of personal empowerment, "I know and I appreciate" was held with 308 women members and non-members of 20 organizations..

During this activity the group defined and conceptualized what is "Self-esteem" through a participative dynamic, and also discussed about the importance of women in value chains.

Additionally, members of VVG identified 16 women with leadership potential, to whom gave

support and evaluation during the performed activities with women partners and wives of partners in the productive organizations. During these activities, women demonstrate the following characteristics of leadership: they supported the translation; they talked with security in front of other women, or accepted the responsibility in the calling for future training activities.



Finally, during this quarter, work meetings were held with 14 women and 25 men of 8 rural organizations to present and validate the Promotion of Gender Equity Plan in such organizations.

iii. To accompany, advice and track the decision makers and the technical team of the value chain for them to develop and implement actions to incorporate the women and empower them in productive activities.

Activities with a total of 326 women of 17 productive organizations were performed as a part of a project that receives the support of AGEXPORT and HIVOS. During this process data about these women related to indicators of the project was obtained:

- From 326 women that participate, 298 are wives or daughters of partners, 128 are partners and 50 are working in coffee mills.
- From 326 women, a total of 239 (123 partners and 116 no partners) participate as farmer of the product that the organization commercialize.
- 114 participants indicate that they do other activities that generate them income.
- From 302 evaluated participants, 92 (30%) have received credit.

During March, visits to eight productive organizations of RVCP were performed, located at Quiche and Totonicapan, in order to conduct a validation activity to socialize the content of the Plan of Gender Equity, obtain feedback, and publish a final version more useful and applicable. Through this validation, a space of reflection was created, as a mechanism to involve interested and

responsible persons of plan implementation and identify doubts about content, language, information relevance, that allow to improve the documentation of the plan.

VII. Limitations and Possible solutions

- INCAP has identified a high rotation in the list of partners of RVC, particularly, in the vegetable chains, so it is very important to work in a coordinated way with the specialists of AGEXPORT, requesting the update of the information of the lists of partners. It would be needed that AGEXPORT gives to INCAP timely, clear, accurate, and objective information related with continuity of support to the RVCP in its initial phases in order to introduce adjustments in the work strategy.
- The registry of sales of the artisan activities, due to product commercialization through the buyer companies and through the local commercialization, have provoked that sales data present some difficulties for systematic documentation, mainly, when there are some buyers that keep direct touch with supported organizations, and do not generate sales control. Up to this moment, is has been raised that organizations will report the generated sales through a chart certified by the legal representative and endorsed by field technician, mainly, about the sales data that are not registered and are performed at the local market and with zone buyers.
- The diversity of the dynamic in the artisan sector in the registry of costs and workforce, as well as, the estimations of price, has been affected by diverse politics in the organizations and the type of products, because some artisans work for finished product and not by hours. This has impacted in the registry of wages, employment estimation, and workforce by finished product. In the next period, a concrete proposal to define the formulation for estimation and registry of indicator of employments will be presented.

VIII. Activities for the next Quarter

Component 1:

- AGEXPORT with the incorporation of onion, cardamom, potato, vegetables and craft chains assures that every component ends the incorporation of the pending chains (38), from this the execution of activities will speed up.
- Continue with the implementation of investment plans of 100% of the chains of component.
- Coordinate actions and start operations with the chains of cardamom, onion, vegetables and potato.
- Strengthen and follow up the training and technical assistance processes to producers through field teams and consultancies.
- Develop trainings to business strengthen of groups.
- Improve and increase the progress of sales and employment indicators.

Component 2:

- Deepen the development of activities of training and technical assistance with the groups that are part of the cardamom chain.
- Analyze the technical assistance process implemented by Save the Children and develop the strategy adjustments to assure quality services.
- Begin the actions at *Sacapulas, Quiche* with the onion chains to increase the number of chains and producers.
- Consolidate the commercial and productive strengthen actions of the groups.
- Continue with the identification of market opportunities for the groups.
- Advance and improve the accomplishment and registry of indicators.
- Make effective the transference of the first 10 groups to component 1.

Component 3:

- Implement and supervise the functioning and results of the irrigation systems and the boosted technologies by the project.
- Monitor the areas and producers that execute the technologies.
- Continue with the development of the events of implementation of good agricultural practices according to the projected in POA.
- Systematize and monitor the advances of mitigation environmental plans, supervising the field activities.
- Consolidate activities of technical assistance for the production of different crops.

Component 5

- Develop the actions of the component with the families of Quetzaltenango and strengthen the SAN theme and agricultural productivity for consumption with the families of Quiche.
- Continue the improved seeds management with the Project *MAS FRIJOL*.
- Boost a new process of establishment of family orchards.
- Continue developing training events to improve capabilities of families.
- Strengthen crops domestic consumption productivity (corn and beans) taking advantage of winter.

