

Support
Program for
Ex-Combatant
Children, Colombia



7th
Quarter Report
October - December 2002



IOM • OIM



Niños, Niñas y Jóvenes Desvinculados
del Conflicto Armado

USAID



United States Agency for
International Development

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The last quarter of 2002 was marked by an intensification of terrorist attacks, aimed at government institutions in urban centers, which led to the preventive closing of some embassies located in Bogotá. The year ended with reforms that were made to tax, labor and retirement pensions regulations. Likewise the Colombian Congress approved the Referendum's text and the Law on Public Order was extended.

Compared to the previous quarter, for the reporting period the Support Program for Ex-combatant Children concluded the year with a 41% enrollment increase of demobilized children from the armed conflict. Between October and December 2002, 130 minors entered the program. It is the largest number since the program started, compared to 92 children who were assisted in the previous quarter. Since the beginning of the Program in March 2001, 649 ex-combatant children have been assisted through ICBF, of which 464 are males and 185 females. Additionally, the Program has begun assisting ex-combatant children belonging to ethnic minorities.

From October to December, the Program saw a significant increase of demobilized children coming from the United Self-defense Forces of Colombia (AUC, by its Spanish initials), 27, or (21%) out of the total number of children demobilized during this quarter and the largest number to this date. This situation is associated with the unilateral ceasefire announced by the AUC and its rapprochement with the Government in order to start peace talks. However, the greatest number of demobilized children still come from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), which represented 63% (82) of the total number of minors who entered the Program. Combats between irregular armed groups and the Colombian army were intensified, which might have had an impact on the increase of demobilized children, of whom 90 (69%) demobilized voluntarily and 40 (31%) were captured.

During 2002, 345 children were assisted in the two Transit Homes, Nine Specialized Attention Centers, including a new one located in the City of Armenia, and 7 Half Way Houses located in Bogotá, Cundinamarca, Medellín, Cali, Bucaramanga and Armenia. Children in the Program aside from being provided with health, board and room, have also received legal assistance, whereby 31 legal actions have been closed, and 141 civil registries and identification cards were processed. There were family meetings held for 64 children, in which the Program financed transportation, room and board for 143 of the children's relatives. In addition, there was clothing provided through the purchase of 143 sweat-suits, T-shirts, underwear, socks and tennis shoes for the demobilized ex-combatant children. For the Christmas Season, the Program awarded every child a bonus of \$21 and also contributed for the Christmas dinner.

Educational and cultural workshops were carried out with indigenous and African-Colombian children from the Departments of Cauca and Chocó, in which 452 children assisted in Cauca and 160 children in Chocó. In addition, four new income generation projects were approved and launched: pig breeding, dairy cows, laying hens, and grocery stores, which will benefit 20 former indigenous child soldiers. In 15 communities of ethnic minorities in Chocó's, there were workshops conducted on Human Rights, International Humanitarian Law, Indigenous Legislation, Territorial Autonomy, and Children's Rights, which were attended by 160 children. The Program was also consolidated with the strengthening of the Contingency Plan, in view of the delivery of 18 ex-combatants by the AUC, and the announcement of a mass demobilization of an undetermined number of ex-combatant children.

The institutions continued fostering ex-combatant children's rights by the dissemination of the Legal Route ("Ruta Jurídica"). By the end of the quarter, 1230 officials of the public ministry, judges, family counselors, and community leaders received training through workshops given by Human Rights Ombudsman Office (Defensoría del Pueblo), the Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF by its Spanish acronym) and Save The Children of the United Kingdom (SCUK). In addition, with the Program's contribution there was a Forum conducted at the *Universidad de los Andes* regarding Children and Armed Conflict; prizes were awarded to the winners of the announcement organized

by the *Cinemateca Distrital*, for the production of a short film and a documentary about “Children of the war”, and also the Program’s baseline research was published.

II. CONTEXT¹

At the end of this quarter, the context is characterized by the new government's evaluation of its performance and by the political, economic and social reforms achieved. These gave insight on what will be the new administration's line of action and also became the foundations for the new government development plan. The status can be summarized as follows:

In the economic area, the inflation average rate during 2002 was 6.9 %, higher than the rate determined by Banco de la República of 6%. The goal set for economic growth was 1.6%, but thanks to the benefits of the treaty of Andean Customs Preferences (ATPA, by its Spanish initials), the economic growth reached 3.5% for the beneficiaries of the ATPA and 2.5% for other businessmen. The GOC estimated a 2% economic growth for 2002. The year ended with three large economic reforms having an impact on the economic area: pension, labor and fiscal reform. In the first, the government increased age for retirement from the labor market, readjusting contributions in order to avoid the crisis and to prevent payment stoppage to retired people. The labor reform implies an increase of day working hours and a reduction of payment for night shifts. Payment of Sundays and national holidays was also reduced. With these adjustments the government aims to promote the creation of more employment. With the fiscal reform the government wishes to receive fresh money to prevent a fiscal crisis and to be able to finance the war against the illegal armed groups, setting a value-added tax of 2% and 7% to everyday products, and increased a surcharge to gas. Finally, there was an unexpected devaluation of the Colombian peso, ending the year with a 25% rate, almost three-times the (9%) estimated by the Banco de la República at the beginning of the year. In general, the situation of uncertainty marked national economy in a way that exports slowed down, access to the capital markets became difficult and the flow of external resources was restrained.

In the political field during the quarter the Senate approved an extension of the Public Order Law. This gives the Government legal tools for the establishment of peace talks with illegal armed groups. The bill eliminates the requirement of a political status to start negotiations, which favors opening up dialogues with paramilitary groups, and also allows the President to establish demilitarized zones. On the other hand, the Congress approved the referendum inquiry to be carry out in May 2003, on the condition that the Constitutional Court finds the referendum does not violate the Colombian Constitution and the National Register Agency (Colombian INS) has the logistics plan ready on time for voting. Some of the issues included to be decided were: resources from royalties transferred to health and education, loss of the investiture of Congressmen, elimination of some *Personerías* (People's Attorney Office) and local comptrollers offices, extending the mandate of mayors and governors in office, and no increase in expenses and salaries of the Nation for a two-year period. There already exist manifestations, controversy and polemics towards the included issues in the text of the referendum.

In the field of peace, the government established during this quarter an exploratory peace commission with the Self Defense Groups (AUC). At the same time the FARC increased its escalating terrorist actions in urban centers, aimed at governmental institutions (Army and Police Corps), but massively affecting the civil population. In addition to this, the President's proposal for mediation of the United Nations and of important personalities was rejected by the UN, which was aimed to disentangle the issue of humanitarian exchange. Up until this moment there have been no tangible results concerning the meetings between government delegates and the guerrilla group National Liberation Army (ELN).

¹ See Annex 2: Press Release

Other areas of the context worth mentioning is the government Development Plan which is focused on six main purposes "Towards a Communitarian State", with the following main titles:

- Security Strengthening
- Reactivation of the economy
- Government reform
- Public expense reduction
- Fight against corruption
- Social Investment

a. Ex-Combatant Children

The AUC, announced the delivery of the children withheld by them that were part of the guerilla groups. However, on December, the AUC delivered 18 underage from their own fronts. First 12 children and two weeks later 6 more, being the ICBF and the Human Rights Ombudsman Office the institutions in charge of receiving them, assisted by authorities of the municipality of Barrancabermeja in the department of Santander, and the logistic support for transportation, lodging, food and clothing from the Ex-Combatant Program. In spite of having announced handing over more children on December 24, this was not carried out, but there is a contingency plan ready for any massive demobilization of minors. The fact that demobilization of children from the armed groups is one of the first three priorities in the negotiation agenda of the government, might cause a massive demobilization from the AUC and become an important matter of discussion to which special attention should be given.

With the intensification of the combats between the national army and the illegal armed groups, the number of killed and captured people has increased in the last period, giving enough foundations to believe there will be recruitment of more children to replace those being killed.

On the 24th of December, Law 418 of 1997 was ratified whereby economic benefits and the condition of victims of the armed conflict of ex-combatant children remain, thus eliminating the requirement of belonging to an armed group with political status. The law was extended for four more years. During the quarter October-December a big effort was made on adjusting and improving the information system to have updated and reliable data on children assisted by the program. It has been established that the ICBF has assisted from January 1994 to December 31, 2002 a total of 1,195 ex-combatant children. Of this total, the Specialized Assistance Program has assisted 700 children for former child soldiers since it started in April 1999 to December 31, 2002. Within the framework of the Support Program for Ex-Combatant Children financed by USAID and carried out by ICBF, SCUK and IOM, 649 children have been assisted. Of this total, 97 were already in institutions of ICBF at the beginning of the program in March 21, 2001, and 552 have entered between this date and December 31, 2002.

During this quarter there was a significant increase of 41.3% in the number of demobilized children, having moved from 92 in previous quarter to 130 between October and December.

b. Public Opinion

On October 4 El Tiempo newspaper published an article on displaced persons showing that 4.5% of Colombian population (more than 2 million people) are in a situation of forced displacement by violence. The Social Solidarity Network (RSS) informs that the main cause of displacement (45%) is to avoid recruitment of children by the illegal armed groups.

On October 6, El Tiempo published an interview with the director of the Committee of the International Red Cross (CICR) which denounces the deterioration of human rights situation and the International Humanitarian Right, as a result of the escalation of the conflict.

On October 24, the national press (El Tiempo), the international press (The Washington Post) and television programs widely disseminated the so-called "Operation Orion", ordered by the President of the Republic in commune 13 in Medellín, due to the serious situation caused by a territorial dispute between the local militia groups and the self-defense groups (AUC). In the operative 18 were killed and more than 250 people were captured, including 30 children recruited by the urban militia groups.

On October 25, the Ministry of Health disseminates a press release number 25, denouncing that because of the serious situation of public order, at least 5,000 children may not be vaccinated in 17 municipalities, as the armed groups did not allow the installation of small posts to carry out the national campaign of vaccination on the 27th of October.

Newspaper El Tiempo informs on filing of Law 418 on public order being approved and extending its term for a second time. Previously it had been extended until December 2002. Furthermore, a wording reform was accepted eliminating the condition of illegal armed groups having political status in order to participate in peace talks. This law includes a wording that considers former child soldiers as victims of the armed conflict.

On October 31, newspaper El Tiempo publishes an article on sexual abuse of children, denouncing that annually eleven thousand children are victims of abuse, which means 30 cases per day. In the Program it has been established that abuse and family violence are causes that facilitate the entry of boys and girls into the armed groups.

On November 29, newspaper El Tiempo published a press release from AUC announcing a unilateral stop of hostilities during the end of year holidays and also delivery of child soldiers to UNICEF.

On December 4, the newspaper (El Tiempo) and television made a brief description on "The Children of War", prepared by the Ombudsman Office and UNICEF, which denounces the alarming increase of recruitment of children by the armed groups. This report is based on interviews with 80 children assisted by the Support Program for Ex-Combatant Children financed by USAID. The Human Rights Ombudsman announces a follow-up on 200 children who have been assisted by the Program.

On December 5, the newspaper "Diario el Sur" publishes an article on the program for former child soldiers, carried out by IOM and the Regional Peace Commissioner in the department of Cauca. It informs on the activities developed with youngsters of 4 municipalities of the department, and especially on the assembly held with the participation of 300 indigenous and Afro-Colombian youngsters benefiting from the program, in order to evaluate results.

On December 7, written press (El Tiempo) and television inform on the delivery of 13 child soldiers by the Bolivar Central Front of the AUC, one day after their announcement of the unilateral stop in hostilities. Delivery took place in the Municipality of San Rafael de Lebrija, in the department of Santander. Through the Support Program for Ex-Combatant Children, land and air transportation was provided, and also food, lodging, clothing and toiletries.

On December 11, newspaper El Tiempo publishes an article on complaints for the assistance to former child soldiers informed in the report of the People's Attorney (*Procuraduría*), which mentions weaknesses in the program of assistance to those children. The Human Rights Ombudsman Office and UNICEF in this same article give a good rating to the program.

On December 14, the newspaper "El Independiente" publishes a report of the Special Representative of the Security Council of United Nations naming the five countries Afghanistan, Burundi, Republic of Congo, Libya and Somalia with the highest forced recruitment of children. The UN representative recommends that other countries with an armed conflict, like Colombia, should be included in the list.

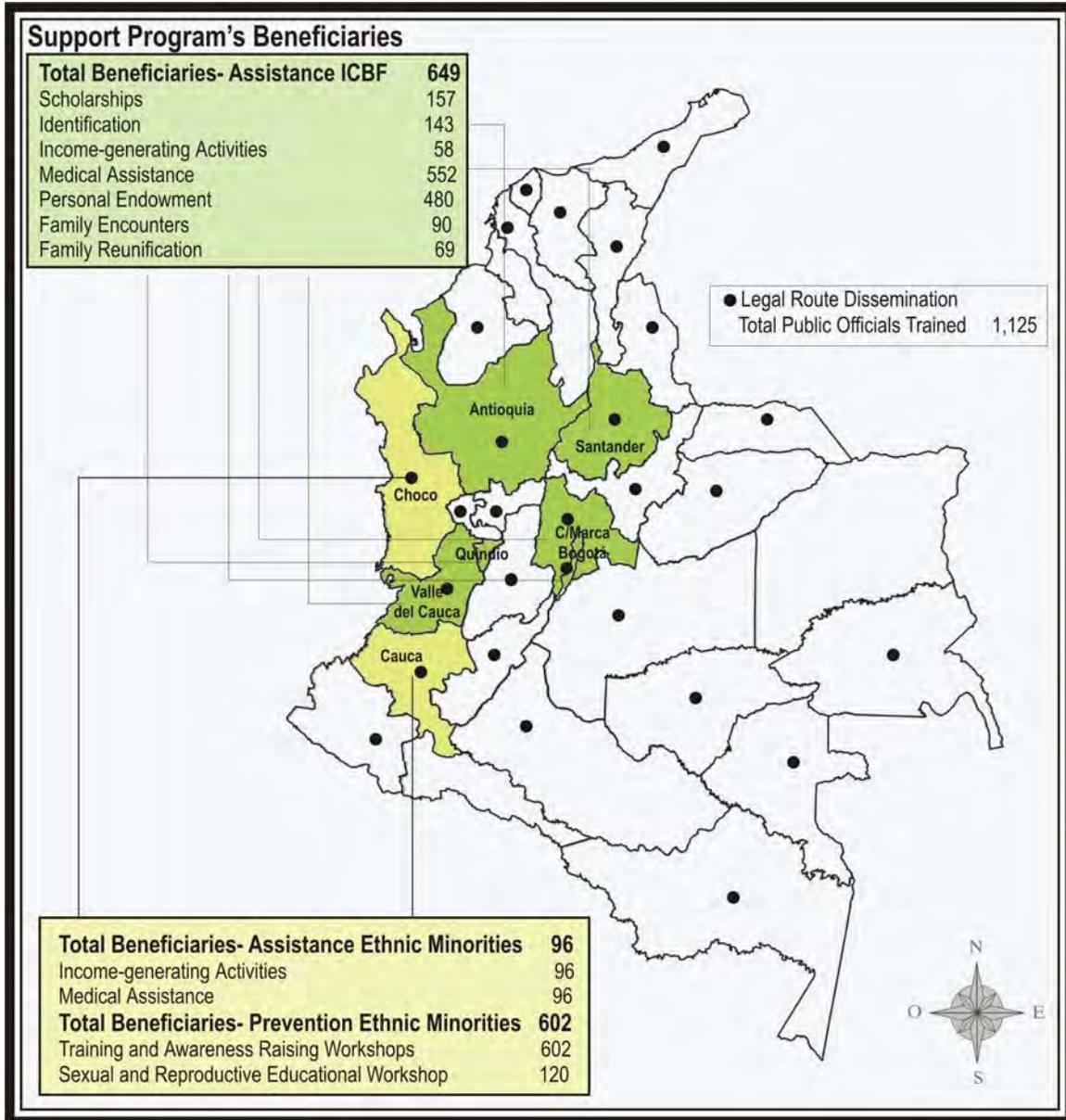
On December 15, the newspaper El Tiempo publishes an article entitled: "Children's War", presenting three life stories of children of the AUC demobilized in the department of Santander. It also informs on the release of 6 additional children to the 13 initial ones by the Bolivar Central Group. These children were assisted within the Contingency Plan prepared in case of a massive demobilization of children from the AUC.

III. SUMMARY PROGRAM STATUS (MARCH 21, 2001 – DECEMBER 31, 2002)

COMPONENTS	INITIAL GOALS OF THE AGREEMENT GRANT	ACHIEVEMENTS (March 21, 2001 – December 31, 2002)
Direct beneficiaries	Support to 800 former child soldiers	649 former Child Soldiers supported through IOM-ICBF-SC UK Program 96 Indigenous and afro-Colombian former child soldiers supported through the Program 's Alliance with Cauca's governorship and Ombudsman Office.
SOCIAL NETWORK AND CONTINGENCY PLAN		
Workshops	Development of one national workshop during the first year and another one during the second year.	The first National Workshop was carried out. Additionally, 5 Regional Workshops and 2 Seminars have been programmed to introduce the Program to other institutions.
Baseline and additional opportunities	Development of program's baseline.	1. Developed and published a baseline for the Program. 2. A map of agencies that could offer assistance has been developed for 13 departments where such demobilization seems possible. Space for 965 potential demobilizing children has been identified in 36 institutions. This information has been distributed in CD-ROM to all of ICBF's Regional Offices and other relevant agencies.
STRENGTHENING OF THE EXISTING PROGRAMS		
Improvement of ICBF's Information System	Building of the Program's information system, through the hiring of a specialist.	A database was designed where all information of the children assisted is systematized (sex, age, educational level, etc.). ICBF's central and 5 Regional Offices were furnished with office equipment. Additionally, 16 professionals were hired (for operative, legal and social reintegration strengthening).
Existing Specialized Attention Centers	Support to 4 existing centers.	Support has been given to 4 Specialized Attention centers (La Bella, Melquíades, Arco Iris and Agarta), through furnishing, financial aid for rent, salaries, Christmas bonus and mobile phone's services. Professionals have been hired to strengthen areas of reading and writing. Regular education and income-generation activities have been developed.
New Centers (equipment)	Opening of two new centers	4 new Specialized Attention Centers and 2 Transit Homes were opened.
New Centers (2001) month/child Costs	Cost of 40 month/child covered	Cost of 80 month / child is covered in the three Specialized Attention Centers and in the Transit Home (Buendía, Puertas Abiertas, Nueva Vida, Luna and Pietro Crespi)
Family reunification opportunities	Cost of 200 year/child	47 year/ child costs have been covered in Half Way Houses (20 in Cundinamarca, 17 in Cali y 10 in Bucaramanga). The Program has also furnished 9 Half Way Houses that have been created and has assumed the monthly cost for the 4 Half Way Houses located in Bogotá. Income-generation and education (scholarships) projects have been supported; health assistance has also been given. A fund has been reserved in case of a massive demobilization.
Family Reunification	Carrying out 200 family encounters and/ or family reunifications.	98 family encounters and 69 family reunifications have been coordinated. 14 family encounters will be carried out during the next quarter. A revolving fund for income generation projects and a scholarship fund have been designed.

Technical Assistance. Sub-grant to Save the Children United Kingdom	Technical assistance for the strengthening of the Specialized Attention Centers	Institutional strengthening for the Specialized Attention Centers and the implementation of the social network has been carried out. Additional community leaders have been trained on the existing legal framework for ex-combatant children. Contingency plan was formulated.
Information Dissemination	Activities related to the improvement of the acceptance of ex-combatant children in society.	Dissemination of information has been carried out through a video, seminars and publications (Baseline of the Program, Program' pamphlet, institutional folder, etc.). Additionally, two cultural events have been carried out.
RESEARCH ON THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND PUBLICATIONS		
Research Team	Hiring of 4 researchers for the evaluation of the legal framework	The Human Right's Ombudsman Office carried out the Legal Framework evaluation. A document on the Legal Route that outlines the legal standing for ex-combatant children was developed.
Publications	Publishing of 200 copies	The design, publication and dissemination of the "Ruta Jurídica" (Legal Route). To date 2,500 copies of the "Ruta Jurídica" have been published. Additionally, financial support was provided for the edition and publication of 1,500 samples of the book "Warriors Without Shadow" and "Children, Youth and the Armed Conflict"
Training to Legal and Institutional Authorities	Development of 11 workshops.	Support has been given to ICBF to carry out 6 workshops, in which 200 people (judges, military, community leaders, teachers and family counselors) have been trained on the contents of the "Legal Route". Five more workshops are scheduled to train 200 more people.
OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE CONTINGENCY PLAN		
Training on the Legal Route that outlines legal standing for ex-combatant children	Development of 11 workshops	33 workshops have been carried out. The Human Rights' Ombudsman Office has trained 935 public officials (public defenders and General Attorney's Office). 115 more public official are scheduled to be trained during the next quarter.
Children's transportation and travel expenses	For the second year of the project (2002) transportation for 600 ex-combatant children. (This number refers to the number of potentially demobilized children)	Support for the transportation of 26 children has been given, according to ICBF's requirements.
Transit Homes	Creation of 4 new Transit Homes for the second year.	Three Transit homes have been open, of which two are operating. Support with furniture and with the month/child cost (only for one Transit Home) has been given. Additionally, 10 extra month/child costs are financed in one of the Specialized Attention Centers and a fund has been reserved for this end.
Observation Centers	Assistance to 400 children in case of massive demobilization.	24 extra month/ child cost have been financed in the Specialized Attention Centers, according to ICBF's request.
NEW ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAM		
Support to Indigenous and Afro-Colombian former child soldiers	This component was not foreseen in the original Grant Agreement.	<u>Cauca:</u> A prevention project is being carried out with indigenous and afro-Colombian communities in the department of Cauca. 452 children are direct beneficiaries. Assistance is also given to 83 already identified ex-combatant children providing them with access to a revolving fund for income-generating activities. <u>Chocó:</u> A prevention project in Chocó started its implementation at the end of this quarter. It will benefit Indigenous and Afro-Colombian children. 115 children will be direct beneficiaries. Income-generating activities for 13 ex-combatant children are also stipulated.
Prevention	This component was not foreseen in the original Grant Agreement.	Prevention strategy at this time could include: i) a strategy incorporating awareness and social communication, ii) training of local officials, iii) broad-based information campaigns, iv) access to education for children in high risk of being recruited and v) a domestic violence prevention project.

Map #1: Support Program for Ex-combatant Children – Beneficiaries



IV. CONTINGENCY PLAN²

Currently, the increase of the military actions between the diverse armed groups involved in the armed conflict, has made the State, aided by the international cooperation, take the necessary steps in order to face demobilization from the illegal armed groups; one of them being the creation of the Specialized Assistance Program for Ex-combatant Children, OIM-ICBF- SCUUK.

Between January and December 31st, 2002, 394 ex-combatant children have been assisted; record number in the Program's assistance history. This situation calls for a careful consideration on the need to increase the Program's installed capacity as well as the strengthening of the existing protection networks for children in high risk of being recruited.

During December, one of AUC's main factions, "Bloque Central Bolivar", turned in 19 child soldiers and announced their will to turn in all child soldiers fighting in their armed group. As stated before, this declaration implies the need to strengthen and increase the Program's assistance capacity and geographical coverage.

In reaction to AUC's declaration, the Program, aided by nine other national and international institutions, united efforts to draw up a Contingency Plan. The institutions involved were: ICBF, human Rights Ombudsman Office, General Direction for Reintegration, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Health, the High Commissioner Office for Peace, Colombian Red Cross, UNICEF and IOM, supported by USAID.

The possible demobilization sceneries considered are: humanitarian crisis, negotiations, captures and/or voluntary turn in by armed groups to State authorities. The Contingency Plan considers 6 components (see Annex).

- i. Levels and Strategies for Inter-Institutional Coordination: national and /or regional, collaborating institutions.
- ii. Phases: of reception and assistance.
- iii. Actions: general and specific for each phase.
- iv. Designation of Responsibilities: for each action and activity by phase.
- v. Complementary Actions: simultaneously select institutions for assistance, training of official, institutional information, among others.
- vi. Budget and Finance: Financial aid and procedures.

The Contingency Plan was put into action with the 19 children turned in by the armed group AUC and was financed entirely with the Program's funds. Advances have also been made in the preparation components: a public announcement was made to NGO's willing to participate in an emergency, resulting in the selection of two institutions. Additionally, the installed capacity identified in the institutional mapping done previously in case of massive demobilization were confirmed; also new technical team has been trained.

² See Annex 3: Contingency Plan

V. STRENGTHENING THE ICBF's SPECIALIZED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR EX-COMBATANT CHILDREN

a. Assistance Data³

The Colombian Institute for Family Welfare has reported ex-combatant children since 1994. The accumulated data on the information system reports 1195 ex-combatant children assisted between November 1994 and December 31, 2002.

Due to an increase in the reports of demobilizing children, on November 1999, the ICBF creates the Specialized Assistance Program for Ex-combatant Children, which up until December 31st, 2002 has assisted 700 former child soldiers.

Of these **700**, 552 children have been demobilized and received in the Specialized Assistance Program since March 21st, 2001 when the strategic IOM- USAID Grant Agreement for the Support Program for Ex-combatant Children was launched. Additionally, before the Agreement, 97 children were already being assisted and continued benefiting from the Program's new financial support. So far, the Agreement Grant through ICBF's Specialized Assistance Program has supported a total of **649** former child soldiers.

Table #1: Beneficiaries Report⁴

Beneficiaries Report		
1994 - 2001	Ex-combatant Children Reported / Assisted by ICBF from November 1994 to November 1999.	495
	Ex-combatant Children Assisted by the Specialized Assistance Program from November 1999 to March 2001.	51
Sub-Total	Ex-combatant Children Reported / Assisted before OIM-USAID Agreement Grant	546
2001-2002	Ex-combatant Children who Remain in the Specialized Assistance Program on March 21, 2001.	97
	Incoming Ex-combatant Children to the Specialized Assistance Program from March 21, 2001 to December 31, 2002.	552
Sub-Total	Ex-combatant Children Supported by the OIM-USAID Agreement Grant	649
Total		1195

As shown above, assistance to ex-combatant children can be divided in two periods:

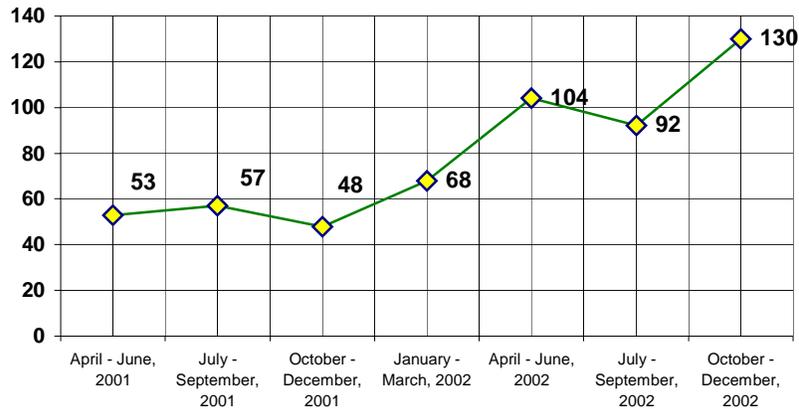
- The first period goes from November 1994 to March 20th, 2001. During these almost 7 years, 546 children were assisted.
- The second period starts with the launching of the OIM-USAID Agreement Grant on March 21st, 2001 up until December 31st, 2002 – final date of the reporting quarter. During these 21 months 649 children have been assisted.

The increase in the assistance numbers is due to the strengthening of the Program's installed capacity. Data on incoming children is shown in the following graph:

³ See Annex 4: Assistance

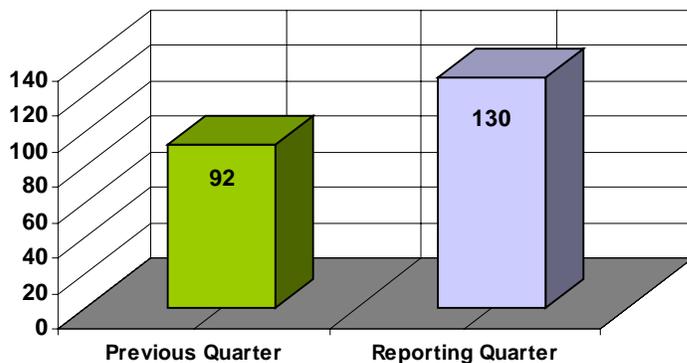
⁴ During the reporting quarter the database was purged. Based on data presented during the previous quarter, differences were presented in: 1.) the number of children remaining on March, 21, 2001; 2.) on the distribution of incoming children by quarter; and 3.) on the total of ICBF's Reported/Assisted Ex-combatant Children.

Graph #1: Data on Incoming Children by Quarter



Graph #1 also reflects the political changes being lived in each quarter, especially during the last 4 quarters. For example, with the ending of the peace dialogs between former president Andres Pastrana and the FARC guerrilla group on February 2001, and increase of 53% on incoming children (104) is observed between April and June, compared to the previous quarter were only 68 demobilized children were received. Afterwards, during the following quarter (July-September), which coincides with the change of government administration, where generally people tend to experience uncertainty, a small decrease in the voluntary child demobilizations and captures is observed (92).

Graph #2: Data on Incoming Children during the Last two Quarters



Demobilization is increased by 34% (38) during the reporting quarter compared to the previous one. To a certain degree this was influenced by the beginning of peace talks between Alvaro Uribe's administration and the AUC, which gave way on December to the turn in of 19 AUC child soldiers.

