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United States Agency for
International Development

STRENGTHENING PEACE THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY INITIATIVES AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL



Fourth Quarter Status Report
July – September 2001

Strengthening Peace through Civil Society Initiatives at the Community Level Fourth Quarter Status Report (July 30 - September 20 2001)

I. SUMMARY

On September 30, 2001, the Strengthening Peace through Civil Society Initiatives (hereafter Peace Grants) completed its first year of implementation with a total of 23¹ approved projects. The Peace Grants program is national in scope and has directly benefited some 18,385 persons, five Governor's Offices and 21 NGOs in 21 departments and 54 municipalities throughout Colombia. In this quarter the program has approved two projects in the area of Assistance to Victims, one project in Alternative Media, an umbrella project to strengthen Departmental Peace Commissions in five departments, and a project for NGO networking, information-sharing and training.

The approved and ongoing projects represent an obligation of 1,038,220 US dollars, complemented by additional funds from beneficiaries, NGOs and other partners in the amount of 339,776 USD (25% of total project financing).² The balance of unobligated funds available for sub-grants is 173,739 USD. IOM has obtained preliminary concurrence from OTI/USAID on a further 3 project ideas to be developed in this quarter (See Section V) representing a future obligation 129,610 USD. Through the end of this reporting period 491,063 USD had been disbursed to projects and total program expenditures amounted to 638,773 USD.

This quarterly report includes a progress review of ongoing projects, broken down by strategic area, as well as the individual project status summaries included in Annex I. Since many of the projects were approved prior to the program extension granted in March of this year, this report also includes preliminary evaluation and impact assessment on completed projects.

While the first, second and third quarterly reports focused on criteria & methodology, strategy, and the context of conflict and peace negotiations, respectively, this report focuses on evaluation and impact assessment. Monitoring of the quality of project activities/products and measurement as to the accomplishment of projected results, has been a permanent goal of the Peace Grants Program, recorded in earlier reports as in the OTI database. However, assessing the success of these projects in contributing to the larger goals of peace promotion requires a different kind of attention that is explored in some detail here. Especially important and nebulous is the idea of assessing impact of projects directed toward changes in the overall environment for peace, an objective shared by many of the sponsored projects.

In this regard, the Peace Grants program has gained valuable experience during the first year of implementation and specifically while reviewing the evaluations carried out by the Program's sub-

¹ Project 23 is one which was approved by the State Department for separate funding; however, in light of continuing uncertainty on these funds, this project incorporates cost information on this project. When the above mentioned funds become available and if the grant agreement permits reimbursement, some 22,000 USD will be made available under the Peace Grants Fund budgetary line.

² It is important to note that the counterpart funds for the Peace Commissioners Project have been estimated conservatively at 16% of total project cost. Once sub-projects are approved, real counterpart funding will be reported and may well exceed the current estimate. Care has been taken also to avoid inflating counterpart estimates in projects where the Peace Grants program is providing gap-filling financial assistance as part of a much larger program. In these cases, only those counterpart funds that apply directly to the component relevant to the Peace GJ7ZLN,M ,Kraints intervention has been included.

grantees on completed projects. This experience suggests the need to establish and accept as valid highly subjective and qualitative baseline information at the onset or early stages of the project. In Section II of this report, preliminary evaluation on completed projects is provided and evaluation mechanisms for ongoing projects is proposed. IOM will work closely with the Program's sub-grantees in the second year of implementation to develop flexible indicators for impact assessment and hopes that lessons learned in this area of evaluation will be an important contribution to similar programs carried out in Colombia.

The following table outlines the projects approved through the end of the fourth quarter of program implementation.

Table 1: Impact Summary – Approved Projects

TITLE	DIRECT BENS	INDIRECT BENS	STRATEGY	THEMES	LONG-TERM IMPACT
Guides on Municipal Development	8,432 Municipal Authorities, NGOs, and sight-impaired persons	4,300 Secondary Users	Message Broadcasting	✓ Governance ✓ Civic Education ✓ Decentralization	174,000 Readers/Listeners of the Popular Format Guide
Conflict Resolution Documentaries	5,028 Directly involved Youth	20,000 Benefited Community Members	Message Broadcasting	✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Conflict Resolution ✓ Children-at-risk in Conflict	1,800,000 Viewers according to ratings
Cultura Callejera para Salir de la Hoguera	35 Child Artists	750 Theater Audience	Children and Youths	✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Children-at-risk in conflict ✓ Community Strengthening	6000 CD listeners
Support to Community Media Stations	110 Trained Persons	290 Members of benefited Radio Stations	Alternative Media	✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Media Training ✓ Alternative Media	35,900 Radio Listeners
Web Site for Conflict and Peace News	1,000 Journalist Members	1,000 Regular users	Alternative Media	✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Alternative Media ✓ Media Training	5,000 Occasional Users
Conflict Information Management Workshops for University Students	165 Students and Professors	Other students benefit from improved teaching	Alternative Media	✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Alternative Media ✓ Community Strengthening	Improved Journalism in the Future
Community Radio Andaquí	55 Trained Media Workers and Volunteers	54 Members of participating grassroots NGOs	Alternative Media	✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Alternative Media ✓ Community Strengthening	80,000 Radio Listeners
Youth Leadership Activities	950 Children and Youths	3,370 Members of participating families	Alternative Media	✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Children-at-risk in conflict ✓ Community Strengthening	Improved relationship between IDP and Resident Families
Pilot Activities to Prevent Recruitment of Child Soldiers	80 Children and youths; 50 NGO representatives	240 Family Members	Children and Youth	✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Children-at-risk in conflict	1000 Bulletin and/or documentary beneficiaries
Memory and Peace Murals	15 young painters	150 participants in "street workshops"	Children and Youth	✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Children-at-risk in conflict ✓ Community Strengthening	2000 community members in neighborhoods with murals
The Other Traces Of War: Civil Society Response to	200 leaders in the area of psychosocial	1,200 community members viewers of the	Children and Youth	✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Children-at-risk in conflict	3000 children in receiving psychosocial

Violence Affected Persons	assistance	exhibitions			assistance currently
Demobilization and Reintegration Stories: Television Special	50 former combatants	200 former combatants in NGOs, 250 children ex – combatants	Message Broadcasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Civil Society ✓ NGO Development 	1,800,000 television viewers, university and school students
Indigenous Justice & Peace Alternatives	1,250 Indigenous persons	2,250 other indigenous persons from 5 ethnic	Excluded Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Justice ✓ Interethnic/Faith ✓ Human Rights ✓ NGO Development 	6.750 Indigenous persons
Young African-Colombian Peace Builders	100 Young persons and their families (500 total)	500 IDP and inner-city youth	Excluded Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Civil Society ✓ Children at-risk in conflict 	500 young persons
Awareness Campaign On Disappeared Persons.	80 active members whose family members has disappeared	500 family members expected to join Asfaddes	Assistance to Victims and Related Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Civil Society ✓ Interethnic/Faith ✓ Human Rights ✓ NGO Development 	2,000 other family members of 400 disappeared persons
Information System on Ethnic Minorities	10 representatives of Hemera Foundation	1,500 estimated users of the Website and Database	Excluded Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Civil Society ✓ Interethnic/Faith ✓ Human Rights ✓ NGO Development 	General public interested in indigenous affairs
Strengthening Justice to Confront Corruption and Human Rights Abuses	250 participants from legal branch	1,000 Persons who receive the HR report.	Assistance to Victims and Related Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Justice ✓ Transparency /anti-corruption ✓ Civic Education 	3,000 audience of report (through multi-media diffusion)
Support to National Week for Peace	50 Representatives from NGOs	5,000 viewers	NGO strengthening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Civil Society ✓ NGO Development ✓ Peace Initiatives 	Colombia
Institutional Strengthening of Peace Commission Offices	100 Governments and civil Society Representatives	5,000 beneficiaries of pilot projects	Institutional Strengthening of Peace Commission Offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Governance ✓ Conflict Resolution 	Colombia
Support to Women and Girls Victims of sexual violence in the context of armed conflict	100 health and public officials, representatives from NGOs working with women	400 recipients of trainer's manual	Assistance to Victims and Related Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Human Rights ✓ Civil Society ✓ Peace Initiatives 	1,000 recipients del directorio
Local Action to Prevent Landmine Accidents and Raise Awareness	150 Municipal	10,000 at-risk persons receive information of mines; victims receive improved assistance	Assistance to Victims and Related Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Human Rights ✓ Mine Awareness ✓ Peace Initiatives 	2,000,000 TV viewers and radio listeners of campaigns
Community Radio Station in Putumayo La Onda de Paz	125 regular participants in Community Radios	2,500 benefited through sporadic participation,	Alternative Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Peace Initiatives ✓ Alternative Media ✓ Community Strengthening 	20,000 listeners
Totals	18,785	55,204			

II) PROGRESS & PRELIMINARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT BY STRATEGIC LINE

Local Action to
Prevent Landmine Accidents
and Raise Awareness
Message Broadcasting

Progress Summary:

The development of a strategic line for message broadcasting addresses a need to decentralize the peace process and to disseminate related information. It is perceived by many that while the conflict is waged in the countryside, the peace process is carried out in the capital city of Bogotá so that focusing project activities in Bogotá exclusively is akin to preaching to the choir. Three projects were specifically designed to transmit information throughout the country in a format accessible to a large number of people, namely: Guides on Municipal Development, Conflict Resolution Documentaries and the La Decisión de San Mateo movie on Demobilization, Reintegration and Pacific Alternatives.

Preliminary and Planned Impact Assessment:

Clearly the central goal of the Procomun project was to promote better local governance by providing municipal authorities with a practical legal and procedural guide on their everyday tasks and roles, thereby promoting peace by improving the effectiveness of local authorities and increasing the credibility of government among its citizens. However, the most innovative aspects of the project are those aimed at building popular understanding and participation in local governance by providing individuals, grassroots groups and NGOs with the same legal and procedural information in an accessible format. At the end of the program's intervention in this project, further dissemination is guaranteed through a World Bank-sponsored project to broadcast information on citizen participation mechanisms, presented in the Popular-Format guides of the book, through 10 local media stations.

The conflict resolution project has had two important results. First, the broadcasts have maintained a much larger audience than originally expected of these low-budget documentaries and have been watched consistently by some 1,800,000 to 2,400,000 Colombians. A second point worth noting has been the participation by a wide-range of local actors in the resolution processes in each city. In Popayán, the Mayor's Office provided seed money for the set-up of four small-businesses for the disarmed youths as a means of sustaining their commitment to non-violence. In Villavicencio, the private sector provided employment to 54 former gang members, conditioned on their abstaining from criminal and gang activity. Church leaders, parents, teachers and members of the armed forces collaborated in several cities. To continue to assess the impact of the project and its sustainability, IOM will travel to Popayán during the next quarter to visit the small businesses and talk with beneficiaries.



Training workshop on film-making with gang and former gang members



Behind the scenes: La Decisión de San Mateo

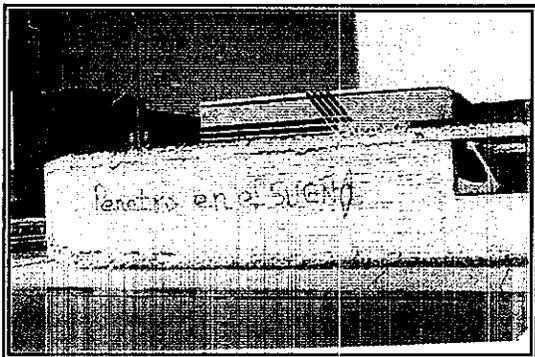
The impact of the La Decisión de San Mateo movie will be assessed in two ways: First, the movie is being presented to medium-sized audiences throughout the country, including small groups of members of the armed forces. Observatorio para la Paz will interview audience members, particularly persons previously or currently engaged in the armed conflict, to discuss their responses to the movie. When the movie is released on national or regional television, audience ratings and press coverage will

provide information on the degree to which the movie interested and impacted national audiences.