Component 6

- Finalize linking of 13 pending chains to reach the goal of the component.
- Linking of promoters in each chain with the purpose of monitoring the production processes and improves the quality standards of the craft products.
- Continue the processes of business, organizational and specialized production trainings with the continuous and new chains, with the new ones will expedite the hiring process of technical team that will assist it.

Cross-Cutting Theme: Gender

- Implement the gender policy with the groups that have been incorporated to the Project.
- Coordinate the training actions with for technicians and promoters of new chains jointly with the team of component 1 of AGEXPORT.
- Printing and delivering of material for Gender Equity promotion.
- Do an exchange experience tour with the women participants of RVCP.
- Contact organizations that bring support in Access to water, land, financing, and production technologies themes to women.

- Follow up the implementation of the gender policy by the consortium. (1 event with members of the consortium).
- Continue with the identification process of women with leadership potential.
- Shape and sensitize the consortium members, ONG, incorporation specialists in gender theme.
- Retake the coordination with Save the Children and ADAM, and begin the sensitization process with the members of the technical team of this component.
- Continue sensitization activities with members of the technical and administrative teams of COMART.

Cross-Cutting Theme: Environmental Sustainability

- Training development in Alliance with the Foreign Trade School of AGEXPORT in the themes of Good Agricultural Practices to agricultural technicians and promoters from recent incorporated chains to RVCP.
- Training development in Alliance with the Foreign Trade School of AGEXPORT in the theme: Adaption to Climate Change and Environmental Mitigation Plans, to technicians and promoters.
- Implementation of biofactories in 2 chains if RVCP in order to boost usage of natural products (bioferments) for disease prevention in coffee crops, thus reducing the usage of agrochemicals.
- Implementation of demonstrative parcels of adaption to climate change in 10 different chains of RVCP.
- Elaboration of specifics EMPR for each chain as a follow up to EMPR umbrella and implement the actions of mitigation.
- Begin with the system design of environmental management of the Chain Business Program.
- Follow up the environmental evaluation of RVCP developed by Sun Mountain to implement the identified measurements of environmental mitigation.
- Iniciar con el diseño del sistema de gestión ambiental del Programa de Encadenamientos Empresariales

IX. Administration

BUDGET STATEMENT UP TO MARCH

CO	Budget Lines	Activities	General Budget	Budget	Expenses T1	Expenses T1	total FY15	Balance	%
			2012-2017	2014-2015 (POA)	Oct - Dec 2014	Jan - Mar 2015		USD	
			USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	
Component 1: Improve competitiveness of value chains	Competitive Fund	Specialized AT specialized in Business Development -Chains- 60 Value Chains	\$ 2,787,500.00	\$ 943,037.00	\$ 278,798.00	\$ 189,476.00	\$ 468,275.00	\$ 474,762.00	50%
	INCAP	Food Safety and Nutrition	\$ 547,500.00	\$ 109,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 109,500.00	0%
	Vital Voices Guatemala	Gender equity	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,000.00	0%
	Dif. Commission coffees	Agricultural productivity, Coffee	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000.00	0%
	Laboratory commission	Tours and activities with the laboratory commission laboratory	\$ 67,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	0%
	Wages intelligence Markets	Intelligence Wages Markets	\$ 2,635,238.00	\$ 415,929.00	\$ 115,069.00	\$ 84,456.00	\$ 199,524.00	\$ 216,405.00	48%
	Movilization, studies, others	Travel expenses and per diems, hirings, workshops and others	\$ 540,000.00	\$ 162,436.00	\$ 47,975.00	\$ 20,225.00	\$ 68,200.00	\$ 94,236.00	42%
	Exchange tours	Tours and trips for experiences exchange	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 104.00	\$ 2,122.00	\$ 2,226.00	\$ 2,774.00	45%
	Office equipment	Office equipment for PEE staff	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 2,911.00	\$ 1,028.00	\$ 3,939.00	\$ 14,061.00	22%
	ISO 9001-.2008	Recertification SGC PEE	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	0%
	AGEX Marketing	Participation in national and international trade shows	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 11,575.00	\$ 22,182.00	\$ 33,756.00	\$ 11,244.00	75%
	Mitigation Plan	Environmental Mitigation Plan and management activities environmental for 60 strings horticultural and coffee	\$ 338,306.00	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 2,715.00	\$ 5,626.00	\$ 8,341.00	\$ 56,659.00	13%
Component 1 Subtotal			\$ 7,461,044.00	\$ 1,837,902.00	\$ 459,147.00	\$ 325,115.00	\$ 784,261.00	\$ 1,053,641.00	43%

