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PROGRAMA CIMIENTOS – BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA – QUARTERLY REPORT

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Colombia Regional Governance & Consolidation Program
CIMENTOS

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CONTENTS

- I. INTRODUCTION 1**
- II. ACTIVITIES BY COMPONENT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL 2**
 - A. Component 1. Improving Citizen Security and Effective State Presence in Health and Education..... 2
 - B. Component 2: Building governance capacity in targeted regions..... 11
 - C. Cross-cutting Component: Civil Society 17
- III. ACTIVITIES AND CONTEXT AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL 26**
 - A. National Level..... 26
 - B. Bajo and Medio Atrato..... 27
 - C. Catatumbo 35
 - D. Sierra Nevada..... 51
- IV. INDICATORS MATRIX 62**
- V. CASE STUDY 63**
- VI. RAPID RESPONSE FUND WINDOWS TABLE 64**

I. INTRODUCTION

During the seventh quarter of the program (October to December 2008), MSI continued to provide support to departmental and municipal administrations in order to improve the capacity and legitimacy of the government while increasing citizen participation. Throughout this quarter, MSI carried out regional meetings with mayors from the targeted municipalities in order to revise the existing technical assistance, and evaluate the plan of activities to be carried out throughout 2009.

MSI continued providing support to local administrations in the areas of planning, and budgeting, as well as in training regarding the new state contracting laws, and the implementation of the Standard Internal Control Model (Modelo Estándar de Control Interno – MECI). During this quarter, technical assistance was provided for policy control, bank laws, and municipal council normative functions accordingly.

Similarly, MSI continued to strengthen educational institutions, teachers, students and parents through training and technical assistance in order to improve the quality of education. This was carried out through the implementation of the following projects: First Steps towards Academic Excellence (Primeros Pasos a la Excelencia), Classrooms in Peace (Aulas en Paz), Formulation of Rural Educational and Institutional Projects (Formulación de los Proyectos Educativo Institucionales Rurales Campesinos – PIERC), Formulation of Plans for Rural Education (Formulación de los Planes de Educación Rural- PER) and through technical assistance from the secretariat of municipal and departmental education, while following the tools developed by the new Vice Minister of the Ministry of National Education (MEN).

In coordination with the National Civil Registry, MSI provided support to the Identification Campaigns (Jornadas de Identificación) while facilitating access to health and education services for more than 11,000 citizens in the department of Chocó. During this quarter, MSI promoted citizen participation and cooperation among communities and municipal administrations through the implementation of five Base projects. Similarly, MSI carried out four assemblies in order to select small infrastructure improvement projects destined to becoming grants under the CIMIENTOS base program.

In total, 13,952 citizens and 2,356 government officials (8,161 women, 10,313 afro-Colombians, 213 indigenous, 145 displaced persons, and 1,713 youths) benefited from program support during the quarter.

This report is divided into six sections, including the introduction. The second section describes the activities under the program components. The third section details activities undertaken at the national level and in each of the three CIMIENTOS regions. The fourth section shows program progress according to USAID, Acción Social and contract indicators. The fifth section is a success story on the days of massive identification carried out in the municipalities of El Carmen de Atrato, Riosucio, Carmen del Darién, Acandí and Unguía. The sixth section is a table of expenditures for the reporting period. Annex 1 includes a list of projects under the rapid respond fund, including grants.

II. ACTIVITIES BY COMPONENT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

A. Component I. Improving Citizen Security and Effective State Presence in Health and Education

Subcomponent I.1: Citizen Security/Prevention and Coexistence

Planes Integrales de Convivencia y Seguridad Ciudadana (PICS)

During the past quarter the Mayor of San Juan del Cesar was invited to participate in the *Seminario Internacional de Experiencias Exitosas en Seguridad Ciudadana (Seminar of Successful International Experiences in Citizen Security)*, organized by the National Police through *Programa Departamentos y Municipios Seguros (Safe Departments and Municipalities Program)*; with the intention of presenting as a model the participatory process of the elaboration of the *Plan Integral de Convivencia y Seguridad* supported by MSI the previous trimester, which will begin in 2009 under the authority of the *Consejo de Seguridad Municipal (Municipal Security Council)* and the support of MSI.

Creation of Prevention and Co-existence Observatories

During this quarter the activities for the creation of prevention and co-existence observatories took place in the Cesar department and will work hand in hand with the Government and University of Cesar to define which tech support teams will be required to formally begin the observatory activities in 2009. In the case of Norte de Santander, the local government requested a suspension of the definition of activities until the beginning of 2009, when the reach of the Political and Social Observatory will be known, in which the security and co-existence initiative would then be incorporated into.

Progress was made in the definition of a toolkit that will be applied to the creation of each observatory, the development of methodology in training workshops for teams, and in the recollection and analysis of statistics to make recommendations in each department.

Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo Grant

In this period project activities regarding the *La Paz Empieza en Casa (Peace begins at home)* grant from *Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo* advanced the design of an inter-institutional methodology to promote good family practices and behaviors that contribute to the culture of citizen co-existence.

In the implementation many officials of the Coexistence Centers (*Centros de Convivencia*) and related institutions have participated actively and contributed to the discussion of interfamilial violence, as well as citizens of Ocaña y Tibú. In the trimester, the following activities have been advanced:

- A network was put in place in each municipality concerning the prevention of, and attention to, cases of interfamilial violence and sexual violence, of which the Co-Existence Centers, National Police, health officials, and NGOs form a part. Five meetings took place regarding these networks and institutional capacity was defined.
- *La Ruta Crítica* (the Critical Route) was revised and a monitoring methodology was agreed upon.
- An analysis concerning interfamilial violence was completed in each municipality and is represented in a document that will be the foundation for the *Ruta de Atención* (Attention Mechanism) of interfamilial violence.

- In both municipalities three training workshops were held regarding good practices and the implementation of the *Ruta de Atención* aspect of the grant.

General Observations

Given the difficulties previously mentioned surrounding activities with the National Police's Safe Departments and Municipalities Program (*Programa Departamentos y Municipios Seguros*), conversations with the Office of Citizen Security (*Dirección de Seguridad Ciudadana*) were initiated to support its community vigilance initiative in 2009.

Planned Activities for January – March, 2009

- January: identification of connections in mayors' offices and governorships to advance activities regarding the implementation of security and coexistence plans in 12 municipalities, empower the Security Councils (*Consejos de Seguridad*) and train officials and citizens in themes relating to prevention and coexistence, among others.
- January: do operation analysis of Municipal and Departmental Security Funds to be able to define the actions to advance security/prevention and coexistence plans.
- January: define help mechanisms in support of the Office of Citizen Security in their plans to carry out community vigilance programs.
- January-February: define help mechanisms in support of the Norte de Santander government in the implementation of security/prevention and coexistence observatories.
- January- March: begin observatory activities in the Cesar department by way of team training and technical support.

Subcomponent 1.2: Health

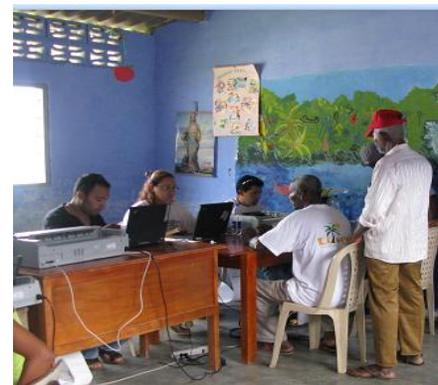
During this quarter the health component was predominantly focused on the continued coordination and close of the identification campaign in four municipalities of Bajo and Medio Atrato jointly with the National Registry (*Registraduría Nacional del Estado Civil*). Strengthening the National Superintendent of Health (*Superintendencia Nacional de Salud-SNS*) was continued by means of the elaboration and delivery of a guide for the supervision of health services provision, and managed with the Social Protection Ministry resources for grants aimed to improve the health sector in the municipalities of El Carmen de Atrato and Carmen del Darien.

National Superintendent of Health – SNS

The SNS is in the analysis process of a municipal health guide elaborated by MSI called "Supervision in Providing Service", with the objective of delivering to the Mayors a toolkit that would let them complement their management and supervision of the access to health services to the populations in their municipalities. This guide will teach them to supervise in real time to provide health services on behalf of all operators in conformance with attention standards in terms of opportunity, quality, and coverage. It aspires to provide quality services to the citizens.

National Registry

During the quarter MSI continued with the identification process of citizens in the municipalities of Riosucio, Carmen del Darién, Acandí y Unguía, working with the National Registry and taking into account that during the last quarter



Massive identification card registration drive in Acandí, Chocó

a campaign was completed in the municipality of El Carmen de Atrato. These campaign work toward MSI's objective of cleaning the Identification and Classification System of Potential Beneficiaries of Social Programs, or SISBEN (*Sistema de Identificación y Clasificación de Potenciales Beneficiarios para los Programas Sociales*) to increase coverage of the state's social programs.

Thanks to the coordination with local authorities, with CAPRECOM (the only subsidized EPS in the department), local health officials, and in some municipalities with rectors, council members and indigenous leaders, the project was able to coordinate and specify the commitment and contributions for the completion of these campaigns.

During the quarter the following identification campaigns were developed and following results were obtained:

- **Riosucio (Nov.5 - Dec. 11)**

PROVINCE/PRODUCT	RC	TI	CC	TOTAL
BELEN DE BAJIRA	204	497	776	1,477
CAMPO ALEGRE	0	0	0	0
PLAYA ROJA	118	246	289	653
SANTO DOMINGO	43	85	97	225
EL LIMON	125	140	187	452
RIOSUCIO (CM)	33	416	408	857
TOTAL	523	1,384	1,757	3,664
GOAL	10,311			
% ACHIEVEMENT	36			

- **Carmen del Darién (Oct. 3 - 29)**

PROVINCE/PRODUCT	RC	TI	CC	TOTAL
PUEBLO NUEVO	57	20	80	157
LA GRANDE	4	13	28	45
VIGIA DEL CURBARADO	5	5	24	34
MONTAÑO	28	51	94	173
BRISAS	11	25	59	95
CHOGORODO	24	16	63	103
DOMINGODO	25	66	100	191
CARMEN DEL DARIEN	13	132	185	330
TOTAL	167	328	633	1,128
GOAL	7,278			
% ACHIEVEMENT	15			

- **Acandí (Nov. 1-10)**

PROVINCE/PRODUCT	RC	TI	CC	TOTAL
ACANDI	26	271	561	858
ZAPZURRO	3	14	55	72
CAPURGANA	31	109	183	323
PEÑALOZA	12	44	61	117
GOLETA	7	22	50	79
SAN FRANCISCO	9	32	82	123
TOTAL	88	492	992	1,572
GOAL	2,971			
% ACHIEVEMENT	53			

- **Unguía (Nov. 12-Dec. 7)**

PROVINCE/PRODUCT	RC	TI	CC	TOTAL
TITUMATE	15	72	112	199
BALBOA	16	126	226	368
GILGAL	38	113	157	308
SANTA MARIA	14	154	150	318
TANELA	52	208	309	569
UNGUIA	24	483	556	1,063
LAS AGUAS	5	83	78	166
TOTAL	164	1,239	1,588	2,991
GOAL	5,495			
% ACHIEVEMENT	54			

In these campaigns MSI demonstrated that when the State becomes closer to its citizens, government relations are strengthened. The activity was a success thanks to contributions not only from the National Registry and MSI, but also from the Mayors, local health officials, and community participants as well.