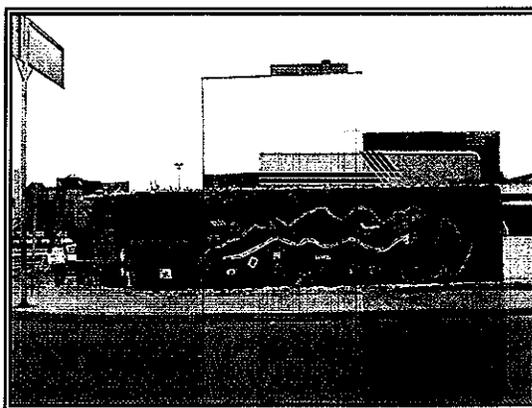
Children and Youth

Progress Summary:

In the first semester of program implementation, the program focused on children and youth as one group that is traditionally excluded from peace processes. The projects carried out under this line include an artistic project with displaced, mostly African Colombian teenagers in Bogotá (Cultura Callejera para Salir de la Hoguera) Youth Leadership Activities with displaced and receptor children in marginal neighborhoods of Florencia; Pilot Activities to Prevent Recruitment of Child Soldiers through the Coalition organized internationally for this purpose; sponsorship of street art by young people from inner-city neighborhoods of Cali, and The Other Traces of War, which focused on the psychosocial needs of children affected by violence.



Before and after shots of a Cali wall selected for a Peace and Memory Mural



Preliminary and Planned Impact Assessment:

The first completed project working with children and youths was a Florencia-based project that cost around 3,000 USD and triggered a series of youth-oriented projects with the same beneficiary group sponsored by a local NGO, the Mayor's Office, USAID Mission to Colombia (through IOM's IDPs program) the international NGO Diakonia-Germany and the Colombian Welfare Institute (ICBF). The project allowed youths in Florencia's most marginal urban area, Nueva Colombia, to participate in the Colombian tradition of neighborhood Christmas decorations and to organize a toy-disarmament with younger children in which toy guns were replaced with non-violent toys. In these neighborhoods, previously unattended by governmental programs for youths, there are some 10 youth clubs and the older youths receive vocational training from Diakonia-Germany at a recently inaugurated Youth Center.

Alternative Media

Progress Summary:

Four projects in this area were approved in the first semester; as a result of the successes of these projects and the potential demonstrated by community media projects in particular, a fifth project was approved in the last reporting period. The program has followed a two-pronged approach under this strategic line. First, the program worked with a well-established NGO to improve journalism through the construction of a web-site and workshops with journalism students. Also, the program is sponsoring

the development of grassroots radio and television stations in 4 departments and 8 municipalities, characterized by a high incidence of conflict.

Preliminary and Planned Impact Assessment:

The alternative media projects have had a strong impact at the local level and have proven to be an effective way of creating local networks within and between municipalities, promoting dialogue and strengthening civil society. The project with a local radio station in Belen de los Andaquies, Caqueta is a good example of this: the project has brought together several municipalities in northern Caqueta to



Workshop with young reporters in San Luis, Caquetá (Radio Andaqui)

train as community reporters, learn technical skills related to radio management and, finally, in joint programming efforts. People in all of these municipalities have regular access to local news and investigative reporting on incidents that would never make it into the established regional media. Through the radio, NGOs and grassroots groups are provided a regular time slot during which to broadcast information on their activities. School children have been

trained as reporters and incorporated into the station's regular programming. A local storyteller has acquired a strong following and,

according to him, a new lifetime vocation. A new show called "The Musicians of Belen" provides a weekly spot to show off new musical talent in the area. Agricultural associations are able to disseminate information and advice on crops and markets.

As this part of Caquetá faces increasing violence as a result of intense territorial disputes between paramilitaries and guerrilla for coca-growing areas and, more recently, over municipalities too close to the demilitarized zone for for the FARC's comfort, the ability of this grassroots establishment to promote peace locally will be tested.

Work with Groups Excluded from Development and Peace Processes

Progress Summary:

To date, three projects have been approved under this line, including work with African-Colombian youths in marginal neighborhoods of Bogota and Buenaventura with a well-established NGO specialized in psychosocial assistance and youth-directed activities, Taller de Vida; an Alternative Dispute Resolution project that aims to strengthen traditional justice and resolution mechanisms in indigenous communities in Chocó, and the development of a Information System on Ethnic Minorities to be transmitted through internet by the Fundación Hemera.

IOM has received preliminary concurrence from OTI/USAID on three additional projects in this area. The first is a project proposed by the Council of Black Communities to strengthen local leadership in newly-titled collective lands along the Pacific Coast. A second umbrella project to be developed in the next quarter will work with a large number of NGOs that represent African Colombian populations to jointly implement a project of mutual interest, thereby fostering increased coordination between these NGOs. Within this group, some organizations will assume a role of leadership in the implementation of certain components in the project and will be supported also with assistance aimed at building their institutional capacity. The third project will work with a network of female ex -- combatants.

Preliminary and Planned Impact Assessment:

To assess the impact of the Taller de Vida project, beyond the success of the activities proposed, Taller de Vida will interview parents, other family members, teachers and the youths themselves to assess changes in their attitudes and behavior. As one of the results of this project is the creation of informal support networks for African Colombian youths in the beneficiaries neighborhoods, at the end of the project IOM will talk also with youths, not directly involved in the project, to assess the impact of this component.



*First meeting of young peace promoters
(Taller de Vida)*



Beneficiary indigenous community in Riosucio, Choco

The Camizba project with indigenous communities is one of the most difficult to evaluate the achievement of its central objectives. IOM and this sub-grantee have discussed the possibility of gauging the degree to which indigenous beneficiaries are knowledgeable about their tribal traditions, but also the degree to which the more pacific means of conflict resolution suggested by these traditions are applied to daily situations. In coordination with representatives from each of the 5 indigenous communities, Camizba will develop qualitative base-line information on internal conflicts and the prevailing practices for addressing these conflicts.

Assistance to Victims and Related Issues

This is a broad category of activities which attempt to build models for assisting victims of gross violations to human rights. To date, four projects have been approved, including a national seminar that explored the relationship between the Justice sector and violations to human rights, carried out in August of this year. In other projects, Peace Grants is working with victims of forced disappearance (family members) victims and potential victims of land-mine accidents and victims of sexual violence in the context of armed conflict. For the next quarter, a proposal has been submitted for a project titled "Salas de Espera" which aims to provide various kinds of civil-society financed assistance to kidnapped persons and their families.

Preliminary and Planned Impact Assessment:

The projects for assistance to victims in some ways provide for the most straightforward evaluation insofar as these projects begin by establishing information on how victims have been assisted prior to the intervention. To illustrate the point: the impact of the ASFADDES project for relatives of disappeared persons will be made tangible by the incorporation of new members to the organization who previously lacked information or the courage to report the disappearance to authorities and society at large. Similarly, the project for victims of sexual violence with the Association for Nurses starts by examining the number of victims who seek assistance and the quality and timeliness of the assistance provided to

these women and girls in selected regions. The Association should ask the same questions at the end of the project and receive a different answer.

Support to Peace Commissioners

Progress Summary:

According to the recommendations set forth in the last quarterly report, five departments have been selected to participate in this umbrella project, the components of which will be implemented directly by IOM or sub-granted to NGOs in each department. After visiting each department and meeting with the Governor and Peace Commissioner, IOM started implementation with the purchase of basic IT equipment for each office. Also during the reporting period, a series of regional workshops aiming to create roundtables for conflict prevention and resolution in each department was designed and proposals were requested. Indepaz, an NGO specialized in Conflict Resolution, was selected to carry out the workshops in all departments except Antioquia where the Peace Commissioner had already designed a series of workshops and requested IOM assistance in implementing these. In the department of Huila, the Peace Advisor, the Social Solidarity Network and a local NGO have jointly submitted a proposal to address tensions between receptor and displaced communities. Finally, the position of Technical Advisor to be sub-contracted by IOM for each department (except Huila) and seconded to the Peace Commissioner's Office was published in local and national papers. Candidates had been reviewed and pre-selected by IOM at the end of the reporting period, pending a final decision by the Peace Commissioners.

Preliminary and Planned Impact Assessment:

The central goals of this umbrella project are to foster in local authorities greater commitment and participation in local peace processes and to coordinate inter-institutional responses to obstacles to peace in each department. Project success will be measured according to the following:

- Specific role and tasks assigned to the Peace Commissioner, which are recognized and upheld by the Governor's Offices (own office space, adequate support staff, well-defined terms of reference and time-availability to carry out related tasks)
- Sustained involvement of the Peace Commissioner in the supervision of pilot projects implemented by selected NGOs through sub-grants managed by IOM
- Continuous contact between Peace Commissioner and entities of civil society involved in local peace promotion, whether in Conflict Prevention and Transformation "Roundtables" or other forums chosen by the Peace Commissioner
- Leveraging of additional funds for peace promotion projects proposed by the Peace Commissioner

Overall Support to Peace-promoting NGOs

The original program proposal submitted by IOM included the possibility of providing training opportunities to NGOs working in the field of peace promotion. In the last quarter, Peace Grants supported the well-established national NGO REDEPAZ in its National Week for Peace by sponsoring activities for training, network-building and visibility for local NGOs throughout the country.



Promotional poster for Redepaz
"NGO fair" sponsored by the
Peace Grants Program.

III) STATUS OF BUDGETARY IMPLEMENTATION

During the fourth quarter of activities, the Peace Grants Program expended 638,773 US Dollars, distributed among the following budget lines:

Table 2: Program Financial Data

Budget Line	Expense Description	Total Expenses	Line Balance
Staff and Office Costs	Partial salary to Grants Officer (Program Officer), Financial Officer and Liaison Officer.	69,543	61,257
Operational Costs	Per Diem and travel costs for field monitoring	5,188	15,690
Peace Grants Fund	22 Approved projects, including 1 umbrella project for direct implementation by IOM	491,063	720,896
IOM Overhead	Charged as 10% over expended funds	58,070	787,293
Fourth Quarter Cumulative Total		638,773	861,227
Total Budget (Expenses and Balance)		1,500,000	

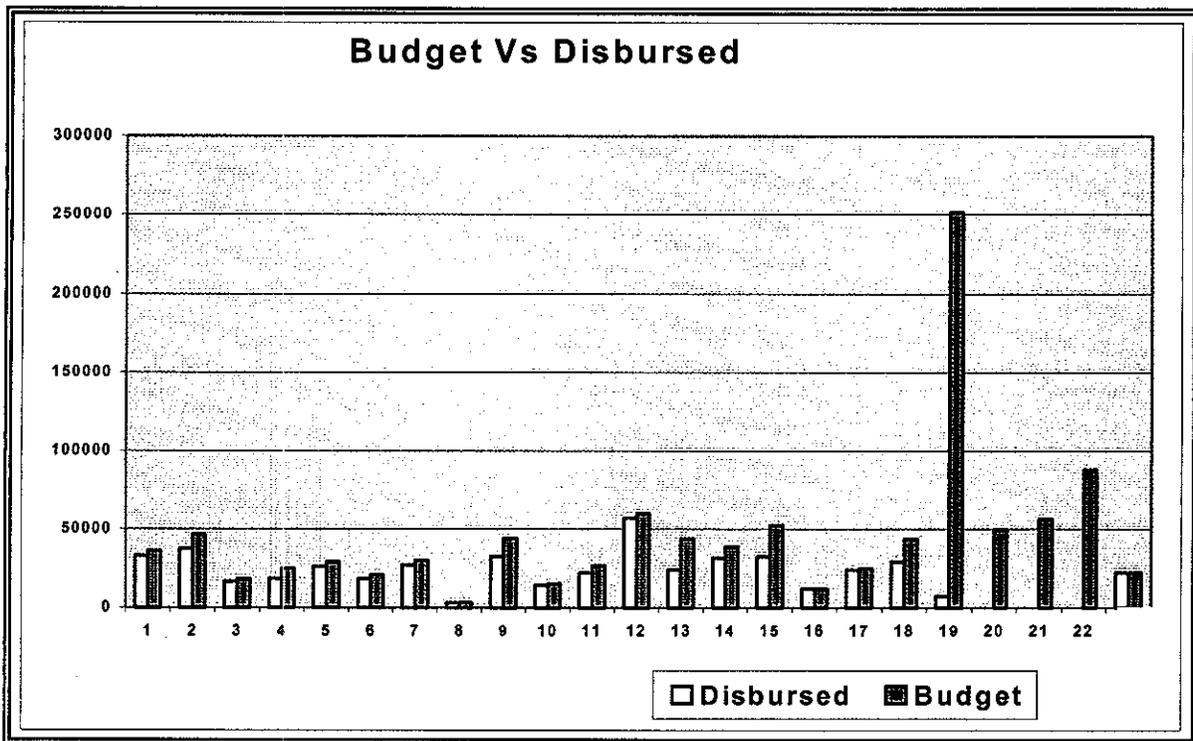
It is important to note that one reason that expenses did not increase dramatically during the reporting period was a programmatic focus on identifying and developing new products, such that the period is marked by an increase of 511,200 USD in the total amount of obligated funds (including expenses). This new expenses plus obligations total is 1,038,220 USD under the Peace Grants Fund budget line, leaving a balance of available funds of 173,739 USD. It is expected that all remaining funds will be obligated by the end of the calendar year, though disbursements will be scheduled according to project deliverables for the remaining 9 months of the program to ensure quality-control in implementation.