CO	Budget Lines	Activities	General Budget	Budget	Expenses T1	Expenses T1	total FY15	Balance	%
			2012-2017	2014-2015 (POA)	Oct - Dec 2014	Jan - Mar 2015		USD	
			USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	
Component 2: Expand participation in the value chains	SAVE THE CHILDREN	Local organizations for development management and production (SC and 03 organizations)	\$ 3,388,000.00	\$ 1,244,574.00	\$ 81,878.00	\$ 151,513.00	\$ 233,390.00	\$ 1,011,183.00	19%
		Foundation Vital Voices Guatemala	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00	0%
	Mitigation Pain	Environmental Mitigation Plan and environmental management activities for 30 horticultural chains and coffee.	\$ 121,443.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000.00	0%
	Component 2 Subtotal			\$ 3,569,443.00	\$ 1,276,574.00	\$ 81,878.00	\$ 151,513.00	\$ 233,390.00	\$ 1,043,183.00
Component 3: Improve agricultural productivity	Chain Program	Introduction of alternative technologies to adaptation and mitigation	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 453,282.00	\$ 21,495.00	\$ 140,671.00	\$ 162,166.00	\$ 291,116.00	36%
		Technological demonstration plots	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	-	-	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	0%
		School of Foreign Trade -AGEXPORT-	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 14,019.00	\$ -	\$ 14,019.00	\$ 35,981.00	28%
Component 3 Subtotal			\$ 400,000.00	\$ 553,282.00	\$ 35,514.00	\$ 140,617.00	\$ 176,185.00	\$ 377,097.00	32%
Component 4: Expand markets and marketing	Chain Program	Expansion of markets and trade, unleashing innovation and investment in the private sector (Private aggregator)	\$ 3,000,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000.00	0%
		Component 4 Subtotal			\$ 3,000,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	-	-	\$ -
Component 5: Increase productivity of	SAVE THE CHILDREN	Technical assistance and support basic grains productivity	\$ 1,212,000.00	\$ 617,617.00	\$ 33,468.00	\$ 40,247.00	\$ 73,715.00	\$ 543,902.00	12%
		Productive Diversification							
		Nutrition education							
	INCAP	Demonstrative centers	\$ 202,500.00	\$ 40,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,500.00	0%
Component 5 Subtotal			\$ 1,414,500.00	\$ 658,117.00	\$ 33,468.00	\$ 40,247.00	\$ 73,715.00	\$ 584,402.00	11%

CO	Budget Lines	Activities	General Budget 2012-2017	Budget 2014-2015 (POA)	Expenses T1 Oct - Dec 2014	Expenses T1 Jan - Mar 2015	total FY15	Balance	%
			USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	
Component: 6 Improve competitiveness of value chains crafts	Arts and Crafts Commission - AGEXPORT-	Competitive Fund of Direct Technical Assistance to handmade organizations	\$ 755,604.00	\$ 431,863.00	\$ 33,987.00	\$ 22,630.00	\$ 56,617.00	\$ 375,246.00	13%
		Market intelligence	\$ 796,679.00	\$ 162,400.00	\$ 44,879.00	\$ 51,702.00	\$ 95,581.00	\$ 65,819.00	59%
		Operating expenses	\$ 301,755.00	\$ 91,600.00	\$ 26,440.00	\$ 18,019.00	\$ 44,459.00	\$ 47,141.00	49%
		Technical assistance to SMEs	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 1,181.00	\$ -	\$ 1,181.00	\$ 13,819.00	8%
		Trade promotion	\$ 286,566.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 33,519.00	\$ 9,364.00	\$ 42,883.00	\$ 32,117.00	57%
		Informative platform	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000.00	0%
	Vital Voices Guatemala	Gender equity	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,000.00	0%
	INCAP	Food security	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000.00	0%
	Mitigation plans	Environmental management	\$ 69,396.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000.00	0%
	Component 6 Subtotal			\$ 2,500,000.00	\$ 851,863.00	\$ 140,006.00	\$ 101,715.00	\$ 241,721.00	\$ 610,142.00
Cross-cutting Components	Mitigation plans consortium	Environmental sustainability	\$ 115,660.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ 30,322.00	\$ 30,322.00	\$ 19,678.00	61%
	Vital Voices Guatemala	Gender Plan Consortium	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,000.00	100%
		Forums, special meetings of women leaders. Visibility of women, publications, documents, systematizations.							
	Association Sotz II	Cultural identity	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	60%
	IICA	Knowledge management	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 120,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120,000.00	0%
	Cross-Cutting Subtotal			\$ 485,660.00	\$ 234,000.00	\$ -	\$ 60,322.00	\$ 60,322.00	\$ 173,678.00
Communications area	Rural Chain Program	Strategic plan of communications - printed materials, visibility of the project	\$ 146,103.00	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 13,748.00	\$ 7,890.00	\$ 21,638.00	\$ 33,362.00	39%
		Salaries personnel in charge of implementing the communication plan	\$ 218,897.00	\$ 31,800.00	\$ 8,382.00	\$ 7,334.00	\$ 15,716.00	\$ 16,084.00	49%
		Presentation of project results	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 6,104.00	\$ 6,169.00	\$ 8,831.00	41%
	Communications area Subtotal			\$ 465,000.00	\$ 101,800.00	\$ 22,195.00	\$ 21,328.00	\$ 43,523.00	\$ 58,277.00