The identification campaign and census update of documents would not have been possible without the mayor's support of the team's nourishment and in assigning staff to help with archiving. CAPRECOM also helped in the costs of blood type classification, with its necessary supplies and bacteriologist. And finally it would not have been possible without the massive participation of both rural and urban communities in obtaining their identity documents.

As a final result of the four campaigns 9,355 documents were issued, equivalent to 36% of the fulfillment of the goal according to previous censuses done by the mayors of 26,055 habitants. This indicates that these 9,355 persons already have the possibility of being counted and be included in the database SISBEN

and access government social programs in health, education, housing, justice, and others as subsidized services.

There were differences between the mayor's previous censuses and the number of people that went to the campaigns. This difference is explained by the lack of quality information available in the municipalities, and the previous censuses were elaborated without technical support, methodological support and without systemic support.

The documents issued were the following:

Birth Certificates (<i>Registros Civiles</i>)	942
Identity Cards (<i>Cedulas</i>)	4,970
Identity Cards for minors (<i>Tarjetas de Indentidad</i>)	3,443
TOTAL	9,355

Coordination with the Ministry of Social Protection

A donation of \$ 48,000,000 made to the Ministry of Social Protection and managed by MSI, together with the resources of USAID and of the municipality made possible the purchase of an ambulance for the Hospital San Roque in the municipality of El Carmen de Atrato which will improve service to patients. In addition, another donation of \$40,000,000 was given to the municipality of Carmen del Darien for a health post which will provide better service to its patients via medical and surgical tools.

Important Meetings in the Quarter

- Meeting with the Health Secretary of Cesar department to study the progress of the public health campaigns among indigenous populations
- Meeting with the Health Secretary of Magdalena department to study and propose strategies to combat the increase in positive test results for cervical cancer
- Technical assistance to the Director of Cesar Eduardo Arredondo Hospital about Strategic Planning and Accountability
- Meeting with the National Director of Attention and Disasters (Ministry of Social Protection) to coordinate financial support via grants to the hospitals and health centers in the CIMIENTOS municipalities.

Planned Activities for January – March 2009

- Start of accompanying process for the execution of the Health Plans (*Planes de Salud* POAS-POAI- 2009) Department and Municipality
- Conclude the elaboration of the project to strengthen Indigenous Dusakawi Health Promotion Enterprise (EPS)

- Advising the solicitation of Social Security Territorial Councils (*Consejos Territoriales de Seguridad Social en Salud*)
- Advising the development of transverse strategies for the advancement of health and quality of life
- Support in the application of the “Supervision in Providing Service” municipal health guide
- Training on types of social participation and project formulation to COPACOS, Users’ Associations (*Asociaciones de Usuarios*), and Health Observatories (*Veedurías en Salud*).

Subcomponent I.3: Education

During this quarter, MSI carried on with the training and technical assistance for educational institutions, teachers, students and parents of 19 municipalities to improve the quality of education. This was done through the implementation of the following projects: First Steps to Excellency from Promigas (Primeros Pasos a la Excelencia de Promigas), Classrooms in Peace from Convivencia Productiva (Aulas en Paz de Convivencia Productiva), Formulation of Rural Educational and Institutional Projects (Formulación de los Proyectos Educativos Institucionales Rurales Campesinos –PIERC) from Escuela Normal, and Formulation of Plans for Rural Education from the Coffee Growers Committee of Magdalena (Formulación de los Planes de Educación Rural-PER of Comité de Cafeteros del Magdalena). MSI focused its efforts on the infrastructural improvement of 77 educational institutions of the Catarumbo and Sierra Nevada regions. This was accomplished through cooperation from the Departmental Secretariat for Health and Education, and assistance from all the educational institutions of the 6 targeted municipalities of Chocó. Similarly, forms of assistance to municipal and departmental secretariats were launched in order to strengthen the elaboration of sector educational plans.

Donations

Productive Coexistence – Peaceful Classrooms (Aulas en Paz)

Throughout this quarter, training of teachers and local leaders of 14 municipalities continued in four departments in order to implement *Aulas en paz*, which has contributed to the reduction and prevention of violence in schools and households while fomenting peaceful living habits among children and their families. This was carried out through efficient methodological provisions that promote civic skills for coexistence. Along with the Ministry of Education, OIM, Universidad de los Andes and Productive Coexistence (Convivencia Productiva), the project already implemented in the 3 CIMIENTOS regions, has generated an experience of synergy among the State, the business sector, the academy, and international cooperation.

No. of Municipalities	14 (Acandí, Unguía, Convención, El Carmen, El Tarra, Hacarí, Ocaña, Teorama, El Copey, Pueblo Bello, Valledupar, Aracataca, Ciénaga, Fundación)
No. of Educational Institutions	22
No. of Teachers Participating	110
No. of Schools Participating	3
No. of Participant Educational Faculties	4

No. of Enrolled Students	4,000
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Promigas

MSI continued working on strengthening teachers from 13 urban and rural preschool institutions in Ciénaga – Magdalena. This was carried out through training and technical assistance regarding the institutional transition, elaboration of Institutional Educational Projects –PEI, Institutional Improvement Plans, preschool academic management, the teachers’ role, detection of deficiencies, and effective approach to solutions. These will contribute to quality of education while developing the municipality’s preschool educational sector.

In this initiative, MSI has relied on Promigas, a hydrocarbon operation company, Universidad del Norte and the Educational Secretariat of Ciénaga.

No. of benefited educational institutions	13
No. of provided training hours	36
No. of completed seminars	4
No. of trained preschool teachers	48
No. of trained school managers	3
No. of participating education public officials	3
No. of benefited preschool students	2.627

Escuela Normal Superior de Convención - Rural Education Institutional Project (PIERC).

MSI provided support to all educational establishments, educational communities of all venues, and to rural educational centers in the municipalities of Hacarí, El Carmen, El Tarra and San Calixto in supporting their own responsibility of formulating their own education institutional project based on the context in which they operate, and the particularities of their participants. Accordingly, the education component helped in the construction of the Rural Education Institutional Project (PIERC), in accordance with the Escuela Normal de Convención. As a result, 4 PIERC were formulated according to the development plans, and were adjusted to the actual social and economic status of each municipality. Similarly, 4 municipal conferences were carried out in which solution initiatives and PIERC were described.

No. of municipalities	4 (El Tarra, San Calixto, El Carmen and Hacarí)
No. of rural establishments	17
No. of participating school managers	17
No. of teachers	420
No. of enrolled students	4,000

Coffee Growers Committee of Magdalena (Comité de Cafeteros de Magdalena) – The Elaboration of Rural Educational Plans –PER - in Ciénaga, Fundación, and Aracataca.

With the implementation of Comité de Cafeteros de Magdalena, MSI was able to provide support in the construction of the Rural Educational Plans-PER for the municipalities of Aracataca, Ciénaga and Fundación while serving as an instrument to access the resources of the World Bank-PER II. Therefore, MSI trained a team of coordinators, advisers, and municipal facilitators in charge of the construction of PER. Similarly, it carried out two regional meetings in order to attain information about the rural headquarters as well as contributions to the construction of the analysis. This activity was carried out in coordination with the Department of Education of Magdalena – SED, as well as with representatives of three municipalities and the government, teachers, and educational managers from rural educational centers. As a result, the three PER were formulated containing educational priorities from the rural and agricultural sectors, which are already in accordance with the proposed development plans. These plans will be implemented in January and managed directly within the Ciénaga before the SED of Magdalena or MEN of Fundación and Aracataca.

Departments	Magdalena
Municipalities	3 (Ciénaga, Fundación y Aracataca)
Students	12.975
Teachers	650

Other Activities

Institutional Educational Projects (PEI) in Chocó.

Throughout this quarter, MSI provided support in coordination with and co-financing from the Departmental Secretariat of Chocó. This support translated into the implementation of training and orientation workshops regarding the redesign of educational institutional projects (PEI), study plans, improvement plans, evaluation of standards, and the institutional auto evaluation of the 6 municipalities of Chocó, which according to the legislation 715, are the responsibilities of the departmental administrations. This includes the efficient management of quality resources, in order to train managerial personnel from non-certified municipalities.

Due to effective coordination and co financing from the program, a successful meeting took place among teachers and educational managers from each municipality. This led to obtain as results a successful analysis regarding the real status of PEI in each educational institution, as well as the advancement of the construction of improvement plans, and the training of educational personnel while leaving behind necessary tools that will allow the construction of a municipal PEI in each educational institution. The result of the previous, will allow all educational institutions to be part of the creation of educational objectives within PEI at the national level.

Municipality	Quantity of Educational Institutions	Quantity of Educational Institutions	Educational Establishments	Number of Attendees
Acaandí	1	4	5	20
Bojayá	2	5	7	28
Carmen del Atrato	2	2	4	19
Carmen del	1	14	3	30

Darién				
Riosucio	10	7	17	76
Unguía	5	3	8	43
TOTAL	21	35	56	216

Furniture Supplies

Another important action of MSI during the quarter was the production of an inventory with information regarding the work progress, adjustments, and furniture of 77 educational institutions while indicating the need of furniture in 16 municipalities of Norte de Santander, Magdalena, Cesar and Guajira. This information was utilized to identify suitable rooms for the installation of computer equipment, which in fact were at risk of not being installed and included within the *Computers to Educate* program (CPE) from the Ministry of Communications and the MEN. This resulted in the delivery of 680 stabilizers, 719 tables, 1540 chairs, 25 fire-extinguishers, 10 fans, and 21 air conditioners. The impact translated into 77 information technology classrooms in order to provide daily quality education.



Literacy in Dibulla and San Juan del Cesar

Along with the subdivision of the Ministry of Education, MSI managed to obtain 100 out of the 300 seats available from the *Virtual Literacy* project. These seats were destined to the municipalities of Dibulla y San Juan del Cesar and made available to individuals around the country over 15 years of age. It is important to remark that these municipalities present the biggest rates of illiteracy in La Guajira. Additionally, MSI in coordination with local authorities managed to identify the 100 individuals from each municipality over the age of 15 who did not know how to read and write. MSI arranged to use the information technology installations of the Agropecuario Departmental School in Mingueo and El Carmelo School in San Juan, in order to train 50 individuals. As a result, the 100 people that were participated in the literacy campaign are now able to take elementary school classes. MSI provided two computers for each school to improve their information technology inventory while providing additional tools to support the goals of the project.