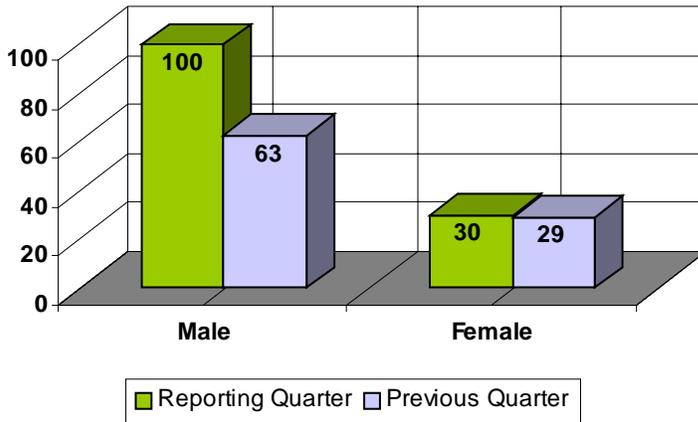
The latter, is represented in the following table:

Table #2: Data on Incoming Children During the Reporting Quarter by Month and Gender

Data on incoming Children during reporting quarter (Oct. 1 – Dec. 31, 2002)			
	Male	Female	TOTAL
October	27	12	39
November	29	8	37
December	44	10	54
Total	100	30	130

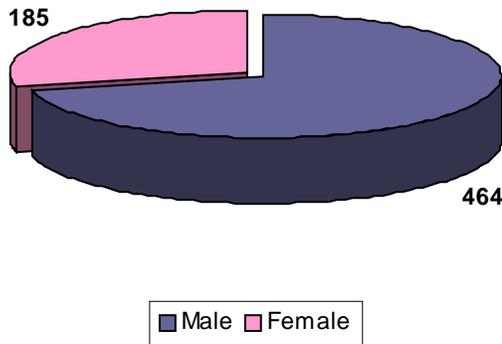
During this quarter, the month with most demobilization was December, which represents 41% out of the total 130 former child soldiers. On the other hand, October was the month with the majority of ex-combatant girls demobilizing, being 40% (12 out of 30).

Graph #3: Incoming Children by Gender during the Last Two Quarters



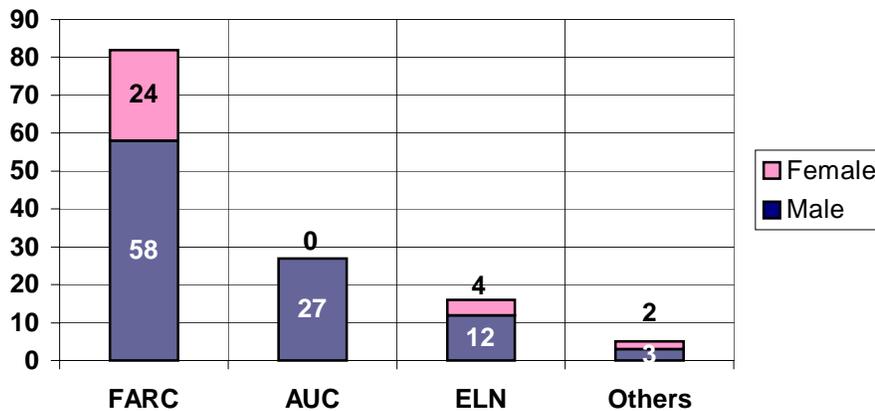
Demobilization by gender between October and December saw a slight decrease in relation to the usual tendencies of 70% male and 30% female reported in previous quarters. As shown in the Graph, during this quarter female demobilization represents 23% out of the total (30 out of 130), which means an average decrease of 7%.

Graph #4: Accumulated Data on Assisted Children by Gender Distribution



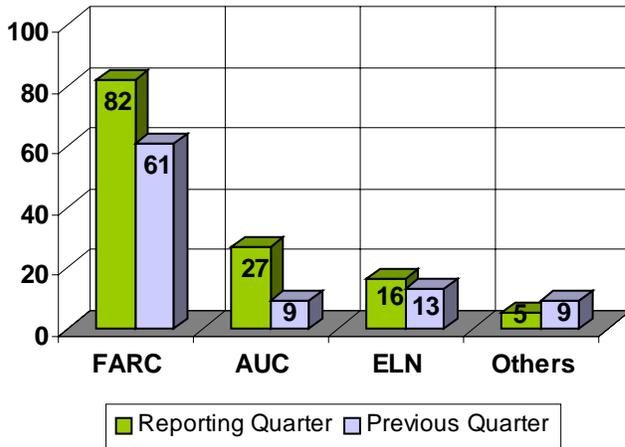
Distribution by gender in the accumulated data (649) comprises 29% females and 71% males. This means that the slight decrease in female demobilization during the reporting quarter did not affect in a significant degree the gender distribution of the accumulated data.

Graph #5: Demobilization by Armed Group and Gender During Reporting Quarter



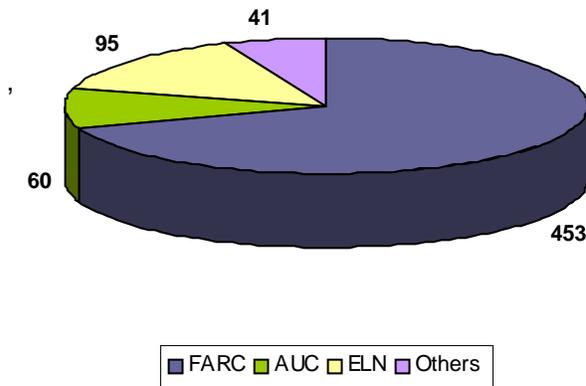
Demobilization by armed group continues being mostly from FARC guerrilla group, represented by 63% during this quarter. However, its worth noticing in the gender distribution that from October to December there was no female demobilization from armed group AUC.

Graph #6: Data on Incoming Children by Armed Group Demobilization during the Last Two Quarters



Even though the tendency continues being primarily demobilization from the FARC armed group, during this quarter it decreased by 3% (82 out of 130) compared to the previous one (61 out of 92). Another significant change, which is due to the political context lived during the reporting quarter, was the increase in demobilization from AUC armed group, representing from October to December, 20%. Compared to the previous quarter, demobilization from AUC tripled.

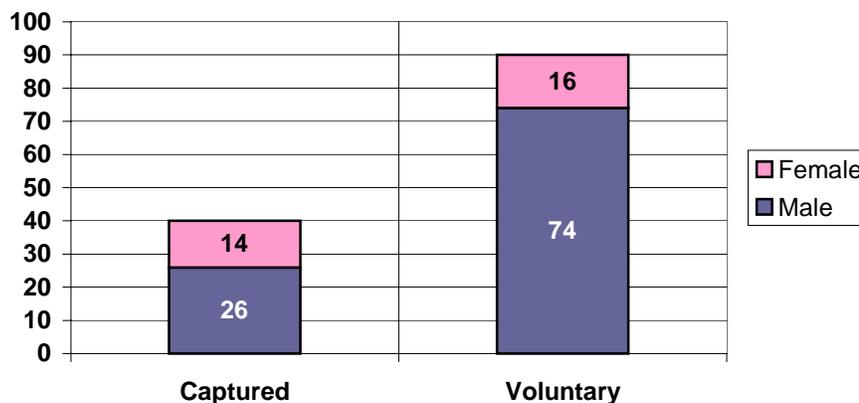
Graph #7: Accumulated Data on Assisted Children by Demobilization from Armed Groups



The distribution of the accumulated data on demobilization by armed groups is as follows: FARC, 69%; ELN, 14%; AUC, 9% y others, 6%.

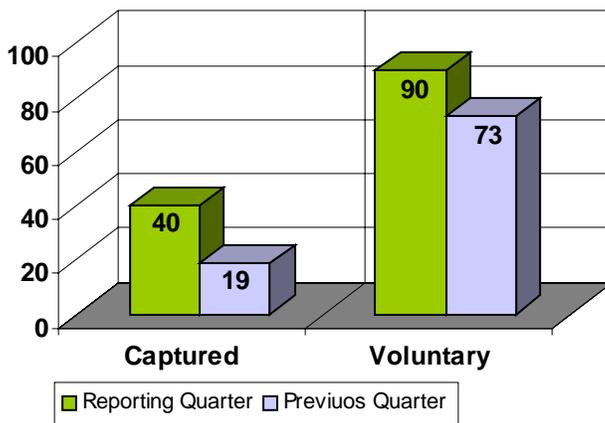
This distribution suggests that in general FARC and ELN demobilizations have decreased, while demobilization from AUC and Other minor armed groups has increased.

Graph #8: Data on Incoming Children by Type of Demobilization and Gender



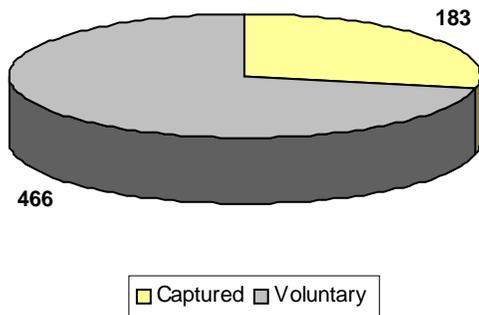
Voluntary demobilization, as well as in previous quarters continues representing the highest percent during the reporting quarter, with 69% out of the total. However, it is worth noticing that there is a minor difference in female demobilization between those captured and those who have voluntary demobilized, while in the male demobilization percentage there is a marked difference between types of demobilization. Male voluntary demobilization is almost three times greater than captures. This fact reflects that in the armed groups, there is no distinction made between boys and girls when it comes to combat.

Graph #9: Data on Incoming Children by Type of Demobilization During the Last Two Quarters



When comparing type of demobilization between this quarter and the previous one, the graph shows that proportionally to the total of demobilizations in each quarter, voluntary demobilization was greater in the previous quarter (79% out of 92) than in the reporting quarter (69% out of 130). This suggests that captures from October to December (31%) increased by a 10% compared from July to September (21%).

Graph #10: Accumulated Data on Assisted Children by type of Demobilization



The accumulated reported data on type of demobilization from armed groups is distributed as follows: 28% captures and 72% voluntary demobilization.

Table #3: Data on Incoming Children by Age and Gender

Data on Incoming Children by Age and Gender (Oct. - Dec. 2002)				
Age	Reporting Quarter			
	Male	Female	Total	%
12	0	2	2	1.53%
13	3	1	4	3.07%
14	9	4	13	10%
15	16	8	24	18.46%
16	29	8	37	28.46%
17	40	7	47	36.15%
18	2	0	2	1.53%
19	1	0	1	0.76%
Total	100	30	130	99.96%

Just like the table on the left shows, demobilization between ages 12-13 accumulate 5%, which is relatively high compared with previous quarters.

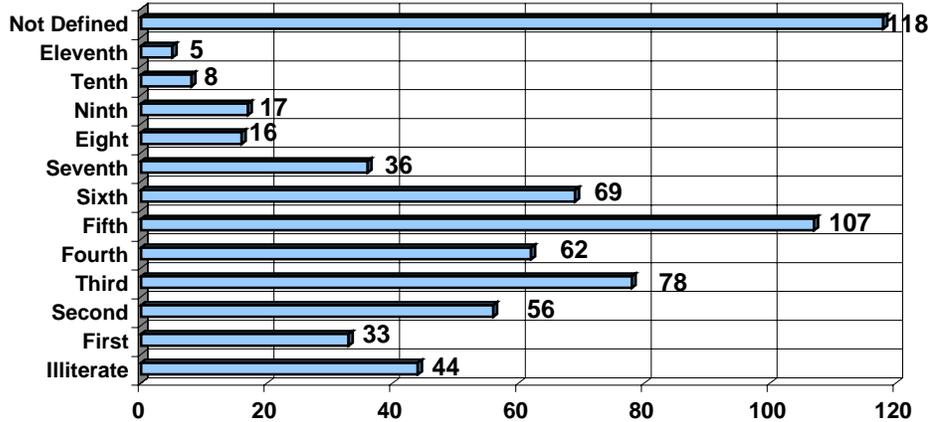
Age distribution by gender is more or less similar between boys and girls, being ages 15 through 17, the most common for demobilization. However it is worth mentioning that 40% of the boys are age 17, while only out of the total of girls, only 20% represent this age. Therefore, one can conclude that during this quarter the males demobilized are older than females.

Table #4: Data on Incoming Children by Educational level and Gender

Data on Incoming Children by Educational Level and Gender (Oct. - Dec. 2002)				
Educational Level	Male	Female	Total	%
Illiterate	10	4	14	10.07%
First	9	0	9	6.90%
Second	10	0	10	7.60%
Third	17	5	22	16.92%
Fourth	15	4	19	14.61%
Fifth	14	7	21	16.15%
Sixth	10	5	15	11.53%
Seventh	4	5	9	6.92%
Eight	4	0	4	3.07%
Ninth	4	0	4	3.07%
Tenth	1	0	1	0.76%
Eleventh	0	0	0	0%
Not Defined	2	0	2	1.53%
Total	100	30	130	99%

For this quarter, the proportional percentage of boys (10%) and girls (13%) who present illiteracy, are similar. The similitude is also shown in the educational level distribution, being 3rd through 6th, the educational levels with highest percentages in both sexes. Additionally, the table shows that 32% out of the total of the girls are above primary education, while the same fact in boys represents 23%.

Graph #11: Accumulated Data on Assisted Children by Educational Level



The Support Program for Ex-combatant Children considers the lack of access to education a key factor to children's recruitment (forced or voluntary) into armed groups. The graph on accumulated data up until December 31st, shows it does indeed exist a cause and effect relationship between a low educational level and former child soldiers. As shown, 44 children (7%) are illiterate and 336 (51%) did not finish primary education. This last fact, suggests that although half of the assisted children did have access once to the educational system, for one reason or another they ended up dropping out. Out of the total 649, only 151 (23%) present high school levels.

There is no available information on the educational level of 118 children (18%) due the Program's lack of a complete information system during the first years of assistance.

b. Advances in the Assistance to Ex-combatant Children⁵

1. Protection Phase

a) *Transit Home*

During the reporting quarter, both existing Transit Homes, located in Bogotá, continued receiving children.

Due to the war's intensification, from October to December, the Support Program saw an increase in the demobilization of child soldiers, as mentioned above. The number of demobilizing children surpassed the Program's installed capacity, which according to ICBF's assistance guidelines cannot be greater than 20 children per institution (See Table #6).

The effect on having more children than the installed capacity can handle was seen in Transit Home Luna, where an additional person had to be hired for the technical team, in order to carry out the recreational and occupational activities contemplated in the assistance given. During this phase the most important activities are the ones that help calm the child's anxieties, since it the first phase after his/her demobilization.

Transit Home Jose had the same problem as Luna. So, during the reporting quarter the number of incoming children obliged the institution to re-accommodate its space and to hire an extra tutor. These changes had the positive effect of qualifying and strengthening the assistance given.

⁵ See Annex 5: Project Cards

The continued influx of children, also presented its problems to ICBF's Regional Office, especially during the identification and distribution of free spaces inside the Specialized assistance Program as a whole. Generally, this process is guided by the child's initial evaluation done in Transit Homes (His/her culture, preferences). However during this quarter, due to great number of incoming children, spaces were assigned based on only two criteria: space availability and security.

b) Specialized Assistance Center (CAE)

The opening of another CAE in December in the City of Armenia, Department of Qunidio, increased the installed capacity of the Specialized Assistance Centers. The new institution's name is AGAPE and its Agreement was signed on December 20th with ICBF's Regional Office. Added to the 8 already existing CAEs, the opening of Agape has increased this phase's installed capacity for an assistance of 180 children.

Just as Transit Homes, Specialized Assistance Centers also suffered consequences on the influx of demobilizing children during this quarter, many of them having to assist more than 20 at one given moment. CAEs such as La Bella, Buendía and Arco Iris assisted between 23 and 24 children, while waiting for family reunification and transfers to Half Way Houses to be carried out.

In general, activities in the CAEs during this quarter were focused on planning, carrying out and systematizing the experiences from the Family Reencounters, strategy that aims at working on the Family Reunification and social reintegration of the children. (See Socio – cultural Component).

Additionally, CAEs were also busy in December planning the activities for the end of the year, such as the end of school semesters. CAEs also planed and prepared activities for the holidays in order to create a warm and festive environment during Christmas and New Years, dates which are particularly difficult for the children since many of them tend to feel homesick. However, the highlight of the celebrations was the school graduation for those who finished an educational level. (See Education).

On the other hand, at the end of this quarter, there were some administrative changes in the hired implementing agencies in Antioquia and Santander.

In the department of Santander, during the second week of December, the Agreement with implementing agency Agarta was canceled. This NGO was in charge of CAE "Semillas de Paz" since the January 1st, 2002 and was replaced by "Hogares Claret" hired directly by ICBF on December 11th. The institutions had the necessary meetings for the transferring of information on the children and their processes.

In Antioquia, the Agreement between IOM and ASPERLA Association, in charge of CAE "Nueva Vida" was canceled on December 27th. From now on the month/child cost will be financed by ICBF's Regional Office in Antioquia.

Table # 5: Accumulated Data on Assisted Children by Institution

Type of Institution	Name of the Institution	Assisted Children - Reporting Quarter			Assisted Children - Previous Quarter			Accumulated Assisted Children by Institution till Dec. 31 de 2002		
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Transit Home	Luna	43	12	55	29	16	45	89	29	118
	José	43	21	64	31	11	42	111	48	159
Specialized Assistance Center	Arco Iris	12	1	13	11	0	11	68	12	80
	Benposta	8	2	10	12	3	15	39	15	54
	Buendía	15	9	24	9	0	9	86	37	123
	La Bella	10	3	13	4	3	7	69	22	91
	Puertas Abiertas	5	3	8	9	3	12	39	12	51
	Semillas de Paz	8	1	9	7	3	10	43	19	62
	Melquíades	18	5	23	0	1	1	32	12	44
	Nueva Vida	5	3	8	3	0	3	35	8	43
Ágape	17	3	20	0	0	0	17	3	20	
Total		184	63	247	115	40	155	628	217	845

As observed in the above table, there was a significant increase in the number of children assisted during this quarter when compared to the previous one; the difference of assistance between 115 children during the previous quarter and 247 during the reporting quarter, represents an increase of **60%**. The latter is due, to the armed conflict's intensification. CAEs Buendía and Melquíades were the ones with the greatest numbers of incoming children during this quarter.

Table #6: Data on Incoming and Remaining Children

Type of Institution	Name of the Institution	Children remaining in the Program on September 30, 2002	Incoming Children – Reporting Quarter	Children remaining in the Program on December 31, 2002	Total
Transit Home	Luna	23	55	19	42
	José	21	55	23	
Specialized Assistance Center	Arco Iris	20	2	25	191
	Benposta	17	0	20	
	Buendía	20	4	20	
	La Bella	20	2	20	
	Puertas Abiertas	20	0	19	
	Semillas de Paz	22	0	22	
	Agape	0	2	20	
	Melquiades	20	1	25	
Half Way Houses	Nueva Vida	20	0	20	44
	Rayuela	20	0	0	
	Macondo	0	0	19	
	Juan Bosco	7	0	16	
ICBF's Institutions	Agarta	12	0	9	68
	Protection Network	49	9	68	
Total		291	130	345	345

This quarter saw an increase of 19%, compared to the previous quarter, in the number of remaining children. The type of assistance showing the greatest increase is the Protection Network Institutions. Additionally, even though a new CAE was opened during the reporting quarter, there are still 3 CAEs assisting more children than their installed capacity allows, for a total of 12 additional children.

2. Social Reintegration Alternatives

a) *Half Way Houses*

On December 5th, the 4 Half Way Houses in Bogotá finished the one-year assistance process stipulated in the IOM-Fundación Rayuela Agreement. Replacing it, Macondo Corporation was selected based on the accumulated experience it has on ex-combatant children's assistance.

Therefore, activities during the quarter were focused on the process' termination, the transferring of institutions and the hiring of Macondo.

An evaluation was made for each of the children in the Half Way Houses, in order to have a precise picture of their legal, educational and social reintegration process. The evaluation was done between ICBF, IOM, Fundación Rayuela and Macondo Corporation.

Table #7: Data on Transfers to Half Way Houses

Type of Institution	Name of Institution	# of Children Transferred to Half Way Houses - Reporting Quarter	# of Children Transferred to Half Way Houses - Previous Quarter	Accumulated Data on Children Transferred to Half Way Houses
Specialized Assistance Center	Arco Iris	5	1	15
	Benposta	0	0	0
	Buendía	3	1	9
	La Bella	5	0	12
	Puertas Abiertas	3	5	9
	Semillas de Paz	4	1	13
	Melquíades	2	0	2
	Nueva Vida	4	0	4
	Ágape	0	0	0
ICBF's Institutions	Protection Network	2	0	3
Total		28	8	67

As shown in the table above, between October and December, there was an increase of 31% on the children being transferred to Half Way Houses. This increase is related to the transferring of institutions between Rayuela and Macondo. Additionally, the vacancies in Cali's Half Way Houses were completed.

b) *Family Reunification*

Although children with Family Reunification only represent 33% out of the total of those who leave the Program's protection phase, compared to last quarter there was an increase; between October and December, 25 children had Family Reunifications. December 31st, 69 former child soldiers have returned to live with their families (see Table #8).

The Program considers Family Reunification the first alternative for Social Reintegration. Priority is given for children to explore their return with their families. However, the increase of violence and the outbreak of the armed conflict, not only in the countryside but also in the cities, limit the children's possibilities to reunite and build its life project at home with his family.

Currently, the Program has identified as fundamental the development of a follow up system for children in family reunification. The follow-up system will have the main function of monitoring and assisting the child's development once he/she has returned with the family. As it is shown in the education section, one of the Program's strategies has been the implementation of a scholarship system for formal education and vocational-technical training. The scholarship system fund aims to qualify the children's abilities and knowledge in order to enhance their life opportunities.

Table #8: Data on Family Reunifications

Type of Institution	Name of Institution	# of Children with Family Reunification During Reporting Quarter	# of Children with Family Reunification - Previous Quarter	Accumulated Data on Children with Family Reunification till Dec. 31, 2002
Transit Home	Luna	3	1	4
	José	1	1	2
Specialized Assistance Center	Arco Iris	1	2	5
	Benposta	1	0	5
	Buendía	6	1	20
	La Bella	4	3	11
	Puertas Abiertas	2	2	8
	Semillas de Paz	0	1	2
	Melquíades	3	0	3
	Nueva Vida	4	0	5
	Ágape	0	3	0
ICBF's Institutions	Protection Network	0	0	4
Total		25	14	69

The following table shows this quarter's different sceneries for children who exit from the protection to the social reintegration phase.

Table #9: Data on Children's Exit from the Protection Phase

Type of Institution	Name of Institution	# of Deserted Children - Reporting Quarter	# of Children Transferred to Half Way Homes - Reporting Quarter	# of Children with Family Reunification During Reporting Quarter	# of Children Transferred to Social Reintegration Program - Reporting Quarter	Total
Transit Home	Luna	1	0	3	0	4
	José	11	0	1	0	12
Specialized Assistance Center	Arco Iris	0	5	1	1	7
	Benposta	2	0	1	2	5
	Buendía	1	3	6	0	10
	La Bella	0	5	4	0	9
	Puertas Abiertas	1	3	2	0	6
	Semillas de Paz	4	4	0	1	9
	Melquíades	0	2	3	1	6
	Nueva Vida	0	4	4	0	8
Ágape	0	0	0	0	0	
ICBF's Institutions	Red de Protección	2	0	0	0	2
Total		22	26	25	5	78

Children exiting from the protection Phase during the reporting quarter were 78, distributed almost equally in each of the possibilities: Half Way Homes, Family Reunification and Desertion. A smaller number of children, usually those older than 18, were transferred to the Ministry of the Interior's Social Reintegration Program. Children transferred to Half Way Houses (26) represent 33% out of the total 78. These children usually do not have the possibility to reunite with their families. 32% (25 children) were able to return with their families and 32% (22 children) deserted the Program in either two of its protection assistance institutions; their location is unknown.

c. Health

1. Physical Health



During the reporting period, Profamilia's project was implemented to its full extent. It began early September, giving sexual and reproductive educational workshops as well as access to health services; it ended on December 31st.

The educational workshops were carried out in each institution (Transit Homes, CAEs and Half Way Houses) and were given to the assisted children and the technical teams in charge of them. The subjects developed in each workshop addressed the children's imaginaries and conceptions on health, sexuality, STD's and other relevant topics. Personal attitudes, values, myths and fears relating to their sexuality were analyzed with the purpose of establishing ways in which teens and children assume, live and project their health and sexuality. The workshops were focused in giving orientation in how to deal with their sexuality, physical and mental health, within a quality-life and disease prevention framework.

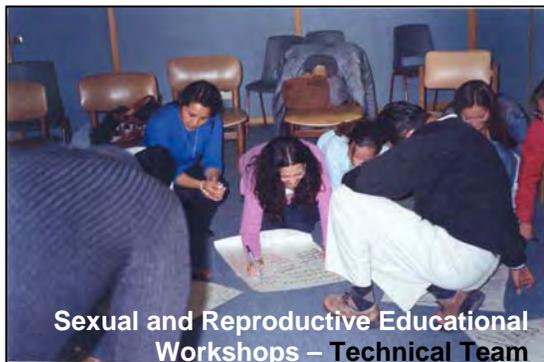


Health Brigades - CAEs

While working with the children, special focus was given in how the children dealt with their bodies and both sexual and affective relationships. Orientation on gender equity was also given, due to the identification of a cultural pattern towards male chauvinism and women relegation, which were usually considered and treated as sexual objects.

A playful, dynamic and participative methodology was used, in order to keep the children's interest in the subjects addressed.

After each workshop, individual medical evaluations were carried out. Health brigades were sent to each house, and medical examinations were available for the children and youngsters who needed it or asked for it. To some degree, the Profamilia project has helped the institution restore the children's right to have access to health services.



Sexual and Reproductive Educational Workshops – Technical Team



Sexual and Reproductive Educational Workshops – Children

Additionally, each institution continued using the health services provided by the public health institutions in their communities.

Table 10: Number of children that participated in PROFAMILIA's educational workshops and health brigades.

	Type of Institution	Nombre de la Institución	Octubre			Noviembre			Diciembre			
			F	M	Total	F	M	Total	F	M	Total	
SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS	Transit Home	Luna	6	17	23	7	30	37	10	40	50	
		José	8	13	21	8	23	31	8	24	32	
	Specialized Assistance Center	Arco Iris	3	19	22	8	12	20	3	20	23	
		Buendía	6	14	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		La Bella	8	12	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Puertas Abiertas	6	10	16	4	11	15	0	0	0	
		Semillas de Paz	5	12	17	16	38	54	0	0	0	
		Melquíades	6	18	24	7	22	29	5	20	25	
		Nueva Vida	4	10	14	4	7	11	0	0	0	
	Half Way Homes	Rayuela	3	10	13	5	3	8	0	0	0	
		Agarta	0	0	0	4	8	12	0	0	0	
		Juan Bosco	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	9	13	
	Total			55	135	190	63	154	217	30	113	143
	Technical Team	Cali	6	6	12	4	3	7	0	0	0	
		Bucaramanga	16	4	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Antioquia	4	4	8	4	3	7	0	0	0	
		Bogotá/ Cundinamarca	16	4	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	
HEALTH BRIGADES	Transit Home	Luna	11	32	43	6	19	25	5	20	25	
		José	6	14	20	4	16	20	4	16	20	
	Specialized Assistance Center	Arco Iris	0	0	0	2	21	23	0	0	0	
		Buendía	7	13	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		La Bella	8	12	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Puertas Abiertas	3	10	13	6	3	9	0	0	0	
		Semillas de Paz	3	10	13	35	26	61	16	5	21	
		Melquíades	6	18	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Nueva Vida	4	2	6	16	8	24	7	2	9	
	Half Way Homes	Rayuela	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Agarta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Juan Bosco	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Assisted in Profamilia			4	4	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total			52	115	167	69	93	162	32	43	75

2. Psychological Health

During this quarter, work meetings continued taking place between the various professionals working in the children's assistance. Mental health professionals have been constantly meeting with the technical teams for feedback on the psychological assistance given to former child soldiers. These meetings have initiated a constructive debate between the different institutions and professionals in charge of this area.

One of the identified needs is the importance of extending the individualized assistance to other areas outside the therapeutic component, complementing it with group therapy, where alternative ways of conflict resolution must be provided. This is why, during this quarter undertaken actions in each assistance area (education, occupational and recreational activities) have emphasized on the joint creation of recognition processes and life projections, both of these highly important aspects in the subjective construction of the children.

Additionally it has been possible to identify some of the logics relating to the attraction war has on children. The uniform's prestige, the feeling of belonging and being someone important and respected, are some of the motivations that attract children to join the armed groups. However, it is of vital importance that in each of the institutions an environment of trust and openness is provided for the child to be able to express and talk about his or her experiences before and during war. During therapy, the child's expression experiences are tied and articulated to other practices and realities of their young world; to a culture of respect and tolerance, to productive alternatives in which participation and autonomy, the exercise of his or her rights and responsibilities, are stimulated.

Experiences during their stay in the Program produce new attitudes, knowledge and behavior, which in turn is for his and her own benefit and their families and communities.

One of the most important effects participation in the armed groups has for the children is the total loss of the ability to think of themselves as individuals, with autonomy and freedom to decide. In contrast, life in the armed groups on actions and procedures that are subject to codes and vertical parameters already established.

Based on that logic, the therapeutic work has also tried to implement strategies that generate a legitimate place of participation, performance, and respect for the individuality; where their voices, experiences and affections are taken into account.

d. Education

This period was characterized by the ending of the school year on December. During the quarter, every child being assisted in the Specialized Assistance Centers (CAE) and the Half Way Houses, had access to formal education and/or vocational training.



At the end of the quarter, 76% of the children were studying in formal education institutions, outside the CAEs. The methodology implemented is based on accelerated education systems. The number of children, assisting schools increased significantly during the reporting quarter due to the hiring one pedagogue for each CAE in the previous quarter. These Pedagogues found appropriate nearby schools for the children's needs and aided in the registration procedures and required paperwork.