The following table and bar-chart summarize the status of budgetary implementation of each project.

Table 3: Financial Data on Approved Projects

Project Code	Title	Organization	PG Budget	Total Budget	Disbursed
001	Guides on Municipal Development	Corporación Promotora de las Comunidades Municipales de Colombia (PROCOMUN)	36,180	41,280	33,225
002	Conflict Resolution Documentaries	Unidad Investigativa	46,280	63,640	37,73
003	Cultura Callejera para Salir de la Hoguera	Corporación Colombiana de Cultura	18,000	25,000	16,579
004	Support to Community Media Stations	Colombia Multicolor Foundation	24,900	48,400	18,455
005	Web Site for Conflict and Peace News	Medios para la Paz	29,212	95,615	26,262
006	Conflict Information Management Workshops for University Students	Medios para la Paz	20,800	23,050	18,386
007	Community Radio Andakí	COMUNARTE	30,194	35,994	27,234

008	Youth Leadership Activities	Florencia Youth Clubs	3,160	9,730	3,041
009	Pilot Activities to Prevent Recruitment of Child Soldiers	Coalition Against the Use of Child Soldiers	44,190	55,143	32,796
010	Memory and Peace Murals	Comisión Vida Justicia y Paz (Catholic Church)	15,000	17,638	14,254
011	The Other Traces of War: Civil Society Response to Violence Affected Persons	Fundación Dos Mundos	26,907	35,143	22,022
012	Demobilization and Reintegration Stories: Television Special	Observatorio para la Paz	60,000	102,490	57,145
013	Indigenous Justice & Peace Alternatives	Fundación Camizba	44,000	49,000	23,990
014	Young African-Colombian Peace Builders	Asociación Taller de Vida	39,115	65,156	32,008
015	Awareness Campaign on Disappeared Persons	Asfaddes	52,352	57,995	32,631
016	Information System on Ethnic Minorities	Fundación Hemera	11,934	13,808	12,000
017	Strengthening Justice to Confront Corruption and Human Rights Abuses	Corporación Excelencia en la Justicia	24,745	25,770	24,013
018	Support to National Week for Peace	Redepaz	43,706	46,527	29,583
019	Institutional Strengthening of Peace Commission Offices	Consejerías de Paz	251,151	300,000	7,619
020	Support to Women and girl Victims Sexual Violence in the Context	Asociación Nacional de Enfermeras de Colombia ANEC	49,710	52,403	0
021	Local Action to Prevent Landmine Accidents and Raise Awareness	Justapaz	56,370	68,553	0
022	Community Radio Stations in Putumayo: La Onda de Paz	ADA	88,067	118,316	0
	<i>National Peace Conference</i>	<i>Asamblea por la Paz</i>	<i>22,247</i>	<i>27,335</i>	<i>22,247</i>
TOTAL			1,038,220	1,377,986	491,063



IV) FIFTH QUARTER PLAN OF ACTION: October – December 2001

As mentioned in Section II, several projects have received preliminary concurrence for OTI/USAID for development and approval in the fifth quarter. These projects and a fourth project called “Waiting Room” recently proposed to the Peace Grants Program are outlined below.

Table 4: Projects under Consideration for Fifth Quarter

Project Title & Status	Strategy Line and Brief Description	Estimated Budget (Pending Negotiation)
Black Communities (Proposal Submitted to USAID, September 30 th)	Work with Excluded Groups; project will provide leadership training in newly-titled collective lands held by African Colombian communities	US \$31,610
Lets Remember So Than No One Forgets – Support to Women Ex – Combatants	Work with Excluded Groups; this project aims to strengthen a women’s network of former combatants	US \$28,000
Umbrella project with NGOs working with African Colombians	The project will bring together NGOs to jointly implement a project, probably one designed to heighten awareness on the situation faced by African Colombians in the context of armed conflict and an analysis of advances made since the eradication of slavery 150 years ago	US \$70,000

Waiting Room – Civil Society Led Support to Victims of Kidnapping	Assistance to Victims and Related Issues; this project works with civil society volunteers to support family members and returning victims of kidnappings to adjust to situation and re-establish normalcy	US \$31,000
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- Annex I: Project Status Summaries
- Annex II: Photo Gallery
- Annex III: Newspaper Cuttings

Title:	Guides on Municipal Development	Coverage:	National
Strategy:	Message Broadcasting	Duration:	5 Months (Extended for Distribution)
Direct Beneficiaries:	8432 Municipal Authorities, NGOs & Sight-Impaired Citizens	Indirect Bens:	4300 Secondary Users
Diluted Impact:	174,000 Readers/Listeners of Popular Format Guide	Total Budget:	US \$41,280
Prog. Contribution:	US \$36,180	Disbursement:	US \$33,226
Implementing Agency:	PROCOMUN	Other Partners:	Municipal Governments, Schools for the Blind

Description & Status: (Completed)

The project consists of the updating and large-scale distribution of a simplified guide to the legal framework and institutional roles relevant to the Mayor's Office of each municipality. The guide aims to support newly-elected municipal authorities to better carry-out their functions and to make complicated rules and procedures accessible to NGOs, students, communities and sight-impaired Colombians.

With savings incurred in the implementation of this project, the number of printed copies of the book; at the end of the project, 8,000 popular-format guides, 600 Braille books and 2,300 paperback books were published. Eighty percent of the stock has been distributed to municipal governments, public institutions, educational facilities, NGOs and grassroots groups, public libraries, embassies and international organizations. Through an agreement with the Colombian Association of Universities (ASCUN) a copy of the book was provided to some 70 universities.

One important achievement during this project was the assignment to the book of an International Standard Book Number - ISBN - and bar-code for the publication, which ensures easier access to researchers internationally.

The project will continue to have an impact, beyond the intervention of the Peace Grants Program through a follow-up project sponsored by the World Bank, under which popular dissemination of the Community Participation components of the book will be presented by 10 local radio stations.

Title:	Conflict Resolution Documentaries	Coverage:	Direct impact in Popayán, Villavicencio, Barranquilla, Manizales and Bogotá
Strategy:	Message Broadcasting	Duration:	7 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	5,028 At-risk persons (mostly youths) directly involved in resolution processes	Indirect Bens:	20,000 Community members benefit from reduced conflict in neighborhoods
Diluted Impact:	Between 1.8 and 2.4 million television viewers watch the documentaries, according to ratings	Total Budget:	US \$63.640
Prog. Contribution:	US \$46,280	Disbursement:	US \$37,574
Implementing Agency:	Unidad Investigativa (Gustavo Bolivar)	Other Partners:	Telecolombia (Public TV station)

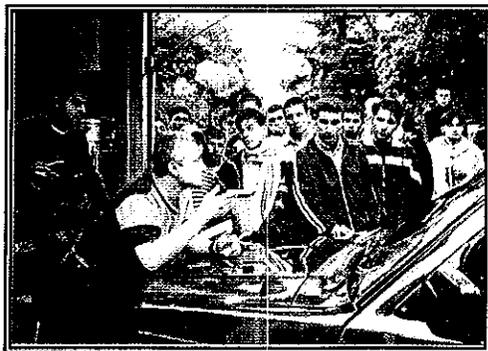
Description & Status: (Ongoing)

Unidad Investigativa has gained access to some of Colombia's most violent neighborhoods and settlements, made easier on account of the popularity of the "reality" soap opera called, "Guerra, Pandillas y Paz." Upon arriving in a new neighborhood, the creative team behind this show establishes contact with the groups in conflict to start a resolution process, which is filmed and aired on national television.

To date, shows have been filmed in 5 cities, including 3 in Popayán, 2 in Villavicencio, 1 in Barranquilla, 1 in Manizales and 2 in Bogotá. According to the research company IPOBE, these shows maintained consistent ratings of 6 – 8 points, representing an audience of 1,800,000 – 2,400,000 Colombians nationwide. Activities in Popayán led to the disarmament of 16 gangs and the creation of 4 small businesses, the latter effort sponsored by the Mayor's Office. In Villavicencio, the reconciliation process focused on tensions between violent youths and local business-owners. As a result of the series here, 50 youths were employed to work with local businesses and a further 4 were employed by the Mayor's Office. One show in Barranquilla and another in Bogotá focused instead on the reconciliation efforts carried out by guerrilla and paramilitary prisoners in both cities. Finally, a show in Manizales led to the disarmament of 2 gangs and successful negotiations with the Office of Education to re-admit and support returning students from the gangs.

In the national capital in the month of September, Unidad Investigativa invited 30 youths from the previously-shot documentaries to attend a Training Workshop on film and documentary making. Participants from Belén de los Andaquies and Carmen de Bolivar, working with other media projects sponsored by the Peace Grants program were invited also. At the end of the classroom training in script-writing, acting, camerawork and editing, the participants developed a video called: "The Road Home" to be broadcast in the next quarter. The Colombian Circle of Artists have expressed an interest in carrying out similar workshops with at-risk youth in other neighborhoods of Bogotá.

The project continues to receive requests from concerned citizens from throughout the country (Quibdó, Neiva, Pereira, Sibaté, Barranquilla, Ibagué and Roldanillo) for reconciliation efforts with inner-city youths.



Training workshop for young film makers in Bogotá

Title:	Cultura Callejera para Salir de la Hoguera	Coverage	Bogotá & Urabá
Strategy:	At-Risk Children and Youth	Duration	6 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	35 Children; 50% African Colombian	Indirect Bens:	750 Audience members of theater performances and family members
Diluted Impact:	6000 CD listeners	Total Budget:	US \$25,000
Prog. Contribution:	US \$18,000	Disbursement:	US \$16,579
Implementing Agency:	Corporación Colombiana de Teatro	Other Partners:	Taller de Vida

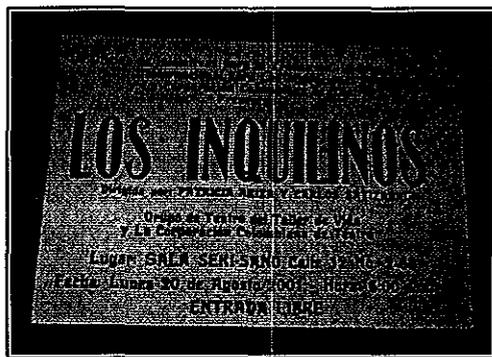
Description & Status: (Completed)

This project works with children and teenagers from internally displaced, war-affected, poor and inner-city families to develop musical and theatrical projects. The project has supported three African Colombian groups to produce musical CDs and with another group of 18 children and youths to write and produce a play on their experiences as displaced children.

The play has been written through a series of role-playing exercises with the children, who rehearse every Saturday – the story-line picks up where their last play, Death is on the Loose (La Muerte Anda Suelta in Spanish) left off. This first play dealt with their memories of violent displacement from rural areas and their first experiences upon resettlement. The play sponsored under this program is set in a boarding house in a marginal neighborhood of Bogotá and the characters are family members and neighborhood “personalities” that the children imitate to paint an image of the lives of displaced families in Colombia’s major cities.

To date, all three CDs have been produced and distributed widely. Promotional concerts were carried out in Bogotá, Cali and Buenaventura. The story and music of these three groups have been disseminated on television (Channel 3) and radio (National University Radio, Radio X, Cali University Radio, Buenaventura Radio and local radio stations). The “Chicos y Chicas de Urabá” were invited to participate in an event called “Culture Declares Peace in Colombia,” sponsored by the Ministry of Culture to take place in Bolivar at the end of November.