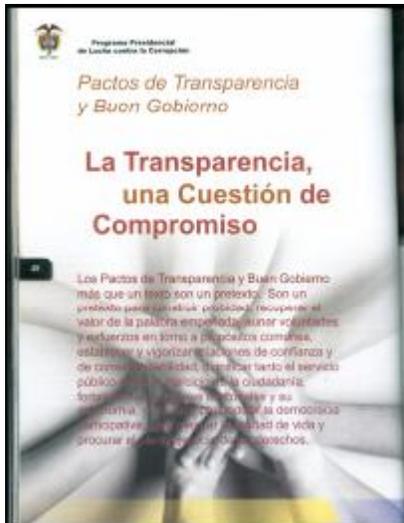
Technical Assistance to Educational Secretariats

Throughout the quarter, MSI accomplished the following in order to improve educational services through direct technical assistance and guidance for the municipal and departmental secretariats of education:

- Advised the Secretariats of Aracataca and Fundación regarding the formulation of municipal educational plans with projects, resources and punctual priorities and according to the guidelines of the municipal development plans in place. During this process MSI included teachers from Educational Institutions while letting them participate in the elaboration of PER.
- In Fundación, MSI provided technical assistance in order to advance the study of the headquarter locations that correspond to each educational institution. This took place due to the urban expansion and the creation of new neighborhoods located far from educational centers. MSI revised the scope of each one of the educational institutions and elaborated an educational sketch of the urban zone while redefining the action radius for several institutions. This will permit the municipal educational

secretariat manage the authorization of the project before SED from Magdalena so that new students do not have to travel long hours through dangerous areas.

- MSI provided orientation to the Planning and Educational Secretariats of Ocaña on methods to gather the educational community together and make them participants of the redesign and reconstruction of their unit before obtaining municipal certification before the SED and the MEN. This was completed through assistance from the municipal council of Ocaña when authority was transferred to the Mayor for the restructuring of the Secretariat.
- Along with the Secretariat, MSI was able to explore the functioning of Escuelas Saludables in the municipal departments in order to expand the radius of awareness regarding prevention and anticipation of risks within educational centers and households. Similarly, MSI conducted recount of school sites lacking titles that need to be legalized so that the investment of available fiscal resources take place. Through supervision, temporary legal action was in place to amend titles.



- MSI initiated a comparative analysis between the development plans from Valledupar, El Copey & Pueblo Bello and the Departmental Development Plan, in order to identify common projects that could complement it, subsidize it, or both.

Plans for Rural Education (PER) in Chocó

Along with the members of the Departmental Educational Board and with the Chamber of Commerce of Quibdó, MSI provided support in the elaboration of the PER in 6 targeted municipalities within Chocó. It succeeded in agreeing with the Bureau of Departmental Education of its participation in the promotion in each municipality of policies for children, youth, gender, and ethnicities regarding their right to education while pushing its incorporation in the rural and municipal education plans. Additionally, MSI has trained 26 members of the board of education on the *Hagamos Control Ciudadano* methodology while applying and promoting the same in each one of the municipalities.

Activities planned for January – March 2009

- Meeting with the Ministry of Education, Corporación Convivencia Productiva, Universidad de los Andes and OIM for the planning of “Classrooms in Peace” for 2009
- Induction Meeting for the PER and Chamber of Commerce teams
- Session for the inauguration of the Public Management Diploma in Quibdó
- Session for the inauguration of the Public Management Diploma in Turbo

B. Component 2: Building governance capacity in targeted regions

Subcomponent 2.1: Transparency and accountability of regional and local governments

Transparency Pacts

During this quarter MSI continued to offer technical assistance to the Presidential Anti-Corruption Program (*Programa Presidencial de Lucha contra la Corrupción-PPLCC*). As a result, the Transparency

and Good Governance Pacts have been restructured, including the elements of the Good Governance Code, one of the components of the standard model of internal control. To date, this tool is being promoted so as to be adopted by departmental and municipal administrations across the country. According to the above, the model was already sent to CIMIENTOS to promote its adoption in the beginning of 2009.

The new Transparency and Good Governance Pacts are therefore effective tools for good public management and fighting corruption, as they incorporate elements of communication with the public.

Planned Activities for January – March 2009

- January 18: Signing of the Transparency and Good Governance Pact with the Chocó government
- February: Signing of the Transparency and Good Governance Pact with the Magdalena government
- January - March: Promotion of the Transparency and Good Governance Pact in other CIMIENTOS areas.

Subcomponent 2.2: Improve public administration and local governance

Technical Assistance to Prepare Territorial Development Plans

During this program quarter, MSI continued to provide technical assistance to municipal administrations in preparing development plans. On October 20th the development plan in San Calixto was approved. Additionally, the mayors of Ciénaga, El Copey y San Juan de Cesar, were advised on the procedures for how to implement their respective plans.

Furthermore, MSI continued giving assistance instruments to administrations so that they may adequately implement, monitor, and control their development plans (*Projects Banl, Indicative Plan, Fiscal Framework of Medium term, Annual Investments Operative Plan, Action Plans and Annual Financial Plan divided by months*), which are directly linked to budget management. Particularly, instrumental training was reinforced in the municipalities of Ábrego, Ciénaga, Pueblo Bello and Tibú, as in the governorship of Chocó.

Technical Assistance on Municipal Budgets

This quarter MSI continued the process of technical assistance to strengthen the fiscal and tax capacity in the local administrations of the target region. For this, the weaknesses related to the downgrade and lack of knowledge concerning tax and budget issues from the mayors, governors, assemblies and councils were taken into consideration.

In this sense, the project's activities were meant to create a diagnosis of fiscal and tax management strengths and weaknesses in the municipalities. Plus, administrations were given assistance in balancing their budgets, elaborating 2009 budgets, and the adoption of the *Estatutos de Presupuesto* (Budget Statutes) and the *Estatutos de Rentas* (Rents Statutes), based on updated rules.

The work described above was complemented with the training of the municipal council members and assemblies on topics such as budget structuring, tax updates, the preparation of their own budget, their authority and that of the mayors and governorships.

In the case of the municipal council member training, it should be noted that Valledupar is a special case. As previously mentioned in the last quarterly report, consulting regarding the adjustment of *Estatuto de Rentas* identified new sources of income for the municipality which can increase its budget more than

60%. Therefore, additional trainings and sessions took place on topics such as property tax, tax collections and tax systems.

Additionally, MSI continued to give special assistance to Ciénaga y Ocaña to restructure their finances. In Ciénaga an audit was done with the *Personería Municipal*, the municipal council and the Sports Institute to move forward an accounts treatment with the Financial Secretariat of the mayor's office. In Ocaña a financial monitoring strategy was elaborated and presented to the Mayor's office so that the local government can respond to its obligations without affecting its budget, given that in the last quarter the liability restructuring law had been discounted, thanks to MSI's support.

MSI complemented its previously mentioned activities with the delivery of support materials on CD that include regulatory models, documentary and legal support from the national government, and statistics about the fiscal situation in each municipality.

This technical assistance helped to consolidate the planning process in the departmental and municipal administrations, which now have the capacity to move forward with the implementation of their goals.

Training on MECI Implementation

This quarter MSI continued advising the administrations of the three target regions in the three subsystems that constitute the Standard Internal Control Model (*Modelo Estándar de Control Interno*), or MECI.

MSI worked with the public officials responsible with implementing MECI to carry out diagnostics, to define workplans that will enable them to complete legal requirements, and assist management teams in management and control systems for the daily functions of the administration.

MSI gave technical assistance in the definition of operation models, risk maps, communication methodologies, function manuals, and ethic codes, as well as in the improvement of internal audit practices. In the governorship of Norte de Santander a consulting process was advanced that intends to strengthen public officials' knowledge of risk administration and control activities.

MSI supported the municipalities in the inscription process to qualify for the implementation of MECI that will take place June 30th, 2009, for those municipalities between categories 3 and 6.

Although MSI trained and assisted 24 municipalities and 4 departments in the various aspects of the implementation of MECI, the overall improvement of management and control systems is a permanent process that will generate improvement and correction measures throughout; therefore, MSI will continue to support the different territorial entities with concerns throughout this process.

Technical Assistance in Public Contracting

In this quarter MSI continued assisting the CIMIENTOS target regions in public contracting, taking as a reference the reforms introduced by law 1150 of 2007.

MSI reinforced trainings with all CIMIENTOS administrations and verified contracting processes. In addition, each administration received a model contracting and inventory manual, which will regulate internal procedures. Municipal councils and assemblies also received training sessions on new contractual agreements.

In this quarter special assistance to the Cesar governorship is highlighted, consistent in doing a detailed revision of the most relevant ongoing contractual processes, such as self-managing administration. MSI

submitted a confidential document containing recommendations for them to consider. Additionally, progress was made in the assistance to the ADAM program by clarifying the procedures to implement an infrastructure project (improvement of 120 homes for the displaced), under methodology that differs from the contractual agreements stated in law 80 and 1150.

Improve Political Control in Target Regions

This quarter MSI supplemented trainings and technical assistance on topics such as planning, budget, and contracting to councils and assemblies of the Catatumbo, Bajo and Medio Atrato regions with internal operations, exercises in regulatory functions, political management and their work under the *Bancadas Law*.

Additionally, MSI began the process of revising regulations, with the intention of suggesting modifications that will allow them to be adjusted to existing rules. Used as reference were the materials elaborated by the National Democratic Institute. Thanks to MSI's support, the councils and assemblies of these regions will be able to improve their political management functions in the actions that each administration takes.

Support for the Adjustment of Territorial Zoning Plans (Planes de Ordenamiento Territorial)

By request of the governorship of Cesar and the mayor's office of Valledupar, MSI facilitated a diagnostic with Environment, Housing, and Territorial Development Ministry (Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, Vivienda y Desarrollo Territorial) about *Territorial Zoning Plans*, as a fundamental tool whose objective is to define the economic, social and territorial planning, direct its development, and sustainability.

This work saw the participation of the previously mentioned mayor's office and those of Pueblo Bello and El Copey. As a result, the Ministry has programmed a substantial adjustment for Valledupar and delivered modification suggestions to the other two municipal governments.

Participation in the meeting with the National Planning Council

By request of the governorship of Norte de Santander MSI co-financed a departmental meeting of of the Territorial Planning Councils which took place in October 21st. The event allowed the 12 council members to be trained in voting programs, roles and responsibilities, participatory democracy, and about the important of monitoring in the implementation of the departmental development plans.

Acquisition of Informational Tools

During this past quarter MSI contributed to the improvement of weaknesses in the departmental and municipal administrations, and the public corporations by updating computer systems. MSI delivered 70 computers with licenses, printers, and current stabilizers to mayors' offices, governorships, councils, and assemblies.