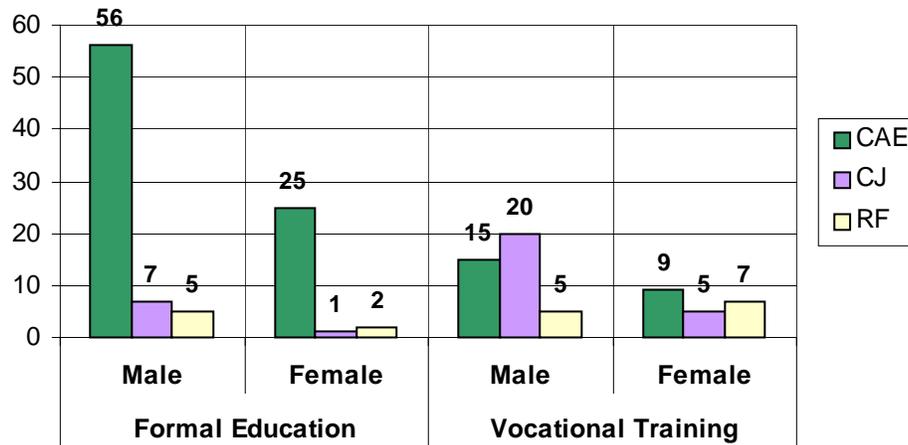
1. Educational Strategy⁶

The educational strategy contemplated the creation of two scholarship funds; one of them created with funds from the Education Ministry and managed by the Colombian Institute for Credits and Technical Studies Abroad (ICETEX), also in coordination with Colombian Institute for Family Welfare (ICBF); the other one, created with the Program's funds provided by USAID. This strategy was strengthened with the hiring of the pedagogues. Thanks to them, and to the collaboration of the CAEs' and Half Way Houses' technical teams, management actions were carried out with the private and public educational centers and with other NGOs nearby.

⁶ See Annex 6: Educational Strategy

2. Educational Reinforcement – Scholarship Program

Graph #12: Children in the Scholarship Program



Out of the 394 children assisted this year, 131 received scholarship for formal education or vocational training. According to the graph, a total of 157 scholarships have been given since the Scholarship fund was created. 26 children have received a mixed scholarship, which means that these children have benefited from a formal education and a vocational training scholarship at the same time, or in different moments. 105 scholarships were assigned for children in the Specialized Assistance Center CAEs, 33 for children in Half Way Houses and 19 for children in Family Reunifications. The regional distribution of the scholarships is greater in Bogotá and Cundinamarca, since it is in these regions where the greatest number of children is assisted.

Just as Graph #12 shows, out of the total of the scholarships assigned, 31% (49) have been for women and 69% (108) for men, which coincides with the Program's gender distribution tendencies: 30% women and 70% boys.

The Scholarship Fund ICBF-MEN-ICETEX gives priority to formal education for children assisted in the Specialized Assistance Center CAEs and in Half Way Houses. Some of the requirements are the children's identification documents and they must be under 18 years old. Due to this last requirement IOM's Scholarship Fund gives priority to the children in Family Reintegration, under or over 18 years old, but it also supports to those children in the Specialized Assistance Center, whose documentation is not complete (civil registration and/or ID card). During the reporting quarter 8 children that could not get scholarships from the GOC, accessed IOM's scholarships, while the Colombian Institute for Family Welfare ICBF worked on getting their legal documents.

54% of the children receiving scholarships are assisting high school, 6th grade being assisted by the greatest number of children. Girls have higher educational levels than boys: 56% of them are assisting high school compared to only 41% of the boys.

Graph #12 also shows that 56% of the scholarships given to the girls have been for formal education and the remaining 44% for vocational training courses. On the other hand, boys' scholarships are distributed as follows: 63% for formal education and the remaining 37% for vocational training courses. Girls usually have chosen tailoring courses, secretary and culinary courses. The most popular courses among boys were mechanical engineering and driving.

Among the children in social reintegration phase (Half Way Houses and Family Reencounters), 80% have chosen for an IOM scholarship in order to attend vocational training courses. This goes hand in hand with GOCs scholarships, since its scholarships are mainly for formal education. It also shows that children are usually concerned in attaining the necessary abilities to earn a living.

Although children benefiting from scholarships increased during the reporting quarter, the number of scholarships for children in Family Reunification (RF) continues being low: only 12 children, 7 of them accessing to a mixed scholarship (formal education and vocational training), for a total of 19 scholarships. 90 % of the scholarships for youths in Family Reunification were given in the Valley of Cauca- Cali (17 out of 19).

3. Educational Reinforcement – Pedagogues

The Educational Reinforcement project, aided by the hired pedagogues and in coordination with the of the CAEs' and Half Way Houses' technical teams, had among its achievements, the strengthening of the children's abilities and learning process. Additionally, the pedagogues participated in the building of an educational proposal in each center that meets ex-combatant children's special educational needs. It has also been a continuous process in the building of the Program's general educational proposal, which is based mostly on the gathered experience. Among, the team's other achievements, it is worth mentioning:

- Each center has contact with at least one formal education institution. The latter reflects that there has been a major effort in the regions to establish a formal education institution's portfolio. Some of the entities for non-formal education in the lists are: "Capacitación", "Actuar Famiempresas", "Floricultura del Oriente Antioqueño" and "Servicio Educativo Rural-SER in Medellín". In Bucaramanga the catholic group of the Somascos runs a vocational center to which the CAE and Half Way Homes send their children for vocational training. In Bogotá – Cundinamarca, CAE "Arco Iris" uses the institute "Capoeira" for sports activities and Fundación APOYO for vocational training. Also, in almost each portfolio list of libraries and the cultural institutions is included.
- The follow up on the information obtained on learnt lessons in the pedagogical work shows positive results relating to a more positive attitude from the children towards the educational process. There is a better understanding on behalf of the children on their right to education, which in turn shows a greater motivation to continue their life project, including their studies – formal as well as non formal. They take more advantage of the time lived in the program. These changes also reflect changes in methodologies in the teaching process, taking more into consideration the individual process of each child. Additionally, there is a more realistic consideration of the program's time frame, seen from a pedagogical as well as a financial point of view; technical teams are being careful not to create false expectations.
- A behavior change in the children is noticeable at an individual as well as collective level. Compared to life in armed groups, the Program tries to provide a more personalized assistance that revolves around the child's personal needs and interests, teaching respect for others and the need of basic rules. The technical team at the centers carries out an intensive day-to-day work.
- Based on the experiences with the children in the centers, a first draft has been elaborated for the desired child profile when exiting the Program's phases. The categories used are the following: self esteem, social attitudes, positive attitude towards education, concern about his/her rights and responsibilities, knowledge and academic abilities, self management, autonomy levels, among others.
- As a result of the pedagogical work carried out during the precious quarter, each center in the Program now has more elaborated pedagogic model, and the permanent personnel are trained in the new modalities, especially on the procedures for the scholarship program.

e. Income Generation and Employment

1. Strategy⁷



During this semester IOM has been studying the design of an income generation strategy. Defined as a productive insertion and employment, the strategy has two main objectives: 1.) the construction of a successful insertion process; 2.), to generate solutions of sustainable productive insertion articulated to competitive activities. The strategy is based on the construction of a basic model so-called, “Sustainable Insertion on Target Sectors”, which relies on:

- Human talent
- Income generation sectors selected for the insertion process.
- Conditions to access the markets, to change the distortions the war has generated in the participation of ex-combatants workmanship.
- Conditions to guarantee the stability and sustainability of the model.

In the defined sectors the goal will be to move forward to agreements with representative guilds or directly with the enterprises with the finality to guarantee the existence of productive spaces in which there can be trained using the learning by doing approach. The own requirements of each job, will determine the emphasis of the training for each youth based on his/hers academic profile and skills.

In the same way, the outcome of the strategy is associated to the existence of the conditions that favor access to the markets as a compensation mechanism. The process to build businessmen net requires time to be fully developed. It is also necessary the institutional support to consolidate an effective response to the needs for productive insertion of the Ex-combatant Children and the compromise of the GOC in the development of the legal and institutional support that guarantee the continuity of the actions implemented by the Program.

During this quarter some negotiations have been made to link to the Program the following target sectors: Shoes manufacturing (project being formulated), furniture and wooden products (project being formulated), Jewelry (project being implemented) and Services (a project in formulation) through the development of specific projects with an extended impact with regard of joining a major number of youth by project and to guarantee the continuity in the training and income generation process.

With the same focus but with less coverage, some initiatives in the handwork and Automobile technical service sectors are being evaluated.

⁷ See Annex 7: Income Generation and Employment Strategy

2. Projects incubation with vocational focus in pre- operating stage

Concurrently with the development of the basic model, we work a complementary action line where the projects have vocational functions, on the job training and development of productive initiatives simultaneously. Over this action line, had been developed projects like: Bakery, Pizzeria, craftsmanship and services (restaurant and cultural café), currently being reformulated in order for it to be implemented in Cundinamarca.

These projects, incubated during the Half Way Houses stage, are looking for an additional objective: Approximate youngsters to the reality of the implementation of an income generation project. We believe this process can be started before they arrive to these houses. These approaches will improve the development of the vocational process, also an orientation about the management of alternatives for income generation activities.

The model keeps the alternative to develop income generation activities on sectors not included in those already defined as the target sectors of the Program. This could happen if all the projects prove they are feasible and sustainable and can solve the income needs of the youngsters and can be executed by associative models or strengthen the families' nucleus.

With the *Fundación Apoyo* and funded by the Investment for Peace Fund (FIP, by its Spanish initials) a pre-cooperative had been created in Bogotá CAEs Arco Iris, Buendía, Melquíades y La Bella, are the partners. Youngsters have been trained and produce cleaning products, candles and bakery products.

f. **Legal Component**

1. Identification Documents

At a national level the Program has emphasized the protection component of the assisting children protection, through the rights restitution, among them the right to have a name and a nationality. As part of the institutional strengthening strategy, 4 lawyers were hired in order to assist the ICBF's Family Lawyers in the process of acquiring the children's identification documents (civil register, ID card for children under or over 18 years old).

Table #11: Children with Identification Documents

Type of Institution	Name of Institution	# of Children with ID
Transit Home	Luna	13
	José	10
Specialized Assistance Center	Arco Iris	14
	Benposta	10
	Buendía	13
	La Bella	15
	Puertas Abiertas	16
	Semillas de Paz	11
	Melquíades	13
	Nueva Vida	17
	Ágape	11
	Total	

During the reporting quarter, 143 civil registrations were attained. The acquirement of these documents facilitates the children's registration in educational and health institutions among others.

The process of getting the necessary identification documents begins since the child's arrival to the Program.

2. Status of Prosecution Cases

One of the most important aspects of Ex-combatant Children's situation is the state of his or her legal process. This is related with the type of demobilization: voluntary, captured or turned in by an armed group. The legal process also depends on the judge's declaration, which before opening a prosecution case can ask for an investigation to be opened in order to find evidence to help him determine the type of violations committed by the former child soldier.

After the preliminary investigation the judge can choose for:

- Not opening an investigation, in which case the child is handed over to a Family Lawyer, who has the task of opening protection administrative process, or
- Opening an investigation and dictate a measure for institutional placement in the Specialized Assistance Program for Ex-combatant Children.
- If the child demobilized voluntarily, the judge must remit the child to the Demobilization Operative Committee (CODA). This Committee verifies his voluntary demobilization, in which case it will remit to the judge a certification to accredit the socio-economic benefits that he/she has right to.
- Once the judge closes the prosecution case, and if the child's security is considered to be at stake, the judge will remit the child to an ICBF's Family Lawyer, for his or her placement in the Support Program for Ex-combatant Children.

Nevertheless, the evaluation report provided by the CAEs' technical team where the child is being assisted, can influence the judges decision on closing or not his or her prosecution case.

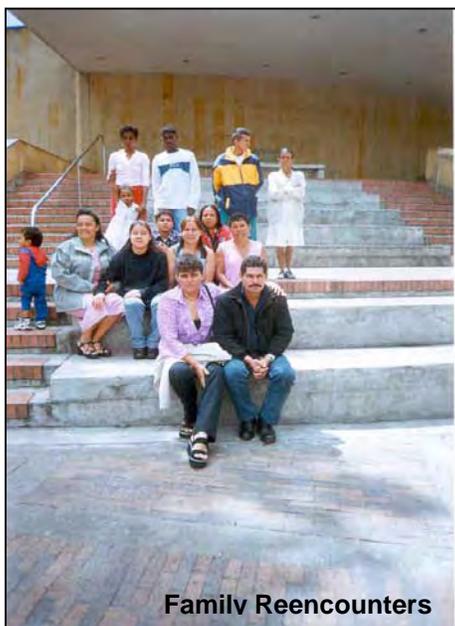
Table #12: Status of Prosecution Cases⁸

Department	# of Children with Open Prosecution Cases	# of Children with Closed Prosecution Cases
Cundinamarca	32	13
Santander	39	4
Valle	19	7
Antioquia	15	7
Total	105	31

⁸The data on table #12 does not include the Prosecution Cases of two institutions in charge of ICBF's Regional Office in Bogotá.

g. Socio-cultural Component

1. Family Reencounters



Former child soldiers' families live immersed in an armed conflict dynamic, which influences the child's development. The Program has begun implementing the Family Reencounters' strategy. These brief meetings, of two or three days, explore the possibility of the child's return to his/her family, evaluating the family's social, economic and affective situation.

One of the main achievements and positive results of this strategy is the reestablishment of the communication between the child and his or her relatives. Many of the families have not seen their children for 3 or 4 years, many have no knowledge on their child's situation, if he or she is alive or dead.

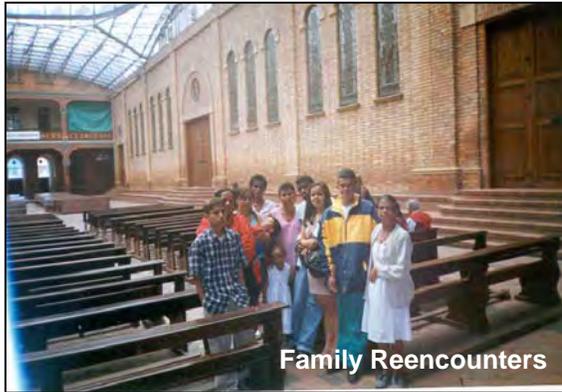
During the reporting quarter, all the planned Family Reencounters were carried out in all the regions where the children are being assisted. Family Reunifications were specially carried out for those families with low incomes and for whom traveling was not possible.

Table # 13: Participation in Family Reencounters

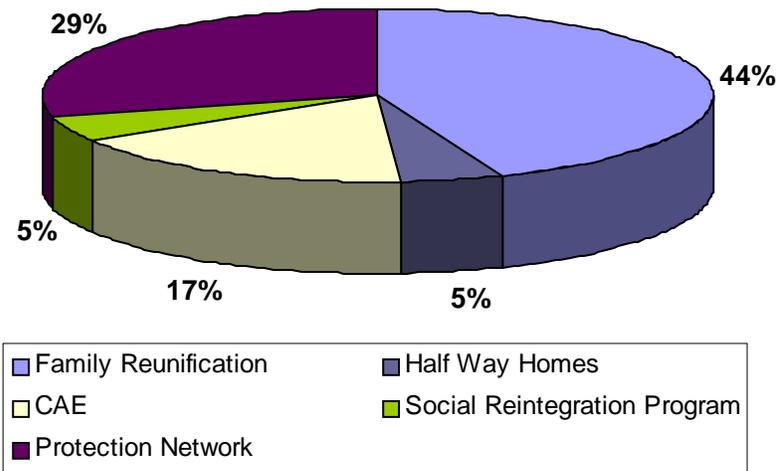
Department	Specialized Assistance Center	Children	Relatives
Cundinamarca	Buendía	5	9
	La Bella	11	20
	Melquíades	8	16
Bogotá	Arco Iris	12	32
Bucaramanga	Semillas de Paz	14	34
Valle	Puerta Abiertas	11	25
Medellín	Nueva Vida	3	7
Total		64	143

A total of 64 Family Encounters were carried out from October through December. Children from all the regions where the Program is giving assistance participated in these Reencounters, except children from Quindío, since this Specialized Assistance Center was opened at the end of December. These meetings were organized and carried out by ICBF's regional offices, supported by the CAEs and the personnel hired in charge of that area.

Specialized Assistance Center "Semillas de Paz", "Arco Iris", "Puertas Abiertas" and "La Bella", had the greatest participation in these meetings. For each child, an average of 2.5 relatives participated.



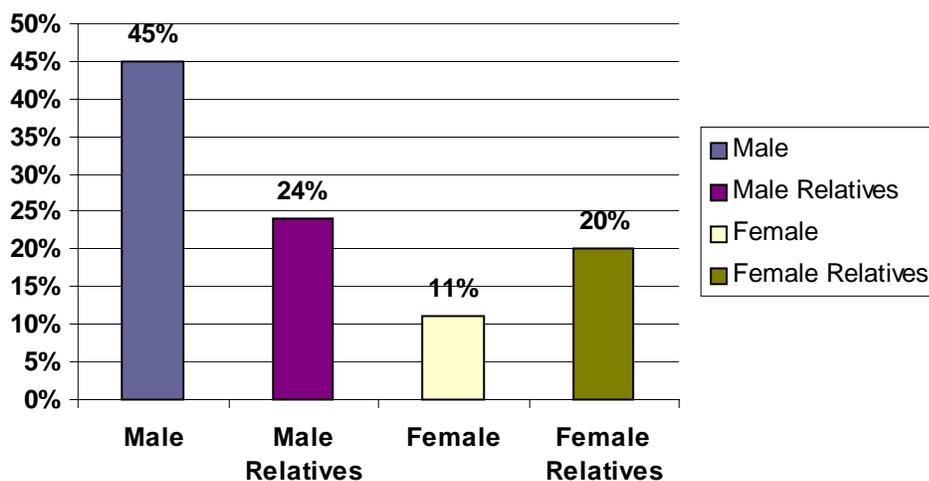
Graph #12: Possible Scenarios after Family Reencounters.



As the graph above shows, out of the 64 children that had Family reencounters, only 44% have the possibility of Family Reunification as a Social Reintegration Alternative. 29% of the children will have to be placed in the Protection Network.

Even though many families find themselves in the middle of the armed conflict and experience precarious social situations, there are other criteria to consider (e.g. the child's affective relationship with his or her family).

Graph #13: Family Reencounters' Participation by Gender.



The greatest participation during Family Reencounters was of women relatives (45%); which doubles the male relatives participation. Boys' participation was greater than girls.

Table #14: Department of Origin - Participating Families

DEPARTMENTS OF RELATIVES' ORIGIN	DEPARTMENTS WERE THE FAMILY REENCOUNTERS WERE CARRIED OUT				
	Cundinamarca	Bogotá	Valle	Santander	Medellín
Cauca	4	0	9	0	0
Sucre	0	0	2	0	0
Tolima	2	5	5	0	0
Antioquia	8	7	3	2	3
Caldas	2	0	2	0	0
Valle	0	1	2	0	2
Nariño	0	0	2	0	0
Meta	6	5	0	0	0
Bolivar	2	0	0	0	0
Vichada	1	0	0	0	0
Putumayo	2	2	0	3	0
Cundimarca	4	4	0	3	0
Arauca	2	6	0	3	2
Cesar	2	0	0	1	0
Santander	3	0	0	9	0
Boyacá	3	0	0	0	0
Nte. Santander	2	0	0	2	0
Caquetá	2	0	0	4	0
Magdalena	0	0	0	2	0
Casanare	0	0	0	3	0
Huila	0	2	0	2	0
Totales	45	32	25	34	7

The table shows how most of the families that participated in the Family Reencounters came mostly from Antioquia, Cauca, Arauca y Santander.

2. Cultural Activities

Cerlalc's project, "Escojo la Palabra" initiated on November 2001, ended during this quarter. The project included components such as reading and writing activities and other means of communication such as videos and artistic expression (theatre, dance and drawing), through of which the children expressed their ideas, feelings and hopes for the future. Activities such as storytelling were carried out. Additionally two artistic shows were prepared and presented by the children; museums and recreational parks were also visited. Among other activities carried out by Cerlalc were visits to the book fair and to the cinema. The activities aimed to motivate the children to explore their identity and dreams.

On October 31st Cerlalc celebrated Halloween with the assisted children. Children made and designed costumes based on their creativeness and interest. The journey was accompanied of storytelling and other cultural acts.

At the end of the project, each CAE filmed a video, in which screenplays were elaborated and represented. Each work showed that the children had indeed learned other to use and had appropriated other means to express and communicate their ideas. These videos were presented during a cultural event carried out in a Park Theatre, supported by the Children's department of the Ministry of Culture.

Additionally, Cerlalc endowed each institution with a library composed, as a tool to motivate children to read. On December and under the Agreement, Cerlalc was asked to give to the other institutions that are also assisting ex-combatant children, such as Puertas Abiertas and Benposta, a series of technical and literary texts that will be useful to them; the endowment will be done on January 2003.

As mentioned below during this quarter, a Christmas bonus was given to each institution to carry out activities. Don Bosco Foundation from Cali, took the children on an excursion trip to Medellin city. (See Project Card –Puertas Abiertas, Annex #).

h. Institutional Strengthening

1. Endowments:

During the trimester of October to December of 2002, three endowments were delivered:

Half way through the month of November, a \$12,000 fund was designated for the purchase of 280 endowments for the new incoming children. It is important to remember that during this quarter, 130 former child soldiers arrived to the Program. During the month of December, 280 acquired endowments were handed out to ICBF, which is in charge of distributing a complete endowment of sweat-pants, sneakers, a shirt, underwear and socks to each arriving child.

Due to the ending of IOM-Rayuela Agreement for the management of the Half Way Houses in Bogota, a transfer of furniture from Rayuela to Macondo was begun. Macondo, as mentioned before, will be the new NGO in charge of managing the Half Way Houses started with Rayuela. However, it is worth mentioning that approximately 33% of the furniture given to Rayuela on January was, a year later found to be in serious deterioration. Approximately another 50% remaining were seriously deteriorated and only 17% were in good condition.

On the area of income-generating activities, the first part of the endowment was given for the installation of two bakeries, for to two children from the Half Way Houses in the city of Bucaramanga; an amount of \$2,844 US.

Table #15: Christmas Bonus

Name of Institution	# of Beneficiaries	Total USD
Buendía	24	504
La Bella	20	420
Melquíades	25	525
Pietro Crespi	19	399
Puertas Abiertas	20	420
Juan Bosco	16	336
Asperla	20	420
José y de Tania	25	525
Semillas de Paz	21	441
CJ.Hogares Claret	10	210
Benposta	20	420
Total	220	4,620.00

During December's holidays, a fund for each institution assisting ex-combatant children was approved (Transit Homes, Specialized Assistance Centers and Half-Way Houses). With the amount given, the institutions were able to cover a Christmas dinner and give each child a Christmas bonus. Each institution organized its activities and the fund distribution according to their judgment. On average, each institution received about USD\$400.

2. Implementing Partners' Financial Analysis

In October, a financial study on the budget management of each implementing partner was carried out. The study's purpose was to examine if ICBF's stipulated cost on the child assistance per month quota is coherent with the institutions' real costs. In other words, the financial analysis aimed to propose and establish a more realistic assistance cost value for the institutions in each phase in order to achieve the children's rights' restitution such as health, education, recreation and nourishment.

This financial analysis was done in both of the Transit Homes, in 6 out of the 8 existing CAEs and in the Half Way Homes located in Cali, Bucaramanga and Bogotá.

The first disparity found in the financial analysis was that the real assistance cost in CAEs and Half Way houses was higher than stipulated. As a consequence, it has generated a budget deficit in these institutions and in the long run it has affected the institutions financial stability, which in turn has affected the assistance given.

The financial analysis recommendations can be summarized in the following:

- The Program must re-define and establish the necessary budget lines required for the Program's to be able to provide the children with a holistic assistance, unifying criterions for each component.
- Determine the budgetary rank by component (e.g. a wage scale).
- If the quality standards on costs are applied, the executed budget will correspond with the assigned budget, according to the month/child assistance cost value.
- Institutions need to increase the amount spent on the right's restitution budget line in relation with the administrative costs.
- The Program must implement income-generating strategies to complement the month/child assistance cost value, in order to achieve financial stability and project sustainability.

As a result of the financial analysis, IOM has proposed ICBF to, in joint collaboration with ICBF's Technical Direction, re-evaluate the way in which the month/child assistance cost value is calculated.

3. Monitoring and Evaluating System Design

Since the Program's beginning, IOM as well as USAID considered the need to design and implement a *Monitoring and Evaluation System (SM&E)* able, among other things to: i) help to evaluate if the program is being implemented according to the Agreement Grant, ii) allow a continuous feedback between the Program's executing/coordinates team in order to have relevant information on the its advances as well as on the emerging difficulties, iii) contribute to the adjustments or reorientation of the activities needed for the optimum use of the Program's resources, and iv) identify the aspects needed to be considered for ICBF's appropriation of the Program's total coordination and implementation.

Considering the above, IOM hired during the first quarter of 2002 a consultant for the design of the SM&E, which had significant advances. On November another consultant was hired for the finishing of the SM&E design, fulfilling with the parameters and criterions jointly defined by the participating entities.

The importance of the Monitoring and Evaluation System is:

- SM&E helps highlight the differences between the Agreement Grant Plan and what is being or what has been implemented or executed.
- SM&E helps promote transparency and public responsibility.
- And it also enables the Program to generate knowledge, which in turn can be applied in the best interests of the beneficiaries.

Up until know, the Monitoring and Evaluation System has developed the following activities:

Bibliographic Research: During this phase, documents related to the Program's target population, its components, guidelines, achievements and difficulties were read and studied, in order to have a deeper understanding of its present state.

Elaboration of the Program's Logic Framework: The Program's Logic Framework constitutes a useful tool for its evaluation. Its purpose is to communicate the Program's essential information and to establish an initial platform for the comparison between what was planned and what has been implemented.

Institutional Approach: During this phase, interviews with the people responsible of designing and executing the Program were carried out, among them representatives from OIM, ICBF, and the Human Rights Ombudsman Office. Additionally, work meetings were held with the first consultant in charge of designing SM&E. Finally, project visits have been carried out to the various institutions involved in the assistance to Ex-combatant children, such as Puertas Abiertas, Transit Home Luna and Macondo Corporation.

Elaboration/Definition of the SM&E's Indicators and Methodology: With the development of the three initial phases, above mentioned, the consultant has been able to create a more concrete idea of the program, particularly in its first component, which has lead to the design of a database that includes the child's individual information, organized as shown in the next table.

Table #16: Matrix of Database

Phases in the child's life/ phases in the Program	General Characterization	Before Recruitment	Participation in Armed Groups	After Demobilization and Before the Program	While in the Program
Transit Home					
Specialized Assistance Center					
Half Way homes					
After the Program					

This database will permit to have complete information on each child's the development during his stay in the Program, and it will provide useful information for the Program to monitor his or her rights restitution and get ideas for future recruitment prevention projects.

At the same time the database for the individual information on the child is being built, another database is being worked on, for information on the implementing agencies, in order to enable the carrying out of regular follow-ups on the assistance given. Both databases are oriented for an improvement on the quality standards of the assistance and services provided.

Subsequently, the information entered in the databases will be analyzed according to four indicators of *management, product, results and impact*. The *management* indicator (for the child's rights restitution) will be analyzed across the three phases. The indicators proposal will be presented to IOM and ICBF, in order to attain feedback on needed adjustments. Work will be complemented and finalized with feedback on the tool kit (or forms and other mechanisms for the gathering of information). The design of the SM&E is expected to be completed on February 2003.

4. Following Project with Human Rights Ombudsman Office

As part of ICBF's strengthening for the children's rights restitution, during the reporting quarter an Agreement between Human Rights Ombudsman and IOM was designed and signed. The Agreement considers the implementation of the "Follow-up System for Ex-combatant Children".

The Agreement's objectives are: i) Evaluate and analyze the Legal Route's level of application in 200 prosecution cases; ii) evaluate and analyze the fulfillment level of 200 security measures that have been declared by judges or Family Lawyers for ex-combatant children placed in the Support Program or assisted in the Social Reintegration Program managed by the Ministry of the Interior; iii) Follow-up of 50 cases of former child soldiers in Family Reunification; iv) Identification of ex-combatant children which have not received the protection measure for their placement in the Specialized Assistance Program.

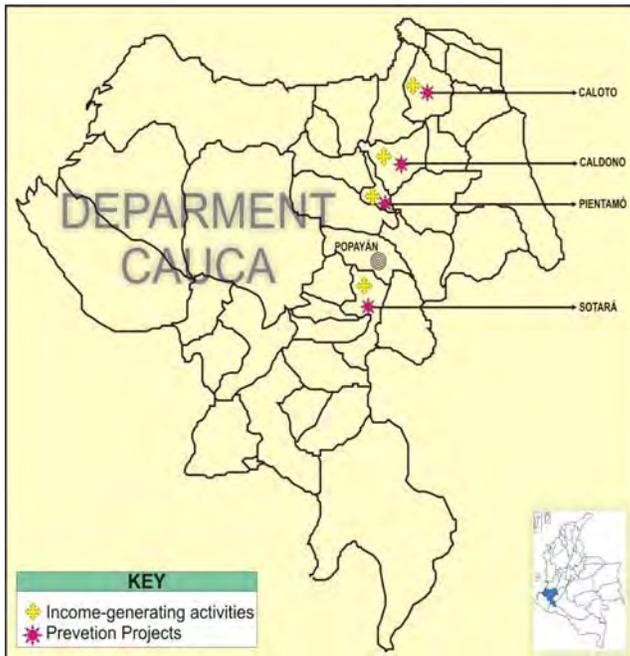
During the December, a team of 2 lawyers, 2 Social Workers, 1 administrative assistant and 1 Project Coordinator were hired. This team has carried out the following activities: bibliographic research, choosing and designing methodologies and elaborating the instruments necessary for the follow-up system.