The “Los Inquilinos” play was performed for the first time on August 20th, 2001, in the CCT theater in La Candelaria to an audience of 110 persons.



Promotional Poster for the Los Inquilinos Play



Photograph from the Play

Title:	Support to Community Media Stations	Coverage:	Cacarica, CHOCO; Gualmatán, NARIÑO; Carmen, BOLIVAR; Congua, CUNDINAMARCA
Strategy:	Alternative Media	Duration:	8 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	110 Members of grassroots stations directly participating	Indirect Bens:	290 Members of stations linked to SIPAZ system
Diluted Impact:	35,900 Radio listeners and beneficiaries of specific radio programs	Total Budget:	US \$48.400
Prog. Contribution:	US \$ 24,900	Disbursement:	US \$18,455
Implementing Agency:	Fundación Multicolor de Colombia	Other Partners:	Local radio stations

Description & Status: (Ongoing; modification requested due to security situation)

This project was designed to sponsor four local radio and television stations in isolated, war-torn communities throughout the country. The Colombian Multicolor Foundation strengthens and provides training to the most established (or most promising) stations in four municipalities to catalyze the creation of a regional network of grassroots media stations. This network is linked to a national system of news-sharing and peace promotion called SIPAZ (Information System for Peace) connected to one another by internet.

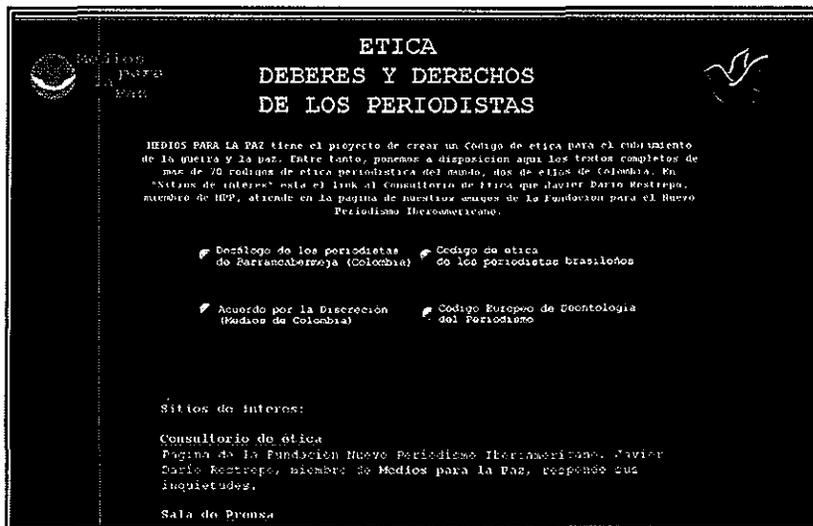
To date, three workshops have been carried out in TV and Radio in the cities of Guamaltán – Nariño, Carmen de Bolivar and Villa de Leiva – Boyacá. The last of these in Villa de Leiva was organized in the latter part of July with participation from 16 community radio stations from 14 municipalities of Boyacá; ten of these stations joined the Information System for Peace network.

The final site for SIPAZ, Cacarica – Chocó has suffered a deterioration in security conditions to such an extent that the project team has not been able to set a date for the workshop. SIPAZ has requested that the funds assigned to this radio station be applied instead to the Carmen de Bolivar project in order to purchase equipment for this community TV station.



SIPAZ - Workshop in Villa de Leyva

Title:	Web Site for Conflict and Peace News	Coverage:	National and International
Strategy:	Alternative Media	Duration:	12 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	1000 Journalists, members of Medios para la Paz	Indirect Bens:	1000 Regular Web Site users
Diluted Impact:	5000 occasional users	Total Budget:	US \$95,615
Prog. Contribution:	US \$29,212	Disbursement:	US \$26,262
Implementing Agency:	Medios para la Paz	Other Partners:	--
Description & Status: (Completed, extension being considered by USAID Mission to Colombia)			
<p>The Web Site www.mediosparalapaz.com developed by Medios para la Paz – an NGO comprised of Colombian journalists – received 6,671 “hits” during this quarter, showing a continuing increase in audience since its inauguration earlier this year.</p> <p>The most popular services are “Keys to Colombia” which is a press-cuttings service that is updated daily with internationally-published news on Colombia and weekly with national coverage. Another popular page is “What is Colombia Today?” which includes context information on the country and links to agencies working in the country.</p> <p>To complete construction on remaining pages and guaranty sponsorship until the Web-Site is self-sustaining, Medios para la Paz has requested financial assistance for one year of operations from the USAID Mission to Colombia “Strengthening Peace in Colombia” program.</p>			



A Popular Page on the Medios para la Paz Web Site

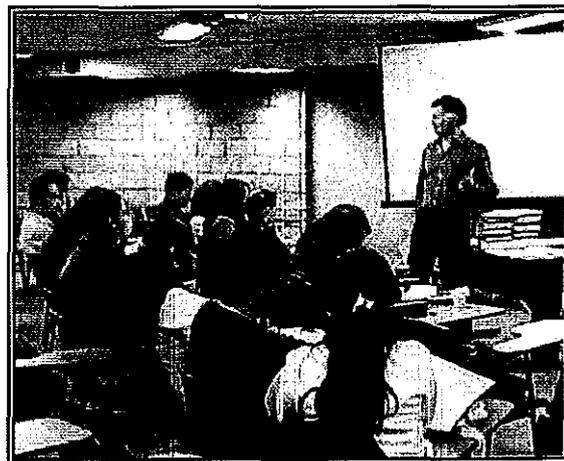
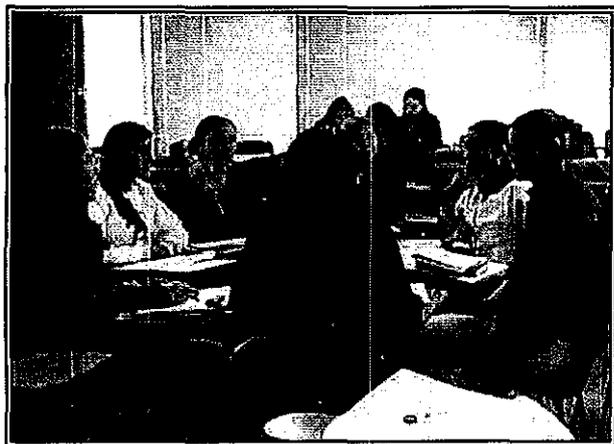
Title:	Conflict Information Management Workshops for University Students	Coverage:	Bogotá, Barranquilla, Cali, Bucaramanga, Pasto and Cartagena
Strategy:	Alternative Media	Duration:	6 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	165 Students and professors	Indirect Bens:	Other students benefited from improved teaching of journalism
Diluted Impact:	Improved journalism in the future; new students join the Electronic Student Paper (on above mentioned Web Site)	Total Budget:	US \$23.050
Prog. Contribution:	US \$20.800	Disbursement:	US \$18,386
Implementing Agency:	Medios para la Paz	Other Partners:	National Association of Universities

Description & Status: (Completed)

This project, also implemented by Medios para la Paz, aims to improve the quality of conflict-related journalism by training university students and professors in regional universities throughout the country. The three-day workshops include training in the history of conflict and peace negotiations in Colombia, journalism ethics and self-protection in a context of civil conflict and appropriate terminology commonly employed to cover conflict situations (massacre, disappearance, etc.)

Having completed workshops in Cali, Bucaramanga, Barranquilla and Pasto prior to the start of the current reporting period, the project finalized the workshop series in Bogotá on August 23-24. Approximately 50 persons participated in this event, held in the Javeriana University.

Medios para la Paz comments on the high interest demonstrated by students in the historical component on conflict and peace in Colombia, as well as their concerns regarding as to the role of journalists within this framework. One strength of the workshop series, according to the implementing agency, was the fact that students in the regions are often linked to local media services and will be able to put to practice the workshop lessons immediately.



Workshop with Journalists Students of Javeriana University in Bogotá

Title:	Community Radio Andakí	Coverage:	Various municipalities in the Department of Caquetá
Strategy:	Alternative Media	Duration:	4 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	55 Local media workers and volunteers	Indirect Bens:	54 Members of NGOs with special programs with Radio Andakí
Diluted Impact:	80,000 Radio listeners	Total Budget:	US \$35,994
Prog. Contribution:	US \$30,194	Disbursement:	US \$27,234
Implementing Agency:	COMUNARTE	Other Partners:	18 Grassroots NGOs

Description & Status: (Completed)

This project aimed to strengthen a makeshift community radio station in the isolated municipality of Belén de los Andaquíes in a conflictive department in the south of Colombia, Caquetá. The grassroots station was managed by a group of 18 local organizations, which broadcasted educational, investigative, talk-radio and awareness-raising programs. The assistance provided by the Peace Grants Program was intended to improve the technology and coverage available to the station and train volunteers in reporting and technical aspects of running the radio station.

To date, 6 workshops have been carried out for "community reporters" in urban and rural areas of Belén de los Andaquíes, as well as in the municipal capital of Albania. Two further workshops were conducted in Belén focusing on Children's Radio (writing and presentation) and School Reporters for young students who participate in the Radio Andakí project. Some 179 people have participated in these workshops, most of them under 18 years of age. The technical workshops have also been completed on Antenna Installation and Transmitters. The number of workshops and participants exceeds the original expectation. Another product of the coordination with Andakí was the preparation of a "Community Reporter's Guide."

At the end of the USAID-sponsored intervention, the project has obtained the legal licenses for use of the mobile radio units (Ministry of Communications) with permission to work in and transmit to Belén de los Andaquíes, Valparaíso, San José del Fragua, Solita, Curillo and Albania.

Radio Andakí comments on the importance of increased availability and variety in the news for locals in these 6 municipalities, particularly in terms of coverage on rural news and events. The project supports local efforts and people by providing them with a means of dissemination for their activities; for example, a weekly program called "The Musicians of Belén" allows for discovery and broadcasting of local musical groups. The radio station is contributing also to agricultural development by providing a distribution mechanism for technical information – for example, the Association of Fish Producers has been provided a regular spot for transmission.

Radio Andakí has participated in events sponsored by the Peace Grants program and implemented by Medios para la Paz and Unidad Investigativa, as part of an effort by the Program to strengthen the impact of each project through linkage between them.

008			
Title:	Youth Leadership Activities	Coverage:	Florencia, Caquetá
Strategy:	At-Risk Children and Youth	Duration:	24 Days
Direct Beneficiaries:	950 Children and Youth	Indirect Bens:	3370 participating family members
Diluted Impact:	Improved relationship between IDP and receptor families in marginal Florencia neighborhoods	Total Budget:	US \$9.730
Prog. Contribution:	US \$3.160	Disbursement:	US \$3.041
Implementing Agency:	Youth Clubs Association of Florencia	Other Partners:	Mayor's Office of Florencia, Colombian Welfare Institute
Description & Status: Project completed prior to start of reporting period.			