MSI delivered the computers according to the following criteria so as to achieve the best use:

- a) The computers donated to mayors' offices and governorships are intended to be used for supporting planning activities, budget, and the storing and processing educational information, infrastructure, establishments and registration. In each computer the following databases will be installed:
 - Interactive Consulting System of Educational Infrastructure (*Sistema Interactivo de Consulta de Infraestructura Educativa –SICIED*)

- Information System of Basic and Middle Education (*Sistema de Información de Educación Básica y Media--SINEB*)
 - Registration System (*Sistema de Matrícula --SIMAT*)
- b) The donated computers will support political control activities.

Interaction with the Mayor of Bogotá to promote the use of informational systems

With the intention of promoting measures that improve local administration management, MSI has identified success stories that can be replicated in the CIMIENTOS municipalities. The Bogota Mayor's office has an information system (*SI CAPITAL*) with distinct components that facilitate administrative tasks in fields such as finance, pensions, tax, and socio-economics.

MSI has advanced efforts to transfer and adopt the system in the Ocaña Mayor's office, which is currently evaluating the proposal given their own capacities.

Special Technical Assistance in Media Management

On December, in coordination with the National Democratic Institute, USAID supported the Ocaña Mayor's office and its collaborators in the management of media and press, and intends to strengthen relations with the media. USAID's support to the local administration was complemented by an international expert in the field. MSI co-financed the logistics of the event as well as the travel expenses of the consultant.

Planned Activities for January – March 2009

- January - March: Assist the CIMIENTOS target regions in the elaboration of management instruments in their development plans, for the duration of 2009
- January - March: Propel the adoption of the Tax System and Budget Statutes, and Contracting Manuals, according to the technical assistance and models contributed by the program.
- January - March: Support of the Valledupar mayor's office in its socialization process of the Rents Code (*Código de Rentas*) depending on the change in tax rates, in benefit of the municipality.
- January - March: Support the administrations in the implementation process of the management and control tools.
- January - March: Assist the administrations in the implementation of the new regulatory decrees that are under the contractual standards
- January - March: Continue to support the councils and assemblies in the adjustment process of their internal regulations and training on topics of political control.

General Observations

MSI worked closely with the mayors and governors during their first year of rule, facilitating their processes and management strategies, strengthening the governability, increasing transparency, and benefiting the citizens.

Nevertheless, this work needs to be sustained in order to guarantee that the training and technical assistance translate into real change in the administration's management. A sustained change will come in the local application of methodologies and tools that originated in the national government's policies and its adaptation to local circumstances. This will be the goal in 2009 in the various areas already identified.

The following table reflects how the administrations have adopted these tools:

INSTRUMENTO ADOPTADO	Presupuesto 2009	Instrumentos de gestión PD				Estatuto de Presupuesto	Estatuto de Rentas	Manual de Contratación
		Plan Indicativo	Plan Operativo Anual de Inversiones	Plan de Acción	Plan Anual Mensualizado de Caja			
ATRATO								
Chocó	SI							
Acandí	SI							
Bojayá	SI			NO	NO	SI	SI	
Carmen de Atrato	SI			SI	SI	SI	SI	
Carmen del Darién	SI			NO	NO	SI		
Murindó	SI					SI		
Riosucio	SI			NO	NO			
Ungía	SI			NO	NO	SI		
CATATUMBO								
Norte de Santander								
Abrego	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI
Convención	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI
El Carmen	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI
El Tarra	SI	NO	SI	NO	SI	SI	SI	SI
Hacari	SI	NO	SI	NO	SI	SI	SI	SI
La Playa	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI
Ocaña								
San Calixto	SI	NO	SI	NO	SI	SI	SI	NO
Teorama	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI
Tibú								
SIERRA NEVADA								
Cesar	SI	SI	SI	NO	SI	NO	NO	NO
El Copey	SI	SI	SI	NO	NO	SI	SI	
Pueblo Bello	SI	SI	SI	NO	NO	NO	NO	SI
Valledupar	SI	SI	SI	NO	SI	SI	SI	SI
La Guajira	SI	NO	NO	NO		NO	NO	
Dibulla	SI	SI	SI	NO	NO	NO	SI	SI
San Juan	SI	SI	NO	NO	SI	SI	SI	NO
Magdalena	SI	SI	SI	NO	SI	NO	NO	SI
Aracataca	SI	SI	NO	NO	NO	SI	SI	SI
Ciénaga	SI	SI	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	SI
Fundación	SI	NO	SI	NO	NO	NO	NO	SI
Casilla en blanco: información no reportada por la respectiva alcaldía o gobernación.								

Besides the work MSI completed with the Cesar governorship in the ADAM program, meetings were held with the Finance Secretary to accomplish actions that will result in benefits for this administration.

It is important to mention that the municipality, San Juan del Cesar, is establishing a MECI assistance partnership with Pamplona University and therefore declined MSI's support on this issue.

Subcomponent 2.3: Increased coordination between different levels of government

During the reporting period, MSI carried out three evaluation training workshops in each of the CIMIENTOS regions for 2009. The USAID Office of Democracy assisted in these evaluation workshops. On November 19, the evaluation and activity programming exercise was conducted in Santa Marta in collaboration with the Mayor and officials of Sierra Nevada. The event was attended by 6 mayors and 8

municipal officials. The November 25 exercise in Ocaña was attended by 8 mayors, 3 municipal officials, 2 secretaries of the office of departmental planning, and the department’s secretary of government. In the Bajo and Medio Atrato workshop on December 5, the Governor of Chocó, the Secretary of Departmental Planning, the 7 mayors, CIMIENTOS, and 7 municipal officials were all in attendance.

These workshops have helped to strengthen ties and coordination between the CIMIENTOS Program and local administrations, and have served as a forum for open dialogue between USAID, the CIMIENTOS Program, and local municipal authorities to help set priorities and design the activities for 2009.

The main suggestion made by workshop attendees was to make the activities of the technical assistance and training offered by the Program more permanent. In fact, the MSI proposal for this initiative in 2009 involves strengthening regional teams by recruiting local health and public administration experts to respond in a more effective and timely manner to demands made by local leaders and officials.

C. Cross-cutting Component: Civil Society

In this quarter, the Citizen Participation component focused on three fundamental tasks: training citizens and public officials on citizen control, technical and financial assistance for public oversight projects, and the prioritizing and implementing Bases Projects. Also during this quarter, the final activities were completed for the grant received by Ocasá to strengthen youth leadership in the municipalities of Valledupar, El Copey and Pueblo Bello in the department of Cesar. Meanwhile, the grant with the Escuela Galán to develop a leadership school in the municipality of Tibú continued in operation. Also, the component began training local organization leaders in the municipality of Carmen de Atrato in Chocó on the Advanced Participatory Methodologies (*Métodos Avanzados de Participación – MAP*), and provided support to Municipal Youth Council elections in the municipalities of Ocaña in Norte de Santander and Ciénaga in Magdalena.

Hagamos Control

MSI continued to train community leaders on enhancing citizen control in the targeted municipalities as outlined in the Citizen Participation Component of the program. Training sessions followed the methodology previously developed by USAID, “*Hagamos control Ciudadano*”, the process of helping public officials increase awareness of citizen control and transferring methodology to civil society and regional governments through the *Formador de Formadores (Trainer of Trainers)* workshops.

Hagamos Control (Let’s Make Control) Training Workshops with Citizens

During this quarter, the Citizen Participation Component carried out three *Hagamos Control Ciudadano* training workshops for civil society leaders. These sessions were supported by the mayor’s office in each of the participating municipalities. The details of these training workshops are outlined in the following table.

HAGAMOS CONTROL WORKSHOPS WITH CITIZENS

Date	Location	Beneficiaries
Nov. 20-21	Ciénaga	TOTAL 40 (27 women, 5 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous, 12 youths, 1 IDP): 2 municipal public officials, 38 citizens
Nov. 27-28	El Copey	TOTAL 34 (16 women, 4 afro-colombians, 8 youths): 1 municipal public official, 1 national official, 32 citizens

Date	Location	Beneficiaries
Dec. 4-5	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL 27 (8 women, 1 afro-colombians, 3 indigenous, 2 youths, 3 IDPs): 7 municipal public officials, 20 citizens

These workshops followed the *Citizen Control* approach outlined by the Program. The citizens that participated in the workshops have been trained in purposeful social auditing, and dealing with suggestions, recommendations or complaints in real time. Participants realize that social auditing seeks to strengthen institutions, improve processes and procedures in service provision, and not attack or discredit the municipal administration and its officials.

Those who participated in the workshops expressed their satisfaction with the approach towards citizen control. The workshops held in El Copey and San Juan del Cesar were carried out at the request of the Mayors in the municipalities interested in promoting the social auditing exercise in their districts. As a result of the workshops, 6 oversight proposals, developed by citizens, were submitted to the program to explore possible financing.

Hagamos Control Workshops with Public Officials

Similarly, the program has worked to create awareness regarding citizen control for public officials in the mayor's office in the municipality of Pueblo Bello in el Cesar. This awareness workshop was a priority because the municipality has two auditing projects being implemented that require the support of the municipal administration. The workshop was attended by the Mayor of the municipality who expressed support for the oversight exercises in place, and showed interest in maintaining citizen control programs during his administration.

HAGAMOS CONTROL WORKSHOPS WITH PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Date	Location	Beneficiaries
Oct. 17	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 9 (6 women): 9 municipal public officials, 1 mayor

The program trained 101 community leaders and raised awareness among 9 municipal public officials.

Formador de Formadores Workshops

During the quarter, in coordination with the Education Component, a Formador de Formadores (Trainer of Trainers) workshop was developed with members of the departmental board of education in Chocó. This panel is composed of various civil society organizations in the department, and has been formed to support the formulation and implementation of a department-wide education policy. The members of this board are capable of spreading the Citizen Control methodology and supporting community leaders in the development of oversight projects. This workshop was carried out as follows:

FORMADOR DE FORMADORES WORKSHOPS

Date	Location	Beneficiaries
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Date	Location	Beneficiaries
Nov. 19	Quibdó	TOTAL 26 citizens (11 women, 25 afro-colombians, 9 youths, 1 IDP) 3 departmental officials, 23 citizens

Oversight Projects

During this quarter, participants in citizen control workshops received technical support for the formulation of six citizen oversight projects in education and health. The projects outlined in the following table were approved by USAID during this quarter and are now in being implemented.