VI. SUPPORT TO INDIGENOUS AND AFRO-COLOMBIAN EXCOMBATANT CHILDREN

a. Cauca⁹

1. Facts on Armed conflict and child recruitment in Cauca

Map #2: Prevention and Assistance / Social Reintegration Projects in Cauca



The department of Cauca has a territorial extension of 29.308 kms², which is divided in 41 municipalities, which in turn are grouped in six regions: North, Middle, South, Macizo, Bota Cauca, Western and Pacific. Its population is of 1.277.128, of which 63% live in the rural area. Cauca is characterized for being a multiethnic and culturally diverse department; 23.49% of its people are indigenous.

The department's economy is primarily based on the agriculture of traditional crops. However, in impoverished areas, subsistence is based on harvesting illicit crops. In 2001, 11.3% of Cauca's population was in misery. (Coyuntura Social Departamental, Boletín No. 29, SISD- DNP 2000, pg 17)

As other departments of the Southwestern part of Colombia, the Cauca region is not a stranger to the armed conflict and its consequences, which among others are forced displacement and recruitment of children by armed groups.

In order to understand the conflict's dynamics in Cauca, some characteristic aspects of this department must be taken into account:

- On account of an unequal land distribution, Cauca has been witness to land ownership conflicts, especially in areas where indigenous communities are fighting for the recovery of the land of their ancestors.
- The presence of drug-traffic has been linked to the areas where there are illicit crops harvest, especially in the areas of the Macizo Colombiano and the Bota Caucana. These two, are also areas that serve as drug commercialization centers and strategic corridors.
- Cauca, also counts with the presence of strong organizations and autonomous social movements who have confronted the armed groups on various occasions.

Additionally, its strategic geographical position has favored the various armed groups' presence, such as FARC, AUC, ELN, Bateman Cayón, M19 and Quintín Lame; these last two groups have already disarmed and demobilized. AUC presence began during the mid nineties; to date they control most of the region.

⁹ See Annex 5: Project Cards

During mid 2000, the armed conflict started intensifying in regions with great diversity and richness in natural resources, areas of military importance and strategic communication corridors. A strong territory dispute has begun especially in Santander de Quilichao, Buenos Aires (north) Cajibío (middle) and in the municipalities of Tambo, Timbío, Rosas, Patía (south).

Today, Cauca is one of the departments where security is on a thin rope amidst takeovers, illegal roadblocks, kidnappings, massacres, disappearing, selective killings and common delinquency, all acts perpetuated mainly by the armed groups.

The constant indigenous movements and protests, used by organizations as a means to pressure the GOC for investment and commitment in the region, have in some cases been taken advantage by the armed groups, resulting in grave confrontations.

During the last two years, Cauca has suffered an increase in the violence rate, which is evidenced in the crime rates presented by the Police. During 2000, takeovers took place in the municipalities of Almaguer, Argelia, Cajibío, Caldono, Miranda, Morales, Patía, Piendamó, Santander, Silvia, Suárez and Timbío. Currently, 30.8% of the department's population and 16% of its territory have been victims of hostile takeovers.

On the year 2000, the Human Rights Ombudsman Office reported 34 massacres, with an average of 3 per month, and in 2001, during the first 4 months, 23 massacres were perpetuated in the southern region.

The areas of the Middle and North of Cauca, the municipalities of Guapi, Timbiquí and Lopez de Micayon on the Pacific Coast, are of the outmost strategic importance for the armed groups, for being seaports.

Another region of vital importance for the armed groups is the Naya, located in the western mountain range. This zone has been home to FARC and ELN groups for more than 20 years, and it is also the main region where illicit crops are grown in Cauca; more than 6 thousand hectares of coca are grown and commercialization of these crops is also carried out.

The Northern region is also an important center for communication with Buenaventura and municipalities located in the south and middle of department of Valle. Additionally, throughout the northeastern part of Cauca, there are important communication corridors with department of Valle and the country's center.

2. Advances in the Prevention Component

From October through December, the programmed activities of the "Life Alternatives for Indigenous and Afro-Colombian Ex-combatant Children in the Department of Cauca" project, were carried out in each of its components: prevention and assistance/social reintegration. Additionally, the team worked on the creation of the projects extension, which was approved in December, for an amount of \$231.975.652 (USD \$86,558.10), adding up to a total of \$452.076.412 (USD \$168.685.23).

The project's extension is comprised of an addition to the projects that were already being implemented and the creation of new ones. In the prevention component, two new projects were approved: the making of a Indigenous Demobilization Route and the filming of a video which aims to create awareness raising as a strategy to prevent voluntary recruitment. In the social reintegration component, 4 new income-generation activities were approved (Laying Hens, Pig Breeding, Milking Cows and a Grocery Store)

a) *Training and Awareness Raising Workshops*



Training and Awareness Raising Workshops – Cauca, Río Blanco

The five-month period of Awareness Raising and Training Workshops in the 4 communities (Río Blanco, Guachené, Caldono y la María), ended during this quarter. These workshops had two main objectives: 1) to offer the necessary tools to empower the children and youngsters of these communities with political critical thinking, oriented towards an active participation in peace building. 2.) to create a pedagogical strategy which allows teachers to approach education promoting alternative ways to conflict resolution and human right's promotion.



Training and Awareness Raising Workshops – Cauca, Caldono

These workshops benefited 452 children and were given on the following themes: Armed Conflict Analysis, Human Rights, International Humanitarian Law and Tools for Building a Peace Culture. In total, 152 workshops were carried out and are distributed as follows:

Table #17: Awareness Raising and Training Workshops

Date	Community	Workshops	Hrs.
July - Sept.	Río Blanco	4	96
	Guachené	4	96
	Caldono	4	96
	La María	4	96
Sub-Total		16	384
Oct. - Dec.	Río Blanco	8	192
	Guachené	8	192
	Caldono	8	192
	La María	8	192
Sub-Total		32	768
Total		48	1152

Among the achievements it is worth mentioning the active participation and interest shown by the children in each workshop. This was probably due to the fact that besides being an awareness raising strategy, the workshops, also served as a space for the exchange of opinions and for the expression of ideas on fears and hopes for the future. Additionally, these workshops have served as method for community integration.

As a closing activity and among the activities programmed the children got together in an integration event. The main objective of this event was to exchange ideas and experiences to find and expose a common ground despite cultural differences and from these generate proposals for future projects to prevent recruitment and participation of former child soldiers.

The event was carried out in La María, were approximately 300 children from the 4 beneficiary communities participated. It lasted for 4 days, during which a combination of cultural activities and working tables on relevant themes, were carried out and discussed respectively. At the end of the event, the children presented their proposals regarding community, political, economic and educational issues. (See Annex)



b) Education for Peace

Based on the information gathered on the 52 workshops carried out in the 4 beneficiary communities, the drafting phase for the educational proposal has begun. In the original Grant, the design of an educational curriculum for peace was agreed. This activity has been changed to create an educational module instead. The module will include themes such as cultural identity, human rights, conflict resolution, participation and leadership. To that purpose, 3 work meetings with the Department of Cauca's Secretary of Education and experts on themes related with education for peace, have been carried out, in order to show the preliminary draft and acquire orientation on which steps to follow for its completion and validation.

c) Indigenous Demobilization Route¹⁰

In the beginning, the need to implement a project with indigenous minorities was detected given the evidence found that indigenous child soldiers who were demobilizing, were returning straight to their communities of origin. The latter is due to the fact that indigenous groups in Colombia have a special jurisdiction where the head of the government is the *Cabildo*.

Due to their unique family, social, cultural and legal standing experienced by indigenous ex-combatant children, the program saw the need to create an Indigenous Demobilization Route, to identify procedures that are followed by the *Cabildos* as part of the social reintegration of ex-combatant indigenous children to their communities of origin.

¹⁰ See Annex 8: Indigenous Demobilization Route

During the quarter, a consultant was hired to gather the information on indigenous regulations and on the types of demobilization experienced by ex-combatant children present in the 4 beneficiary communities, and also to prepare a draft of the Indigenous Demobilization Route.

Once the first draft of the Indigenous Demobilization Route was finished, a series of meetings with different public officials from the department of Cauca and one seminar with members of ICBF, human Right's Ombudsman and other members of Cauca's *Cabildos* were carried out.

Based on the feedback gotten during these gatherings, a revised version of the Indigenous Demobilization Route was later presented in a Workshop with members of the National Organization of Indigenous People (ONIC). The guest list for this workshop included among others, 10 representatives of ten different indigenous communities from various country regions. During the 2 days, which lasted the workshop, 2 general, themes were discussed: Recruitment of children in Indigenous communities and ideas for prevention; 2.) "Indigenous Legal Route" based on the specific Indigenous legislation of each community. The main conclusion that can be drawn from the workshop is that although the indigenous organizations are interested in working out a common Demobilization Route, a great diversity of the ethnic groups make it a real challenge to have an instrument applicable nationwide.

The Program is considering redefining its future actions in order whether to decide or not to face this challenge. Among the new strategies that might be considered one is the combination of efforts with the ONIC for the completion and future dissemination of the Demobilization Route, so it can become a national tool for ex-combatant Indigenous children. Additionally, it will be necessary to train and to perform awareness-raising activities in the various indigenous communities to assure effectiveness in its applicability.

3. Assistance / Social Reintegration

a) *Health Services*



Under the USAID-Profamilia agreement, the first contacts were initiated during the last-quarter in the beneficiary communities, for the start of the educational activities and access to reproductive health services. During the months of November and December, a reproductive and sexual educational workshop of 20 hours was carried out in each of the 4 communities. However, since the number of ex-combatant children in each community was less than the adequate number for each workshop, children in high

risk of being recruited, who were beneficiaries of the prevention component, were included. These children have the additional task of multiplying in their schools what they learned at the workshop. Additionally, an outreach health campaign went to each community where general health evolutions and reproductive planning consultations were given. In these health campaigns, only ex-combatant children were assisted.

b) *Income Generation Activities*



During the reporting quarter work continued for the development of the 3 initial income-generation activities: blackberries harvest, hens and a music & dance group. In general, advances were made in the delivery of all the materials needed each of the project's functioning. Additionally, 4 new projects were approved and its implementation launched during this quarter. Up to now, training has begun for each of the children involved in the projects.

On the other hand, a revolving fund proposal, adapted to the department of Cauca and the children's possibilities, has been designed and discussed with the beneficiaries of three first income-generation activities.

b. Chocó¹¹

1. Facts on Armed Conflict and child recruitment in Chocó

Map #3: Prevention and Assistance / Social Reintegration Projects in Chocó



Chocó has a territorial extension of 46.530 Km² and with a population of approximately 347.561. Just as Department of Cauca, Chocó is multiethnic and culturally diverse. Due to the fact that this department is the region with most biodiversity, the local economy is based on the exploitation of the many natural resources. Fishing and the wood logging industry are the main income generation activities; the exploitation of platinum, gold and silver are also important income generating activities.

In spite of its natural resources wealth, the department of Chocó, is one of the regions with less presence of the GOC. For example, in the city, Quibdó, only 10.000 habitants have access to sewage systems, out of 200.000 inhabitants; only 5 municipalities, out of 32 have electricity and child mortality goes up to 117 children for each 1000.

¹¹ See Annex 5: Project Cards

The most important root based organizations in Chocó are: the Regional Organization of Emberas-Wuaunam (OREWA, by its Spanish initials), which represents the indigenous groups, and the Rural Integral Association of Atrato (ACIA), which represents the Afro-Colombian population. The main indigenous groups are the Emberas, Wuaunam, Cáticos, Chamíes and Tules.

Among the most important background events of the armed conflict in the Department of Choco, it is worth mentioning the forced displacement of approximately 1.500 people from the Lower Atrato region during December 1996 and February 1997. Of these, 1.500, 13 communities were formed in the city of Quibdó, but only 5 have returned. Lower Atrato has been also been victim of various atrocities from the armed groups, such as selective killings and massacres of civilians.

The Choco region has been long ago attractive for armed groups, due to its strategic geographic location. The Baudo and San Juan Rivers, both of them are an strategic corridor for the control of arms and drug-traffic and its distribution over to the Pacific.

More recently, the armed conflict in Choco has intensified. On May 2002, FARC and AUC disputes in the municipality of Bojayá resulted in the massacre of 100 civilians and 7.000 internally displaced people who fled mainly to Quibdó, the department's capital.

Currently the Northeastern region, specially roads connecting to the ocean, Antioquia, Valle del Cauca and Risaralda, have seen an intensification of the armed conflict, which is aggravated when drug commercialization is involved. Additionally, these strategic corridors are prime areas for the carrying out of kidnappings and illegal roadblocks, among others.

2. Advances in the Prevention Component

Seeing the positive experience initiated in Cauca, it was decided to extend the support to indigenous and Afro-Colombian ex-combatant children in Chocó. During the previous quarter, work was focused on the designing of the prevention and the assistance / social reintegration proposal for the project. Also, an Agreement was signed between the Human Rights Ombudsman Office (Defensoría del Pueblo) and IOM for the project development in four of Choco's communities: Zabaleta, Puria, El Consuelo y El 21, located in the municipalities of Istmina, Tadó y Carmen de Atrato. The projects total budget is of \$95,000.



Among the specific objectives are:

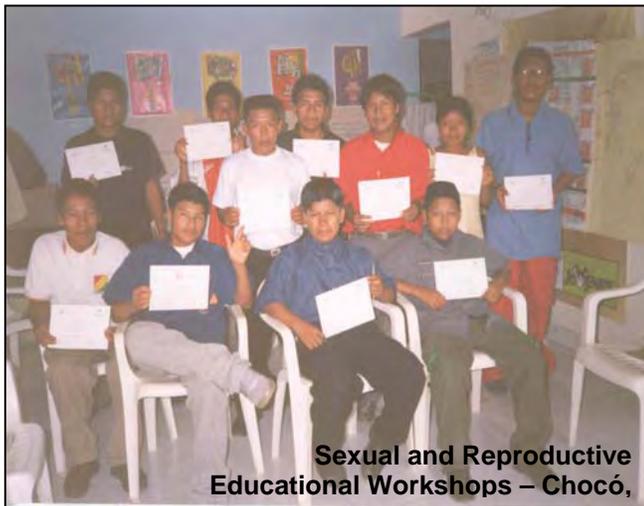
- Carrying out an educational program with young leaders in the communities of Zabaleta, Puria, El Consuelo y El 21, including themes such as Human Rights, Indigenous legislation and cultural identity in order to strengthen the already existing organizations in the region.
- Develop two income-generation activities with 13 ex-combatant children in the indigenous community of Chamí de Zabaleta, in order to prevent re-recruitment.
- Development of a diagnosis on risk and recruitment of children in two Afro-Colombian communities, Istmina y Tadó, and develop prevention strategies for future projects.

It was until this quarter that part of the prevention activities could be finally launched. Before the end of the quarter a representative from the human Rights Ombudsman Office was hired to lead the workshops on Human Rights, International Humanitarian Law and Indigenous and Afro-Colombian Legislation. Additionally, office endowment was given to the Human Rights Ombudsman Regional Office in Quibdó. Endowment included one computer, office furniture and communication equipment.

Due to security reasons and the difficult situation being lived during this past few months in Chocó, described above, the workshops planned could not be carried out according to the activities schedule. Up until now, a workshop of 6 hours has been carried out. 12 youngsters participated from 15 communities (approximately 160 youngsters), from the four beneficiary communities. This workshop was carried out taking advantage of a juvenile encounter organized by the Catholic church from the Indigenous Reserve 18.

3. Advances in the Assistance /Social Reintegration

a.) *Health Services*



During the reporting quarter and under the Agreement between Profamilia-USAID, an educational workshop on sexual and reproductive health was carried out in the city of Quibdó with 16 ex-combatant children and children in high-risk of recruitment. It lasted 4 days for a total of 20 hours training. Thank to the implemented methodology, the workshop became a space where the participating children exchanged opinions, ideas and knowledge relevant to the theme; Videos and didactic materials were used.

Following the workshop, the children had each a general health evaluation and laboratory exams in the cases that were judged necessary. Additionally, all 16 children had a blood identification exam and they were given the respective identification blood card.

At the end, Profamilia gave each child a Participation Certificate.

b.) Income Generation Activities

In the project design, two income-generation activities were included; *Panela* (brown sugar) production and Pig Breeding. For the *Panela* production, the community already had a grinding machine. The project's support is mainly for the workplace construction and endowment of other necessary equipment. These two projects will be developed in Zabaleta village, hoping they will leave a positive impact on other high-risk children and the community as a whole.

However, up until now the development of these two projects has had many obstacles, due to the lack of coordination between the OREWA representatives and the members of the *Cabildo* and due to the presence of armed groups in the region. Currently, coordination is being worked out with all the parties involved in order to consider a re-design of the income-generation activities.

VII. PREVENTION

a. Strategies

As mentioned on the previous quarter, the prevention component was not initially part of the IOM-USAID Grant Agreement. However, the evolution and lessons learned during the implementation of the Program highlighted the need to design a strategy for this area. Based on the information given by the Program's database and the accumulated experience of the past 21 months, a series of prevention strategies were designed, which were presented and formalized before USAID during the month of October.

The general objective is to support the GOC and the social networks, at a central and regional level, in order to prevent child recruitment into armed groups, in order to decrease children's participation in the armed conflict, through the development of projects implemented in the geographical areas that show the highest rates of recruitment and in areas with ethnic minorities.

The specific objectives of the strategy are:

- Strengthen social networks and GOC agencies that are implementing recruitment prevention projects.
- Develop pilot prevention projects in the identified high-risk recruitment zones.
- Develop prevention strategies which target the detected main causes for children's recruitment: child abuse, lack of access to education low education quality, non existing income-generation opportunities, weak public policy on childhood and Children's Rights, lack of information on children's rights.

The Prevention strategy will be implemented in the 8 departments and 13 municipalities identified by the analysis of the database and in the regions where IOM has presence.

b. Implementation Advances

Advances in the prevention strategy have been limited because the possibility of a massive demobilization during the month of December, led us to transfer funds that we appropriated for Prevention to the Contingency Plan. In other words, during the reporting quarter this component suffered a brief pause. However, up until two projects have begun:

An Agreement will be signed with the Women's Popular Organization (OFP, by its Spanish initials) in Barrancabermeja, for the running of a Students' Cafeteria in the Colegio Mixto Municipal Camilo Torres Restrepo. The projects main objective is to provide students from poor communities with an affordable meal in order to prevent school desertion and in turn prevent their recruitment into armed groups. Up until know the project is still in the formalization phase. Also, co-financing is being searched for.

The second project is related to the awareness raising strategy. On December, 2 professionals were hired for the design of a awareness raising radio campaign on the impact of children's participation in war, child abuse, school desertion, conflict resolution and other sensitization themes.

VIII. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

a. Legal Route

Since this year's first quarter, when the Legal Route was first published, up until December 31, 2002, a series of workshops and seminars have been carried out, aiming to disseminate ex-combatant children's rights and to motivate new proposals for the improvement of the existing Legal framework for these children. At the end of 2002, achievements from the training workshops and awareness raising seminars, are summarized in the table below:

Table #18: Legal Route Dissemination

Implementing Agency	Target Population	# of Cities	# of Beneficiaries
Human Rights Ombudsman Office	Public Ministry Officials	33	935
SCUK	Community Leaders	6	95
ICBF	Military Personnel – Judges and Family Lawyers	6	200
Total			1,230

1. Human Rights Ombudsman Office

IOM's-Human Rights Ombudsman Office Agreement for the implementation of the project "Legal Route diffusion and training to Public Ministry Officials" ended during the reporting quarter. A total of 935 Public ministry officials in 33 cities were trained.

Among the qualitative achievements it is worth mentioning that the legal Route proved to be a useful tool, which offers a different view on child soldiers from juveniles delinquents to victims of the armed conflict. Additionally it served as a training instrument for Public Ministry officials on the national and international legal framework for the protection of former child soldiers.



Training Workshop on the “Legal Route” - Popayán

However, its applicability was also questioned on various occasions, since frequently Public Ministry Officials do not have the transportation and communication resources necessary for its implementation. On the other hand, many Public Ministry Officials displayed a lack of knowledge on Children’s Rights and International Humanitarian Law.

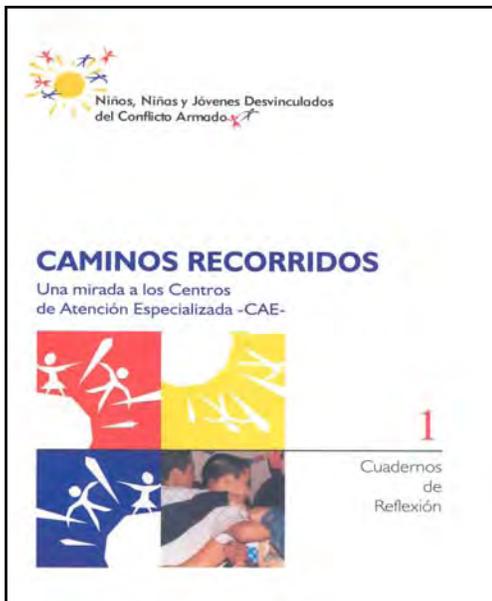
Relating to the workshop multiplication proposal, there is great difficulty in the majority of the regions to commit for the Legal Route’s future dissemination, due to the armed conflict’s intensification.

In the prevention component, the workshops aimed at gathering proposals for future projects. As a result, participants identified as key actors the family, the school, the ICBF and the Public Ministry. However, a passive attitude was reflected when asked to define strategies or actions; answers were usually thought that had to come from the GOC but there was no clarity on how, with whom or with what.

2. SCUK

During the reporting quarter SCUK carried out one awareness raising and training on the Legal Route workshop in Barrancabermeja. 15 members of different NGO’s and community leaders assisted.

b. Publications



The Support Program for Ex-combatant Children is one of the few programs worldwide being implemented during armed conflict. Therefore, the systematization of the knowledge gathered from the experience is of vital importance, both at a national and international level.

Added to the list of publications and documents already written, during this quarter the first diagnosis on the ICBF’s Program advanced experience on the assistance to Ex-combatant Children was published. Additionally, the “Children of the War” book was published on November, written by Guillermo González and which won the Planet Award. The Program financially supported this book during its investigation phase.

Table #19: Publications' List

Title	Authors	Description	N° copies	Lenguaje	Year
Guerreros sin Sombra	Miguel Álvarez y Julián Aguirre	The most vulnerable population during armed conflict are women and children. Child soldiers are not new in Colombia's armed conflict, however there is little knowledge on the causes and effects of this social issue. Shadowless Warriors is the first attempt to understand the consequences of armed conflict on the Colombian children and especially on child soldiers. This book is based on a research done on 2000, in the departments of Bogotá, Medellín and in the municipalities of Eastern Antioquia, Caquetá y Meta. It includes aspects such as recruitment strategies, voluntary recruitment motivations, life during participation in armed groups, demobilization and impacts on the child's growth.	500	Spanish	2002
Legal Route: Legal Procedures to Follow for Excombatant Children	ICBF, IOM, SCUJ y Human Rights Ombudsman Office	Legal Route is based on a study and analysis on the legal situation of ex-combatant children. But above all, it is an instrument, which outlines the legal procedures, to follow for the protection and assistance measures that must be taken whether it is voluntary demobilization, by negotiation or by capture. The Legal Route emerges amidst a social, political and legal environment marked by intensification in the armed conflict, where the increase of children's participation in armed groups is the tendency. Its also an answer/possibility for former child soldiers to gain their rights' restitution in a country where there is no specific legal framework for their situation.	3500	Spanish	2002
Armed Conflict, Children and Youth: a psychosocial perspective	Bello, Martha Nubia y Ruiz Ceballos, Sandra, editoras	This book comprises 26 articles, which analyze children's participation in the Colombian armed conflict. The articles reflect the different perspectives that arise from the different academic views on the impact for Colombia's youth. It also reflects the different points of view of the different entities (national and international) that have been working in this area for many years.		Spanish	2002
Traveled Roads	IOM, ICBF y SCUJ	Traveled Roads is a preliminary study on the assistance provided in the Specialized Assistance Centers for Ex-combatant Children by the ICBF, before the launching of the Agreement Grant between IOM-ICBF-SCUJ, financed by USAID.	1000	Spanish	2002

Apart from the already published investigations, the Program has a series of documents, which are in the editing process for their future publication, such as a Study on the Families of Ex-combatant Children, Cauca's Education Module, the Indigenous Demobilization Route and the Programs' Booklet.

c. Cinemateca Distrital

Aiming at diffusing information on children victims of the armed conflict, during the previous quarter the "Sons of the Fire" project was designed together with the Cinemateca Distrital. This project will support the filming and distribution of a short film and a documentary.

The Agreement between IOM and Cinemateca was developed and signed during the reporting quarter. From August 29th through October 14th proposals were received. On November 14th, a group of three jurists chose the winners: for the short film the “Lúdica Macábrica” proposal won, while for the documentary the winner was “Cico para Todos”



An award ceremony was organized during the second week of December. To it, assisted representatives from ICBF, Human Rights Ombudsman Office, USAID, Save the Children, UNICEF, among others. A winning certificate was given to each of the winners during the ceremony.

An Agreement has already been signed with Corporación Nuevo Cine Latinoamericano, the legal entity representing the “Lúdica Macábrica” proposal. Filming started during the third week of December. Its edition will be done in Argentina during the next quarter.

Filming of the documentary will begin the first week of January 2003.

d. Universidad de los Andes

Under the Agreement between Andes University and IOM, the first Annual Forum on “Children and Armed Conflict: from demobilization to Protecting Children’s Rights”, was carried out on October 15th.

Before the event the following activities were done:

- Definition of the agenda, the guest list and the national and international exponents.
- Design and distribution of the forum’s pamphlet and information dissemination on the event among the national newspapers and entities working with children and armed conflict



The guest list was composed mainly of NGO representatives, State entities such as ICBF, Social Welfare Administrative Bureau (DABS), Family and Child Lawyers and members of Law, Social Work and Psychology Faculties.

The Forum became a space for interchange of the different existing points of view on the assistance to ex-combatant children and other children affected by violence and the actual social and political context.

Additionally an international exponent was invited; Dr. García Méndez, explored the “Political considerations for the assistance of juvenile delinquents in Latin America”

The Forum had a total of 202 participants.

An extension on the Agreement was decided, in order to give more time for the publication of the Forum’s memoirs, which will be ready on February 28th, 2003. .

IX. LESSONS LEARNED

Being a Program in permanent build-up, starting-off new strategies also causes new training and lessons to be permanently learned. Worth mentioning during this quarter are the following:

- Vocational training is one of the instruments with a greater impact in the immediate future of the youth. It facilitates its social reintegration, thus prevents fragmentation of supply and centers the efforts within the areas where they may have more opportunities in the labor and/or entrepreneurial market.
- The strategy of social reintegration may not be seen as an element added up during the final phase of the Program. The lesson is that parallel to the phase of assistance social reintegration must start as soon as the children enter the Program, so once they are ready to reencounter with their family, the attitudes, knowledge and educational and labor abilities are further consolidated.
- The opportunities of education become factors of development not only for each of the adolescents as a person, but also for their families and communities. Thus, a great effort must be done to see methodologies in depth that will enable them to transfer technologies to their regions and make their experience and training in the Program become factors of human development.
- After a permanent effort developed to extend coverage the Program must migrate to differentiate the plan of assistance in such a way the Colombian Government assumes what corresponds to the sustenance of each youngster within the program (child/cost/month); international cooperation centers its actions in giving support to projects by providing tools to the youth to fully exercise their rights (education, occupational formation, health); NGOs as operators have management capacity, administration, technical and methodological capacity, and Government institutions to support formulating Public Policies, research and design of strategies of assistance.
- Financial and administrative problems faced by some NGOs operators of the Program leaves us the learned lesson that selection processes must give a greater rating to the administrative and financial capacity of these agencies, without leaving aside technical proposals, which to date have received most of the attention.
- Finally, the worsening of the armed conflict in the country requires the census of spaces among institutions identified by the Contingency Plan be kept updated in the face of an eventual demobilization en masse of children from irregular armed groups.

X. WORK PRIORITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER

The end of the next quarter (January-March 2003) also sees the completion of the Program of Assistance to Ex-Combatant Children; thus the priority is designing a way-out strategy to consolidate the Program in its phase of assistance, pilot designs and experiences for the phase of Social Reintegration, management and administrative recommendations to NGOs, and Public Policy for Children in matters of childhood and armed conflict for government authorities: ICBF, Governor's Office of Cauca and Chocó, Human Rights Ombudsman Office, and the Ministries of Health and Education.

Furthermore, to guarantee completion of ongoing projects, disseminating results procuring to assure its sustainability by the consolidation at the Colombian Institute for Family Welfare – ICBF – of Program responsibilities.

On the other hand, special emphasis will be placed in dissemination of the model and results emitted by the Evaluation and Monitoring System and the economic study prepared by IOM, and by the Follow-up Study of 200 youngsters that have gone through the Program developed by the Human Rights Ombudsman Office.

Lastly, the challenge exists of bringing closer the productive sector to the problematic of boys and girls victims of the war, creating reintegration labor conditions and connecting to the productive processes of the young formed by the program.

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ANNEX 1

ANNEX 2

INFORME / PIDEN A LA SOCIEDAD QUE ACOJA A LOS MENORES DESVINCULADOS

Los niños de la guerra

La Defensoría del Pueblo y Unicef aseguran que la mayoría de los menores proviene de Meta, Putumayo y Tolima. La pobreza los lleva a enlistarse.

ANGELA CONSTANZA JEREZ
Subdirectora Relaciones con la Comunidad

"Me dijeron que me fuera con ellos o si no me mataban porque yo era novia de un policía".