009			
Title:	Pilot Activities to Prevent Recruitment of Child Soldiers	Coverage:	National
Strategy:	At-Risk Children and Youth	Duration:	8 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	80 At-risk children, 50 NGO representatives	Indirect Bens:	240 Family members
Diluted Impact:	1000 readers/viewers of bulletin or documentary; improved NGO network toward prevention of recruitment	Total Budget:	US \$55.143
Prog. Contribution:	US \$44.190	Disbursement:	US \$32.796
Implementing Agency:	Coalition Against the Use of Child Combatants	Other Partners:	10 national and international agencies that comprise the Coalition
Description & Status: (Ongoing)			
<p>The Peace Grants Program is working with the Coalition Against the Use of Child Combatants (Colombia branch) to carry out pilot recruitment-prevention workshops with at-risk youths, build networks, publish a bi-monthly bulletin and produce a documentary.</p> <p>In the month of August, the coalition carried out the fourth and last workshop aimed at working with young people; this workshop was held in Putumayo and 35 youths participated, mostly girls. The first NGO workshop was carried out in September in Bogotá with the participation of more than 40 governmental and non-governmental organizations. Also in this quarter, the Coalition produced the second edition of the "Púchipu" bulletin, which includes an article on the situation faced by young people in Barrancabermeja, a city taken over by paramilitaries at the end of last year.</p> <p>A second institutional workshop is scheduled for October to take place in Medellín, Antioquia.</p>			



Workshop with Youths in Putumayo

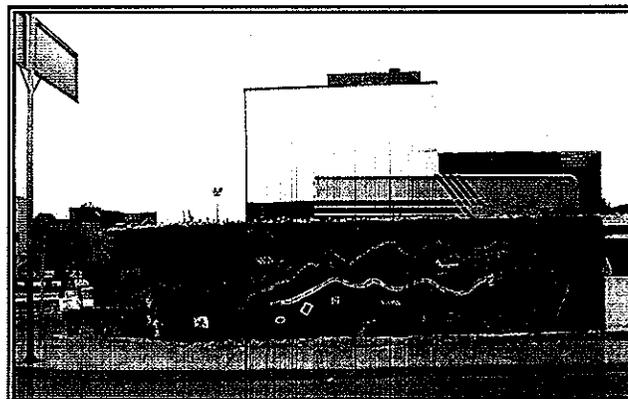
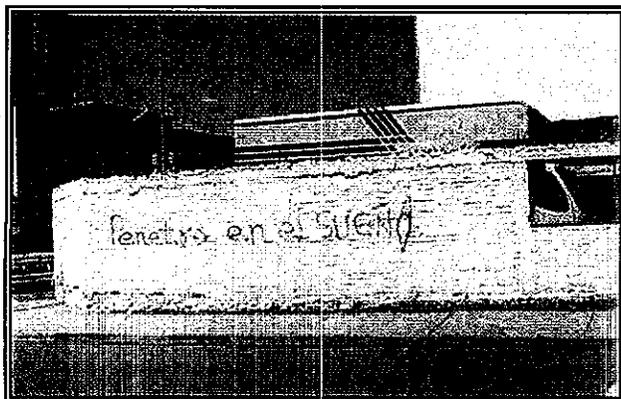
Title:	Memory and Peace Murals	Coverage:	Cali, Valle del Cauca
Strategy:	At-Risk Children and Youth	Duration:	6 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	15 Young Painters	Indirect Bens:	150 participants in School-based and street workshops
Diluted Impact:	2000 Community members in neighborhoods with murals	Total Budget:	US \$17,638
Prog. Contribution:	US \$15,000	Disbursement:	US \$14,254
Implementing Agency:	Comisión Vida, Justicia y Paz	Other Partners:	Mayor's Office of Cali

Description & Status: (Ongoing)

The Life, Justice and Peace Commission of the Catholic Church in Cali has a history of work with inner-city youths in community organization, formal and vocational education and psychosocial assistance. This project is designed to provide an opportunity to 15 young artists from Cali to paint city murals that reflect the history of Colombia, Cali or the neighborhood which will host the mural, according to stories and memories gathered from the neighborhood's elderly. An important objective of the project is to recover the "street" as a public and positive space for social activities.

To select the fifteen artists, the implementing agency publicized a sketch contest by visiting schools, distributing pamphlets and announcing the contest in the newspapers. The three themes of the contest were: Historical Memory (cross-generational recovery of urban history and memory), Cultural Identity and Human Dignity. A team of professional artists and community workers visited schools and neighborhoods to carry out informal workshops with potential contestants and residents to generate a process of local historical recovery.

Having selected the 15 young artists, painting began on city walls. Through the end of September, 13 of the 15 murals were painted. On the 9th of November, these murals will be inaugurated and handed-over to the Municipality of Cali. Work has also begun on the publication of an illustrated book in which the murals and the stories behind each of these will be recorded.



Before and after photos of a Cali wall selected for a Mural in the Peace and Memory Murals Project

Title:	The Other Traces of War: Civil Society Response to Violence-Affected Persons	Coverage:	Bogotá, Cali, Popayán, Medellín
Strategy:	At-Risk Children and Youth	Duration:	7 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	200 civil society leaders in the area of psychosocial assistance	Indirect Bens:	1,200 community members who view the exhibitions
Diluted Impact:	3000 children who receive improved psychosocial assistance as a result of the discussion forums	Total Budget:	US \$35.143
Prog. Contribution:	US \$26.907	Disbursement:	US \$22.022
Implementing Agency:	Fundación Dos Mundos	Other Partners:	Various universities
Description & Status: (Ongoing)			
<p>Fundación Dos Mundos is a national NGO dedicated to building models of psychosocial assistance to Colombia's victims and witnesses of violence, especially children. This project aims to catalyze discussion in main and intermediary cities of Colombia on the need for a civil society response to the psychological problems affecting these children and to bring visibility to locally-successful models of psychosocial assistance. To this end the project includes the exhibition of war photographs focusing on children ("Las Otras Huellas de la Guerra") and a discussion forum in each participating city.</p> <p>Although behind schedule, the project continues to advance at steady pace. In this quarter, the photographs were exhibited in Pasto and Bogotá and followed by "conversatorios" on Education and Conflict (Pasto) with the participation of 58 people and "Children and Human Rights" (Bogotá) with the participation of some 200 people, including youths. Pending still is the carrying out of exhibitions and roundtable talks in Barrancabermeja and Cúcuta, both scheduled for the next quarter.</p>			



Participants at discussion on psychosocial problems faced by war-affected children after photo exhibition in Bogotá

Title:	Demobilization and Reintegration Stories: Television Special	Coverage:	National
Strategy:	Message Broadcasting	Duration:	5 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	40 former combatants who participate directly	Indirect Bens:	200 former combatants in NGOs; 250 children excombatants
Diluted Impact:	1.8 – 2.4 million television viewers, university and school students	Total Budget:	US \$102.490
Prog. Contribution:	US \$60.000	Disbursement:	US \$57.145
Implementing Agency:	Observatorio para la Paz	Other Partners:	Fundación Arco Iris, Ministry of the Interior (Reinsertion Unit)

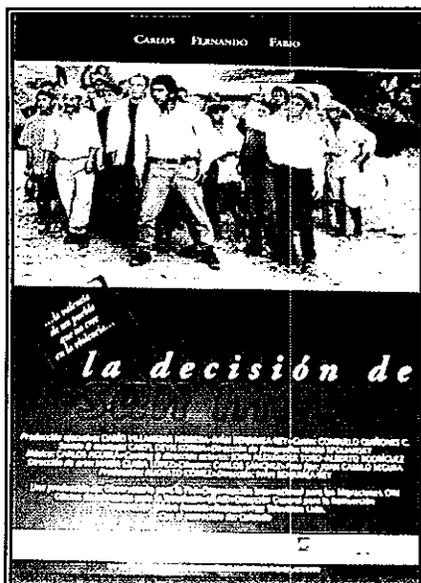
Description & Status: (Completed, additional costs covered by USAID Mission to Colombia)

The writing and direction of this television special has been coordinated by a group of demobilized combatants, involved in several NGOs dedicated to peace studies and promotion. The film is based on the lives of former combatants and tells the story of demobilization and reintegration into civilian life.

In the months of July and September, all post-production activities were completed and the film La Decisión de San Mateo was presented on the 13th of September in the National Museum to an audience of 300 people. With regard to dissemination, national TV stations have expressed interest coupled with fear regarding the possible consequences of airing the show. Although the movie is not considered to be especially controversial by those who have seen it, tensions in the country have been running extremely high in the latter part of this year. As negotiations continue with major TV stations, however, progress has been made at the local and regional levels. Events similar to the one carried out in Bogotá in the National Museum have taken place in Medellín and Bucaramanga. The film has also been included as pedagogical material for the REDEPAZ Peace Municipalities project: "100 Municipios."

The project team will continue to negotiate with major TV stations through the end of this year; at that point, if not provided with a positive response, the film will be broadcast throughout the country on regional stations, which have already expressed their interest in airing the film.

As the project was converted from a short-film into a full-length one, post-production costs increased substantially. Observatorio para la Paz received additional funds from the Ministry of the Interior and from USAID Mission to Colombia to complete the project.



Promotional poster for the Decisión de San Mateo movie

Title:	Indigenous Justice and Peace Alternatives	Coverage:	Bajo Atrato y Darien Chocoano
Strategy:	Work with Excluded Groups	Duration:	10 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	1250 Indigenous persons participate directly in training sessions	Indirect Bens:	2250 family members, readers of Book of Community Norms
Diluted Impact:	6750 Indigenous persons who reside in participating villages	Total Budget:	US \$49,000
Prog. Contribution:	US \$44,000	Disbursement:	US \$23,990
Implementing Agency:	Camizba	Other Partners:	

Description & Status: (Ongoing)

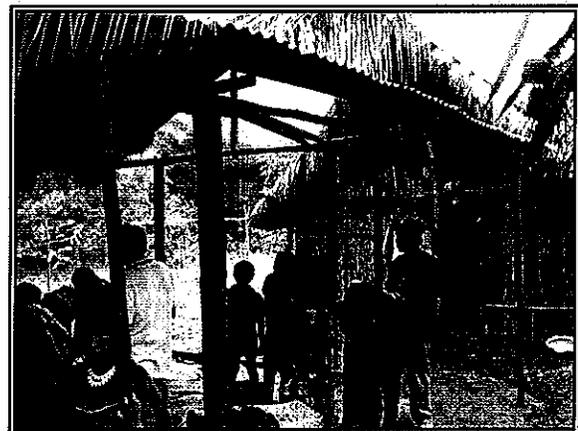
Camizba is an indigenous organization founded in 1986, which comprises 25 communities from 5 ethnic groups living in Bajo Atrato, Darien Chocoano along the Panamá border. In response to the killing of some 20 indigenous leaders in the last five years and the continuous displacement of the tribes members to escape the ongoing violence, this project aims to strengthen indigenous communities and reinforce cultural identity to guaranty the survival of their culture and people. To this end, Camizba will conduct a census of the ethnic groups living in the Darien Chocoano (estimated at 3,500 persons) and will visit each community to conduct a training workshop on customary norms and conflict resolution mechanisms. Camizba will also produce a written record of these customary norms with key concepts translated into the five languages used in the region.

In the month of September, a first meeting was held with leaders from the 25 Cabildos involved in the project so that Camizba could present its objectives, activities and schedule and the leaders could commit to specific responsibilities necessary for project success. The participants recommended that one delegate from each indigenous community (Embera, Wounan, Katio, Chami y Tule) be selected to participate in an Operational Committee to support the implementation and supervision of the project.

IOM has also delivered the in-kind contributions to this project, including IT equipment and a typewriter. The boat is being constructed by the beneficiaries at present. In October, a first workshop will be carried out on Special Rights of Indigenous Groups in the Municipality of Ungía, Chocó.



Indigenous community in Choco (Riosucio)



Title:	Young African Colombian Peace-Builders	Coverage:	Bogotá
Strategy:	Work with Excluded Groups	Duration:	12 months
Direct Beneficiaries:	100 Young persons and their families (500 persons total)	Indirect Bens:	500 Other youths, through "multiplier" effect of psychosocial assistance
Diluted Impact:	Families gradually integrated into "networks" led by young persons; improved participation of Colombian youth at International Youth Conference	Total Budget:	US \$65,156
Prog. Contribution:	US \$39,115	Disbursement:	US \$32,008
Implementing Agency:	Taller de Vida	Other Partners:	

Description & Status: (Ongoing)

Taller de Vida, an NGO founded in 1992 by a group of professional women displaced by violence, works in the urban areas of Bogotá and the surrounding municipalities to provide psychosocial, community organization and income-generation assistance to displaced families. The project has two components aiming to improve the quality of life to 100 young, mostly black, young persons, their families and other at-risk youths in their neighborhoods. The first component is psychosocial assistance to the 100 young persons and their families and will be provided throughout the 10 months of the program. These youths are trained as "multipliers" and assisted in the set-up of support networks in their neighborhoods to assist other children and adolescents. The second component works with these same 100 young persons to build their leadership capacity through a neighborhood research project that will be written up and presented by them at an International Youth Conference in Bosnia later this year.

To date, 40 youths have joined the group. Taller de Vida has decided to work in Usme and Suba (Bogotá) and Soacha. On September 2, these youths selected the topic of their research project titled: "Social and Armed Conflict – the Impact and Role of Youths in the Search for Peace."

The project has been provided a good deal of inter-institutional support from Fundación de Vida, Proceso Colombiano de Negritudes (PCN) and the Andean Services Committee. The youth group has been invited to participate also in the International Symposium on the Past, Present and Future of African Descendents in October of this year in Cartagena. The International Youth Conference, for which the research project described in the first paragraph is being prepared, was postponed to the end of the year on account of the events of September 11th.