APPROVED VEEDURÍA PROJECTS

Project	Location	Beneficiaries
Oversight of the Cafeteria of the Educational Institute Santo Angel in Guamalito, from the El Carmen municipality, during the second quarter of 2008.	El Carmen	5
Oversight of the transfer of resources from the state for quality of education in the municipalities of Acandí and Chocó during the second quarter of 2008.	Acandí	5
Oversight of the implementation of the resource quality of the overall system and contributions to the Educational Institution Robinson Palacios in the municipality of Bojayá during the second quarter of 2008.	Bojayá	9
Oversight of the supply of medicines to the members of the EPS Cajacopi in the municipality of Riosucio, Chocó, during the last quarter of 2008.	Riosucio	7
Citizen oversight of the implementation and transfer of resources from the state for the quality of education at the Centre.	Dibulla	4

It is the first time that the citizens in these areas have been involved in technical and systematic oversight supported by the municipal administration. It is also the first time that they have received funding for this type of exercise. The development of these projects also represents a valuable exercise for the citizens in

that they have had to learn and understand the extent of possible oversight, increase their knowledge and awareness, as well as their capacity to interact with state actors.

With the six projects approved this quarter, the total number of oversight projects in implementation has reached 14 across 10 different municipalities.

Bases Projects

The Citizen Participation Component continued with the strategy of bringing citizens and municipal governments closer together through the prioritization of projects in consultation tables and bases projects.

During this quarter, USAID approved five Bases Projects, while five projects were implemented and delivered to communities. In total, 14 projects have been delivered; there are 14 in implementation and three projects in development.

APPROVED BASES PROJECTS

Project	Location	Beneficiaries
Improving and strengthening computer rooms at the Escuelas de la Presentación in Riosucio	Riosucio	TOTAL: 1,244
Construction of the Escuela Rural Mixta de la Vereda Despensa Baja	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL: 100
Construction of a wall enclosing the Bernardo Moreno school, refurbishments in the town center, in Unguía – Chocó municipality.	Unguía	TOTAL: 951
Provision of furniture for the Indigenous Agro-Ecological Educational Centre "Tobías Queragama" of El Carmen de Atrato, Chocó municipality.	Carmen del Atrato	TOTAL: 920
Improvements in the quality of education for students at the Educational Institution Monseñor Díaz Plata of the Tarra municipality, delivery of books, school furniture and educational assistance.	El Tarra	TOTAL: 1,050

Of the 5 projects approved this quarter, two involve infrastructure works projects that are being carried out by civil society organizations, while three are delivered directly through the program.

IMPLEMENTED BASES PROJECTS

Project	Location	Beneficiaries
Remodeling and enlarging of the cafeteria of the Educational Site El Carmen, of the Agustina Ferro Educational Institution	Ocaña	TOTAL: 780
Construction of a computer room at the Magola Hernández pardo siten° 3 Oswaldo Mestre Medina school	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL: 279
Provision of furniture to the headquarters of the agricultural schools, Bojayá, Co-educational Rural School and Agricultural Institute of la Loma of Bojayá.	Bojayá	TOTAL: 684
Improvements in the quality of education for students at the Educational Institution Cayetano Franco Pinzón of the San Calixto municipality through the provision of computers	San Calixto	TOTAL: 698
Improving and remodeling bathrooms in the Rafael Soto Fuentes school, Chimila	El Copey	TOTAL: 950

These five projects that have been carried out have contributed to the improvement of educational services delivered to students. It should be noted that these projects were assisted greatly by the commitment and participation of the community and the municipal administration in their contributions of goods and services delivered. The implementation of these projects provides a model of how people and local governments can work together and where resources are used in an efficient and timely manner.

Three of these Bases Projects carried out were implemented by civil society organizations, and show how public resources can be used efficiently. The Mayors of Ocaña and Pueblo Bello showed their satisfaction with the model implemented by CIMIENTOS and expressed interest in replicating the methodology used for other projects being put forward by their administrations.

Community Assemblies

During this quarter, MSI carried out 4 community assemblies (*mesas de concertación*) with the participation of civil society organizations (women’s groups, youths, and community action boards, among others) and the municipal administrations. At these community assemblies, four ideas for project bases were prioritized in the areas of health and education. The community assemblies comprised of the following:

BASES PROJECT TOWN ASSEMBLIES

Date	Location	Beneficiaries
Oct.14	La Playa	TOTAL 56 (35 women, 18 youths): 1 departmental public official, 2 council members, 53 citizens
Oct.30	Ocaña	TOTAL 54 (39 women, 1 youth): 27 departmental public officials, 27 citizens
Nov.13	El Carmen	TOTAL 33 (7 women): 3 municipal public officials, 4 departmental public officials, 1 mayor, 25 citizens
Nov.20	Hacarí	TOTAL 28 (10 women, 10 youths) 4 municipal public officials, 7 departmental public officials, 1 council member, 16 citizens

These community assemblies have allowed municipal governments and civil society to make decisions together on the issues that affect them. There were meeting spaces where citizens and their governments could come together prioritize health and education needs and generate an alternate solution.

The total participation in the community assemblies carried out during the quarter amounted to 171 people, including 91 women.

Advanced Participatory Methodologies -MAP Workshops

During the quarter, the Citizen Participation Component provided a workshop on Advanced Participatory Methodologies (Métodos Avanzados de Participación – MAP) for members of civil society organizations in the municipality of Carmen del Atrato in Chocó.

ADVANCED PARTICIPATION METHODS WORKSHOPS

Date	Location	Beneficiaries
Dec . 1-3	Carmen del Atrato	TOTAL 38 (18 women, 3 indigenous, 4 afro-colombians, 5 youths, 5 IDPs): 4 municipal public officials, 6 departmental public official, 1 council member, 31 citizens

With the completion of these MAP workshops, MSI meets two fundamental objectives. On one side, it contributes to the internal strengthening of civil society organizations, while on the other; it supports municipal administrations in their efforts to improve citizen participation in local management. This workshop was carried out because the Mayor of Carmen del Atrato, who participated in the previous MAP workshop, considered these methods to be very important in improving citizen participation in the community and had requested a similar workshop be delivered in his municipality.

Grants

OCASA



During the quarter, MSI completed the “Jóvenes Diciendo y Haciendo” (Youth Voices and Action) project in the municipalities of Valledupar, EL Copey and Pueblo Bello, which was put forward by the Ocasa corporation through a donation. The official closing of the grant took place on November 13 in the city of Valledupar with the participation of the Governor of Cesar. The event facilitated a dialogue between the Governor and youth on the exercise of governance.

The “Jóvenes Diciendo y Haciendo” project worked with 95 young people in the municipalities of Valledupar, El Copey and Pueblo Bello providing training, technical assistance and practical exercises in youth participation.

The training offered to young people was focused on the fundamentals of the local democratic structure, tools for citizen participation, organizational capacity for youth, and project development, among others.

Apart from training sessions, MSI provided two joint sessions for young people so that they could meet their peers in other municipalities and participate in the project by sharing their experiences.

The grant also enabled young people to visit local and regional public entities and learn about their operation. On October 16, 2008, they visited the Departmental Assembly of Cesar. Forty seven young people participated, of which 25 came from Pueblo Bello, 14 from El Copey and 8 from Valledupar. The visit allowed young people to become familiar with how public departmental institutions operate, and

consequently to understand that it is possible get engaged with the process of governance. Furthermore, the visit was a way to get young people involved in the project and to have inputs in the activities.

As a result of the Training process performed by Ocasá, MSI was able to guide youth into formulating and executing youth association projects related to the problems they had identified throughout the execution of the project (framed in the educational, health, transparency, environmental, participatory and co-existence components of the project). They formulated 11 projects in the three municipalities on topics such as education, making most of leisure, citizen participation and environmental protection.

Galán School (Escuela Galán)

During this quarter, MSI continued the execution of the project “*Escuela de Líderes Locales Gestores de Paz*” (School for Local Leaders Facilitators of Peace), in the municipality of Tibú and with impact in the Gabarra locality, was put forward by the *Escuela Galán*.

This project has benefitted 50 youth and works to strength the local institutions and social cohesion of the communities of Tibú and la Gabarra. This project aims to shape the youth into social and political actors in order to take part as qualified citizens in the dynamics of local development and replicate what has been learned in new youth groups. This initiative also seeks to generate participation and promotion of citizenry as an alternative leisure activity for young people.

Radios Ciudadanas: Spaces for Democracy

On November 7, USAID approved donations to push forward the strengthening of civil radios of Riosucio and Carmen del Atrato in Chocó. These initiatives will be forwarded in coordination with the Ministry of Culture.

These donations will last for six months and will aim to promote the strengthening of democracy, civic participation and cultural diversity for coexistence, through the creation and consolidation of analysis and opinion from community radio stations of Chocó. This will benefit 50 people who are directly involved with the program and will influence the inhabitants of these municipalities.

Other Activities

Support in Youth Municipal Council Elections

During this quarter the Citizen Participation component, through consultants and the regional team, gave support to the municipalities of Ocaña and Ciénaga in the election process of Municipal Youth Councils (CJM). Both of these municipalities had as an objective in their municipal development plans the creation of municipal youth councils, but lacked the experience and personnel to move forward this process. Thus, MSI developed a strategy of support aimed at promoting participation of youth of the local schools and universities in the elections for the CMJ.

In the municipality of Ocaña, between the 20th and 31st of October, the CMJ election process was socialized with youth from the age of 14 to 19 years of age in 10 educational institutions. In addition, banners were done to invite people to vote, and a cultural day was done so that candidates could explain their proposals to the youth of the municipality. The CMJ elections took place on the 7th of November, with total of 1,358 votes. This was the second time that CMJ elections were done in Ocaña. The total amount of votes for this election was very significant since in the first election there were only 300 votes.

In the municipality of Ciénaga, support was given to the CMJ election process in two campaigns. One was from November 18 to 25, and the second one was from December 11 to 19. In both of these periods MSI provided assistance to the municipal administration, specifically to the Government Secretariat since

it is the office in charge of the process, procedures and conditions required for the CMJ implementation. Awareness was raised amongst students of 7 different schools on the election process and the importance of these elections, training was given to the candidates as counselors of youth, in their responsibilities, duties, and how to move forward their campaigns. The CMJ elections in Ciénaga are programmed for the 7th of January of 2009.

Strengthening Women's Networks (Redes de Mujeres)

During the quarter MSI supported the growth of Women's Networks in Magdalena and in Chocó via the following activities:

- Completing a technical assistance campaign for the redefinition of objectives, which took place the 6th and 7th of November in the city of Santa Marta and was assisted by ten women from the coordinating group REDEMAG. This technical assistance allowed the women to overcome the common leadership difficulties, which had been causing problems as a result of not being discussed by the network. With this dialogue the women were able to redefine their objectives and criteria of adhesion to the network, and thus validate their workplan supported by CIMIENTOS during the last quarter.
- The “Primera Asamblea Municipal de la Mujer- Equidad de Género” (First Municipal Assembly on Women and Gender Equality) in the municipality of Ciénaga on November 12th, counted on the assistance of 150 women. Their support consisted in the completion of a session about gender perspective and the definition of the principal problems that affect women. The diagnostic and prioritization of problems will comprise the foundation for a gender policy to be promoted by the municipal administration.
- A technical assistance workshop was given to the technical coordination committee of the *Red Departamental de Mujeres Chocoanas* (Departmental Network of Women from Chocó), for the formulation and management of social projects, completed October 14th and 15th. 13 women assisted workshop.