Del Meta, Putumayo y Tolima proviene el mayor número de niños que combaten en las filas de paramilitares y guerrilleros. Cifra que se calcula en 6 mil, pero que podría ser mayor.

El promedio de edad es de 13,8 años, aunque los hay de 7 a 17 años. Esos pocos años de vida los han dedicado a trabajar, pues solo tuvieron estudio para aprender a leer y escribir.

Además, no les gustaba el colegio y para sus padres, que los maltrataban para educarlos, la escuela tampoco tenía importancia: era mejor que cogieran un azadón, rasparan hojas de coca o realizaran otra labor que si les diera dinero.

Ese puede ser el retrato de cualquier niño colombiano que porta un fusil en las filas de la guerra, según el último informe de la Defensoría del Pueblo y Unicef, dado a conocer ayer.

Ochenta y seis menores que hoy forman parte del Programa Nacional de Atención a Niños Desvinculados del Conflicto Armado del Icbf fueron entrevistados para conocer a través de ellos por qué los menores ingresan al conflicto, cómo lo vivieron y por qué lo dejaron.

Más desertión

Los menores están siendo entrenados en 16 departamentos, principalmente en Caquetá, Meta, Guaviare, Putumayo y Tolima, y son obligados a realizar desde labores domésticas (cocinar, lavar trastos y ropa) hasta combatir y desarrollar misiones especiales de inteligencia. Para ello, reciben capacitación especializada en explosivos.

Así mismo, son abusados sexualmente con el consentimiento de sus superiores y las niñas obligadas a ponerse dispositivos intrauterinos y a practicarse abortos.

Al contrario de lo que sucedía hace seis años, cuando la Defensoría trató por primera vez este tema, los niños no están recibiendo dinero por su vinculación (entre 40 mil y 100 mil pesos). Hoy reciben entre 40 mil y



CADA AÑO AUMENTA en un ciento por ciento el número de niños que desertan de las filas. Por eso, Defensoría y Unicef proponen ampliar el programa de niños desvinculados del Icbf.

RECOMENDACIONES

Como lo mencionó Manuel Manrique, representante de Unicef en Colombia, una de las principales recomendaciones al Gobierno es firmar el protocolo facultativo que adiciona a las normas internacionales la obligación de Colombia de no reclutar menores de 18 años. De igual forma, recomienda al

Congreso dar trámite favorable al proyecto de ley que prorroga la vigencia de la Ley 418 de 1997 en lo relacionado con la atención a los menores desvinculados.

"A los empresarios y a la sociedad en general -señaló Manrique- que acoja a estos niños para que de verdad se puedan incorporar a la vida civil".

las entidades territoriales que se escudan en el Icbf y no hacen trabajos para mejorar las condiciones propias del campo", agregó Cifuentes.

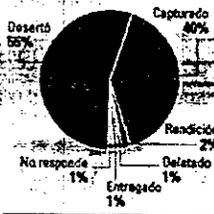
Eso demuestra que las recomendaciones que han hecho la Defensoría y Unicef de mejorar las condiciones sociales y económicas de los menores no han sido acatadas; sin embargo, las dos entidades reconocen que el Gobierno siguió el consejo de no incluir bachilleres menores en las Fuerzas Militares. Así, en 1999, salieron del Ejército 950 bachilleres y desde entonces ningún menor presta servicio militar.

De igual forma, el Gobierno creó un programa para atender a los niños desvinculados del conflicto, el cual maneja el Icbf desde 1999. Según Julián Aguirre, coordinador del Grupo Interno de Atención a Víctimas de la Violencia de la entidad, se han atendido 636 menores, con un incremento anual de casi el ciento por ciento. Por ejemplo, en el 2001 fueron atendidos 195 y en el 2002, 332.

Precisamente, una de las recomendaciones del nuevo informe consiste en ampliar el programa a otras ciudades, pues actualmente solo funciona en siete. Según Cifuentes, la Defensoría hará seguimiento a 200 casos de menores que se reintertaron para saber cómo les fue.

Beatriz Londoño, directora del Icbf, reconoce que en este tema el instituto tiene una falla, pues no ha seguido el proceso de los menores que estuvieron en el programa. "Haremos la primera investigación en abril -dijo- pues no sabemos si de verdad se reintertaron o regresaron a las filas".

Tipo de desvinculación



© Fuente: Defensoría del Pueblo

forme de la Defensoría y Unicef, es cuestionado por los autores.

"Nosotros estamos advirtiendo que no hay una sola causa que lleve a la vinculación. Hay un entorno en la Colombia rural en el que confluyen la cultura de violencia, el abuso sexual y el reducido número de oportunidades de trabajo. En pocas palabras, la falta de presencia del Estado", aseguró Eduardo Cifuentes, defensor del Pueblo.

Esas mismas razones fueron señaladas por el organismo en 1996. Y una vez más las expuso en noviembre de 1998 cuando nuevamente llamó la atención del Gobierno y la sociedad sobre el tema.

Situación reiterada

Desde entonces, las condiciones de los pequeños siguen siendo las mismas: sus padres los golpean con correas, rejos y palos para educarlos, la escuela los aburre y por eso no llegan más allá de quinto de primaria, deben trabajar para ayudar en sus casas y el único referente de justicia social, país y calidad de vida son los grupos armados.

"El Estado sigue sin tener presencia y es poco el apoyo de

2 millones de pesos para hacer misiones o salidas al pueblo.

Esas tareas que les están imponiendo, así como el maltrato y la falta de lineamientos políticos, los están llevando a la desertión (ver gráfico).

"Yo tenía paludismo y oí por radio la orden de ejecutarme. Esa es una regla que hay allá. Entonces, me volé".

La falta de educación, el maltrato de sus familias y, en general, las condiciones de pobreza en las que viven los pequeños los están motivando a ir a la guerra, por eso el que ingresen de manera "voluntaria", como asegura el 83 por ciento de los niños entrevistados para el in-

Quejas por atención a niños de la guerra

El informe revela 23 fallas en atención a menores que salieron de la guerrilla o de los 'paras'. Defensoría y Unicef, por el contrario, dan buena calificación al programa.

Como si fueran pocos los dramas que les toca vivir a los niños que son reclutados por la guerrilla o los paramilitares, ahora, según dice la Procuraduría, sus problemas no terminan cuando logran escaparse para volver a la vida civil.

La delegada del Ministerio Público para el menor y la familia presentó un informe en el que cuestiona el programa gubernamental creado para atender a los menores de edad desvinculados de grupos armados.

Según el estudio, algunos de los centros contratados por el Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar (Icbf) para atender a los menores presentan desde fallas administrativas —como que los niños, en un alto porcentaje, no tienen ni registro civil—, hasta otras más complejas —como que algunos centros los comparten con menores que tienen otras problemáticas—.

El mismo instituto es cuestionado en el informe, pues, según dice: "no hace la suficiente supervisión de los centros para la ejecución del programa".

MENORES DESVINCULADOS

Un estudio reciente de la Defensoría del Pueblo y la Unicef señala que podrían ser 6 mil los menores en las filas de guerrilla y paramilitares.

El promedio de edad es de 13,8 años, aunque los hay de 7 a 17 años. Según el informe, son entrenados en 16 departamentos, principalmente en Caquetá, Meta, Guaviare, Putumayo y Tolima, y son obligados a realizar desde labores



DESDE 1999, el Icbf ha atendido en diferentes centros a 638 niños desvinculados del conflicto armado. Carlos Martínez / EL TIEMPO

La Defensoría del Pueblo salió al paso a los cuestionamientos y destacó las bondades del programa (ver 'La defensa'). De hecho, en un informe conjunto con la Unicef, entregado hace un mes, calificó en buenos términos el trato que se le estaba dando a estos menores y destacó el hecho de que el 77 por ciento de los entrevistados manifestaron estar satisfechos con el programa. El 19 por ciento que dijo sentirse mal se quejaba por la falta de su familia.

La directora del Icbf, Beatriz Londoño, consideró que las observaciones de la Procuraduría no se pueden aplicar de manera generalizada y acepta que en algunos casos sí se han presentado dificultades que ya se están corrigiendo. "Vamos a hacer todo lo que podamos para optimi-

zar el programa. A mí no me importa que me esculquen si me van a ayudar", dijo.

Sobre la falta de registro civil de algunos de los muchachos señaló que solo faltan por esa diligencia 73 de los 345 jóvenes que están en las instituciones.

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Las fallas

Según las cifras del Gobierno, desde noviembre de 1999 hasta noviembre del 2002 se atendieron 638 menores que abandonaron las filas de la guerrilla y los 'paras', de los cuales 86 forman hoy parte del programa del Icbf (ver 'Menores desvinculados').

Existen dos hogares transitorios (donde están mientras valoran su situación), siete centros de atención especializada (donde se educan para la reinserción) y nueve casas juveniles (donde viven cuando salen).

Los funcionarios de la Procuraduría, que visitaron los hogares transitorios, centros de atención especializada y casas juveniles, detectaron 23 fallas.

Además de lo ya mencionado, cuestionan la ausencia de la historia socio familiar de los jóvenes, inexistencia de la boleta de ubicación y de la copia de la providencia o acto administrativo que los envió al sitio.

En muchos casos, no está definido el periodo en que deben permanecer en el centro y ter-

LA DEFENSA

Beatriz Linares, delegada de la Defensoría del Pueblo para temas de niñez, y quien ha seguido el proceso de los menores desvinculados del conflicto en Colombia desde 1997 se refirió al informe de la Procuraduría.

Si bien reconoció que pueden existir algunos problemas, destaca la calidad de la atención y dice que no se puede "hacer un informe tan negativo sin conocer los antecedentes".

"Usted vaya a una institución para niños desvinculados y otra para niños abandonados y constatará que la atención de los desvinculados es óptima.

"Que tenemos fallas las tenemos, sin ninguna duda. Pero son las mismas que se encuentran en cualquier otra institución. La falta de acceso a la educación, porque hay falta de compromiso del sector educativo. La falta de registro civil, por demoras en la Registraduría".

"Yo creo que hay un esfuerzo que hay que reconocer. La atención que el Estado está prestando a los niños desvinculados del conflicto es buena y sobre todo es especializada".

"Y es que, la otra opción para estos niños sería estar en instituciones para niños delincuentes".

La atención médica también es deficiente y "en oportunidades inexistente", dice la evaluación. Explica que en varios de las organizaciones no realizan valoraciones médicas, odontológicas, ni nutricionales a los niños que ingresan como beneficiarios del programa.

"Los jóvenes no conocen el programa que se adelanta en su favor, cuáles son sus derechos y obligaciones, qué defensor de familia o juez tiene su caso y en qué estado se encuentra", añade el informe.

La Procuraduría cuestiona también que ni el Icbf ni los centros han adoptado medidas para evitar las evasiones. Y los organismos contratados no entregan la dotación a los jóvenes en la forma que lo prevén en los contratos.

El Ministerio Público también llama la atención de algunos de los centros porque no cuentan con licencia de funcionamiento, sus trabajadores no han acreditado la experiencia

'Allá vale más un fusil'

Mario y María estuvieron en el conflicto en frentes distintos: los 'paras' y las Farc. Hoy, estos dos menores viven bajo el mismo techo donde aprenden a ganarse la vida lejos de las armas.

Mario lleva varias noches sin que los mueros aparezcan en sus sueños. No los ha creído, como tampoco ha creído los días que lleva sin que la percha esa mujer a la que le quitó los senos, o el hombre que descuartizó porque no le quiso pagar al "patrón" la vacuna. Ya no escucha sus ruegos para que no los mate y así lo hace sentir mejor, pero no olvidar.

La pesadilla que vivió en las Autodefensas Campesinas del Magdalena Medio si que vive en su cabeza.

María agacha los ojos cuando Mario habla de sus víctimas. Ella muchas veces lo toma en sus brazos para que no se golpeará contra las paredes y pudiera tocar a sus muertos.

Es una buena amiga que comparte su suerte desde hace casi once meses en uno de los siete centros de atención para niños desvinculados del conflicto que hay en el país.

Hace un tiempo, eran enemigos: él estaba con los paramilitares y ella, con las Farc. Hoy comparten el mismo techo con 18 menores más que también estuvieron en la guerra.

El Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar (icbf) no hace distinciones entre 'paras' y guerrilleros, pues los menores que vienen de uno u otro lado son esos niños, pero sobre todo, víctimas del conflicto.

María llevó el primero de febrero de este año a "la casa", como le dicen los muchachos, y la noche anterior había llegado Mario. Estaban temerosos porque allí había otros que venían de los 'paras', los 'heros' y los 'farcos', pero se dieron cuenta de que allí no existen las líneas.

"Allá le lavan a uno el cerebro -dice María-. Nos habían mal de los paras, pero sobre todo de los chabos (soldados) que si lo rogan a uno abren de uno y un montón de cosas más".

Los dos estuvieron año y medio en las Elías y los dos están a punto de cumplir 16 años.

Por eso, una semana después de que contaron sus historias a estos periodistas fueron trasladados a una casa juvenil donde tendrán que poner a prueba todo lo que aprendieron: marquetar, soldadura, electricidad y vitales. Con esto tendrán que ganarse la vida lejos de las armas.

La decisión

Mario tiene cara de niño. Es moreno, no muy alto, de ojos grandes y dientes blancos y parejos. Los manos y antebrazos se ven las cicatrices de las cortadas que se hizo cuando le dieron las "cortadas", como él dice.

De niño se ganaba fuertes bromas de su papá porque era vago y caprichoso.

"Él decía que prefería verme muerto que con malos vecinos. Varias veces me amarró en el patio con una cadena porque no me volaba y cuando me quemó las manos con una cuchara por no borrar la plata de la almoneda para ir a piscinar", recuerda el joven.



MARIO Y MARÍA, de espaldas, intentan superar su pasado en la guerra. Aprendieron marquetar, soldadura, electricidad y vitales, con lo que buscarán ganarse la vida.

El papá se aburría de que Mario no le respondiera con el estudio y lo sacó del colegio. Tenía 13 años y cursaba sexto de bachillerato en una escuela del barrio, en La Dorada (Caldas). Vivió un año vendiendo chatarra y empacadas hasta que le pidió a su papá que lo dejara trabajar con él en su taller de marquetar.

"No importaba que hiciera mucho sol. Yo iba y le llevaba la comida. Cada día lo quería más. Un lunes festivo me dijo que me quedara dormido porque había poquito trabajo en el taller. Me dio un piro y se fue".

"Al mediodía fui a llevarle el almuerzo como siempre y me dijeron que se había ido a las tumbas de la mañana. Yo tenía un mal presentimiento pero me fui a jugar fútbol. Al día llegó mi hermana Lorena y me contó que lo había encontrado una viuda".

Mario no pudo sobreponerse a la muerte del papá. Comenzó a consumir marihuana y basuco. Las pelotas eran constantes en su mundo, hasta que un día conoció a un "paraco" y empezó su pesadilla.

Lo primero que le tocó hacer fue descuartizar a un compañero muerto.

La guerra. Lo primero que le tocó hacer fue descuartizar a un compañero muerto, porque no hizo el ejercicio que le tocaba. "A mí me tiraban las piernas y las manos. Esa noche me bañé y me bañé y no podía quitarme el olor de la sangre", cuenta.

Lo demás en su vida con los 'paras' fueron entrenamientos, combates y más asesinatos.

María, una joven de mejillas rojas, curvadas por el sol, y ojos verdes, dice que también le tocó "volitar" (hacer ejercicios), pero que nunca la obligaron a matar.

"Perdido en combate pude matar gente y no se da cuenta", le dice Mario.

"Si responde ella. Uno no ve qué cosa está en el mundo, solo mira las balas rebotar por la cabeza, pero nunca tuve que matar a nadie con un machete".

Cuenta que en la guerrilla había muchos adolescentes como ella. "La mayoría tenían un mazo o seño, como le decíamos allí, y cuando se embarraban les sacaban los dientes por pedantes".

Para ella lo más difícil había sido sacar el cuerpo y tener que cubrirlo, hasta

que un día llegó el 'Mono Joly' a la zona de dispersión, donde fue entrenado, con la orden de que tenían que stravesar el Paramo de Surozapuz.

"Con 20 libras de dinamita cada uno...", dice María. "Eso es vivir -explica María- pasta, arroz, chocolate, café y esas cosas".

"Había con eso, gambas, pasaportitos, charqueta y después arrancamos a marchar día y noche durante tres meses. Hacía mucho frío y secciones que pasas por días un día me mandaron a hacer diez días de un período de soldadura en un período de soldadura y deserte".

María es del Quindío. Su mamá murió cuando ella tenía ocho años, así que su mamá y su abuela la criaron. Vivió con ellas en Villavieja y después en Granada (Mérida).

"Desde los 8 años me gustaban las armas. En cambio, no me gustaba estudiar. Por eso no volví a la escuela. Como uno de los muchachos en la casa de mi mamá que quedaba a tres horas de Granada. Allí me dije que quería irme con ellos y me deserte".

Desde entonces, no sabe nada de su familia. El año pasado fue cuando se reunió en un campamento de la familia de Mario el año en donde está él.

El muchacho deserte después de un combato en el Tolima. Ese día le dieron los 250 mil pesos del mes y dos días de permiso. Así que fue a visitar a su familia y no volvió. "Ahora solo quiero aprovechar esta oportunidad, porque aquí sí vale uno. No como allá que más vale un 'paraco'".

PLAN DE CONTINGENCIA

Con la entrega de los 23 niños de los autodefensas, el ICBF comenzó un plan de contingencia con el que busca dar atención inmediata a los menores que sean desvinculados de este grupo armado.

Esta entidad, con el apoyo de la Organización Internacional de Migraciones (OIM), y Save The Children, tras en 2009 el programa de Atención a Niños y Jóvenes Desvinculados del Conflicto Armado por el que han pasado hasta noviembre de este año 628 menores, lanzó esta planilla sobre los autodefensas.

Los niños son atendidos en un hogar transitorio en el que les hacen una valoración física y emocional, después pasan a un centro de atención especializada en el que permanecen entre seis y doce meses.

Allí reciben tratamiento psicológico, talleres de actividades y formación laboral, como quehaceres, panadería, y servicios de orientación, entre otros.

Actualmente, están en espera los hogares familiares y los centros de recuperación que el ICBF se compromete a en cuatro días habrá concluido. Así mismo se servirán cuartos en los otros centros.

Hasta el momento, el 50 por ciento de los menores ha podido regresar con sus familias, los otros viven en casas juveniles e hogares sustitutos donde pueden en práctica la educación.

Atención a niños desmovilizados

PCP/PAZ.

La Organización Internacional para las Migraciones, en convenio con la Consejería de Paz del departamento, desarrolla un programa de atención a menores desvinculados del conflicto armado en cuatro municipios del Cauca.

Menores entre los 5 y 16 años de edad pertenecientes a Piendamó, Morales, Sotará y Guachené reciben a través de este proceso atención en temas concernientes al Derecho Internacional Humanitario.

Delegados de la OIM se desplazan hasta las localidades y desarrollan con los niños y jóvenes actividades recreativas, académicas y educativas.

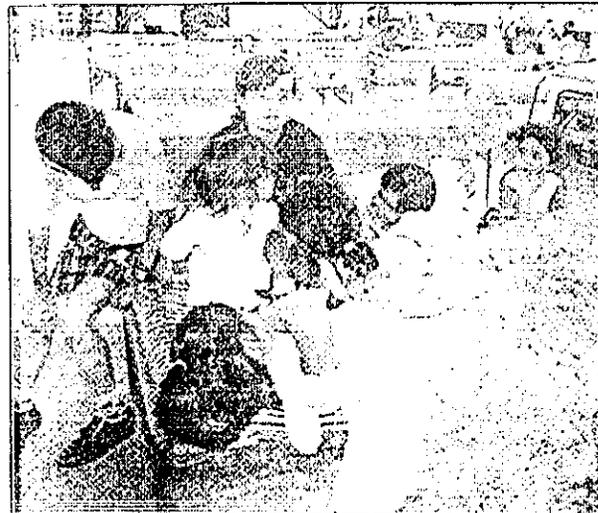
Es así como en el marco de este proceso se desarrolló por

vez primera una asamblea para evaluar los resultados de este proyecto que se adelanta desde el mes de marzo.

La reunión contó con la presencia de algunos jóvenes desvinculados del conflicto armado, delegados de la Consejería de Paz del departamento y representantes de la Organización Internacional para las Migraciones.

En la actividad se socializaron procesos desarrollados en las comunidades de los distintos municipios en temas como educación, economía, organización comunitaria y derechos humanos.

Una joven desvinculada perteneciente a una comunidad afrocolombiana, manifestó que a través de este proceso su comunidad había reflexionado sobre la calidad de vida que tenían.



La Organización Internacional para las Migraciones, en convenio con la Consejería de Paz del departamento, desarrolla un programa de atención a menores desvinculados del conflicto armado en cuatro municipios del Cauca.

Así mismo, manifestó que "en este proceso encontramos una esperanza para el mejoramiento de nuestras vidas. Nos han hablado de educación, de nuestras religiones, de la parte política y la economía".

Uno de los propósitos de la asamblea era recoger las pro-

puestas que se gestaban al interior de las comunidades, analizarlas y determinar su viabilidad y apoyo.

Es así como la educación la organización comunitaria evidenciaron como puntos trascendentales en las distintas comunidades.

ANNEX 3

**PLAN DE CONTINGENCIA
PROGRAMA DE ATENCIÓN A JOVENES DESVINCULADOS
DEL CONFLICTO ARMADO
DICIEMBRE DE 2002**

(Documento Borrador – Circulación restringida)

ANTECEDENTES:

En la actualidad el incremento de las acciones militares entre los diversos grupos involucrados ha generado que el Estado diseñe y ponga en marcha diversas acciones para afrontar el fenómeno de la desvinculación de los grupos armados irregulares; una de ellas es el Programa de Atención a Niños, Niñas y Jóvenes Desvinculados del Conflicto Armado del ICBF.

De enero a diciembre 10 de 2002 se han atendido 363 niños, niñas y jóvenes; en toda la historia del programa esta cifra se ubica como la de mayor demanda del proceso de atención; tal situación plantea la necesidad de definir el aumento en la cobertura del Programa de Atención a Niños, Niñas y Jóvenes, junto con el fortalecimiento de las redes para los y las amenazados por reclutamiento forzado y protección para los que por sus condiciones de vulnerabilidad presentan en alto riesgo.

Ahora bien, en la última semana se ha anunciado la entrega de jóvenes por parte de las AUC, lo que implica fortalecer el programa y ampliar la cobertura del mismo, para lo que proponemos el siguiente plan:

El siguiente cuadro muestra de manera resumida el incremento progresivo de personas atendidas por el Programa de Atención a Niños, Niñas y Jóvenes Desvinculados:

Tabla #1 "Descripción del número de niños, niñas y jóvenes desvinculados atendidos por el Programa".

MES	AÑO 1999	AÑO 2000	AÑO 2001	AÑO 2002	TOTAL JÓVENES ATENDIDOS
ENERO		9	6	13	28
FEBRERO		2	17	24	43
MARZO		1	15	31	47
ABRIL		1	7	31	39
MAYO		19	18	40	77
JUNIO		7	28	33	68
JULIO		5	25	32	62
AGOSTO		2	17	31	50
SEPTIEMBRE		4	15	29	48
OCTUBRE		1	11	39	51
NOVIEMBRE	7	9	25	37	78
DICIEMBRE	3	40	12	54	109
TOTAL	10	100	196	394	700

ESCENARIOS DE ENTREGA

1. Emergencia Humanitaria:

Cruz Roja Colombiana, Defensoría del Pueblo, Programa de Atención Humanitaria al Desmovilizado del Ministerio de Defensa (PAHD), Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja (CICR), Oficina del Alto Comisionado para la Paz (OFACPAZ), Alcaldías Municipales, Gobernaciones Departamentales, Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar (ICBF) Sede Nacional, Regionales y Centros Zonales .

2. Entrega Negociada:

OFACPAZ. UNICEF. ICBF, OIM (Nivel Nacional)

3. Desvinculación por captura o entrega:

Autoridades locales, PAHD e ICBF.

FORMA DE COORDINACIÓN

1. Conformación grupo operativo de emergencias a nivel nacional, a nivel regional,
2. liderados por ICBF.
3. Identificación de responsabilidades y roles por componente de atención.
4. 3. Definición de ICBF como punto focal para la circulación de la información.
5. Elaboración de cadena de llamadas.
6. elaboración planes de contingencia nacional y regional.

QUIENES A NIVEL NACIONAL	QUIENES A NIVEL REGIONAL.
1. Oficina Alto Comisionado de Paz	1. Defensoría del Pueblo
2. Mininterior	2. Cruz Roja Nacional
3. Minsalud	3. Red de Solidaridad
4. Mindefensa	4. ICBF
5. Red de Solidaridad	5. OIM
6. ICBF	6. Gobernaciones y alcaldías
7. Defensoría del Pueblo	

8. Cruz Roja Nacional 9. OIM 10. UNICEF 11. USAID	
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POR ETAPAS QUÉ SE HARIA.

1. COORDINACIÓN

Equipo Coordinador: ICBF. PAHD MINDEFENSA, OIM, UNICEF

Equipo de Apoyo: ICBF. PAHD MINDEFENSA, OIM, UNICEF, Cruz Roja Nacional- RSS - OACPAZ - MININTERIOR - MINSALUD - Defensoría del Pueblo - USAID.

2. TIPO

2.1. Entrega Acordada en Acto Político: Comité de acuerdo. El punto focal será el Equipo Coordinador.

2.2. Entrega en Situación de Emergencia Humanitaria: Activa la entidad receptora. El punto focal será el ICBF

ETAPA	ACCION GENERAL	ACCION ESPECIFICA	RESPONSABLES
RECEPCIÓN	Recepción y Traslado	Valoración medica, sistema de salud local	Organismo Humanitario, ICBF, OFACPAZ, PAHD
		Información sobre el proceso de atención	ICBF, EQUIPO APOYO
		Traslado a un centro zonal ICBF o sitio seguro	alcalde, gobernador y OFACPAZ, alcaldía, gobernación, organismo humanitario, ICBF
		Alojamiento temporal en caso de no existir condiciones para el desplazamiento inmediato	Alcaldía, gobernación ICBF, PAHD
		Traslado al sitio de atención definitiva.	Alcaldía, gobernación, organismo humanitario, ICBF
	Recepción Definitiva	Recepción	ICBF OIM, UNICEF. PAHD
		Ubicación	ICBF
		Inducción al programa, video	ICBF
		Definición situación legal , equipo de defensores de familia	ICBF
		Entrega del kit humanitario del PAHD o OIM	PAHD o OIM
		Vinculación al sistema de salud	Minsalud
		Encuentros y reintegración familiar	ICBF

ETAPA	ACCION GENERAL	ACCION ESPECIFICA	RESPONSABLES
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ATENCIÓN	CENTRO DE RECEPCIÓN DE EMERGENICA	FUNCIONES SIMILARES AL HOGAR TRANSITORIO¹	ICBF
	Centro de Atención Especializada (CAE)	Implementación del proceso de protección e inserción social (educación, capacitación, acompañamiento terapéutico)	ICBF
	INSERCIÓN SOCIAL	Ubicación con familia, Casas juveniles, hogares amigos y sistema de protección de SNBF	ICBF

CUPOS IDENTIFICADOS PARA LA CONTINGENCIA:

PROGRAMA DE ATENCIÓN A NIÑOS, NIÑAS Y JÓVENES DESVINCULADOS						
MODALIDAD		INSTITUCIÓN	Cupos Actual	Cupos Contratados	Cupos Disponibles	UBICACIÓN
HOGAR TRANSITORIO	1	LUNA	24	20	-4	BOGOTÁ
	2	JOSÉ	23	25	2	BOGOTÁ
	TOTAL HOGAR TRANSITORIO		47	45	-2	
CENTROS DE ATENCIÓN ESPECIALIZADOS	1	BUENDÍA	24	25	1	CUNDINAMARCA
	2	LA BELLA	20	20	0	
	3	MELQUIADES	26	25	-1	
	4	ARCO IRIS	25	25	0	BOGOTÁ
	5	PUERTAS ABIERTAS	20	20	0	VALLE
	6	SEMILLAS DE PAZ	23	20	-3	SANTANDER
	7	NUEVA VIDA	20	20	0	ANTIOQUÍA
	8	JIAMPI	0	20	20	QUINDIO
	TOTAL C.A.E.		158	175	17	
CASAS JUVENILES	1	LA PINTA	8	6	-2	CALI
	2	EMAUS	8	6	-2	
	3	CASA JUVENIL CALI	0	5	5	
	3	CASA PIETRO CRESPI	20	20	0	CUNDINAMARCA
	4	BUCARAMANGA 1	5	6	1	BUCARAMANGA
	5	BUCARAMANGA 2	6	6	0	
TOTAL CASAS JUVENILES		47	49	2		
PROTECCIÓN	1	BENPOSTA	20	20	0	BOGOTÁ
	2	RED ICBF BOGOTÁ	42	50	8	BOGOTÁ
	3	RED ICBF REGIONALES	18	0	0	REGIONALES
	TOTAL PROTECCIÓN		80	70	8	
TOTALES			332	339	25	

¹ Hogar Transitorio, es la modalidad del Programa de atención a niños, niñas y jóvenes desvinculados del ICBF, que tiene como función fundamental brindar acogida, protección y construcción del informe inicial, para la definición del perfil y ubicación del CAE.