First Meetings of New Members

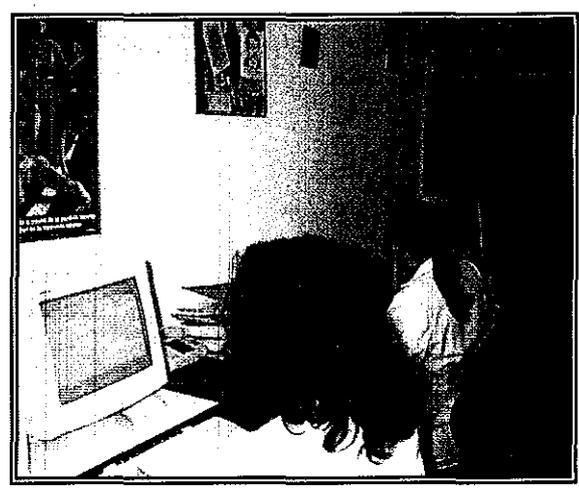
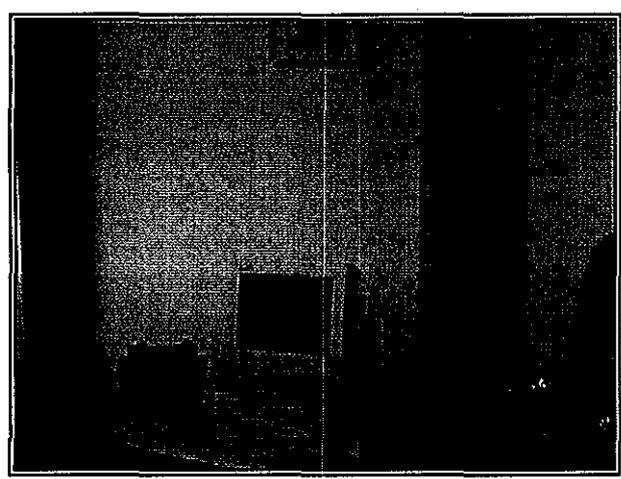


Title:	Institutional Strengthening and Awareness Campaign on Disappeared Persons	Coverage:	National
Strategy:	Assistance to Victims and Related Issues	Duration:	12 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	80 current, active members of ASFADDES	Indirect Bens:	500 new members of ASFADDES to receive support from the organization
Diluted Impact:	Awareness campaign to reach society-at-large; some 2000 relatives of disappeared persons positively impacted	Total Budget:	US \$57,995
Prog. Contribution:	US \$52,352	Disbursement:	US \$32,631
Implementing Agency:	Asociación de Familiares de Desaparecidos y Detenidos (ASFADDES)	Other Partners:	

Description & Status: (Ongoing)

ASFADDES was established in 1982 in response to the disappearance of 12 students from two national universities, and currently receives some 20 families each year seeking support in finding or recovering emotionally from the disappearance of a family member. Medios para la Paz reports that 15 persons *each month* are disappeared in Colombia – the potential demand for the kind of support provided by ASFADDES clearly overwhelms in current response capacity. ASFADDES believes that this is in part because people are unaware of their services and afraid of reporting the crime, as well as because ASFADDES lacks the installed capacity to respond to a larger number of requests for assistance than it receives at present. The project aims to address both issues – first by building the capacity of ASFADDES and second by raising awareness nationwide on disappearances in the context of civil conflict in Colombia.

To date, IT equipment has been handed-over to ASFADDES. The organization has hired a person tasked with creating the database for which information is being gathered at present. The database will include data on cases of disappearance and the victims. Progress has been made also on the design of the awareness campaign.

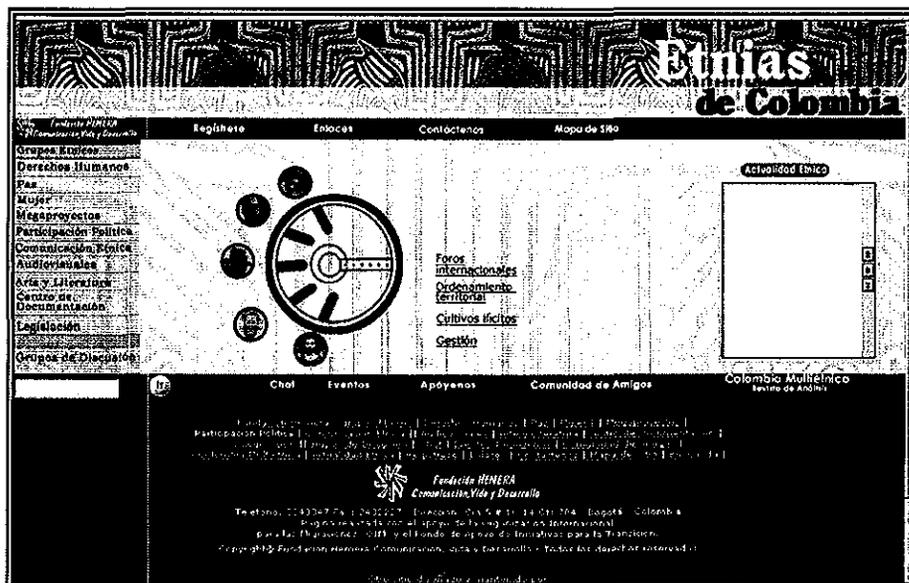


Asfaddes office with New Equipment

Title:	Information Systems on Ethnic Minorities	Coverage:	National and International
Strategy:	Work with Excluded Groups	Duration:	2 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	10 Representatives of NGO, Hemera Foundation	Indirect Bens:	1500 estimated users of Web Site and Database
Diluted Impact:	Improved information on ethnic groups will help direct funds provided by national and international donors to work with ethnic minorities	Total Budget:	US \$13.808
Prog. Contribution:	US \$11.934	Disbursement:	US \$12,000
Implementing Agency:	Fundación Hemera	Other Partners:	
Description & Status: (Ongoing, extension approved by USAID Mission to Colombia)			

The scarcity of reliable statistical information on ethnic minorities in Colombia represents an obstacle to designing appropriate assistance projects and policy-making. Fundación Hemera proposed a nationwide census of ethnic minorities and a dissemination strategy based around the construction of an Internet Web Site. The site will include results of the census, but also a forum mechanism to promote dialogue on issues affecting ethnic minorities, including the conflict, and a link to news on human rights violations to ethnic minorities.

Alongside these information services, the Hemera Foundation has decided to create three new databases, including: Audio-visual Library, Legal Library and general Reference Center with a variety of documents related to indigenous groups. The construction of these virtual services and the operational costs for the Web Site beyond the intervention of the Peace Grants Program will be covered by the USAID Mission to Colombia.



Web Site Main Page

Title:	Strengthening Justice to Confront Corruption and Human Rights Abuses	Coverage:	Bogotá – National
Strategy:	Assistance to Victims and Related Issues	Duration:	2 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	250 seminar and workshop participants from legal branch, NGOs and academia	Indirect Bens:	1000 Readers of report through massive dissemination
Diluted Impact:	Enhanced interest and commitment on behalf of legal workers and Colombian society to address corruption and human rights violations	Total Budget:	US \$25.770
Prog. Contribution:	US \$24.745	Disbursement:	US \$24,013
Implementing Agency:	Corporación Excelencia en Justicia	Other Partners:	UNHCHR, Office of the Presidency

Description & Status: (Completed)

This project is designed to counter one of the key contributors to conflict at the local level – the weakness of the justice system to protect human rights, punish perpetrators of violations to these rights, resolve disputes and fight corruption. The weakness of the Colombian state in this area of its citizens lives generates local vendettas, increases the demand for armed actors as De Facto justice workers and diminishes the sense of citizenry felt by Colombians. Corporación Excelencia en Justicia proposed a high-profile seminar that would bring together persons from the legal branch with politicians, academics, NGO representatives and individuals from the Private Sector to discuss openly the challenges and shortcomings of Colombia's judicial system. The seminar will bring visibility to the importance of a functional and non-corrupt judicial system, specifically as relates to the protection of human rights and the fight against corruption.

The seminar was carried out on August 9th and 10th in Bogotá. Among the 13 speakers were: The Ombudsman Edgardo José Maya, the Attorney General Luis Camilo Osorio and the Colombia Representative of UNHCR Leila Lima. Present at the seminar were 253 representatives of NGOs, state entities, armed forces and universities. The presentations and conclusions drawn at this seminar will be published in the next quarter.



Seminar on "Strengthening Justice to Confront Corruption and Human Rights Abuses"

Title:	Support to National Week for Peace	Coverage:	Bogotá – National
Strategy:	Support to NGOs working in peace promotion	Duration:	2 Months
Direct Beneficiaries:	50 Representatives from NGOs	Indirect Bens:	1,000 recipients/users of CD Roms
Diluted Impact:	5,000 persons visiting the REDEPAZ events	Total Budget:	US \$46,527
Prog. Contribution:	US \$ 43,706	Disbursement:	US \$29,583
Implementing Agency:	Red Nacional de Paz, REDEPAZ	Other Partners:	

Description & Status: (Ongoing)

The National Network for Peace (REDEPAZ, for its Spanish initials) was created in 1993; since then this organization has been committed to increasing and consolidating the social movement for peace, through political and cultural efforts. As an instrument for generating awareness in the public-at-large, as well as for increasing the know-how and commitment of civil society with regards to peace processes, REDEPAZ started in 1994 a national "Week for Peace," which has become a well-recognized period for peace-oriented academic, cultural, political and civil-society led peace initiatives. REDEPAZ requested financial assistance in order to make this event possible this year and specifically to bring local NGOs from outside of Bogotá to present successful peace initiatives at an "NGO fair," as well as to provide training to these NGOs in project formulation, communications (internet, media, NGO visibility). In fact, the support provided to REDEPAZ for the National Peace Week

The National Week for Peace took place between September 4th and 12th, with related activities in most major cities of the country. Regarding activities sponsored by the Peace Grants program, a fair was set up in the Plaza de los Artesanos in Bogotá, where 93 non-governmental organizations (evenly divided between national, local and Bogotá-based NGOs) exhibited and discussed their peace initiatives; the exhibition was visited by approximately 5,000 people. One durable product of this event is the creation of a CD-Rom guide to 420 local initiatives in peace promotion; these 420 organizations include many small, isolating and start-up groups that applied to participate in the fair, but were not provided with financial assistance to attend (due to budgetary restrictions).



NGO Fair in Bogotá, organized by REDEPAZ
as part of the National Week for Peace.