Planned Activities for January—March 2009

- Continue with the process of forming leaders for social organizations in citizen oversight to implement *Hagamos Control Ciudadano*
- Support the election process of CMJ in the municipality of El Carmen – Norte de Santander
- Implementation of projects with BASES fund
- Support to organizational strengthening initiatives of civil society organizations

III. ACTIVITIES AND CONTEXT AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

A. National Level

MSI worked during the quarter with the Presidential Anti-Corruption Program (PPLCC), the National Registry, the Social Protection Ministry (MPS), the General Prosecutor’s Office (FGN), the Attorney General of the Nation (PGN), and the Comptroller (CGR), as entities that make up the tripartite agreement. MSI continued to strengthen the National Health Superintendent (SNS). The following are activities carried out with each of them.

- Supported the PPLCC in redesigning the Transparency Pact, incorporating the concept of good governance, as an expression of communication with the citizenry.
- Managed the processing and approval of a donation on behalf of the Social Protection Ministry to purchase an ambulance and medical-surgical equipment for two municipalities in Chocó.
- Technical assistance for the SNS in its elaboration and delivery of an inspection guide for mayors’ offices and health officials in the municipalities.
- Coordination, consultation, and co-financing with the National Registry, MPS, and *Consejería Presidencial para el Chocó* (Presidential Council for Chocó), to complete the identification campaigns in the target municipalities of Chocó.
- Coordination with the CGR, FGN y PGN, for the establishment of priorities for establishing priorities for the implementation of resources under the tripartite agreement and the process of selecting the consultant to build the concept on the exchange of evidence obtained by the CGR in their process of preliminary investigation and incorporation under the system of criminal justice.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES – NATIONAL LEVEL

DATE	ACTIVITY	BENEFICIARIES
October 1 st	Technical Assistance (TA) and coordination meeting with the SNS to elaborate supervision guide	TOTAL: 1 National Level Public Official
October 10 th	TA to the SNS in elaboration and contents of supervision guide for health service providers at SNS	TOTAL: 5 National Level Public Officials (2 women)
October 14 th	Meeting with the anticorruption czar Oscar Ortiz of PPLCC, for the redesign of the Transparency Pacts	TOTAL: 1 National Level Public Official
October 17 th	TA to the SNS in the adjustments of the supervision guide for health service providers	TOTAL: 5 National Level Public Officials (2 women)
November 11 th	Meeting with the vice-controller of the Republic, Roberto Hoyos, to process the selection of a consultant who will build the concept over the exchange of evidence	TOTAL: 1 National Level Public Official
November 18 th	Coordination meeting with Vice-contralor of the republic, Roberto Hoyos, to prioritize the implementation of resources in the framework of the tripartite agreement	TOTAL: 1 National Level Public Official
November 24 th	Meeting to display the final version of the supervision guide for the health service	TOTAL: 5 National Level Public Officials (2 women)

	providers at SNS	
December 2 nd	Coordination meeting with the <i>Vice-Attorney</i> Carlos Gómez, the <i>Vice-Prosecutor</i> Guillermo Mendoza and with <i>Vice-Controller</i> Roberto Hoyos, to establish 2009 activities in the framework of the tripartite agreement	TOTAL: 3 National Level Public Officials
December 18 th	Coordination meeting with the Coordinator of the group: " <i>Atención de Emergencias y Desastres</i> " of MPS (Attention in Emergencies and Disasters) Luis Fernando Correa, to manage the purchase of an ambulance and medical-surgical equipment for two municipalities of Chocó.	TOTAL: 1 National Level Public Official

B. Bajo and Medio Atrato

Public Order and security conditions

The mayor of Acandí, Azael Rodríguez, returned to office after two months of suspension carried out by the Contractor of Apartadó (Antioquia), due to alleged irregularities while he was in office in 2006.

The region continues to be exposed to attacks from FARC. In October, members of FARC 34, fired at a boat on the Beté- Quibdó route, which was transporting 21 civilians causing one casualty and injuries to four individuals.

The mobilization in the region continues to present difficulties. Rapid response units from the coast of Urabá rescued 21 passengers and 3 crew members that were traveling from Sapzurro (Acandí) to Turbo by boat.

The mayors of Unguía and Bojayá were officially sworn in. Similarly, the election of mayors from Unguía, Everth Urrego González, and Bojayá, Manuel Joaquín Palacios Asprilla, were confirmed by the with the negations of the claims against them

In October 14th, Darién was killed in Carmen del Darién. Darién was a community leader who worked as a community watch official and who claimed that collective afro-Colombian territories had been invaded in the Curvaradó and Jiguamiandó regions by bogus corporations made up of paramilitaries.

Activities – Tables of beneficiaries

During the quarter, MSI conducted technical assistance and training in recruitment to all municipal governments in the region and the departmental government team of Chocó. A total of 2 sessions were conducted and technical assistance and training was provided to 120 local government officials, 24 government departmental officials, 6 aldermen and 10 deputies. Another important development in the region, within the public administration component, was the training provided to officials of the Interior and municipalities in el *Organic Statute of Budgets* as well as the identification of the main weaknesses in tax management. Additionally, deputies were trained on the need to adjust the code of income, changes in taxes and the need to implement the new rates.

During the quarter, MSI in the framework of the components of public administration and health care, completed the identification of citizen's campaign for the delivery of the identification documents, which

was conducted in partnership with the National Registry and the municipal administrations of the municipalities of Acandí, Carmen Del Darién, Unguía and Riosucio. In total 11,150 citizens were identified.

During the period technical assistance for the municipalities and the Departmental Assembly of Chocó in political control started. Also, the banking law and the internal functioning of corporations took place. In total 52 council members and 7 deputies were trained.

Within the educational highlights the strategy implemented between MSI and the Departmental Secretariat of Education for training teachers in the six municipalities in CIMIENTOS Chocó stands out. Through these meetings, the Secretariat was able, for the first time, to socialize and establish their educational presence in the municipalities of the region. The conference provided practical tools to guide the redesign of the Institutional Education Projects (PEI), the development of a curriculum, the assessment of standards and the automatic institutional evaluation. In total 216 people were trained such as educational managers and teachers. Another activity being developed with the *Aulas en Paz* project, is the formation of civic skills by training teachers to counteract violence and aggression in the classrooms in two schools in the municipalities of Unguía and Acandí.

MSI delivered and compared the baselines for governance as well as the 7 municipalities of the CIMIENTOS program developed in 2007. With this document, the administrations were given a tool that allows them to manage a database with updated statistical information for each of the components of the program for the decision making process.

Under the citizen participation component, one Base Project was delivered, which consisted in the provision of 209 desks, 13 acrylic panels, 7 desks, and 15 chairs to the Bojayá school of Agricultural Studies, Escuela Rural Mixta and to Instituto Agrícola de la Loma. This grant was sponsored by the CIMIENTOS program, and executed with the city administration and the community. The input from the community was the labor and that of the municipality was the arrangement of three classrooms.

ACTIVITIES IN BAJO AND MEDIO ATRATO

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
05-oct	TA on the socialization of the budget ordinance project to the Departmental Assembly	Quibdó	TOTAL 18 (6 women, 13 afro-colombians, 3 indigenous): 5 departmental public officials, 1 national governmental public official, 12 representatives
06-oct	Technical consulting to the mayor's office on implementing changes to the public contracting system	Acandí	TOTAL 13 (7 women, 8 afro-colombians): 10 municipal public officials, 1 mayor, 2 council members
06-oct	Technical consulting to the mayor's office on municipal taxes	Acandí	TOTAL 13 (7 women, 8 afro-colombians): 10 municipal public officials, 1 mayor, 2 council members

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
07-oct	Technical consulting to the mayor's office on municipal taxes	Unguía	TOTAL: 14 municipal public officials (9 women, 9 afro-colombians)
07-oct	Technical consulting to the mayor's office on implementing changes to the public contracting system	Unguía	TOTAL: 14 municipal public officials (9 women, 9 afro-colombians)
07-oct	TA on the formulation of the project overseeing assistance to the student's house	Murindó	TOTAL 4 (1 woman, 4 afro-colombians, 2 youths): 1 departmental public official, 3 citizens
08-oct	TA on the formulation of the project overseeing assistance to the Opogadó-Murindó health center	Murindó	TOTAL 5 citizens (4 women, 5 afro-colombians, 2 youths)
08-oct	TA on the formulation of the project overseeing assistance to the school cafeteria of the IE of Murindó-Opogadó	Murindó	TOTAL 4 citizens (4 women, 3 afro-colombians, 2 youths)
8-10 Oct-08	Technical Assistance and Training for Teachers of the IE municipalities in the implementation of PEI.	Riosucio	TOTAL: 64 departmental public officials (37 women, 57 afro-colombians, 7 indigenous)
8-10 Oct-08	Technical Assistance and Training to Teachers of the IE municipalities in the implementation of PEI.	Acandí	TOTAL: 24 departmental public officials (8 women, 19 afro-colombians)
8-10 Oct-08	Technical Assistance and Training to Teachers of the IE municipalities in the implementation of PEI.	Unguía	TOTAL: 42 departmental public officials (20 women, 30 afro-colombians, 6 indigenous)
8-10 Oct-08	Technical Assistance and Training to Teachers of the IE municipalities in the implementation of PEI.	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL: 36 departmental public officials (24 women, 34 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous)
8-10 Oct-08	Technical Assistance and Training to Teachers of the IE municipalities in the implementation of PEI.	Bojayá	TOTAL 28 (7 women, 19 afro-colombians, 8 indigenous): 1 municipal public official, 27 departmental public officials

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
8-10 Oct-08	Technical Assistance and Training to Teachers of the IE municipalities in the implementation of PEI.	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL: 19 departmental public officials (6 women, 4 afro-colombians, 5 indigenous)
08-oct	Technical consulting to the mayor's office on implementing changes to the public contracting system.	Riosucio	TOTAL 27 (8 women, 26 afro-colombians): 26 municipal public officials, 1 council member
08-oct	TA on municipal taxes to the mayor's office.	Riosucio	TOTAL 27 (8 women, 26 afro-colombians): 26 municipal public officials, 1 council member
09-oct	Technical consulting to the mayor's office on the application of the modifications to the public contracting system	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL 24 (7 women, 23 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 23 municipal public officials, 1 council member
09-oct	TA on municipal taxes to the mayor's office.	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL 24 (7 women, 23 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 23 municipal public officials, 1 council member
09-oct	TA on the formulation of the project overseeing outpatient services in the San Bartolo de Murindó hospital.	Murindó	TOTAL 4 (2 women, 3 afro-colombians, 1 youth): 1 municipal public official, 3 citizens
11-oct	TA on the formulation of a project overseeing the lack of teachers in the Heraclio Lara IE during the last quarter of 2008.	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL 8 (7 women, 6 afro-colombians, 3 youths, 5 IDPs, 1 indigenous): 1 departmental public official, 7 citizens
11-oct	TA on the formulation of a project overseeing the service provided by the school cafeteria to the students of the Heraclio Lara Arroyo educational institution in the last three months of 2008.	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL 6 (6 women, 6 afro-colombians): 1 departmental public official, 5 citizens