ACCIONES PARALELAS:

AGENDAS	TIEMPOS	RESPONSABLES
Fortalecimiento equipo ICBF de Atención a Víctimas de la Violencia	DICIEMBRE 2002	ICBF
Invitación pública para creación de entre 5 y 10 CAE en diversas regiones del país	8 A 13 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2002	ICBF
Evaluación y selección de propuestas	16 A 20 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2002	ICBF - OIM
Capacitación y ampliación a equipos regionales y nacionales de recepción y atención a nuevos CAE, creados en el proceso de ampliación nacional(VER ANEXOS 1,2 y 3)	DICIEMBRE DE 2002 Y ENERO DE 2003	ICBF - OIM
Capacitación y ampliación a equipos regionales CZ ICBF de acompañamiento a los nuevos CAE	DICIEMBRE DE 2002 Y ENERO DE 2003	ICBF - OIM
Coordinación mesa de trabajo nacional	16 A 20 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2002	INSTITUCIONES ESTATALES INVOCADAS EN LA SITUACIÓN DE DEMOVILIZACION
Elaboración directiva Minsalud atención de emergencias a niños niñas y jóvenes desvinculados	23 A 27 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2002	ICBF - MINSALUD
Elaboración directiva Mininterior atención de emergencias a niños niñas y jóvenes desvinculados	23 A 27 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2002	ICBF - MININTERIOR

FINANCIACIÓN:

Del Programa de Niños Ex Combatientes se ha hecho una reserva de US\$400,000,00, UNICEF está haciendo gestiones para aportar otros US\$400,000,00. En la emergencia cuando se financien eventos como transporte, alojamiento y vestuario con recursos OIM se realizaran contratos entre OIM y los oferentes regionales o nacionales ej alojamiento etc, en caso de necesitarse una caja menor para gastos menores esta se habilitará entre OIM y un funcionario ICBF del orden regional, amparados en el convenio existente ICBF - OIM.

ANEXOS

ANEXO 1

PLAN DE CONTINGENCIA									
Escenario # 1 (300 a 500 niños); Recepción dos primeros días									
Sitio de Entrega: Montería									
		Aérea	Terrestre						
300 en Don Bosco; 30 en la escuela de trabajo El Rendentor; 70 en unidades militares; 100 en alojamientos temporales instalados por la RSS	Fondo Rotatorio del Ejército. El coronel Forero averiguará costo	Ejército y Contratación charter privado	UNICEF: Jorge Vallez, Nelson Ortiz. OIM: Virginia Brown	Kit de aseo (OIM: 100 dotaciones	Médicos y paramédicos: Min Salud. Medicamentos : OIM	A nivel regional, el Gobernador. A nivel local, el Alcalde. A nivel internacional ONU	Se convocarán los medios de comunicación. Asistirán ICBF, UNICEF y OIM	Se difundirá información del programa a través de un folleto "popular". OIM, lo preparará	\$15,000,000A Administrará Virginia Brown

Escenario # 3 (100 a 300 niños); Recepción dos primeros días									
Sitio de Entrega: Montería									
		Aérea	Terrestre						
200 en Don Bosco; 30 en la escuela de trabajo El Rendentor; 50 en unidades militares; 20 en alojamientos temporales instalados por la RSS	Fondo Rotatorio del Ejército. El coronel Forero averiguará costo	Ejército y Contratación charter privado	UNICEF: Jorge Vallez, Nelson Ortiz. OIM: Virginia Brown	OIM: 100 dotaciones	Médicos y paramédicos: Min Salud. Medicamentos : OIM?	A nivel regional, el Gobernador. A nivel local, el Alcalde. A nivel internacional ONU	Se convocarán los medios de comunicación. Asistirán ICBF, UNICEF y OIM	Se difundirá información del programa a través de un folleto "popular". OIM, lo preparará	\$15,000,000. Administrará Virginia Brown

Escenario # 2 (300 a 500 niños); Recepción dos primeros días									
Sitio de Entrega: Varios									
		Aérea	Terrestre						
300 en Don Bosco; 30 en la escuela de trabajo El Rendentor; 70 en unidades militares; 100 en alojamientos temporales instalados por la RSS	Fondo Rotatorio del Ejército. El coronel Forero averiguará costo	Ejército y Contratación charter privado	UNICEF: Jorge Vallez, Nelson Ortiz. OIM: Virginia Brown	OIM: 100 dotaciones	Médicos y paramédicos: Min Salud. Medicamentos : OIM?	A nivel regional, el Gobernador. A nivel local, el Alcalde. A nivel internacional ONU	Se convocarán los medios de comunicación. Asistirán ICBF, UNICEF y OIM	Se difundirá información del programa a través de un folleto "popular". OIM, lo preparará	\$15,000,000. Administrará Virginia Brown

Escenario # 4 (100 a 300 niños); Recepción dos primeros días**Sitio de Entrega: Varios**

		Aérea	Terrestre						
200 en Don Bosco; 30 en la escuela de trabajo El Rendontor; 50 en unidades militares; 20 en alojamientos temporales instalados por la RSS	Fondo Rotatorio del Ejército. El coronel Forero averiguará costo	Ejército y Contratación charter privado	UNICEF: Jorge Vallez, Nelson Ortiz. OIM: Virginia Brown	OIM: 100 dotaciones	Médicos y paramédicos: Min Salud. Medicamentos : OIM?	A nivel regional, el Gobernador. A nivel local, el Alcalde. A nivel internacional ONU	Se convocarán los medios de comunicación. Asistirán ICBF, UNICEF y OIM	Se difundirá información del programa a través de un folleto "popular". OIM, lo preparará	\$15,000,000. Administrará Virginia Brown

Escenario # 5 (50 a 100 niños); Recepción dos primeros días**Sitio de Entrega: Medellín**

		Aérea	Terrestre						
50 a 100 niños en Hogares Transitorios del ICBF	Fondo Rotatorio del Ejército. El coronel Forero averiguará costo	Ejército y Contratación charter privado	UNICEF: Jorge Vallez, Nelson Ortiz. OIM: Virginia Brown	OIM: 100 dotaciones	Médicos y paramédicos: Min Salud. Medicamentos : OIM?	A nivel regional, el Gobernador. A nivel local, el Alcalde. A nivel internacional ONU	Se convocarán los medios de comunicación. Asistirán ICBF, UNICEF y OIM	Se difundirá información del programa a través de un folleto "popular". OIM, lo preparará	\$15,000,000. Administrará Virginia Brown

Escenario # 6 (50 a 100 niños); Recepción dos primeros días**Sitio de Entrega: Varios**

		Aérea	Terrestre						
50 a 100 niños en Hogares Transitorios del ICBF	Fondo Rotatorio del Ejército. El coronel Forero averiguará costo	Ejército y Contratación charter privado	UNICEF: Jorge Vallez, Nelson Ortiz. OIM: Virginia Brown	OIM: 100 dotaciones	Médicos y paramédicos: Min Salud. Medicamentos : OIM?	A nivel regional, el Gobernador. A nivel local, el Alcalde. A nivel internacional ONU	Se convocarán los medios de comunicación. Asistirán ICBF, UNICEF y OIM	Se difundirá información del programa a través de un folleto "popular". OIM, lo preparará	\$15,000,000. Administrará Virginia Brown

Escenario # 7 (1 a 50 niños); Recepción dos primeros días

Sitio de Entrega: Barrancabermeja

		Aérea	Terrestre						
1 a 50 niños en Hogares Transitorios del ICBF	OIM - Virginia Brown	OIM-Virginia Brown	OIM: Virginia Brown	Kit aseo a cargo de OIM. Se entrega al momento de la recepción (talco, jabón, crema dental, cepillo de dientes con mango de goma, toallas higiénicas, champú en sobres). Dotación de ropa a cargo del PAHD. Se entrega 12 horas después.	Médicos, paramédicos y medicamentos : Cruz Roja	A nivel regional, el Gobernador. A nivel local, el Alcalde. A nivel internacional ONU	No se convocarán medios de comunicación. Sin embargo, se editará el video institucional para actualizarlo. Se coordinará entre ICBF y OIM una estrategia de difusión del Programa en prensa, radio y video	Se difundirá información del programa a través de un folleto "popular". OIM, lo preparará	\$15.000.000. Administrará Virginia Brown

Escenario # 8 (1 a 50 niños); Recepción dos primeros días

Sitio de Entrega: Varios

		Aérea	Terrestre						
1 a 50 niños en Hogares Transitorios del ICBF	OIM- Virginia Brown	OIM-Virginia Brown	OIM: Virginia Brown	Kit aseo a cargo de OIM. Se entrega al momento de la recepción (talco, jabón, crema dental, cepillo de dientes plástico). Dotación de ropa a cargo del PAHD. Se entrega 12 horas después.	Médicos, paramédicos y medicamentos : Cruz Roja	A nivel regional, el Gobernador. A nivel local, el Alcalde. A nivel internacional ONU	No se convocarán medios de comunicación. Sin embargo, se editará el video institucional para actualizarlo. Se coordinará entre ICBF y OIM una estrategia de difusión del Programa en prensa, radio y video	Se difundirá información del programa a través de un folleto "popular". OIM, lo preparará	\$15.000.000. Administrará Virginia Brown

ANEXO 2

Ruta de Atención:



ANEXO 3

PERFILES POSIBLE PERSONAL DE APOYO

3.1. Perfil Social

DENOMINACIÓN DEL CARGO: Psicólogo/ Trabajador Social
REMUNERACIÓN: \$ 1'500.000
LUGAR DE TRABAJO: Centro Zonal

REQUISITOS

- Educación: Título de formación universitaria o profesional en psicología o trabajo social.
- Tarjeta profesional su equivalente o constancia de que se encuentra en trámite.
- Experiencia: Mínimo 1 año de trabajo comunitario, intervención en familia y/o atención a poblaciones de alto riesgo.

ASPECTOS PERSONALES

COMPETENCIAS: Manejo de aspectos relacionados con:

1. Intervención terapéutica a poblaciones víctimas de conflicto armado.
2. Comprensión del conflicto armado en Colombia.
3. Manejo de duelo.
4. Intervención en crisis.
5. Herramientas de atención psicosocial.
6. Manejo de grupos.
7. Manejo de herramientas lúdicas, culturales y recreativas.
8. Diseño de planes y programas contextualizados en la realidad social de la región.
9. Formación para la construcción de redes de apoyo familiar, laboral y comunitario.

CARÁCTER:

1. Destreza para influir, orientar y desarrollar el potencial de la comunidad logrando confianza y apoyo en el cumplimiento de los objetivos del programa (liderazgo).
2. Habilidades para el manejo y resolución de conflictos que permita enfrentar situaciones nuevas y difíciles, manteniendo un adecuado control y autonomía.
3. Habilidades creativas y amplitud de pensamiento.
4. Habilidades sociales, sensibilización y bajo nivel de transferencia para orientar a las comunidades e interactuar con otras personas y establecer enlaces que faciliten los procesos de coordinación y concertación institucional.
5. Capacidad para obtener resultados a través de procesos de planeación, control y evaluación del trabajo en equipo.
6. Capacidad para lograr un compromiso de trabajo en equipo que a través de la interdisciplinariedad optimice los procesos.
7. Habilidad para identificar y analizar problemas, reconocer alternativas y elegir la acción más adecuada.

3.2. Perfil Jurídico

DENOMINACIÓN DEL CARGO: Asistente Legal
REMUNERACIÓN: \$ 1'500.000
LUGAR DE TRABAJO: Centro Zonal

REQUISITOS:

- Educación: Abogado o Estudiante de Derecho avanzado.
- Tarjeta profesional su equivalente o constancia de que se encuentra en trámite.
- Experiencia: Mínimo 1 año de trabajo con poblaciones de alto riesgo.
- Intervención en familia y/o atención a Manejo de aspectos relacionados con comprensión del conflicto armado en Colombia.

ASPECTOS PERSONALES

COMPETENCIAS: Manejo de aspectos relacionados con:

PERFIL

1. Apoyar en coordinación con la Defensora de familia y los coordinadores del programa de I.C.B.F, en la consecución de documentos de identidad de los jóvenes que ingresan al Programa Niños Desvinculados del Conflicto Armado.
2. Resolver consultas y brindar asesoría operativa, técnica y operativa.
3. Dar cumplimiento a las solicitudes de información que se presenten.
4. Proyectar oficios para: La remisión de informes a Jueces y defensores de Familia, Cambios de medidas, Estudios sociofamiliares, Registradurías y Notarías del País
5. Comunicarse con Jueces, Defensores, Personeros y Alcaldes para diligencias de carácter administrativo y judicial que se requieran.
6. Realizar un seguimiento al Registro de CODA en cada caso y hacer exigibles los beneficios correspondientes de ser necesario.
7. Participar en las labores de equipo que se le asignen y estén relacionadas con el tema (inducción, planeación, ejecución, acompañamiento, etc.)
8. Cualquier otra actividad que, de acuerdo con sus competencias le sea asignada por el Defensor de Familia.

ANNEX 4

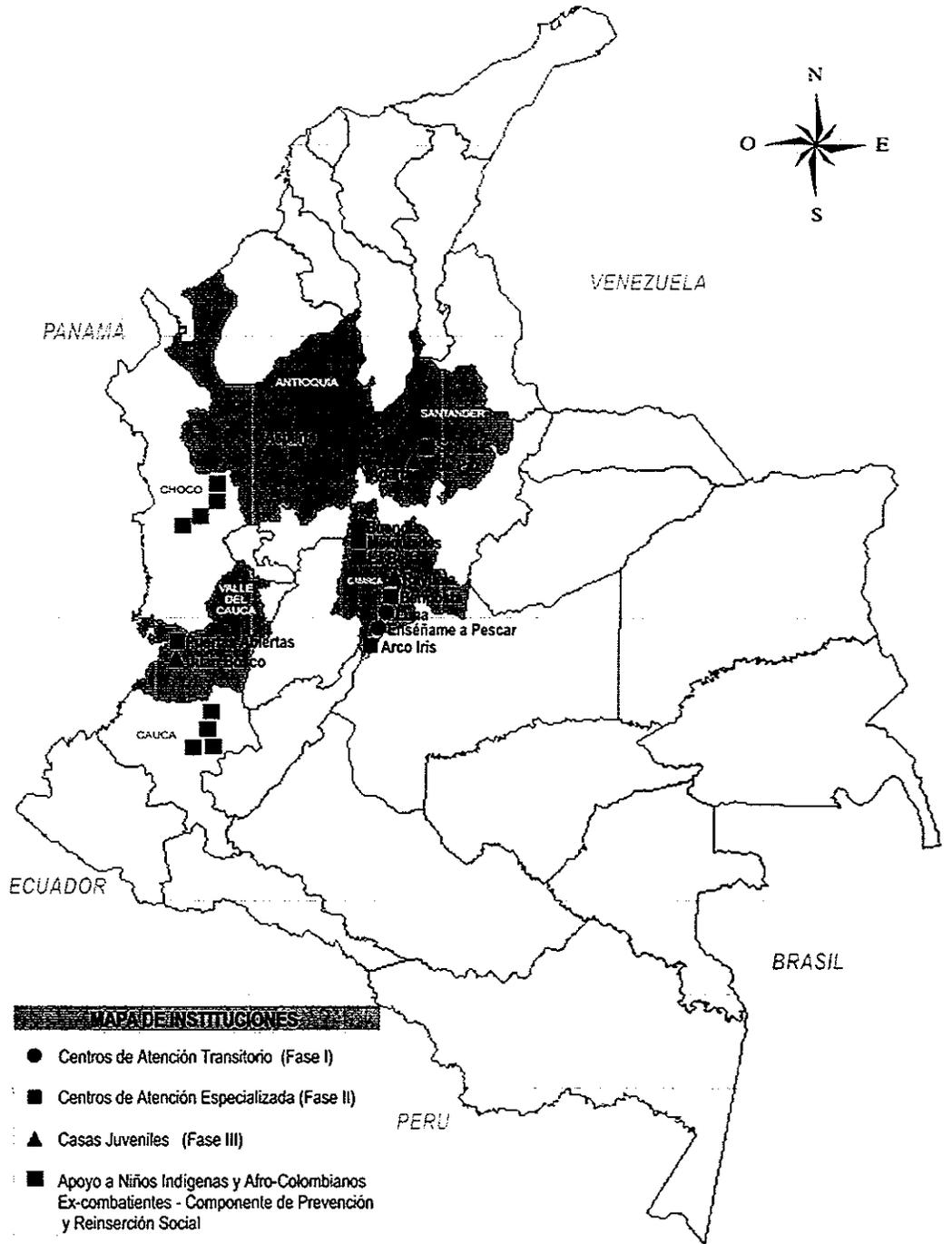
Program's Chronology by Institution

Name and Type of Institution	Starting Date				Termination Date				Replacement
	1999	2000	2001	2002	1999	2000	2001	2002	
CAE - Hogar de Acogida, Teusaquillo - Gente Nueva							August		
CAE - Hogar de Acogida, Tenjo - Gente Nueva							August		CAE - Arco Iris - Corporación Punto de Luz
CAE - Casa Cedro, Cota - Coorporación Cedro							October		CAE - La Bella - Corporación Macondo
CAE - Casa Cedro, Tenjo - Coorporación Cedro							May		
H.T. - Kairos, ACIF							January		
CAE - Buendía - Corporación Macondo									
CAE - Benposta									
CAE - Huellas - Niños de Papel							December		CAE - Semillas de Paz - AGARTA
CAE - Arco Iris, Corporación Punto de Luz									
CAE - La Bella - Corporación Macondo									
CAE - Puertas Abiertas - Fundación Don Bosco									
CAE - Nueva Vida - Asperia									
CJ - Rayuela								December	CJ - Pietro Crespi - Corporación Macondo
CAE - Semillas de Paz - Agarta								December	CAE - Hogares Claret
H.T. - José - Corporación Enséñame a Pescar									
CAE - Melquíades - Corporación Macondo									
H.T. - Luna - Corporación Punto de Luz									
CJ - Bucaramanga - Agarta								December	CJ - Hogares Claret
CJ - Cali - Corporación Juan Bosco									
CAE - Hogares Claret									
CJ - Hogares Claret									
CJ - Pietro Crespi - Corporación Macondo									



Niños, Niñas y Jóvenes Desvinculados del Conflicto Armado

Geographical Coverage





Tables on Reporting Assistance Data

Table #1

Assistance Data by Quarters (April 1, 2001 - December 30, 2002)	
April - June, 2001	53
July - September, 2001	57
October - December, 2001	48
January - March, 2002	68
April - June, 2002	104
July - September, 2002	92
October - December, 2002	130
Total	552

Table #2

Data on Incoming Children by Quarters	
Previous Quarter	92
Reporting Quarter	130
Total	222

Table #3

Data on Incoming Children by Quarters and Gender		
	Male	Female
Reporting Quarter	100	30
Previous Quarter	63	29
Total	163	59

Table #4

Accumulated Assistance Data by Gender (April 2001 - Dec. 2002)	
Male	464
Female	185
Total	649



Table #5

Data on Incoming Children by Armed Group Membership and Gender (Oct. - Dec. 2002)			
Armed Group	Reporting Quarter		
	Male	Female	Total
FARC	58	24	82
AUC	27	0	27
ELN	12	4	16
Others	3	2	5
Total	0	100	130

Table #6

Data on Incoming Children by Quarters and Armed Group Membership		
Armed Group	Reporting Quarter	Previous Quarter
FARC	82	61
AUC	27	9
ELN	16	13
Others	5	9
Total	130	92

Table #7

Accumulated Assistance Data by Armed Group Membership (April 2001 - Dec. 2002)			
FARC	AUC	ELN	Others
453	60	95	41

Table #8

Data on Incoming Children by Type of Demobilization and Gender (Oct.-Dec., 2002)			
	Male	Female	TOTAL
Captured	26	14	40
Voluntary	74	16	90
Total	100	30	130

Table #9

Data on Incoming Children by Quarters and Type of Demobilization		
	Reporting Quarter	Previous Quarter
Captured	40	19
Voluntary	90	73
Total	130	92



Niños, Niñas y Jóvenes Desvinculados
del Conflicto Armado

Table #10

Accumulated Assistance Data by Type of Demobilization (April 2001 - Dec. 2002)	
Captured	183
Voluntary	466
Total	649

Table #11

Accumulated Assistance Data by Educational Level (April 2001 - Dec. 2002)	
Illiterate	44
First	33
Second	56
Third	78
Fourth	62
Fifth	107
Sixth	69
Seventh	36
Eight	16
Ninth	17
Tenth	8
Eleventh	5
Not Defined	118
Total	649

Table #12

Scholarships					
	Formal Education		Vocational Training		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
CAE	56	25	15	9	105
CJ	7	1	20	5	33
RF	5	2	5	7	19
Total	68	28	40	21	157

Table #13

Future Probabilities for Children After Family Reencounters				
Family Reunification	Half Way Homes	CAE	Social Reintegration Program	ICBF's Protection Network
44	5	17	5	29

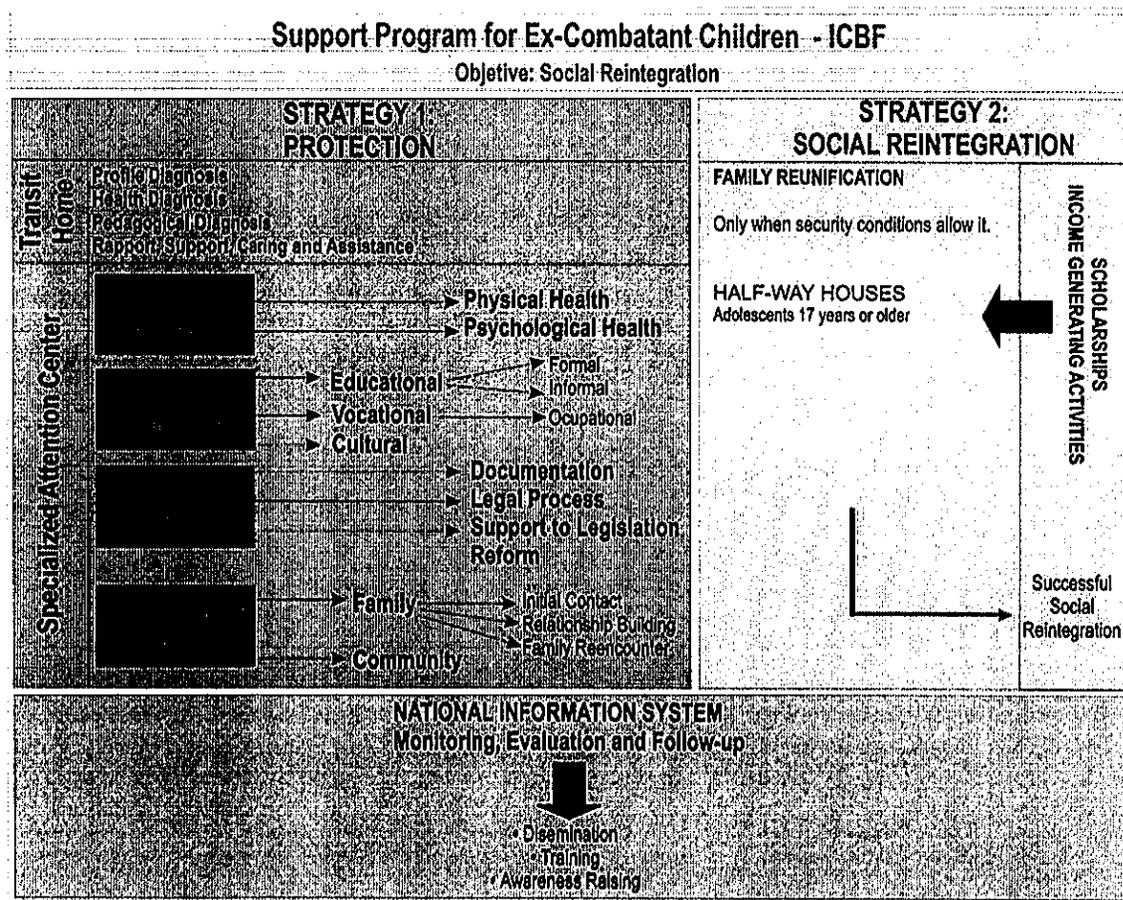
Table #14:

Assistance to family Reencounter by Gender			
Ex-combatant Boys	Male Relatives	Ex-combatant Girls	Female Relatives
45	24	11	20



Niños, Niñas y Jóvenes Desvinculados del Conflicto Armado

Assistance Model



ANNEX 5

Name of Project	Hogar José		
Phase of assistance	Assistance Transit Home		
Strategy	Protection	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	Enseñame a Pescar	# of Children Assisted during quarter	85
Location	Bogotá		
Implementing Agency	ICBF Regional Bogotá		
Duration of Agreement	7 Months	Starting Date	May 1, 2002
Contribution IOM	USD 5,000	Termination Date	January 31, 2003

General Description

Hogar José assisted 85 adolescents during the first quarter, of which 64 entered during this period. In view of the high demobilization of youth and boys/girls from armed groups, the Home extended its coverage, which implied restructuring facilities for assistance of the people, and also to extend the number of professionals accompanying and providing assistance to youth in different areas.

As Hogar José is a part of the receiving and welcoming phase, there was a high demand in medical and nutritional assistance. Most of the adolescents arrive with diseases or infections mainly of the skin, or gastrointestinal and nourishment diseases. Due to the above, the home has an infirmary service where wounded or injured boys, girls and adolescents receive first aid dressings; one of the advantages of this institution is its location, being very near to the different institutions providing health services and where access to the service and assistance is possible.

On the other hand, the Home during this period was able to obtain, after efficient inter-institutional procedures, entry to the Bank of Food of the Archdiocese of Bogotá, through which they may receive markets at a very low price. Furthermore, the home obtained from the water company a special rate for this service; it represents only a very low percentage of monthly consumption, thus allows regulating expenses.

Accomplishments:

1. 85 boys, girls and adolescents were attended.
2. Efficient implementation of assistance to youth in the area of health.
3. Inter-institutional procedures in searching networks of support with the Archdiocese of Bogotá and the water company.

Setbacks:

1. A group of 11 adolescents escaped from the Home.
2. Despite adapting house facilities to accommodate all boys, girls and adolescents, facilities are rather small and inadequate.

Name of Project	Hogar Luna		
Phase of assistance	Assistance Transit Home		
Strategy	Protection	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	Punto de Luz	# of Children Assisted during quarter	78
Location	Bogotá		
Implementing Agency	IOM		
Duration of Agreement	8 Months	Starting Date	June 17, 2002
Contribution IOM	USD 45,000	Termination Date	January 31, 2003

General Description

Hogar Luna assisted 78 adolescents during the first quarter, of which 55 entered during 1st period. As shown, number of boys, girls and adolescents assisted was high, which reflects the performance of demobilization of this group from the armed conflict, and its increase. In order to provide qualified assistance and an adequate handling to the group, the corporation in charge reinforced staff by engaging another professional in the area of education and support to the youth.

In the health area, as mentioned in the corresponding section, Luna had the support and advise of Profamilia for its development. It was the institution with the greatest receptivity and depth on matters set forth by officers of the Home, and by adolescents. The project strengthened medical attention to adolescents who now receive medical attention in the hospital of Suba.

Work was done in different areas (education, psychology, sports and culture), its main objective being to generate a warm and respectful environment for youth in their new social reintegration process. Also, different evaluations were done – medical, nutritional, occupational and psychological – and the establishment of the profile of each adolescent for an adequate transfer.

Implementation continued bringing together into the Program those entering the Home, having them identify and learn their rights and duties, as their legal situation. In this case, workshops were held with a supporting professional in the legal area, and individual follow-up to each adolescent by a family counselor.

In the area of protection, of 19 adolescents remaining until December 31st, 13 had a civil birth certificate. Of the 59 children and adolescents leaving the Home during the quarter, 46 entered a Specialized Assistance Center (CAE), (second phase of the Program), 9 an institution of protection of ICBF, according to their situation in particular, 3 to family reintegration and 1 adolescent escaped.

Accomplishments:

1. 55 adolescents received during the quarter.
2. 78 adolescents were assisted during the period.
3. Strengthening of engaged staff to assist boys, girls and adolescents.
4. Location and contact process of families of 20 adolescents ongoing.

Setbacks:

1. Difficulties in systematizing and expertise processes resulting from high dynamics in assistance. It is expected that of the expertise of the engaged period the institution accomplishes systematizing its experiences and results of learning.

Name of Project	Arco Iris		
Phase of assistance	Specialized Assistance Center (CAE)		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	PUNTO DE LUZ	# of Children Assisted during Quarter	30
Location	Bogotá		
Implementing Partner	ICBF Regional Bogotá		
Duration of Agreement	1 year	Starting Date	January 1, 2002
Contribution IOM	USD 16,000	Termination Date	January 31, 2003

General Description

During the quarter Arco Iris assisted 30 adolescents of which 13 entered during the period. In the productive vocational area a productive project started during the quarter with the establishment of a pre-cooperative jointly managed with Corporación Macondo. This initiative is the result of training received by adolescents in workshops of plumbing, bakery and cleaning elements, received from Fundación Apoyo.

In November, some of the products manufactured by the adolescents were exhibited in a crafts fair promoted by ICBF regional Bogotá, where bakery products, candles, crafts and dairy products were promoted.

In the area of education, by the end of the period, 7 adolescents completed the school grade they were studying and received their corresponding certificate from Colegio ICETI in the city of Bogotá.

Regarding location and family contact, in October 12 adolescents from the CAE had a Family Reencounter. 1 adolescent was reunited with its family.

Accomplishments:

1. 13 new children were received in the CAE during the period.
2. 30 adolescents assisted during the quarter.
3. 17 adolescents entered school.
4. Certificates of study of 7 adolescents were received after approval and fulfillment of the studied education level.
5. Vocational training courses were developed in trades of electricity, plumbing and frameworks. 9 adolescents joined the Precooperative project established with Fundación Apoyo and Corporación Macondo.
6. 1 adolescent reunited with its family.

