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WWF TECHNICAL PROGRESS REPORT

PART 1: GENERAL NARRATIVE REPORT

(EVERY 3 MONTHS (APRIL, JULY, OCTOBER, JANUARY), SUGGESTED LENGTH 3-6 PAGES)

Project/ Programme Title:	Mitigating Interethnic Land Conflict in Colombia: Securing Territory and Resource Rights in Rural Communities
Award Number:	AID-514-A-09-00003
Project Duration:	February 25/2009 – February 24/2011
Reporting Period:	February 25 – March 30/ 2009
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Date:	April 30 th , 2009

1) Introduction. This section informs the reader about the project framework (Goal, Objectives, Expected results) and resumes the main issues occurred during the reporting period –context or organizational issues-.

The project was submitted by WWF and five partners: Chigorodó Major Indigenous Authority (Uraba), Paez Indigenous Authority (Caqueta), RECONOCER (technical NGO), ACIPAP (Association of the Indigenous Awa Authorities of Putumayo) and the Kofan Permanent Committee (KPC), to be implemented during the next two years in three sites in Colombia.

The project’s overall goal is to mitigate conflict in rural Colombia in three target sites. These sites were selected among WWF’s priority areas, and according to the following criteria: 1) presence of land disputes in an interethnic context; 2) presence of armed forces, drug trafficking, and illegal access and use of natural resources derived from the lack of territorial control; 3) partners’ commitment to work in conflict mitigation and peaceful resolution under the proposed methodology principles; 4) governmental agencies’ interest in and commitment to support the conflict mitigation initiative; and 5) potential to achieve tangible results in the two-year time frame with the funds available.

Using the above criteria, WWF and its partners determined that the project will address three interethnic conflicts by strengthening four community governance structures (Embera, Paez, Kofan & Awa) in high ecological and cultural value places in Colombia (in the Departments of Antioquia, Caquetá, and Putumayo).

This project has the following three objectives and expected results:

1. Mediate specific land disputes across ethnic divides in selected areas.

- 1.1. Reconcile conflicting parties (peasants, Embera, Paez, Kofan, and Awa) by clarifying their land tenure rights.
- 1.2. Conciliate delimitation of 4 indigenous territories covering approximately 150,000 hectares.
- 1.3. Disseminate 3 stories about methodologies for conflict prevention and reconciliation.

2. Strengthen local organizational capacity to promote dialogue, reconcile conflicts and adopt mechanisms to respond and react under conflict situations.

- 2.1. Increase capacity in conflict mitigation/resolution skills for 75 leaders and 3,000 community members of four ethnic organizations and peasant associations.
- 2.2. Design at least two early warning systems with communities, benefiting approximately 10,000 community members.
- 2.3. Measurably improve administrative and organizational skills of 4 ethnic organizations.
- 2.4. Carry out one public campaign reaching 2 key audiences about the importance of bringing together conflicting parties in order to address local community issues and the root causes of conflict.

3. Address territorial control and natural resource access as root causes of conflict, by promoting sustainable land use initiatives that contribute to selected communities' long term stability.

- 3.1. Establish 3 prevention/control-building structures among communities and public institutions to enhance territorial control and regulate legal access and use of natural resources.
- 3.2. Establish or reactivate 3 community-based production, conservation or restoration programs in the three project sites to address conflict, reducing vulnerability of the targeted communities.
- 3.3. Promote project approach and lessons learned.

- 2) **Project Successes:** Highlight at least three successes for this reporting period, such as progress towards the project goal and objectives.

N/A: It is too early in the project cycle to refer to successes.

- 3) **Progress on Activities and related financial issues (compared to project indicators).** 3. a. Provide a **brief** (half page) overview of progress at the main activity level, highlighting any areas that are well behind plan (link these to any progress on internal management processes or capacity). 3. b. Quantify and explain any financial consequences related to activities (e.g. any major deviations in budget or expenditure).

This first report refers to the Project Plan adjustment phase (March-May). Some aspects of the context are being analysed and the implications for the project will be considered to adapt the management and make some adjustments. The **ACTIVITIES** of this phase have been developed as planned:

- a. After-award meeting with USAID staff: clarification of processes and procedures.
- b. Update meetings and communications within WWF staff, consultants and partners.
- c. Meetings with strategic stakeholders to assess current status of conflicts in order to adjust workplan and partners involvement in the project.

The **DELIVERIES** are under construction, and it is expected to complete them at the end of May:

- Annual Workplan adjusted (submitted to USAID mission).
- Contracts with consultants and partners established (under development).
- Conflict cases revised and information updated (briefs under development).
- Strategy for implementation and methodology to work with grantees revised and defined (document under construction).
- Budget adjusted if necessary.

Responsible in WWF Chief of Party, key personnel, and all staff and consultants involved

Resources involved Meetings and travel expenses

- 4) **Problems and Constraints.** Highlight any failures, problems or constraints that have affected progress, and describe the measures taken to respond to them. List any key changes to the external environment in which the project is operating (especially where these relate to risks identified in project plan).

Political and social context in the area of Nariño and Putumayo had changed since the design of the proposal. Internal organizational structures had being modified. Therefore, context analysis, interviews and meetings with partners had being taking place to refine the intervention strategy.

- 5) **Unexpected effects.** Describe any unexpected (positive or negative) consequences that have occurred as a result of the project and/ or any new opportunities that present.

Any during this period.

- 6) **Learning and Sharing.** Describe key lessons learned, that are important to your project or that may be of use to others outside this project. They may relate to any of the following: successes, strategies adopted, challenges you are facing, surprise results, management processes, or technical understanding.

To be reported in the next period.

- 7) **Adaptive Management.** Based on your analysis of the situation and the project's progress, which project objectives and activities have been changed, or will need to be changed? Please attach latest versions of your action plan (e.g. workplan) and monitoring plan, if changes have been made.

To be reported in the next period.

- 8) **Communications/ Stories.** Highlight any actions or successes meriting communications attention e.g. positive media coverage, success stories, contacts made (such as with government), major events.

To be reported in the next period.

- 9) **Future Issues/ Challenges.** Highlight the 2-3 most significant issues/ challenges ahead for the project, focusing on the next 6 months, and explain how they will be addressed. (Concentrate on barriers to delivery that could lead to major changes to objectives or plans).

- **Coordination with multiple key stakeholders, partners, in the selected areas:** within the site areas and in the surrounding regions, multiple related activities are being developed not only by our project partners but also by other organisations and institutions. The idea is to integrate a multiscale approach of intervention and integrate different initiatives to strengthen the results and increase the sustainability of the activities.
- **Internal organizational structure constraints among partners involved in the project:** Some of the partner organizations are passing through difficult moments in terms of leadership. These issues have being taken into consideration, in the design of the proposal and the technical team is revising the intervention approach of the objective 2 (Strengthen local organizational capacity to promote dialogue, reconcile conflicts and adopt mechanisms to respond and react under conflict situations) to support the organisations and directly address internal structure issues.

- 10) **Overall Assessment of progress.** Assess whether the project has made the expected progress against the action plan and project indicators, and whether planned the objectives will be achieved (In the early stages of a project, this will be a somewhat subjective judgement. As the project progresses, this should be based on an assessment of progress against goals and objectives and the associated indicators)

As indicated in point 3 of this report, all activities in this starting phase have been developed as planned until now. From the next period it will be possible to assess the overall state of progress.

PART 2: MONITORING REPORT.

It is too early in the project cycle. From the next reporting period will be including this section.