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
11-12 Oct-08	TA on the formulation of a project overseeing the provision of health care referrals to EPS ENDISALUD users during the last quarter of 2008.	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL 9 (2 women, 9 afro-colombians, 4 IDPs): 2 departmental public officials, 1 national governmental public official, 6 citizens
13-14 Oct-08	TA on the formulation of a project overseeing the vaccination service or program from October 2008 to January 2009.	Unguía	TOTAL 8 (5 women, 8 afro-colombians, 1 IDP): 1 departmental public official, 7 citizens
13-14 Oct-08	TA on the formulation of a project overseeing the service provided by the school cafeteria to the students of the agricultural educational institute in Unguía	Unguía	TOTAL: 8 citizens (6 women, 8 afro-colombians, 1 youth)
14-15 Oct-08	Workshop on development projects with the Women's Network of Chocó.	Quibdó	TOTAL 12 (11 women, 12 afro-colombians): 1 departmental public official, 11 citizens
14-oct	Technical consulting to the Mayor's office and council on implementing changes to the public contracting system.	Bojayá	TOTAL 8 (2 women, 8 afro-colombians): 6 municipal public officials, 2 council members
15-oct	TA on the formulation of a project overseeing authorizations for referrals of events not in POS in El Carmen de Atrato.	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL: 4 citizens (4 women)
15-oct	TA on the formulation of a project of organizational strengthening the Asociación de Cabildos katio-ASOKATIO.	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL: 4 citizens (4 afro-colombians)
15-oct	Technical consulting to the Mayor's office and council on implementing changes to the public contracting system.	Murindó	TOTAL: 28 municipal public officials (10 women, 20 afro-colombians)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
17-oct	Technical consulting to the Mayor's office and council on implementing changes to the public contracting system.	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL: 12 municipal public officials (4 women, 1 afro-colombian)
24-oct	Workshop training in Turbo for the Acandí and Unguía municipalities.	Turbo (Unguía-Acandí)	TOTAL: 18 departmental public officials (12 women, 16 afro-colombians)
28-oct	Technical consulting to the Governorship of Chocó in implementing changes to the public contracting system.	Quibdó	TOTAL 24 departmental public officials (9 women, 24 afro-colombians)
29-oct	Technical consulting to the Departmental Assembly in implementing changes to the public recruiting system.	Quibdó	TOTAL 10 (2 women, 10 afro-colombians): 1 departmental public official, 9 representatives
29-oct	TA on departmental taxes to the departmental Ministry of Finance.	Quibdó	TOTAL: 9 departmental public officials (2 women, 8 afro-colombians)
30-oct	TA on departmental taxes to the Departmental Assembly.	Quibdó	TOTAL 8 (1 woman, 8 afro-colombians): 1 departmental public official, 7 representatives
30-oct	TA on Political Control of the Departmental Assembly.	Quibdó	TOTAL 8 (1 woman, 8 afro-colombians): 1 departmental public official, 7 representatives
05-nov	TA on the programming of works initiation, installation and committee of oversight for the project bases: Adaptation and introduction of equipment to the computer room of <i>IE la Presentación de Riosucio</i> .	Riosucio	TOTAL 7 (5 women, 6 afro-colombians, 2 IDPs): 1 municipal public official, 3 departmental public officials, 3 citizens
05-nov	TA on the formulation of a project of strengthening the organization of the women's work cooperative.	Riosucio	TOTAL: 5 citizens (4 women, 5 afro-colombians, 4 IDPs)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
10-nov	Feedback on the hiring system in Murindó	Murindó	TOTAL: 3 municipal public officials (1 woman, 2 afro-colombians)
10-nov	Assistance with the Public Budget – Municipal Council - Bojayá	Bojayá	TOTAL 12 (2 women, 11 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 5 municipal public officials, 7 council members
10-nov	Assistance with the Public Budget – Municipal Council - Murindó	Murindó	TOTAL 10 (3 women, 7 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 4 municipal public officials, 6 council members
11-nov	Feedback on the hiring system in Riosucio	Riosucio	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials (2 afro-colombians)
11-nov	Feedback on the hiring system in Carmen del Darién	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL: 3 municipal public officials (1 woman, 3 afro-colombians)
11-nov	Assistance with the Public Budget – Municipal Council -Carmen del Darién	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL 10 (10 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 1 municipal public official, 9 council members
11-nov	Assistance with the Public Budget – Municipal Council -Riosucio	Riosucio	TOTAL 13 (1 woman, 12 afro-colombians): 4 municipal public officials, 8 council members, 1 citizen
12-nov	Feedback on the hiring system in Unguía	Unguía	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials (1 woman, 2 afro-colombians)
12-nov	Feedback on the hiring system in Acandí	Acandí	TOTAL: 4 municipal public officials (2 afro-colombians)
12-nov	Assistance with the Public Budget – Municipal Council -Acandí	Acandí	TOTAL 14 (6 women, 12 afro-colombians): 3 municipal public officials, 11 council members
12-nov	Assistance with the Public Budget – Municipal Council -Unguía	Unguía	TOTAL 12 (2 women, 2 afro-colombians): 1 municipal public official, 11 council members
14-nov	Feedback on the hiring system in El Carmen de Atrato	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL: 5 municipal public officials (1 afro-colombian)
14-nov	Assistance with the Public Budget – Municipal Council -El Carmen de Atrato.	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL 10 (3 women, 1 indigenous): 3 municipal public officials, 7 council members

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
19-nov	Training on political control, banking laws, and regulatory functions to the Unguía Municipal Council.	Unguía	TOTAL 9 council members (1 woman, 2 afro-colombians):
19-nov	<i>Hagamos Control</i> Workshop with members of the departmental board of education of Chocó.	Quibdó	TOTAL 26 (11 women, 25 afro-colombians, 9 youths, 1 IDP): 3 departmental public officials, 23 citizens
21-nov	Training on political control, banking laws, and regulatory functions to the Carmen del Darien Municipal Council.	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL: 10 council members (10 afro-colombians)
21-nov	Training on political control, banking laws, and regulatory functions to the Riosucio Municipal Council.	Riosucio	TOTAL: 6 council members (5 afro-colombians)
24-nov	Training on political control, banking laws, and regulatory functions to the Bojayá Municipal Council.	Bojayá	TOTAL: 8 council members (1 woman, 7 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous)
25-nov	TA on the formulation of an oversight project: Supply of medicine in the municipality of Bojayá.	Bojayá	TOTAL 4 (2 women, 4 afro-colombians): 2 departmental public officials, 2 citizens
25-nov	Training on political control, banking laws, and regulatory functions to the Murindó Municipal Council.	Murindó	TOTAL: 5 council members (2 women, 5 afro-colombians)
26-nov	Formal submission to the community benefitting from the Bases project: Supply of furniture to the headquarters of the agricultural IE of Bojayá, <i>Escuela Rural Mixta e Int. Agrícola de la Loma de Bojayá</i>	Bojayá	TOTAL: 294 citizens (127 women, 247 afro-colombians, 263 youths, 20 IDPs, 10 indigenous)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
27-nov	Training on political control, banking laws, and regulatory functions to the El Carmen de Atrato Municipal Council	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL: 6 council members
27-nov	TA elements of MECI	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official
27-nov	TA elements of MECI at the Hospital	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official
28-nov	TA elements of MECI	Acandí	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials
28-nov	Training on political control, banking laws, and regulatory functions to the Acandí Municipal Council	Acandí	TOTAL: 8 council members (3 women, 8 afro-colombians)
01-dic	Feedback on the contracting system of the governorship of El Chocó.	Quibdó-Gobernación	TOTAL: 7 departmental public officials (3 women, 6 afro-colombians)
1-3 Dic	Workshop in advanced methods of participation MAP – El Carmen de Atrato.	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL 38 (18 women, 4 afro-colombians, 2 youths, 5 IDPs, 3 indigenous): 6 departmental public officials, 1 council member, 31 citizens
03-dic	Citizen socialization radio project in Riosucio	Riosucio	TOTAL 7 (3 women, 7 afro-colombians): 4 municipal public officials, 3 citizens
04-dic	Citizen socialization radio project in El Carmen de Atrato	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL 7 citizens (1 woman, 2 afro-colombians, 2 youths)
10-dic	Bank workshop on programs and projects to planning officials in Chocó	Quibdó-Regional	TOTAL 11 (1 woman, 11 afro-colombians): 10 municipal public officials, 1 departmental public official

C. Catatumbo

Public Order and Security Conditions

During this quarter, there were not any disturbances of public order in the region. As a result, MSI was able to execute all of its tasks of technical assistance and training provided in the region for the CIMIENTOS Program.

The engineer contractor from ECOPETROL, who had been kidnapped on September 19 by the ELN on the road between Convención and El Tarra, was released on Wednesday, December 23.

Activities – Tables of Beneficiaries

On October 31, Susan Reichle, the Director of USAID, visited activities of the CIMIENTOS Program in Ocaña. She attended the launch of the Methodological Route for Good Treatment, “Peace begins in the home,” (*El Buen Trato, “La Paz Empieza por Casa”*) executed by the Children and Development Corporation. Here she learned about the Route’s operations and interacted with the municipal and departmental entities that participate in the process. Additionally, she attended a conversation with the young candidates for the Youth Municipal Council (*Consejo Municipal de Juventud – CMJ*). This activity permitted her to know the municipal youth policy promoted by the municipal administration, supported by the CIMIENTOS Program and youth initiatives. Likewise, she participated in the roundtable discussions of the BASES project, which took place in the locality of La Rinconada at the Rural Education Center “Llano de los Alcaldes,” where the community prioritized the construction of the cafeteria and the closing of the school.

During this quarter, MSI carried out two BASES projects in Ocaña and San Calixto. On October 2 in Ocaña, the community dedicated itself to the construction of the school cafeteria in the Carmen Institution Educational Headquarters Agustina Ferro. This event brought out Jene Thomas, Director of the Office of Governance and Democracy. On Tuesday, December 2, the project to improve the quality of education in San Calixto was implemented with the supply of seven PCs to the Educational Institute Cayetano Franco Pinzón.