Setbacks:

1. No contact established with families of two adolescents.

Name of Project	Benposta		
Phase of assistance	Protection Home		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	Benposta Nación de Muchachos	# of Children Assisted during quarter	27
Location	Bogotá		
Implementing Partner	ICBF Regional Bogotá		
Duration of Agreement	15 months and 4 days	Starting Date	September 11, 2002
Contribution IOM	USD	Termination Date	February 15, 2003

General Description

During the quarter Benposta assisted 27 adolescents of which 10 entered during the quarter. The 27 adolescents continued their schooling, the main core of the institution. In addition, cultural activities were held, as the development of citizen participation and self-governing directed by the youth.

15 adolescents entering the project were able to legalize the studied school grade.

In the vocational pre-productive area, a poultry and pig farming project were developed.

In the area of protection a family reencounter of 3 adolescents was accomplished, and 2 other youngsters are preparing a family reencounter for the month of January.

Accomplishments:

1. 27 adolescents assisted during the period.
2. 15 adolescents promoted to the following grade and received certificates of study.
3. Productive vocational projects developed.
4. Family reencounters of 3 adolescents took place.
5. 1 youngster reunited with his family.

Setbacks:

1. None

Name of Project	Casa Buendía		
Phase of assistance	Specialized Assistance Center (CAE)		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	MACONDO	# of Children Assisted during quarter	44
Location	Chía, Cundinamarca		
Implementing Partner	ICBF Regional Bogotá 50% - IOM 50%		
Duration of Agreement	1 year and 8 months.	Starting Date	July 5, 2001
Contribution IOM	USD 138,755	Termination Date	March 21, 2003

General Description

During the quarter Buendía assisted 44 adolescents of which 24 entered during the period. In the vocational area adolescents participated in the crafts fair of Regional Bogotá having the opportunity to promote and sell articles in leather, ceramics and knits they have been working on at the CAE since former periods.

Also during the period and supported by the Ministry of the Interior, adolescents participated in workshops of electricity and prefabricates.

In the area of education, all adolescents were leveled and received academic education at Colegio Santo Tomás. By the end of the period 10 adolescents received a certificate of study and were promoted to the following grade.

Buendía adolescents also participated in the Cerlalc Project in the elaboration and production of audiovisuals, presented in December.

In the area of protection, 6 adolescents reunited to their families as a result of the social work management, and family reencounters were implemented where 5 adolescents participated.

Accomplishments:

1. 44 adolescents were assisted during the quarter.
2. 2 vocational training courses developed in prefabricates and electricity.
3. 10 adolescents promoted to the following grade after approving and receiving certificates of study.

Setbacks:

1. Economic and sustainability project setbacks in the medium- and long-term.

Name of Project	Casa Melquíades		
Phase of assistance	Specialized Assistance Center (CAE)		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	MACONDO	# of Children Assisted during quarter	43
Location	Tenjo, Cundinamarca		
Implementing Partner	ICBF Regional Bogotá		
Duration of Agreement	1 year	Starting Date	January 1, 2002
Contribution IOM	USD 0	Termination Date	January 31, 2003

General Description

During the quarter Melquíades assisted 44 adolescents of which 23 entered during the period. 20 adolescents during the period continued their schooling process. 20 adolescents received their certificates of study for the corresponding grade.

In the vocational area were developed technical training workshops in prefabricates and electricity.

In the area of protection, family reenounters were held with 8 adolescents; 3 of them reunited with their families during this period.

Accomplishments:

1. 43 adolescents assisted during the quarter.
2. Vocational training courses developed in prefabricates and electricity.
3. 20 adolescents received certificates of study according to the coursed and approved education level.
4. Family reenounters held with 8 adolescents.
5. 3 adolescents reunited with their families.

Setbacks:

1. None

Name of Project	Nueva Vida		
Phase of assistance	Specialized Assistance Center (CAE)		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	ASPERLA	# of Assisted Children during quarter	29
Location	Rionegro, Antioquia		
Implementing Party	IOM		
Duration of Agreement	1 year	Starting Date	December 27, 2001
Contribution IOM	USD 103,166	Termination Date	December 27, 2002

General Description

During the quarter Nueva Vida assisted 29 adolescents, of which 8 entered during this quarter. At the end of the period there was a high rotation of adolescents, especially those having completed their time of stay in this phase and finding their families and reintegration was done. At an institutional level the technical team providing assistance to children was consolidated, with no changes among the staff as was the characteristic during other periods. On the contrary, progress was accomplished in clarifying projects to be implemented with adolescents within different areas: psychology, education, culture and vocational.

Inter-institutional procedures were accomplished within the area of education with different education programs for development of this component. During the period 9 adolescents obtained their certificates of studies: 6 adolescents in elementary and 3 in high school.

In the vocational area, through an agreement of FUPAD with Actuar Famiempresas, grants were awarded to 5 adolescents in bakery and 1 in woodwork. As of procedures undertaken there are five additional grants available for those wishing to train according to the offer of this NGO.

However, it was recommended to the Association in charge of managing the CAE to qualify its offer and procedures in the vocational and pre-working area with adolescents, addressed to their social reintegration process, with clear objective projects. This will give them the tools in occupational or educational fields.

Likewise, adjustments were recommended in the administrative and financial management of the Association and the Project due to some inconveniences shown in the organization and budget projection of the institution. In view of the above, the agreement with IOM was not renewed, but assumed 100% by ICBF through the supervision and advise of the regional office of Antioquia.

It must be noted that during the year of development of the program results were accomplished in assistance to adolescents, in their entering to school and promoting their education level, psycho-social support, family reencounters, vocational training; also was achieved expertise in assistance and implementation of the project that enables learning towards building a culture of peace for children and youth of the country.

Accomplishments:

1. 29 adolescents were assisted during the period.
2. Consolidation of technical team providing assistance service.
3. 9 adolescents received certificates of study.
4. 4 adolescents entered a formal school.
5. 17 adolescents obtained their identification certificates.
6. 4 adolescents reintegrated to their families.

Setbacks:

1. Inefficiency in administrative and financial management of the project.

Name of Project	Puertas Abiertas		
Phase of assistance	Specialized Assistance Center (CAE)		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	Fundación Don Bosco	# of Children Assisted during quarter	28
Location	Santiago de Cali, Valle		
Implementing Party	IOM		
Duration of Agreement	1 year, 4 months- 20 days.	Starting Date	November 2, 2001
Contribution IOM	USD 104,375	Termination Date	March 21, 2003

General Description

During the quarter Puertas Abiertas assisted 38 adolescents, of which 8 entered during the period; all were transferred from an Assistance Transit Home.

As Fundación Don Bosco agreement has a 1-year term development, as of November 2, 2002, agreement extension was approved in view of the expertise, good results, and assistance provided to adolescents during period engaged. Extension was for four and a half months, until mid-March of 2003. (Time of completion of cooperation agreement USAID – IOM – ICBF – SC UK).

Of the activities developed during the period, the institution focused on the design and realization of family reencounters held in the city of Cali with the participation of 25 relatives and 11 adolescents.

Adolescents at CAE continued their technical training process at registered workshops. One of the greatest achievements was some of them started practices or internships at companies requiring services in different trades, as bakery and auto mechanics.

In the cultural area a project was developed during one month with the NGO Huellas in workshops of cultural exploration and creation, in manual arts, music, dance and theater. Participating adolescents and boys/girls were highly motivated having given them through these practices a space for mental, physical and psychological growth and elaboration, both individually as in group, in aspects such as self-respect, confidence and projection generation, important for working with this type of people.

In the educational area 14 adolescents entering the school system was achieved by means of grants of the Ministry of Education and from the Program of school support. Ten adolescents completed their year in elementary education and 4 in high school. At the end of the year the corresponding certificates of study were requested.

By the end of the year an integration and cultural exchange activity was developed with Fundación Don Bosco of Medellín, "Ciudad Don Bosco". 20 adolescents from the CAE traveled to the city of Medellín where they stayed 10 days, accompanied and guided by the technical team of CAE. They developed activities around the city, on the philosophy and actions of the Salesian Brothers of the program Ciudad Don Bosco. This activity has the financial support of the Program.

Accomplishments:

1. 28 adolescents were assisted during the period.
2. Family Reencounter of 11 CAE adolescents was developed.
3. 3 youngsters started pre-working internships as of their training process.
4. 14 youngsters entered the school system.
5. 2 youngsters of the Program reintegrated to their families.
6. Contribution agreement with IOM was renewed for development of the project in the region of Valle del Cauca, with Fundación Don Bosco.

Setbacks:

1. By the end of October there was a situation of conflict inside the CAE with a boy that presented problems from psycho-active drug consumption. However, he was then transferred to a specialized protection institution.
2. Difficulties in contacting and communicating with some families; situation that involves the emotional stability of the adolescents, and their attitude at the CAE.

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Name of Project	Casa Remedios La Bella		
Phase of assistance	Specialized Assistance Center (CAE)		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	MACONDO	# of Children Assisted during quarter	34
Location	Cota, Cundinamarca		
Implementing Partner	ICBF Regional Bogotá		
Duration of Agreement	1 year	Starting Date	January 31, 2002
Contribution IOM	USD 16,473	Termination Date	January 31, 2003

General Description

During the quarter La Bella assisted 34 adolescents of which 24 entered during the period. Adolescents continued their process in the different areas. In education, 20 adolescents entered school, Colegio Santo Tomás; 15 obtained their certificate of studies corresponding to the course and approved grade.

In the vocational area courses in technical training such as prefabricates, wall-finishing, painting and stucco, and frameworks were developed.

Being one of the institutions part of those selected in the education strengthening project, adolescents continued participating in the activities and works of *Escojo La Palabra*, directed by CERLAC. By the end of the year, the boys, girls and adolescents of La Bella presented their audiovisual productions, created by themselves.

In the area of protection 11 adolescents reencountered their families, and 4 reunited to them.

Accomplishments:

1. 34 adolescents assisted during the quarter.
2. 2 workshops implemented in technical and vocational training.
3. 20 adolescents joined the school system.
4. 15 adolescents received school certificates.
5. 11 adolescents held family encounters.
6. 4 adolescents reunited with their families.

Setbacks:

1. Setbacks at an economic level due to high administrative costs, in particular rental costs.

Name of Project	Semillas de Paz		
Phase of assistance	Specialized Assistance Center (CAE)		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	AGARTA	# of Children Assisted during quarter	31
Location	Floridablanca, Santander		
Implementing Partner	ICBF Regional Santander		
Duration of Agreement	1 year	Starting Date	January 1, 2002
Contribution IOM	USD 16,000	Termination Date	January 31, 2003

General Description

During the quarter Semillas de Paz assisted 31 adolescents of which 9 boys and girls entered to the CAE.

The most relevant issue during the period was the termination of the agreement of Corporación AGARTA with ICBF. Thus, there was a change in the administration of the CAE in the Department of Santander. ICBF entered an agreement with the institution "Hogares Claret".

Nevertheless, adolescents of the program continued their schooling and vocational and cultural training activities. 13 adolescents received certificates of study and were promoted to the following grade. In the vocational area 22 adolescents received grants from the Program for training in Mechanics and Beauty Parlor with Somascos Fathers.

At a cultural level, adolescents participated in the project of CERLALC. They elaborated, as their fellow-friends in Cundinamarca, audiovisual productions full of contents and stories created by themselves. 14 family reencounters took place. However, there was no family reunification during the period.

Accomplishments:

1. 31 adolescents assisted during the quarter.
2. Vocational training courses developed in Mechanics
3. 13 adolescents received certificates of study having passed to the following grade.

Setbacks:

1. A situation of demand files against the institution for possible vulneration of rights of a young girl belonging to the Program *Semillas de Paz*.
2. Administrative change of CAE, which implies new investments in training, transfer process, appropriation for the project, accommodating to the new technical team, and assimilating adolescents to a new institution and its policies.

Name of Project	Casa Yampi		
Phase of assistance	Specialized Assistance Center (CAE)		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	Ágape	# of Children Assisted during quarter	20
Location	Armenia		
Implementing Partner	ICBF Regional Quindío		
Duration of Agreement	1 year	Starting Date	December 20, 2002
Contribution IOM	USD 0	Termination Date	March 30, 2003

General Description

As informed on the part of Specialized Assistance Centers, in December was opened a program of this type in the Department of Quindío for assistance to 20 adolescents.

Regarding this matter, 20 adolescents were received and welcomed, 17 males and 3 females.

Activities of the month focused on welcoming adolescents, adapting the house, both its infrastructure as the consolidation of the technical team in charge of providing services to the youngsters in the different areas.

To end the year, as in other homes, took place the celebration of Christmas on December 24, and the closing of the year on the 31st.

Accomplishments:

1. Opening of an Assistance Center for conflict demobilized children in the Department of Quindío.

Setbacks:

1. None

Name of Project	Casas Juveniles Bogotá		
Phase of assistance	Half Way House		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	Fundación Cultural Rayuela	# of Children received	0
Location	Bogotá		
Implementing Partner	IOM		
Duration of Agreement	1 year.	Starting Date	December 5, 2001
Contribution IOM	USD 137, 359	Termination Date	December 5, 2002

General Description

As informed in the part corresponding to Half Way Houses, during the quarter was terminated the agreement with Fundación Rayuela for the development and execution of this phase of the Program in the city of Bogotá.

Lines of action started were the preparation of closure of the project with this organization, projection of actions, and new scenarios for the young.

Of the 17 adolescents that completed the process with Rayuela, 7 were transferred to the program of reintegration, 2 went to the home of a friend, and 8 continued their process at half way houses with Corporación Macondo, at the Half Way Center called Pietro Crespi.

The last 8 joined the educational proposal of Macondo, and continued the technical training they had started: 6 in mechanics, 1 in systems and 5 in a jewelry course.

Regarding the productive area, 4 youngsters joined in the project Café La Maga, implementing as of the beginning of the quarter sales strategies and promoting the place. They changed the profile of the project towards university students. During the period a number of cultural events took place with good results. However, one of the future projects is to develop a new market survey, project viability, and appropriation and ownership of the youth.

At an institutional level qualification of service is expected for this phase in terms of clear social reinsertion of the young within the educational and productive area. Thus, decision was made to enter an agreement with Institución Macondo in view of the experience in this matter and their knowledge of the youth. Its proposal is not set forth by houses each with 5 adolescents, but a Youth Center to gather 20 youngsters involving a clear productive project for the Youth Center called "Tienda Catarino".

Accomplishments:

1. All youngsters of the project obtained their documents of identification.
2. 12 youngsters received grants in vocational training. (Auto Mechanics, Systems, and Jewelry).

Setbacks:

1. Administrative change of the organization in charge of the project; this affects continuing process of adolescents and of installed and appropriation capacity of the project by the technical team and the youngsters.

Name of Project	Casas Juveniles Bogotá		
Phase of assistance	Half Way House		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed Capacity	20
Name of Institution	Corporación Macondo	# de children received	21
Location	Chía Cundinamarca		
Implementing Partner	IOM		
Duration of Agreement	3 months and 16 days.	Starting Date	December 5, 2001
Contribution IOM	USD 11,866	Termination Date	March 21, 2003

General Description

On December 5 Corporación Macondo took over the project of Half Way Houses in Bogotá. According to the proposal approved by the Program assistance to youngsters is developed in only one house called a Youth Center, where 20 youngsters will live during this phase. 21 youngsters entered the program in December, having finished the period with 19 of them.

Of the 21 youngsters, 13 entered this phase being transferred from the Specialized Assistance Centers.

Activities developed in this period focused on welcoming the youngsters, determining the process for each of them within the different areas (medical, psychological, educational and vocational, family and legal), and to jointly build agreements of coexistence and planning of activities.

Accomplishments:

1. Social reinsertion process started with a group of adolescents new in this phase.

Setbacks:

1. Desertion from the Program of Pietro Crespi of some youngsters developing a process with former institution, that when facing a change decided not to continue in the process.

Name of Project	Casas Juveniles Cali		
Phase of assistance	Half Way Houses		
Strategy	Assistance	Installed capacity	15
Name of Institution	Fundación Juan Bosco	# of Children Assisted during quarter	15
Location	Cali, Valle		
Implementing Partner	ICBF Regional Valle		
Duration of Agreement	5 Months	Starting Date	August 15, 2002
Contribution IOM	USD 15,000	Termination Date	January 15, 2003

General Description

During this quarter 15 adolescents were assisted at the Half Way Houses of Cali, 8 of them having entered during the period, arriving from different Specialized Assistance Centers, already having fulfilled the objectives of this phase and of which the options of family reunification were not seen viable.

During the period the houses continued the process of Program appropriation, as of understanding and clearness of the process with the adolescents.

In the education area through the financial support of IOM, a number of study grants were awarded. 12 adolescents entered Fundación MAC to be trained in mechanics. 5 youngsters started training in dressmaking.

7 youngsters continued their vocational training process at Fundación Don Bosco: 3 in auto mechanics. Of these 7 youngsters, 6 continued studying at IDEI.

Accomplishments:

1. 8 new youngsters received during the quarter.
2. 15 youngsters assisted during the period, thus completing the number for the region.
3. 17 youngsters received grants for pre-work in technical training.
4. Continuance of youngsters in their learning process.
5. Line to strengthen study grants and youngsters training was promoted.

Setbacks:

1. Presence of some technical setbacks in assistance coverage to youngsters. Activity among youngsters.

Name of the Project	Life Alternatives for Indigenous and Afro-Colombian Ex-combatant Children.		
Strategy	Prevention and Social Reintegration	Direct Beneficiaries	366
Implementing Agency	Mayor's Office of Cauca	Indirect Beneficiaries	1080
Geographical Location	Municipalities: Píendamo, Caldono, Caloto y Sotará	Coverage	Department of Cauca
Hiring Agency	OIM		
Total Support Program	\$220,100,760	Duration	10 months.
Total Counterpart	\$10,000,000	End of Project	March 30th, 2003
Resources			

General Description in the Prevention Component

The last Training and Awareness Raising Workshop was carried out the second week of December. A total of 48 were dictated in the four beneficiary communities: Ría Blanco, La María, Caldono and Guachane; an average of 12 workshops per community. Their contents are being systematized and interpreted.

With the finalization of the workshops, work is now been focused on the educational proposal. Although it has suffered some re-definitions, it is now on the construction process. This process is being done jointly with the pedagogical experts of Cauca's Mayor Office. A first draft is expected by mid February.

The Legal Rout has been elaborated during these three months with collaboration from member of the *cabildos* and of Cauca's Mayor office. A second draft has been elaborated and presented to other representative of indigenous communities outside of Cauca department. Conclusions on feedback received suggest the need to work more on the common aspects of all indigenous communities and to search for social reintegration alternatives for each possible community decision towards a an indigenous former child soldier. Another more redefined draft of the Legal Route worked in joint coordination with ONIC and ICBF will be elaborated during next quarter. However, it will be necessary to focus on its socialization to as many indigenous communities as possible in order to have their approval.

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General Description of the Social Reintegration Component

During this quarter work was also continued with the social reintegration strategy which is implemented through income-generating activities for the already identified 63 ex-combatant children in two of Cauca's municipalities (Caldono and La Maria). In general, 95% of the materials for the projects has been delivered.

Advances in each new income generating activity are:

Laying Hens:

Purchase of 400 laying hens for the already built barns.

Blackberries:

Cultivated fields (14.5 Hectares; an average of 1.000 seeds per ½ Hectar).

Preparación del terreno para la tecnificación de los cultivos..

Musical Group:

Technical Training of 9 children on musical instruments and 21 children on dancing.

Presentations of the Musical Group Semillas de Paz in Cauca

On the other hand with the Agreement extension approved work was begun on the new 4 income-generating activities that will benefit 20 new identified former child soldiers in the Sotará and Caloto municipalities (11 children in Río Blanco and 9 children in Huellas and Guachené).

Achievements:

1. Developed the extension for the project.
2. A total 18 workshops carried out for the prevention component in the 4 communities.
3. Input on the themes and activities which should be included in the new educational course.
4. 63 ex-combatant children trained in the relevant areas of their income-generating activities.
5. Acquired the necessary materials and developed the necessary activities for the functioning of the 3 income-generating activities.

Setbacks:

1. Problems in the department's public order impeded the carrying out of the activities according to the timetable established.
2. Some of the equipment bought for the Musical band was stolen and has not been replaced.

Name of Project	Education, Training, and Programs of Social-Economic Reestablishment for Indigenous Leaders and Afrocolombians in risk at the Department of Chocó.		
Strategy	Prevention and Social Reinsertion	Direct Beneficiaries	115
Name of operator	Human Rights Ombudsman Office	Indirect Beneficiaries	460
Location	Municipalities: Carmen de Atrato, Istmina and Tadó	Coverage	Department of Chocó
Implementing Partner	IOM		
Program Location	\$ 206.931.184,00	Duration of Agreement	6 Month 5 months
Counterpart	\$ 14.500.000,00	Termination Date	March 29, 2002

General Description

The severe humanitarian crisis lived by the Department of Chocó caused by the increase in the armed conflict, has affected families and the community in general, and boys, girls and youngsters in particular, by being displaced or restricted to have access to services such as education or health. But mainly by being recruited by force to increase the different irregular armed groups. In agreement with the Human Rights Ombudsman Office a project started to assist demands of protection and promote the rights of the children from Chocó, in particular the indigenous families of the ethnic groups Embrea and Wounaan, and of afro-offspring boys and girls. The two elements of the project are: disseminate, defense and restore human rights of children and the civil society in the face of the armed conflict, and income generation for the ex-combatant youth demobilized from irregular armed groups, and for boys, girls, and youngster in risk of being recruited by the actors of the conflict.

Work done has been a diagnosis of the situation of the youth, identifying lines of production and plan formulation for productive business project with and for the youth. In relation to human rights, workshops have been held on International Humanitarian Law, leadership and self-respect, indigenous legislation, family law, legal provisions applicable to boys and girls, citizen participation, and the Law of Transfers. This work has been jointly done with the indigenous organization, OREWA.

In agreement with NGO PROFAMILIA workshops and campaigns were done on sexual and reproductive health with youngsters beneficiaries of the program.

Accomplishments:

1. 13 Ex-combatant adolescents improving their quality of life through the development of productive initiatives, to be implemented the second week of January 2003.
2. 115 adolescents being trained in leadership, learning their rights, as a strategy to prevent them from joining the conflict.
3. 36 Afrocolombian youngsters members of eleven (11) bands operating in the municipality of Quibdó, now training to form small productive units in basic jewelry, bakery and metalwork.

Setbacks:

1. Armed Conflict, Armed Stoppage of subversive groups in two (2) roads of access to the Department of Chocó (Quibdó-Medellín and Quibdó-Department of Risaralda)

Name of the Project	Training Public Ministry Officials on the "Ruta Juridica" (Legal Procedures to Follow for Ex-combatant Children)		
Strategy	Dissemination	Direct Beneficiaries	1 050
Implementing Agency	Human Right's Ombudsman Office	Indirect Beneficiaries	1 050
Geographical Location	Bogotá	Coverage	32 Departments
Hiring Agency	OIM		
Total Support Program			\$126 470 000
Total Counterpart Resources (if available)			\$5 200 000
Duration	10 months	Starting Date	May 1, 2002
End of Project	December 05, 2003	Termination Date	January 31, 2003

General Description

The Training Public Ministry Officials on the "Ruta Juridica" (Legal Procedures to Follow for Ex-combatant Children) project ended during this quarter on December 05. A total of 935 Public Ministry Officials were trained. Although this is a significant number, the goal of training 1050 Public Ministry Officials was not achieved. The latter was due to public order difficulties. However, another Agreement has been launched with Human Rights Ombudsman Office, in which 4 remaining training workshops will be carried out with no additional expenses. The 4 workshops will be carried out in the cities of Puerto Carreño, Puerto Asis, Medellín and Cali, for a total of 130 Public Ministry officials trained.

The methodology applied was adequate and suffered minor changes along the way. In general, Public Ministry Officials were interested in the subject but almost all had had no previous knowledge on a Specialized Assistance Program and special procedure to follow for former child soldiers and their particular.

The multiplication proposal was handed in department by department. However, the public order situations in many municipalities are not favorable for the Ruta Juridica's diffusion. Transportation to main cities for Public Ministry Officials must be provided.

Although the exercise on proposals for prevention and social reintegration project reflected the reality of each locality, ideas based on local mechanisms for prevention of children's recruitment and improvement on former child soldiers reintegration, were poor and vague in most of the workshops.

Achievements:

1. Trained 935 Public Ministry Officials.
2. Sensitized 935 Public Ministry Officials on society's responsibility for the recruitment prevention and social reintegration of former child soldiers.
3. Information dissemination on International Humanitarian Law, Human Rights, Children's Rights and specific national norms which advocate for former child soldiers' protection.
4. Multiplying workshops accorded in each region.

Setbacks:

1. Low assistance in some workshops led to a lower number of trained public officials than was expected in the initial Agreement.
2. Unfavorable conditions of public order limit the future multiplication of the workshops.

Name of Project	Analysis, Discussion and Dissemination of the Problematic of Ex-combatant Children.		
Strategy	Dissemination	Direct Beneficiaries	202
Name of operator	Universidad de los Andes – Cátedra Ciro Angarita	Indirect Beneficiaries	68
Location	Bogotá	Coverage	Bogotá
Implementing Partner	IOM	Duration of Agreement	5 months
Program Contribution	\$3,970	Termination Date	February 28, 2003
Counterpart	\$2,688		

General Description

Development of the Annual Forum "Ex-combatant Children from Demobilization to the Integral Guaranty of the Rights of Children" was presented as a space for the analysis and discussion of initiatives, policies and measures of the sectors committed to ex-combatant boys, girls and adolescents involved in the internal armed conflict.

The Forum enabled a rendezvous of the academic and the different institutional positions involved in the subject, proposing initiatives to advance towards true policies for childhood and adolescence in order to articulate the efforts between civil society, international cooperation and the Nation.

The Forum took place on October 15 and was attended by 202 persons. The agenda developed according to schedule, including the presentation of the Program by the Director of ICBF – Colombian Institute for Family Welfare.

Accomplishments:

1. Undertaking the process of summoning the Forum among academic, governmental, civil society and international cooperation institutions.
2. Forum attendance surpassed all expectations of the summons.
3. The impact of the subject of the forum was satisfactory as not only the errors within the system of protection became evident but set forth the importance of giving guarantees and basic rights to boys, girls and adolescents victims of the conflict.
4. The Program of Assistance to Ex-Combatant Children was presented.

Setbacks:

1. Delivery of brochures of the Forum was slightly behind schedule.
2. At first summons was not based on a free entry thus causing very low registration, and then decided the invitation to the Forum would be at no cost.

ANNEX 6



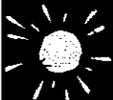
GENERAL EDUCATIONAL PROPOSAL STRATEGY

SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR EX-
COMBATANT CHILDREN, COLOMBIA



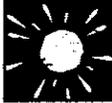
STRATEGY

1. Background
2. Diagnosis – Children's characterization
3. Program's Emphasis
4. Objectives
5. General Outline
6. Components
7. Implementation



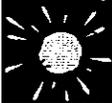
1. Background

- ✓ Disparity in the actions carried out by Implementing.
- ✓ Work team comformed of IOM-SCUK-ICBF personnel for the construction of educational strategy.
- ✓ Development of a draft proposal.



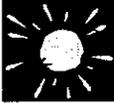
2. Diagnosis - Children's Characterization

- ✓ Low Educational Level
- ✓ Age and educational level disparity
- ✓ Low motivation
- ✓ Lack of studying habits
- ✓ Initial resistance to changes
- ✓ Rural origins
- ✓ Authoritarian management of social rules



3. Program's emphasis

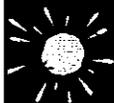
- ✓ Rights Restitution
- ✓ Social and productive reintegration
 - Development analytical, critical thinking and coexistence abilities.
 - Development of cognitive and vocational abilities
 - Educational Process focused on the child
 - Development of affectiveness



4. Objectives

General Objectives

- ✓ Support and promote the children's educational and vocational formation.



4. Objectives

Specific Objectives

- ✓ Develop the basic academic abilities.
- ✓ Articulate the academic, vocational, cultural and recreational activities as a social reintegration unity.



4. Objectives

Specific Objectives

- ✓ Assure an educational and vocational learning process qualified.
- ✓ Construct an educational environment that:
 - Democratic
 - Equitative
 - Promots Human Rights

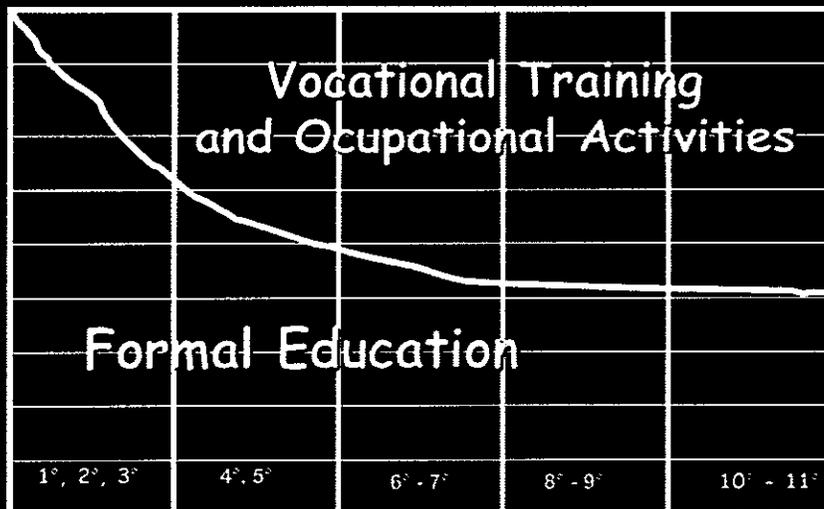


5. General Outline

Phase	Level	Educational Level	DURATION	PRODUCT
HT	Initial evaluation		15 A 30 DIAS	Report
CAE	GENERAL CHARACTERIZATION		ONE WEEK	Report
	BASICA PRIMARIA	CICLO I (1°, 2°, 3° Pcia.)	SIX (6) MONTHS	Report every other month Process Certification
		CICLO II (4°, 5° Pcia.)	SIX (6) MONTHS	Report every other month Process Certification
CAE - CJ FAMILY	BASICA SECUNDARIA	6° - 7°	SIX (6) MONTHS	Report every other month Process Certification
		8° - 9°	SIX (6) MONTHS	Informe bimensual Certificación del proceso
CAE - CJ FAMILY	MEDIA VOCACIONAL	10° - 11°	SIX (6) MONTHS	Informe bimensual Certificación del proceso
CJ FAMILY	UNIVERSITY OR TECHNICAL TRAINING		TECHNICAL OR PROFESSIONAL CAREER	



5. General Outline



INTENSITY



Six (6) Months Six (6) Months Six (6) Months Six (6) Months Six (6) Months

8
125

6. Components

✓ Specialized Assistance Centers'

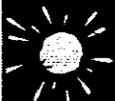
Strengthening

- Provide counseling to the CAEs for the improvement of the educational activities
- Educational leveling
- Develop complementary out-of-school activities



6. Components

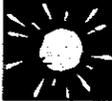
- ✓ Vocational training articulated with future social reintegration projects
 - Articulate with the social network that offers education opportunities
 - Follow-up the development of the educational process.
 - Development of scholarships
- ✓ Consolidate the education as a fundamental right for:
 - Improve the quality of life
 - Ease the social integration and the vocational training process.