CO	Budget Lines	Activities	General Budget 2012-2017	Budget 2014-2015 (POA)	Expenses T1 Oct - Dec 2014	Expenses T1 Jan - Mar 2015	total FY15	Balance	%
			USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	
Monitoring and evaluation	Rural Chain Program	Salary of the a monitoring and evaluation specialist and a monitoring junior specialist	\$ 274,439.00	\$ 33,600.00	\$ 8,817.00	\$ 7,555.00	\$ 16,372.00	\$ 17,228.00	49%
		Implementation of the monitoring system, field expenses. Program	\$ 107,275.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60,000.00	0%
		Initial baseline made with INCAP	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Monitoring and evaluation Subtotal		\$ 531,714.00	\$ 93,600.00	\$ 8,817.00	\$ 7,555.00	\$ 16,372.00	\$ 77,228.00	17%
Administration	Rural Chain Program	Administration, procurement, accounting	\$ 1,467,638.00	\$ 210,954.00	\$ 58,472.00	\$ 45,707.00	\$ 104,449.00	\$ 106,505.00	50%
		Contribution to space used by the project at Headquarters - AGEXPORT- and offices at the western area.	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 39,600.00	\$ 8,947.00	\$ 8,822.00	\$ 17,769.00	\$ 21,831.00	45%
		Administrative and personnel expenses of the project located at headquarters, Quetzaltenango and Quiche	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 18,907.00	\$ 14,513.00	\$ 33,420.00	\$ 26,580.00	56%
	Management Subtotal		\$ 2,082,638.00	\$ 310,554.00	\$ 86,326.00	\$ 69,042.00	\$ 155,638.00	\$ 154,916.00	50%
Audits	Rural Chain Program	Annual audits	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 16,128.00	\$ 9,606.00	\$ -	\$ 9,606.00	\$ 6,522.00	60%
	Auditory Subtotal		\$ 150,000.00	\$ 16,128.00	\$ 9,606.00	\$ -	\$ 9,606.00	\$ 6,522.00	60%
Institutional strengthening	Rural Chain Program	Strengthening the institution administrative capacity	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 1,684.00	\$ 36,206.00	\$ 37,890.00	\$ 22,110.00	63%
	Institutional strengthening Subtotal		\$ 140,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 1,684.00	\$ 36,206.00	\$ 37,890.00	\$ 22,110.00	63%

CO	Budget Lines	Activities	General Budget 2012-2017	Budget 2014-2015 (POA)	Expenses T1 Oct - Dec 2014	Expenses T1 Jan - Mar 2015	total FY15	Balance	%
			USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	
Other direct costs of the project	Rural Chain Program	Institutional staff of -AGEXPORT- involved in the Administration and management of the Consortium	\$ 375,000.00	\$ 105,000.00	\$ 21,277.00	\$ 18,664.00	\$ 39,941.00	\$ 65,059.00	38%
		Furniture, equipment and institutional vehicles of -AGEXPORT-	\$ 46,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
		Other direct costs (building maintenance and repair of -AGEXPORT-, technological support and safety)	\$ 179,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 3,256.00	\$ 2,587.00	\$ 5,843.00	\$ 29,157.00	17%
	Other direct costs of the project Subtotal		\$ 600,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 24,533.00	\$ 21,251.00	\$ 45,784.00	\$ 94,216.00	33%
Rapid response fund	Rural Chain Program	This FRR will provide USAID the flexibility to respond faster and efficiently to problems or will allow to design the program's activities that are unforeseen or anticipated but that are worth to include in any of the components under this agreement.	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	0%
	Rapid response fund Subtotal		\$ 200,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	0%
RURAL PROJECT VALUE CHAIN TOTAL			\$23,000,000.00	\$ 7,683,819.00	\$ 903,444.00	\$ 974,963.00	\$1,878,407.00	\$ 5,805,413.00	24%

X. Total Execution from January to March 2015

Global execution of this Quarter comes to US **\$974,963** according to the presented Budget statement.