Title:	Institutional Strengthening of Peace Commission Offices	Coverage:	Antioquia, Bolivar, Santander, Cauca & Huila
Strategy:	Peace Commission Offices	Duration:	9 months
Direct Beneficiaries:	100 local authorities and civil society representatives, 5,000 beneficiaries of peace project pilots	Indirect Bens:	5,000 indirect beneficiaries of peace promotion projects
Diluted Impact:	Strengthening of Peace Commissions is intended to improve the environment for peace in each department by improving the relationship between government and civil society at this level	Total Budget:	US \$300,000
Prog. Contribution:	US \$251,151	Disbursement:	US\$7,619
Implementing Agency:	IOM	Other Partners:	Governor's Offices
Description & Status: (Ongoing)			
<p>The Departmental Peace Commission Offices were created in 1998, tasked with identifying and developing initiatives to overcome obstacles to peace at the local level, promoting respect and awareness on human rights, facilitating the reintegration of ex – combatant groups and fostering increased dialogue between civil society and the national government regarding the Peace Process. Upon visiting these offices, it is clear that most Peace Commissioner's lack the financial and human resources to fulfill this mandate and have few success stories which might validate the importance of an active Peace Commissioner. This project aims to provide the Peace Commission offices with the necessary training, equipment, information technology and seed money for pilot projects to take an active role in peace promotion – in coordination with civil society – at the local level.</p> <p>To date, field visits were carried out to all departments covered by the project (Antioquia, Cauca, Santander, Bolivar and Huila) to meet with the Governor and Peace Commissioner, as well as with local NGOs working in peace promotion. At this point, an inventory of basic IT equipment was taken and computers, printers, video-projectors were purchased to complete the first step of the project. Internet service for one year will also be sponsored under the project.</p> <p>Toward the organization of the Roundtable Workshops on conflict prevention and transformation, contact was made with universities and NGOs recommended by the Colombian Confederation of NGOs to request proposals. A subgrant will be signed with INDEPAZ, an organization which demonstrated itself to be responsible and responsive and presented a solid proposal with a coherent budget.</p> <p>The Peace Commissioner's have been invited to meet with one another and the IOM team on the 15th of November. The goals of this meeting include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Presentation by INDEPAZ of the regional workshops component ◊ Joint selection of Technical Advisors for each project ◊ Assistance from IOM Information Technology Expert on database management; selection of local company to develop databases and provide training to Peace Commission staff 			

Title:	Support to Women and Girls Victims of Sexual Violence in the Context of Armed Conflict	Coverage:	Valle del Cauca, Nariño, Putumayo, Bogotá, Huila, Meta, Santander, Antioquia, Córdoba, Bolivar
Strategy:	Assistance to Victims and Related Issues	Duration:	6 months
Direct Beneficiaries:	100 participants	Indirect Bens:	1,000 recipients of National Directory and Trainer's Manual
Diluted Impact:	Improved assistance to victims of sexual violence, particularly in rural areas	Total Budget:	US \$52,403
Prog. Contribution:	US \$49,710	Disbursement:	US \$ --
Implementing Agency:	National Nurses Association -- Antioquia Branch	Other Partners:	NGO Humanizar
Description & Status: (Approved)			
<p>The National Association of Nurses, Antioquia Chapter, requested the assistance of the Peace Grants Program to improve the response capacity of civil society and government organizations to assist victims of sexual violence. The project aims to provide orientation and training to 90 persons working in different institutions, tasked with addressing, reporting and attending to said cases in 10 departments of the country.</p> <p>As was noted by USAID during the development of approval period of this project, several ongoing efforts to learn more about sexual violence and better-attend its victims have been made by national NGOs. To ensure that efforts were not duplicated and that this project linked-up to larger-scale activities, IOM and representatives of the Nurses' Association met with the Attorney General's Office, Profamilia, Defensoría del Pueblo, Humanizar, the Presidential Program Haz Paz and the Institute of Legal Medicine. During these meetings, it was established clearly that the ANEC proposal would not duplicate existing activities, primarily because this project attempts to address specific problems related to violence against women carried out by armed combatants, while most existing efforts focus on family violence (prevention and treatment). Also the ANEC effort is more practical than theoretical and promises to provide useful tools to health and legal officials and NGOs to motivate violated women to seek assistance (even if they do not want to report the crime) and provide quality services in a timely manner.</p> <p>Several of the above organizations offered support to the project; the most important commitment was from the Defensoría del Pueblo, which offered to manage the "hot-line" for victims who seek anonymous support and information. Humanizar offered to provide accompaniment to the project. Profamilia offered to help in the identification of participants in each department, including previous victims.</p>			

		021	
Title:	Local Action to Prevent Landmine Accidents and Raise Awareness	Coverage:	Cauca, Valle del Cauca, Antioquia, Norte de Santander and Bolivar
Strategy:	Assistance to Victims and Related Issues	Duration:	10 months
Direct Beneficiaries:	150 Municipal workers, 300 land-mine victims	Indirect Bens:	3,000 recipients of information to avoid accidents
Diluted Impact:	30,000 audience in Mine-Awareness campaign	Total Budget:	US \$68,533
Prog. Contribution:	US \$56,370	Disbursement:	US \$
Implementing Agency:	Justapaz	Other Partners:	Presidential Program for Human Rights
Description & Status: (Approved)			
<p>Although this project was approved prior to the end of the reporting period, a change in the implementing agency caused a delay in getting the project started. Once approved, IOM proceeded to negotiate the a contract with the Colombian Red Cross, which was blocked by their legal department on account of "activities outside of their mandate." Specifically, the Colombian Red Cross was not able to implement the information-gathering and analysis tasks associated with this project.</p> <p>JUSTAPAZ is an NGO which has participated in the Presidential Program for Human Rights and in the Committee for the Mine Action Centers program. Upon hearing about the possible cancellation of the project, this NGO presented itself to IOM – with the support of the Human Rights Program – to implement the project. It was determined that JUSTAPAZ had the installed capacity and interest to carry out this project.</p> <p>Contractual negotiations were completed at the end of the reporting period.</p>			

		021	
Title:	Community Radio Stations in Putumayo: La Onda de Paz	Coverage:	5 Municipalities of Putumayo
Strategy:	Alternative Media	Duration:	9 months
Direct Beneficiaries:	125 direct participants in community radio stations	Indirect Bens:	2,500 persons through sporadic participation
Diluted Impact:	20,000 listeners of community radio transmissions	Total Budget:	US \$118,316
Prog. Contribution:	US \$88,067	Disbursement:	0
Implementing Agency:	Asociación de Desarrollo de la Amazonia, ADA	Other Partners:	Pastoral Social of Putumayo
Description & Status: (Approved)			
<p>The Agency for Development of the Amazon, ADA, requested the assistance of the Peace Grants program to work in five municipalities of Putumayo to strengthen incipient organizational processes around community radio stations. This NGO has developed a community-led methodology to establish and strengthen radio stations in the department of Caquetá and Putumayo. The Peace Grants program has gained valuable experience in alternative media projects, which have demonstrated the potential for community media not only to provide a public forum for information-sharing and dialogue at the local level, but also for strengthening grassroots organizations, promoting education and development and generating wide-reaching networks of grassroots organizations from different municipalities, linked through their media stations.</p> <p>As this project was approved in the last week of the reporting period, implementation is not expected to begin on this project until the next quarter.</p>			

Participants in the Unidad Investigativa Training Sessions in Bogotá

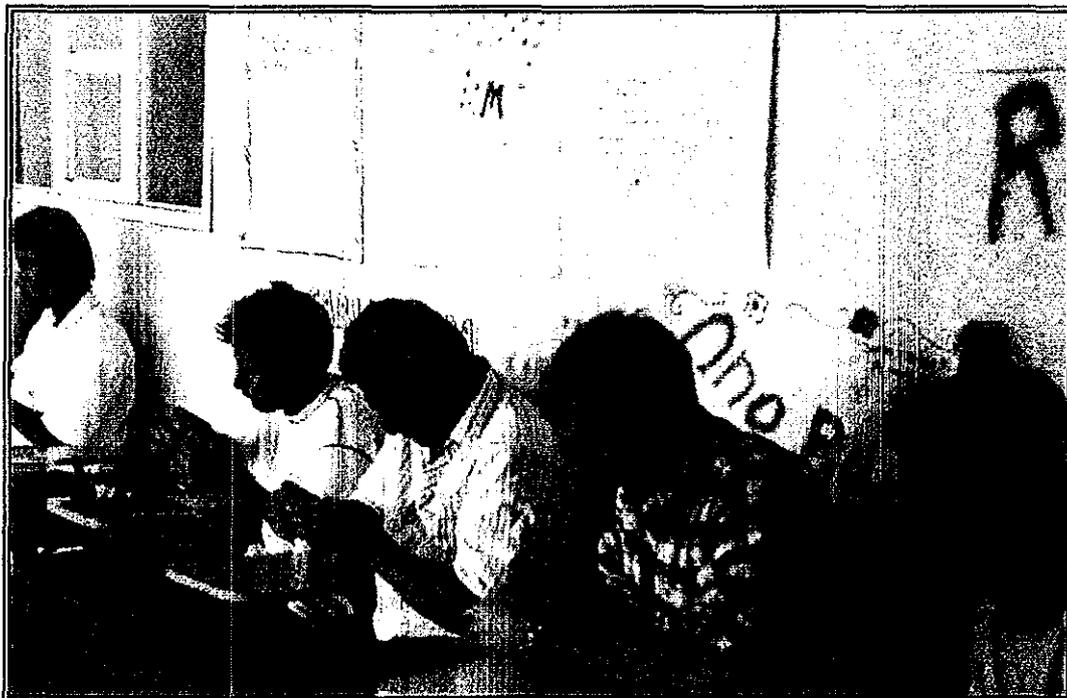


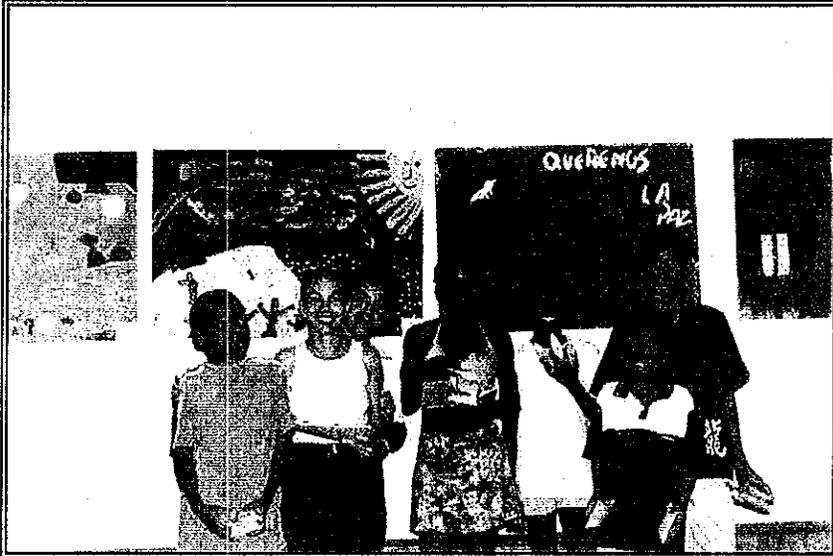
Graduation day from the film-making training

This event was covered by the Caracol TV station



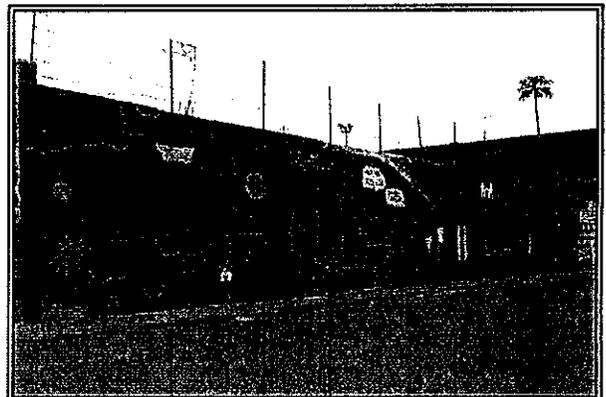
Coalition Workshop in Putumayo and Bogotá





Young artists at the presentation of mural proposals in Cali

Painting begins on one Mural



Before and after shots of Cali wall selected for peace and Memory Murals

La Decisión de San Mateo On-Site Photographs



Young African Colombian Peace-Builders Project



CAPACITACIÓN / QUIEREN OLVIDAR SU PASO POR LA DELINCUENCIA

Jóvenes con futuro

Varios muchachos, la mayoría con antecedentes criminales, participaron en un taller para aprender a libretear, producir TV, manejar cámaras y actuar. Al final, reelizaron su propio drama.

CARLOS HUGO JIMÉNEZ E.
Redactor de EL TIEMPO

John Jairo Sánchez se cansó de delinquir. Los años que pasó en las cárceles de La 40 de Pereira, La Blanca de Manzates y El Barro de Tunja, más los doce meses que estuvo vinculado al ELN, le dejaron una triste huella en su vida que quiere borrar.

Por eso, se le veía entusiasmado en Ciudad Bolívar, una de las zonas más peligrosas en el sur de Bogotá, al convertirse en "actor". "La vida es bella y vale la pena redescubrir", dice, mientras aguarda el llamado para que entre en acción.

Este muchacho, al igual que otros jóvenes que alguna vez cayeron en las drogas y en actividades delictivas, hizo parte del programa 'Jóvenes con futuro', promovido por la Organización Internacional de Migrantes, organismo adscrito a la ONU.

Durante 9 días participaron en talleres de producción de televisión, elaboración de libretos, manejo de cámaras de betacam y actuación, coordinados por Gustavo Bolívar, libretista de *Pandillas: guerra y paz*. El martes se reunieron todos en las calles de Sierra Morena, en Ciudad



JOHN JAIRO Sánchez antes de comenzar a grabar 'Regreso a casa'.

Gerardo Chynoweth, EL TIEMPO

Bolívar, para poner en práctica lo aprendido.