6. Components

✓ Interinstitutional Articulation

- Coordinate with the entities that make up the National System for Family Welfare – SNBF:
 - Ministry of Education- MEN
 - Colombian Institute for Credits and Technical Studies Abroad (ICETEX)



7. Implementation

MEN- ICETEX Scholarship

❖ Criteria:

- ✓ Children under 18 being assisted by Especialized Assistance Centers or Half Way Houses
- ✓ Identification Documents
- ✓ The Education Institution must be legally recognized.
- ✓ ICBF is in charge of the enrollment process:
 - ✓ Filling out forms
 - ✓ Delivery of the petitions
 - ✓ Preference given for Formal Education

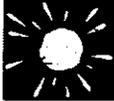


7. Implementation

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - IOM

❖ Criteria:

- ✓ Children under and over 18 years old
- ✓ With or without Identification Documents
- ✓ Preference given to children in Family Reunification
- ✓ Supports CAEs and Half Way Houses when MEN-ICETEX requirements cannot be reached
- ✓ The Education Institution must be legally recognized.
 - ✓ Filling out Forms
 - ✓ Delivery of petitions
 - ✓ Preference is given to Formal Education



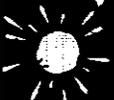
7. Implementation

Types of scholarships:

Simple Scholarships:

For the following modalities:

- ✓ Primary Education
- ✓ High-school,
- ✓ Vocational intermediary,
- ✓ University
- ✓ Technical Training
- ✓ Vocational Training



7. Implementation

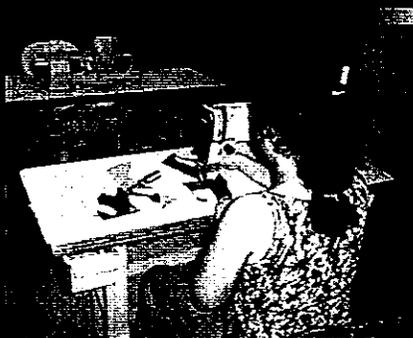
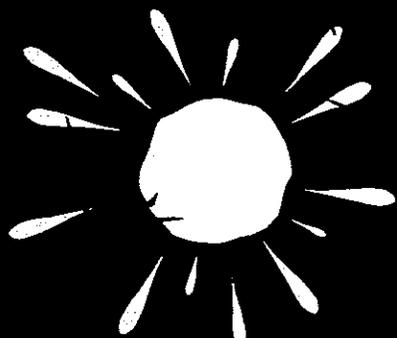
Mixed Scholarship:
Simultaneously formal education and
vocational training.



ANNEX 7



PRODUCTIVE INTEGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY



*SUPPORT PROGRAM
FOR EX-COMBATANT CHILDREN IN
COLOMBIA*



PRODUCTIVE INTEGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

- I. BACKGROUND
- II. OBJECTIVES
- III. ANALYSIS OF THE CONTEXT
STRATEGICALLY
- IV. STRATEGIC FOCUS: BASIC MODEL AND
ACTION LINES
- V. COMPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
- VI. STRATEGY COMPONENTS
- VII. FACTORS OF SUCCESS
- VIII. EXPECTED RESULTS

✓

III



PRODUCTIVE INTEGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

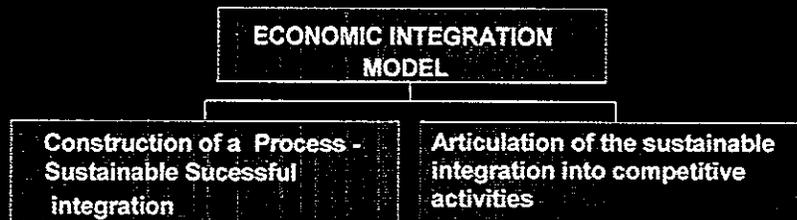
I. BACKGROUND

1. Project portfolio: characteristics
2. Magnitud of the challenge



PRODUCTIVE INTEGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

II. OBJECTIVES



✓

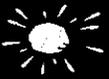
112



PRODUCTIVE INTEGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

III. ANALISIS OF THE CONTEXT STRATEGICALLY

Title of the diagram



PRODUCTIVE INTEGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

IV. ENFOQUE ESTRATEGICO:



3/

113



PRODUCTIVE INTEGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

The basic model:

- 1.1. Shoemaking and Leatherprocessing : Bogotá : Contract with "CORINCA" . Bucaramanga : Optional.
- 1.2. Furniture and wood processing : Bogotá: Contract with "PRODISEÑO"; Medellín Contract with "SENA Nacional Center of wood processing".
- 1.3. Service: Medellín: Contract with "Marketing Ideas" – Operation of fairs events. Bogotá: optional , " CORFERIAS, ASEO CAPITAL, EL TIEMPO"
- 1.4. Jewellery: Bogotá: Contract "Casting."
- 1.5. Construction optional.



PRODUCTIVE INTEGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

V. COMPONENTS OF THE STRATEGY





PRODUCTIVE INTEGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

VI. FACTORS FOR SUCCESS

1. Possibility to enter into specific markets
2. Vinculación to the enterprise sector
3. Competitiveness and sustainability
4. Institutionalization and stability

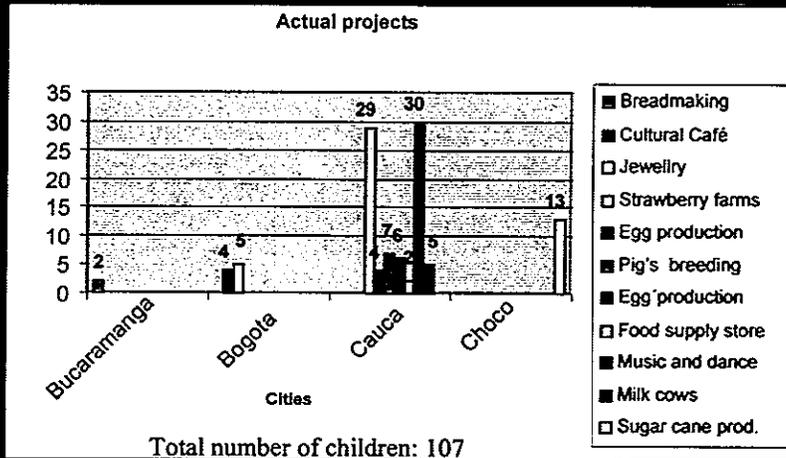


BASIC MODEL: EXPECTED RESULTS

REQUIERMENTS BY CATEGORY	SECTORS				EXPECTED RESULTS
	SHOES	WOOD	JEWELLERY	SERVICE	
1. Human talent:	LABOR COMPETENCIES				8
2. Productive environments:	INTERESTED ENTERPRISES				15
3. Articulation of the market:	FAVORABILITY				3
4. Sustainability:	COMPETITIVITY				
5. Stability:	INSTITUTIONALIZATION				10
Location for the activities	Bogotá, B manga	Bogotá, Medellin	Bogotá	Medellin, Bogota	3
Strategic administrator	CORINCA	Prodiseno SENA	CASTING	M de I CORFERIA	5
Actual situation	F	E	O E	T E	
NUMBER OF BENEFICIANTS	20	25	17	60	100 - 125



COMPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: RESULTS



EDUCATION FOR WORK: RESULTS

PROJECTS BY NGO	CHILDREN PER CITY		TOTAL
	CALI	B'MANGA	
1. F. Mac			
1.1. Confecciones	5		5
1.2. Mecánica A.	4		4
1.3. Electricidad	5		5
2. Don Bosco	20		20
3. F. Amanecer			
3.1. Mecánica A.		15	15
3.2. Belleza		12	12
3.3. Guarnición		11	11
NUMBER OF CHILDREN	34	38	72

ANNEX 8



Niños, Niñas y Jóvenes Desvinculados
del Conflicto Armado

RUTA JURÍDICA INDÍGENA

*FORMAS DE RETORNO DEL CONFLICTO
ARMADO, DE LOS NIÑOS INDÍGENAS, A SU
COMUNIDAD*

Diciembre, 2002





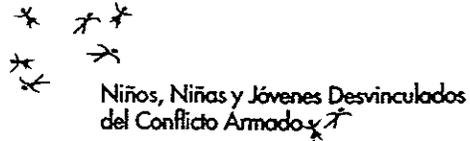
PRESENTACIÓN

En el momento en que un niño, niña o adolescente indígena se vincula con alguna organización armada al margen de la Ley, independientemente de la forma que haya utilizado para este efecto, se convierte en víctima del conflicto armado, ya que ha sido desprendido de su entorno, es decir, su cosmovisión se ve alterada violentamente, al tener que aceptar una forma de vida que riñe con su propia forma de ver el mundo.

Los pueblos indígenas siempre han sido afectados por el fenómeno del conflicto armado. Unas veces por que sus territorios son utilizados por los grupos guerrilleros como zonas de campamento, aunque recientemente también han aparecido grupos de las AUC en diferentes puntos de estos; otras veces, porque, cuando existen enfrentamientos de estos grupos con las Fuerzas Militares, las vidas, viviendas, animales y siembros de las comunidades se ven afectados por los bombardeos que realizan estas, o, también por que los diversos grupos guerrilleros siempre han deseado tener en sus filas a combatientes indígenas por el conocimiento que tienen de los terrenos y por su capacidad de resistencia; por este motivo los reclutamientos se orientan hacia los jóvenes, niños y niñas indígenas, viéndose así de manera directa afectados por este conflicto.

Esta ha sido siempre una preocupación de los pueblos indígenas, de los defensores de los derechos humanos y de diversas instituciones de carácter nacional e internacional, para lograr en este aspecto, por parte de los diferentes actores del conflicto armado, el acatamiento de las más elementales reglas de respeto a los derechos del niño indígena y de las demás normatividades que los protegen.

No obstante existir algunas ideas al respecto, la propuesta de crear una Ruta Jurídica dentro de la Jurisdicción Especial Indígena, para niños indígenas que retoman del conflicto armado a sus comunidades, se concreta en el Convenio que se firmó entre el Gobernador del Cauca Taita FLORO ALBERTO TUNUBALA PAJA, quien actúa en representación del Departamento del Cauca y la Organización Internacional para las Migraciones OIM, para enfrentar este problema desde la misma experiencia de los pueblos indígenas del país, que busca extender no solamente los mandatos de carácter internacional, sino también dentro del concepto de Autonomía propia de los pueblos indígenas de Colombia, desarrollar en esta dirección, la Jurisdicción Especial Indígena para que sean ellos mismos, quienes dentro de sus usos y costumbres procedan a hacer efectivas la protección integral de los adolescentes, niños y niñas indígenas víctimas del conflicto armado.



MARCO GENERAL

La Ruta Jurídica para los niños y niñas indígenas que retoman del conflicto armado, a su comunidad, está comprendida dentro del concepto de Autonomía y Jurisdicción Especial Indígena que se contempla en la Constitución Política de 1991, en desarrollo del reconocimiento de la diversidad cultural de la nación.

En la Carta Política de 1991 se estableció el carácter pluralista como Principio Fundamental contemplado en el artículo 1° y luego de manera más explícita en el artículo 7° en donde reconoce y protege la diversidad étnica y cultural de la nación colombiana. El artículo 246, dispone que "las autoridades de los pueblos indígenas podrán ejercer funciones jurisdiccionales dentro de su ámbito territorial, de conformidad con sus propias normas y procedimientos, siempre que no sean contrarios a la Constitución y leyes de la República. La Ley establecerá la formas de coordinación de esta jurisdicción especial con el sistema judicial nacional."

Con lo anterior se elevó a la categoría constitucional los Derechos de las minorías étnicas creando la Jurisdicción Especial Indígena. Queda de esta forma reconocida la capacidad de los pueblos indígenas para establecer su propia forma de control y las sanciones sociales de conformidad con las costumbres propias de cada etnia.

OPCIONES Y PASOS DE LA RUTA JURÍDICA

PRIMERA OPCIÓN:

Retorno en forma voluntaria (o deserción) se presentan diferentes variantes:

1.1 Entrega a una Autoridad tradicional (puede ser el Cabildo, la Asociación, un médico tradicional o la misma guardia cívica, etc.). Si quien recibe el (a) menor es alguien diferente al Cabildo, tendrá que remitirlo a este mismo, quien deberá entregar el (a) menor a su familia nuclear, o a cualquier otro nivel que maneje la comunidad, si no es posible a esta.

1.2 Entrega al Defensor del Pueblo. Es muy posible que el (a) menor luego de su decisión de retornar, se entregue al Defensor del Pueblo, por cuanto los funcionarios de esta institución, en razón de su desempeño, pueden tener más fácilmente contacto con el niño (a), la defensoría de inmediato, deberá remitir al niño (a) a la Regional del ICBF más cercana, esta, una vez haya establecido la comunidad a la que pertenece el niño (a), procederá a entregarlo (a) al Gobernador del Cabildo o a quien este delegue. El Cabildo entregará el (a) menor a su familia conforme a lo establecido en las consideraciones finales.

1.3 Entrega al Personero Municipal. En un municipio en donde haya un Resguardo Indígena, el Personero Municipal, deberá entregar inmediatamente el niño (a) al Gobernador del Cabildo o a quien este delegue, el Cabildo procederá a entregarlo (a) a su familia conforme a lo establecido. Si el niño (a) se entrega a un Personero Municipal de un municipio en donde no exista un Cabildo Indígena, este deberá entregarlo (a) de inmediato a la Regional más cercana del ICBF, para que, una vez establezca la comunidad a la que pertenece el (a) menor, lo (a) entregue al gobernador del Cabildo o a quien este delegue. El Cabildo procederá a entregarlo (a) a su familia nuclear conforme a lo establecido.

1.4 Entrega a la organización gremial indígena. La Organización gremial indígena, remitirá al (a) menor al Cabildo, para que este lo entregue a su familia.

1.5 Entrega a autoridad eclesiástica o una persona natural. Cualquiera de estas personas deberán en cualquier circunstancia, remitirse a la Regional más cercana del ICBF, en caso que esta no esté a su alcance lo remitirá al Defensor del Pueblo o en su defecto al Personero Municipal, de todas maneras, cualquiera que sea el que reciba al (a) menor, lo (a) entregará al ICBF para que a su vez, lo entregue al Gobernador del Cabildo Indígena o a quien este delegue. El Cabildo procederá a entregarlo (a) a su familia.

1.6 Entrega a una Autoridad Militar, cuando ocurra esto, la Autoridad militar deberá remitir al niño(a) a la Regional del ICBF más cercana, esta a su vez, deberá establecer a qué comunidad pertenece el (a) menor, ya establecida dicha comunidad, tendrá que buscar contacto inmediato con el Cabildo para formalizar su entrega a este. La entrega se hará ante el Gobernador o a quien este delegue. El Cabildo entregará al (a) menor a su familia.

SEGUNDA OPCIÓN:

Retorno por reclamo del Cabildo o de su familia. Se pueden presentar tres situaciones:

2.1 El Cabildo lo (a) debe entregar directamente a su familia nuclear. Padres, hermanos, hijos. En todo caso el Cabildo de acuerdo a sus usos y costumbres velará por que el (a) menor sea bien recibido, empleando para ello sus propios procedimientos. (es posible que exista la figura del conciliador o de otra autoridad tradicional para que se encargue de su retomo)

2.2 El Cabildo entregará el (a) menor a una familia indígena de otro Resguardo Cuando no hayan tenido éxito alguno los anteriores pasos, el Cabildo remitirá el (a) menor a otro Resguardo, haciendo uso de un convenio Cabildo-Cabildo.



Niños, Niñas y Jóvenes Desvinculados
del Conflicto Armado

2.3 La familia reclama directamente el (a) menor Cuando el (a) menor sea reclamado directamente por su familia, esta deberá de todas formas dar aviso al Cabildo indígena o a cualquier otra autoridad tradicional.

TERCERA OPCIÓN

Retorno por captura de autoridad militar o por Guardia Cívica. Se pueden presentar seis situaciones:

3.1 La Autoridad Militar entregará el (a) menor a la Autoridad tradicional del Cabildo. Si por cualquier circunstancia, el (a) menor es capturado por una autoridad militar dentro de un territorio indígena o en un municipio que tenga resguardos indígenas, tendrá que entregar al (a) menor a cualquier autoridad tradicional del resguardo, para que esta a su vez lo entregue al Cabildo, quien establecerá la comunidad a la que pertenece el (a) menor y procederá a entregarlo a su familia si es de esa misma comunidad o, a el gobernador o, a quien este delegue, si es de otra comunidad.

3.2 La Autoridad Militar entregará el(a) menor a la Cruz Roja. Si al momento de la captura, se encuentra cerca un destacamento de la Cruz Roja, la Autoridad Militar deberá entregar el (a) menor a dicha institución. La Cruz Roja, remitirá el (a) menor a la Regional más cercana del ICBF, quien luego de establecida la comunidad a la que pertenece el (a) menor, lo (a) remitirá de inmediato al Resguardo indígena respectivo, este a su vez entregará el (a) menor a su familia conforme a lo ya establecido.

3.3 La Autoridad Militar remitirá el (a) menor a la Defensoría del Pueblo. Cuando en el sitio de la captura se encuentre un Funcionario de la Defensoría del Pueblo, la Autoridad Militar entregará el (a) menor a dicho funcionario, quien de inmediato entregará el (a) menor a la Regional más cercana del ICBF; esta, luego de establecida la comunidad a la que pertenece el (a) menor, lo entregará al Gobernador indígena o a quien este delegue, para que este, entregue el (a) menor al seno de su familia nuclear.

3.4 La autoridad Militar entregará el (a) menor al Personero Municipal. Si en el sitio de la captura del (a) menor no se encuentra alguna institución como la Cruz Roja o la Defensoría Del Pueblo, esta deberá entregar el (a) menor al Personero Municipal, quien de inmediato deberá entregar o remitir el (a) menor a la Regional más cercana del ICBF y luego de establecido la comunidad a la que pertenece el (a) menor, el ICBF lo entregará al Gobernador o a quien este designe, para que a su vez el Cabildo entregue el (a) menor a su familia de acuerdo al procedimiento señalado.

3.5 La Autoridad Militar entregará el (a) menor al ICBF. Cuando La Autoridad Militar capture el (a) menor en un sitio en donde se encuentre una oficina del ICBF, la Autoridad Militar, le entregará el (a) menor. El ICBF, verificará la comunidad a la que pertenece el (a) menor y lo entregará al Gobernador del Cabildo Indígena o a quien este designe y este a su vez hará entrega del (a) menor a su familia de acuerdo a lo establecido.

3.6 La Guardia Cívica entregará el (a) menor al Cabildo. Si el (a) menor es capturado por la Guardia Cívica Indígena, esta, inmediatamente entregará el (a) menor al Cabildo indígena u otra autoridad tradicional del Resguardo, quien entregará el (a) menor a su familia.

CUARTA OPCIÓN

Retorno concertado con el grupo armado. Se pueden presentar siete situaciones.

4.1 El grupo armado lo entrega al Cabildo indígena, o a otra autoridad tradicional. Es muy posible que esta situación se presente. En cualquier caso, el Cabildo será quien finalmente entregue el (a) menor a su familia nuclear de acuerdo al procedimiento establecido.



Niños, Niñas y Jóvenes Desvinculados
del Conflicto Armado

4.2 El grupo armado lo entrega a la Defensoría del Pueblo.

Si el grupo armado entrega el (a) menor a la Defensoría del Pueblo, esta de inmediato deberá remitir el (a) menor al ICBF, quien establecerá la comunidad a la que pertenece el (a) la menor y lo (a) entregará al Gobernador indígena o a quien este designe. El Cabildo o la autoridad encargada entregará el (a) menor a su familia nuclear de acuerdo a lo establecido.

4.3 El grupo armado lo entrega a la Cruz Roja.

Cuando el grupo armado entregue el (a) menor a la Cruz Roja, esta deberá remitir de inmediato el (a) menor al ICBF, quien establecerá la comunidad a la que pertenece el (a) menor y lo (a) entregará al Gobernador indígena o a quien este designe. El Cabildo entregará el (a) menor a su familia nuclear de acuerdo al procedimiento establecido.

4.4 El grupo armado lo entrega al ICBF.

Si quien recibe el (a) menor es el ICBF, este deberá establecer la comunidad a la que pertenece el (a) menor y lo (a) entregará al Gobernador indígena o a quien este designe. El Cabildo entregará el (a) menor a su familia nuclear de acuerdo al procedimiento establecido.

4.5 El grupo armado entrega al menor a la organización gremial indígena. En este caso, la Organización Gremial entregará el (a) menor al Gobernador indígena o a quien este delegue, quien a su vez entregará el (a) menor a su familia.

4.6 El grupo armado entrega al menor a una autoridad eclesiástica. Cuando se presente este caso, la autoridad eclesiástica deberá entregar el (a) menor al Gobernador del cabildo indígena; si no es posible, lo remitirá de inmediato al ICBF más cercano, para que este verifique la comunidad a la que pertenece el (a) menor y lo entregue al Gobernador del Cabildo o a quien este delegue, para que a su vez lo entregue a su familia.

4.7 Retorno por retención de un grupo armado. Se puede presentar el caso de un combate entre dos grupos armados irregulares (guerrilla-autodefensas) y un niño indígena puede ser retenido por uno de los dos grupos (prisioneros de guerra). De inmediato el grupo que retenga al (a) menor, lo deberá entregar a una comisión de la Cruz Roja, esta entregará al menor al ICBF, quien a su vez lo remitirá a su respectivo Resguardo en la forma ya establecida.

PROCESO DE PROTECCIÓN AL INTERIOR DEL RESGUARDO

La Ruta Jurídica ha considerado como punto de partida y de llegada la familia; para el joven, niño o niña indígena que retorna del conflicto armado a su comunidad, esta es su núcleo fundamental, es el centro de su cosmovisión junto con la tierra, con la forma de gobierno (que puede ser el Cabildo o una autoridad tradicional u otra forma), con las relaciones sociales, de parentesco y con la concepción mítica y ritual de la vida.

Así, la familia indígena cuenta con niveles que forman un todo en la conformación de su mundo: la familia nuclear (consanguíneo) padres, hijos solteros, hermanos, la familia extensa que pueden ser los abuelos, tíos, primos, etc. o las ramificaciones de la etnia en otros lugares por fuera de su territorio (por ejemplo en la ciudad) y la gran familia que igualmente puede ser la comunidad del Cabildo o toda la comunidad étnica; sin embargo es el nivel de la familia nuclear el más importante para lograr los objetivos de la Ruta Jurídica, pues ella será, en gran medida, la principal garantía para que el proceso de protección del (a) menor sea eficaz, ya que será en su seno en donde el (a) menor se reencuentre con su comunidad y su medio.

Según diversos estudios realizados sobre el tema, los dos principales factores de vinculación del joven, niño o niña indígena a algún grupo armado al margen de la ley, son el problema socioeconómico y la violencia intrafamiliar, por tal motivo los Cabildos Indígenas, como autoridad reconocida, tanto por el Estado como por sus pueblos, deberán garantizar la protección integral del (a) menor e implementar una serie de acciones dentro de sus usos y costumbres, encaminadas a garantizar la protección del joven indígena en dos direcciones:

PREVENCIÓN dirigida a toda la población infantil y juvenil del resguardo, para que les garantice la protección debida de las causas que los conllevaron a la vinculación con grupos armados.

ATENCIÓN Al joven que retorna, de manera integral y una prevención dirigida a este mismo joven para evitar su reingreso al grupo armado.

Para tal efecto se propone un procedimiento de protección para el joven, niño o niña indígena, al interior del resguardo, que puede variar de acuerdo a los usos y costumbres de cada comunidad:

- 1- Como el Cabildo indígena se convierte en todos los casos en el garante para que el menor retorne a su familia, este deberá estudiar cada caso en particular y en la medida de lo posible, dejará su protección inicial en manos de la Guardia Cívica y su permanencia en la casa del Cabildo.
- 2- El Cabildo designará una Autoridad tradicional, preferiblemente un médico tradicional o cualquier autoridad análoga, para que se inicie un tratamiento de acuerdo a sus usos y costumbres (que puede estar encaminado a que el menor reciba apoyo emocional y a que se le realice una limpieza corporal)
- 3- La autoridad tradicional designada por el Cabildo, iniciará un entendimiento con la familia del joven, niño o niña indígena, para que de acuerdo con el factor por el cual el menor se vinculó al grupo armado se realice un proceso que lleve a eliminarlo.
- 4- El Cabildo hará un seguimiento a dicho proceso, el cual igualmente estará encaminado a fortalecer la unidad familiar.
- 5- El joven, el niño o la niña indígena, junto con su familia, (según cada caso), serán incluidos dentro de los diferentes proyectos alternativos de producción, de modo que



ayuden a que el joven, niño o niña indígena, se reincorpore a su comunidad y eviten el reingreso de este al grupo armado.

- 6- El cabildo, junto con las organizaciones gremiales indígenas, sus congresistas y amigos de los pueblos indígenas, procurarán plantear un proyecto de Ley o un Decreto que desarrolle la Ley 715 de 2001, para que por medio de estas se adicione a las transferencias un valor proveniente de un Fondo, para atender integralmente a los jóvenes, niños y niñas indígenas y evitar su ingreso al conflicto armado.

Algunas consideraciones finales:

- El retiro voluntario debe entenderse como la decisión que toma el niño o niña de abandonar el grupo armado sin la presión o intermediación de nadie, pues, en algunos pueblos indígenas es común que la familia o el Cabildo u otra autoridad tradicional, reclame al niño, independientemente de su voluntad.
- A pesar que en la mayoría de pueblos indígenas el Cabildo representa su forma reconocida de gobierno, en otros pueblos puede ser una autoridad tradicional u otra figura, en todo caso, para cualquier paso, siempre tiene que quedar en claro, que estos no constituyen en sí una forma coercitiva, sino que se trata de una guía, respetando desde luego los usos y costumbres de los pueblos indígenas.
- Cuando la opción se refiera al Cabildo, debe interpretarse igualmente como a la gran familia comunal y su máxima autoridad que es la Asamblea.
- Así como pueden presentarse acuerdo Cabildo-Cabildo, igualmente pueden presentarse acuerdos entre familias del mismo resguardo.
- En la opción que corresponda a la presencia del Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar ICBF y por cualquier motivo este no pueda, debe ser reemplazado por la Defensoría del Pueblo.
- En donde sea posible se pueden firmar convenios de asistencia entre el Cabildo Indígena y el ICBF, respetando sus usos y costumbres.
- El Cabildo puede crear una figura dentro de su estructura o delegar a una autoridad tradicional para que atienda los casos de los menores que retornen del conflicto armado, en tanto se logre por medio de una Ley o una Resolución Reglamentaria, una transferencia económica al Cabildo por parte del Estado, para estos mismos casos.
- En cualquier caso, se hará todo lo posible para que el menor retorne finalmente al seno de su familia nuclear (o de consanguinidad), todo lo anterior respetando los usos y costumbres de los pueblos indígenas.
- En los casos en que sea necesaria la intervención del ICBF, este tendrá que:
 - a) verificar si el (a) menor es Indígena
 - b) establecer a que comunidad pertenece el (a) menor
 - c) iniciar el contacto con el Cabildo Indígena respectivo
 - d) entregar el (a) menor al Gobernador Indígena o a quien este delegue.
- En caso, que el (a) menor, por cualquier motivo, retorne con arma, será el ICBF, el encargado de entregarla a quien corresponda.
- El principio general es que el (a) menor vuelva al seno de su familia (cualquier nivel), o de una familia de otro Cabildo, pero si fracasa cualquiera de estas posibilidades, el (a) menor será entregado al ICBF.



Niños, Niñas y Jóvenes Desvinculados
del Conflicto Armado

· En cuanto a los niños, en el ordenamiento nacional se tiene como base de la inimputabilidad a los menores de dieciocho años, independientemente si a esa edad se posea o no madurez de pensamiento; mientras que para los pueblos indígenas la inimputabilidad tiene como base diversos factores, por ejemplo en algunos resguardos se considera mayor en el momento en que el joven o el niño comience a trabajar la tierra en la misma intensidad del adulto, o que voluntariamente abandone su estudio académico, o que forme un nuevo hogar, o se vaya del resguardo, etc. Es decir, no existe un único parámetro formal para determinar cuando se deja de ser joven o niño.

· Dentro de la Ruta Jurídica o del proceso de protección del menor al interior del resguardo es importante el papel que pueden jugar las organizaciones gremiales indígenas en la comunicación entre cabildos de diferentes pueblos o etnias y en el seguimiento que se haga al cabildo que inicie el proceso de protección para hacer efectivas las medidas.