Bolívar explica que esta capacitación fue el resultado de una selección que se hizo en ciudades como Popayán, Manzates, Girardot, Villavieja y Florencia, donde el año pasado y este, se han efectuado jornadas de desarme y resocialización. "La mayoría de ellos se convencieron de que hay posibilidades de reintegrarse con la sociedad y mostraron el deseo de participar en estos talleres". Los cursos de aprendizaje comenzaron el pasado 4 de septiembre y concluyeron el pasado miércoles, con una emotiva ceremonia en el Círculo Colombiano de Actores (Cíca).

Los jóvenes realizaron un video de 12 minutos. Y contaron la historia de Gustavo, un muchacho que deseaba escapar de una vez por todas de las drogas y del crimen. Re-



ESTELA MARIS Berbeo, dirigió el 'script' y también actuó.

greso a casa, así se tituló el breve drama, mostró cómo el protagonista, tras bajarse de un bus, se encontró con todas las tentaciones del mal: un la-

drón que le dio a guardar una cadena, un gay que lo pretendió y una prostituta que buscó darle placer. Pero el sentimiento de Gustavo por darle un giro definitivo a su vida, triunfó. En el epílogo, se ve al protagonista de la mano de su esposa (Estela Maris Berbeo, locutora de radio proveniente de Belén de los Andaquíes) y su pequeña hija.

En medio del llanto, cuando recibieron su diploma, se despidieron y todos regresaron a casa con la esperanza de poner en práctica lo aprendido. "Ahora prefiero agarrar una pala y ganarme 50 mil pesos semanales y no un cuchillo para tener 70 mil", dice John Jairo Sánchez.

B8

SOCIALES DE CALI

PRESENTACIÓN DE GALERÍA DE ARTE



ELIANA ARISMENDY / EL PAIS

La Comisión Vida, Justicia y Paz, de la Arquidiócesis de Cali, la Organización Internacional para las Migraciones y el Grupo Almuro presentaron los resultados del Concurso Bocetos para los Murales de la Paz y la Galería de Arte Urbano de Cali, en acto especial que se cumplió en el Club San Fernando. Mónica Guzmán, monseñor Isaias Duarte Cancino, Pablo Van Wong, Vivian Monsalve y José Horacio Martínez, en la foto.

**Press Coverage on the presentation of proposals for
Peace and Memory Murals in Cali**

CULTURA

SE ABRE MUESTRA PLÁSTICA CON LOS FUTUROS MURALES DE LA CALLE QUINTA

Galería de Arte Urbano, una muestra de paz

Después de recibir las obras que concursaron en "Bocetos para los murales de paz", la Comisión Vida, Justicia y Paz de la Arquidiócesis de Cali y estudiantes del Instituto Popular de Cultura se encuentran listos para iniciar las reproducciones que adornarán diversos muros de la ciudad.

La Comisión Vida, Justicia y Paz de la Arquidiócesis de Cali, profesores y algunos estudiantes del Instituto Popular de Cultura dieron a conocer ayer, en el Club San Fernando, las obras seleccionadas en el concurso "Bocetos para los murales de paz".

El concurso, que contó con la participación de más de ochenta personas entre estudiantes de universidades, colegios, centros culturales y parroquias, buscó que fueran los mismos caleños quienes propusieran una visión enmarcada dentro de la recuperación histórica, la construcción de la identidad cultural y el fortalecimiento de la dignidad humana.

Para la selección fue necesario que el jurado calificador categorizara las obras recibidas, ya que en el concurso participaron niños, adultos, estudiantes de arte y artistas.

De las 87 propuestas recibidas, el jurado de selección eligió quince obras, las que serán elaboradas por un grupo de estudiantes de Artes Plásticas del Instituto Popular de Cultura, 'Almuro', en las



Obras de Eduardo Galvis. Occidente.

La obra de Eduardo Galvis es una de las más apreciadas en esta convocatoria artística.

paredes ubicadas en la Calle Quinta entre las carreras primera y décima y las paredes del Club San Fernando.

De esta forma nace uno de los proyectos culturales más innovadores de los últimos tiempos, ya que los muros de la ciudad expresarán los sentimientos y aspiraciones de un amplio número de caleños.

Según monseñor Isaias Duarte Cancino, este evento refleja la misma expresión de un pueblo ansioso por surgir, en medio de este nefasto conflicto armado que afronta la nación.

"No hay nada más hermoso que expresar los sentimientos por

medio de la pintura, pues a través de ésta, gran parte de los caleños, en especial los niños, le demuestran a la ciudad que aun están cargados de optimismo y buenas intenciones en medio de este conflicto que nos aqueja cada día con mayor intensidad", dijo Duarte Cancino.

De otra parte, Esperanza Hernández, coordinadora del concurso, aseguró que lo que más necesita el país son propuestas de paz.

A partir del 23 de julio se iniciará la elaboración de estos murales, los que seguramente serán apreciados y cuidados por toda la comunidad caleña.

CINE / 'LA DECISIÓN DE SAN MATEO', REFLEXIÓN SOBRE LA PAZ

Neutralidad, la mejor opción

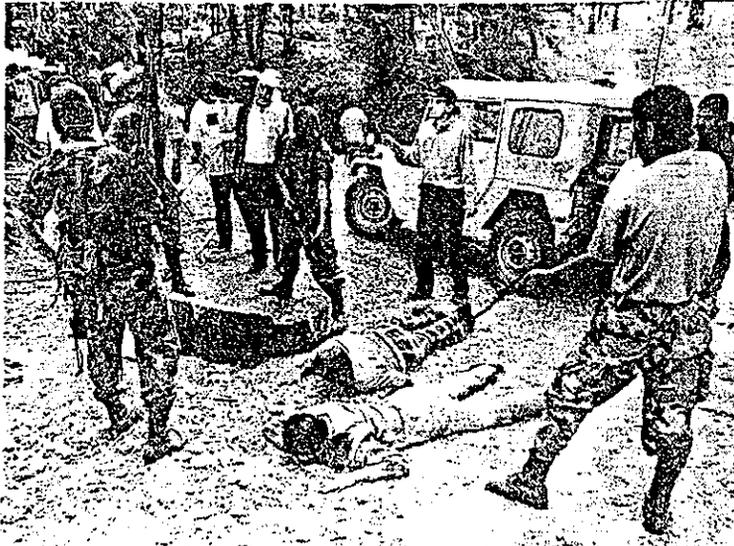
Se estrenará en septiembre una película sobre los municipios de Colombia que escogieron permanecer al margen del conflicto.

JIMMY ARIAS
Redactor de EL TIEMPO

No necesariamente tiene que existir bueno y malo, violento y pacífico, izquierda y derecha en un conflicto armado. Hay quienes prefieren quedarse al margen de la guerra como la opción más inteligente para sobrevivir en paz y armonía.

Lograr la neutralidad no es cosa fácil. En nuestro país aunque la guerra parece colmar toda su geografía, existen esos reductos de paz. Municipios que por la vía del diálogo lograron no ser incluidos como parte del territorio de uno u otro bando ni ser campo de batalla.

El documentalista Iván Benjumea a lo largo de su trabajo, durante los últimos 10 años, ha conocido algunas de estas poblaciones. Inspirado en el caso de Mogotes, La India (Córdoba), Aguachica (César), Samaniego (Nariño) y San Luis (Antioquia) y en los relatos de sus ciudadanos, concibió *La decisión de San Mateo*, una película que cuenta el duro proceso me-



LOS POBLADORES DE San Mateo tendrán que enfrentar a los violentos solo con hechos de paz, aunque algunos tendrán que arriesgar sus vidas. Archivo parte/da.

dante el cual un municipio decide ser zona neutral.

"La historia de San Mateo está basada en hechos reales -explica- comunidades y personas que han optado por las vías pacíficas frente al conflicto armado. Gente que busca construir un entorno distinto en el que se pueden resolver los problemas sin matarse los unos a otros".

Uno de los objetivos de este filme es mostrar ese otro país que no se conoce por estar pendiente de la guerra. La idea de hacer un guión para cine surgió del trabajo

conjunto con el investigador Dario Villamizar Herrera, quien ha publicado varios libros en torno al tema de la paz, y con la guionista Consuelo Quiñones.

"Tardamos dos meses construyendo a 'Pacho'. Un guerrillero que se cuestiona sobre el sentido de la guerra y acaba desertando. Tiempo después, su grupo armado se desmoviliza -cuenta- es en San Mateo en donde se encuentra con sus antiguos compañeros de lucha, pero también con gente que él mismo tuvo secuestrada".

Este encuentro entre secuestrador y secuestrado, dice el director de la cinta, es obviamente muy doloroso pero se convierte en la oportunidad precisa para saldar esas heridas. Que en últimas es lo más importante para lograr la neutralidad y la paz: el perdón.

Paz en cámara

Piedras (Tolima) es un municipio en el que la cárcel es usada como bodega porque nunca han tenido un preso y el hospital solo tiene un enfermo. Allí fue filmada

La decisión de San Mateo. "En San Mateo se vive la conciliación -expresa- y perdón en cada esquina, a que ese proceso de superación de los miedos y los odios no es fácil y a cada paso se van levantando los resquemores".

Como no es nada fácil, cerles frente pacíficamente los grupos armados, la producción necesitó efectos especiales para semejar explosiones y enfrentamientos. "Todo municipio se convierte en objetivo de los actores del conflicto -dice Benjumea- por eso están expuestos a ser víctimas de la violencia".

La película contó con participación de dos mil extras y fue rodada en video que será pasado a 35 milímetros. El estreno de *La decisión de San Mateo* está programado para la 'Semana de la paz', a realizarse entre el 1 y el 16 de septiembre. Además será emitida por televisión.

Dentro del reparto figura actores como Juan Pablo Franco (Pacho), Martha Lucía Leal, Carlos Hurtado, Fabio Rubiano y Fernando García. En el patrocinio de esta producción participan la Organización Internacional para la Emigración (OIM), la Corporación para la paz, la Fundación Arca Iris y Redepaz. Como se trata de entidades sin ánimo de lucro, la exhibición del largometraje será gratuita.

Promotional Coverage by press for: La Decisión de San Mateo Movie

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Ámbito Jurídico

ACTUALIDAD

■ Corporación Excelencia en la Justicia

Reflexiones sobre derechos humanos y corrupción

Este evento espera convertirse en un escenario interdisciplinario de debate sobre los principales problemas del sistema de justicia.

El seminario "Justicia, derechos humanos y corrupción: reflexiones para una nueva Colombia" es el espacio que la Corporación Excelencia en la Justicia (CEJ) tiene previsto para abrir el debate sobre la modernización de la justicia para la construcción de un sistema judicial eficiente que combata la corrupción y la violación de los derechos humanos.

El evento, que se realizará en el auditorio Teresa Cuervo Borda del Museo Nacional los días 9 y 10 de agosto próximos, contempla la realización de foros académicos como espacio para facilitar escenarios interdisciplinarios de reflexión y formulación de soluciones a los principales problemas del sistema de justicia.

De acuerdo con la CEJ, y teniendo en cuenta los continuos escándalos sobre corrupción política y administrativa en el ámbito estatal, es importante realizar un diagnóstico con las entida-

des a cargo de vigilar y castigar a los corruptos, y abrir espacios de discusión a propósito de la defensa de los derechos humanos.

Entre los panelistas se encuentra Gustavo Bell Lemus, vicepresidente y ministro de Defensa, quien presentará el tema "Derechos humanos, corrupción y justicia"; Anders Kompass, alto comisionado para los derechos humanos de la ONU, con la ponencia "Justicia, acuerdos humanitarios y proceso de paz"; y Eduardo Cifuentes, defensor del Pueblo, con "Juridicidad de los derechos humanos y del Derecho Internacional Humanitario".

También estarán presentes Rosa Inés Altamiranda, asesora para el DIH de la Cruz Roja Colombiana, con el tema "Derecho Internacional Humanitario y su aplicabilidad en el nuevo Código Penal"; Edgardo José Maya Villazón, procurador general de la Nación con el tema "Corrupción y derechos humanos", y Carlos Eduardo Mejía Escobar, presidente de la Sala Penal de la Corte Suprema de Justicia, con "Normatividad penal y corrupción".

Igualmente, tendrán un espacio en este seminario la Fiscalía General de la Nación, la CEJ y la Contraloría General de la Nación.