Within the component of Public Administration, MSI delivered technical assistance in public training to the municipalities and the officials of the Governorship. Altogether, 188 officials were trained in the most important changes to Law 80 – previous study and contracting procedures. The process included the delivery of a contracting manual that permits the government to streamline the contracting processes and to comply with the requirements of the law. This training was extended to the council members of the municipalities of Abrego, San Calixto, El Carmen, and Convención. In total, 42 council members were trained.

During this period, MSI trained the Gobernación and the municipalities of Catatumbo, except for El Tarra, in the implementation of the Standard Internal Control Model (*Model Estándar de Control Interno – MECI*). According to the request of the entities, on-site technical assistance was given on the construction of process maps and risk management. Three budget workshops were held, two in Ocaña and one in Tibú. Each of the municipalities was offered direct assistance which provided tools for balancing the budget and the formulation of the 2009 budget, taking into account the municipal development plan, the medium-term fiscal mark, and the projection of tax collections. Altogether, 41 municipal officials benefitted from the workshops. Likewise, the training was extended to 46 council members. In the work with the council members, MSI began campaigns of technical assistance in political control and Banking Law, in order to avoid flaws in the approval of projects and to agree on procedures to be performed. Altogether, 55 council members were trained from the municipalities of La Playa, Teorama, El Carmen, Convención, Abrego and El Tarra. Additionally, MSI started the process of reviewing regulations, in order to suggest changes to conform to existing rules.

CIMIENTOS advised the municipality of Ocaña in the implementation of youth policy through supporting the election process of the Municipal Youth Council (*Consejo Municipal de Juventud – CMJ*). This involved awareness of young people educated in the importance of voting and political participation in the local context, and supporting candidates for the construction of work plans for the presentation of their proposals.

During this quarter, MSI provided school furniture to all of the educational institutions benefitting from the Computers to Educate Program in 2008. MSI completed the delivery of tables, chairs, and stabilizers to educational institutions in the municipalities of Hacarí, La Playa, Abrego, Ocaña, El Carmen, Teorama, Convención, El Tarra and Tibú. In total, 345 stabilizers, 376 tables and 794 chairs were supplied.

In October and November, MSI continued with the training of 77 teachers from seven institutions of the municipalities of El Tarra, Convención, Ocaña, Hacarí, Teorama and El Carmen through the Classrooms in Peace project. The training increased competency in the management and resolution of conflicts in the classroom and the prevention and management of school bullying.

ACTIVITIES IN CATATUMBO

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
01-oct	Provided support to the governorship and the Assembly of the Norte de Santander Department in implementing changes to the state contracting system	Cúcuta	TOTAL 42 (22 women): 40 departmental public officials, 2 representatives
02-oct	Formal introduction to the benefitting community of the Bases B10 project, "Expansion and remodeling of the school cafeteria of the Educational Headquarters of Agustina Ferro de Ocaña"	Ocaña	TOTAL: 780 citizens (383 women)
02-oct	Workshop tools for the execution, monitoring, and evaluation of the Development Plan	Cúcuta	TOTAL: 76 departmental public officials (42 women)
02-oct	Implementation of MECI	Cúcuta	TOTAL: 43 departmental public officials (24 women, 1 afro-colombian)
03-oct	Awareness raising and diagnosis for the implementation of MECI	Tibú	TOTAL: 7 municipal public officials, (5 women)
03-oct	Tools for the management of the Development Plan	Tibú	TOTAL: 7 municipal public officials, (5 women)
06-oct	Seminar workshop on the contextual component of the PIERC in El Tarra	El Tarra	TOTAL: 80 departmental public officials (49 women)
06-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to officials in Abrego	Abrego	TOTAL 7 (2 women): 6 municipal public officials, 1 mayor
06-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to council members in Abrego	Abrego	TOTAL: 5 council members (1 woman)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
07-oct	Seminar workshop on the pedagogical component of the PIERC in El Tarra	El Tarra	TOTAL: 4 departmental public officials (1 woman)
07-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to officials in Teorama	Teorama	TOTAL: 9 municipal public officials
8-10 Oct	Seminar workshop on the pedagogical component of the PIERC in San Calixto	San Calixto	TOTAL: 1 departmental public official
8-10-Oct	Second Session: Technical pedagogical assistance – Institutional Rural Education Project - Horizonte	Hacarí	TOTAL: 9 departmental public officials (8 women)
8-10-Oct	Seminar workshop on the pedagogical component of the PIERC in El Carmen	El Carmen	TOTAL: 2 departmental public officials (1 woman)
08-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to officials in San Calixto.	San Calixto	TOTAL 14 (7 women): 13 municipal public officials, 1 council member
08-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to officials in San Calixto.	San Calixto	TOTAL 4: 1 municipal public officials, 2 council members, 1 citizen
09-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to officials in Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL 13 (4 women): 9 municipal public officials, 4 citizens
10-oct	Risk Management workshop	Ocaña	TOTAL: 9 municipal public officials (7 women)
10-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to officials in El Carmen.	El Carmen	TOTAL 8 (3 women): 5 municipal public officials, 3 citizens
10-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to officials and Council Members in El Carmen.	El Carmen	TOTAL 9: 2 municipal public officials, 7 council members
14-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to officials in Tibú.	Tibú	TOTAL: 8 municipal public officials (4 women)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
14-oct	Roundtable Bases Project – Locality of Aspasica	La Playa	TOTAL 56 (35 women, 18 youths): 1 departmental public official, 2 council members, 53 citizens
14-oct	TA on MECI – Risk Management workshop in El Carmen	El Carmen	TOTAL 14 (7 women, 1 afro-colombian): 13 municipal public officials, 1 mayor
15-oct	TA on MECI – Risk Management workshop in San Calixto	San Calixto	TOTAL: 10 municipal public officials (6 women)
15-oct	TA on the formulation of a project of micro-oversight - Group 1 in Tibú.	Tibú	TOTAL 5 (3 women): 2 departmental public officials, 3 citizens
16-oct	TA on the formulation of a project of micro-oversight - Group 4 in Tibú.	Tibú	TOTAL: 2 citizens (1 woman)
16-oct	TA on the formulation of a project of micro-oversight – Group 3 in Tibú.	Tibú	TOTAL: 1 departmental public official
16-oct	TA on the formulation of a project of micro-oversight – Group 2 in Tibú.	Tibú	TOTAL: 5 citizens (1 woman)
17-oct	Bank projects and budget workshop directed at planning secretaries and directors of bank projects.	Ocaña	TOTAL: 4 municipal public officials (1 woman)
20-oct	TA on MECI – Risk Management Workshop – construction of risk maps - Governance	Cúcuta	TOTAL: 33 departmental public officials (19 women)
21-oct	TA on MECI – Risk Management Workshop- Tibú	Tibú	TOTAL: 5 municipal public officials (4 women)
21-oct	Departmental meeting of Territorial Planning Advisers	Cúcuta	TOTAL 12 (2women): 3 municipal public officials, 9 citizens

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
21-oct	<i>Escuela Normal</i> – Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL: 19 citizens (17 women, 19 youths)
21-oct	<i>Hogar Multiple</i> – Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL: 11 citizens (4 women, 4 youths)
21-oct	<i>Colegio Rafael Contreras Navarro</i> - Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL: 45 citizens (23 women, 45 youths)
22-oct	<i>Colegio José Eusebio Caro-Corregimiento Otaré</i> - Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL: 111 citizens (59 women, 111 youths)
22-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to Officials	Convención	TOTAL: 9 municipal public officials (3 women)
22-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to Council Members	Convención	TOTAL: 9 council members (2women)
23-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to Officials and Council Members	Hacarí	TOTAL 20: 11 municipal public officials, 8 council members, 1 citizen

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
23-oct	<i>Centro de Convivencia-Corregimiento Otaré</i> - Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL 11 citizens (3 women, 11 youths)
23-oct	TA and training on MECI to public officials - La Playa	La Playa	TOTAL 6 municipal public officials, (3 women)
24-oct	Seminar workshop on the administrative component of the PIERC in San Calixto	San Calixto	TOTAL: 86 citizens
24-oct	TA to Ocaña officials to strengthen their commitment to competence in MECI	Ocaña	TOTAL 14 (10 women): 13 municipal public officials, 1 mayor
24-oct	Technical consulting on public contracting to officials of La Playa.	La Playa	TOTAL 3 municipal public officials (1 woman)
24-oct	<i>Colegio José Celestino Mutis</i> - Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL 23 citizens (8 women, 23 youths)
24-oct	Workshop for the preparation of the 2009 budget	Ocaña	TOTAL 6 municipal public officials (3 women)
24-oct	<i>Colegio Edmundo Velásquez-Corregimiento Otaré</i> - Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL 54 citizens (39 women, 54 youths)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
24-oct	Technical consulting on the administrative component – Institutional Rural Education Plan – Horizonte	Hacarí	TOTAL: 2 departmental public officials (2 women)
28-30 Oct-08	Training in the application of the methodological route - Good Treatment – Peace Begins at Home (<i>Buen Trato – La Paz empieza por casa</i>).	Ocaña	TOTAL 26 (20 women): 8 municipal public officials, 9 departmental public officials, 6 national governmental public officials, 1 mayor, 2 citizens
28-30 Oct-08	Training in the application of the methodological route - Good Treatment – Peace Begins at Home (<i>Buen Trato – La Paz empieza por casa</i>).	Tibú	TOTAL 11 (6 women): 2 national governmental public officials, 1 mayor, 8 citizens
27-oct	<i>Colegio José Eusebio Caro</i> (afternoon) - Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL 52 citizens (20 women, 52 youths)
27-oct	<i>Colegio La Salle</i> - Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL 38 citizens (26 women, 38 youths)
28-oct	<i>Colegio Aguas Claras</i> - Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL 56 citizens (35 women, 56 youths)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
29-oct	<i>Colegio La Presentación</i> - Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL: 88 citizens (87 women, 88 youths)
30-oct	Instituto Técnico Industrial - Training to youth, students, and teachers to promote youth participation in the election of the Municipal Youth Council of Ocaña.	Ocaña	TOTAL: 78 citizens (37 women, 78 youths)
30-oct	Roundtable on the Bases Project – Educational Headquarters of “Llano de los Alcaldes”	Ocaña	TOTAL 54 (39 women, 1 youth): 27 departmental public officials, 27 citizens
31-oct	Workshop on the administrative component of the PIERC in El Tarra.	El Tarra	TOTAL: 2 departmental public officials (1 woman)
31-oct	Technical assistance on municipal budget and bank municipal investment projects	Tibú	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials (1 woman)
03-nov	Meeting to prepare guidelines for the educational sector in order to reorganize the Ministry of Education.	Ocaña	TOTAL 3 (1 woman): 2 municipal public officials, 1 departmental public official
04-nov	Meeting to prepare guidelines for the educational sector in order to reorganize the Ministry of Education.	Ocaña	TOTAL: 8 departmental public officials (4 women)
04-nov	Implementation of the Bases B017 Project: Construction of the sanitary structure of the La Ceiba educational headquarters, and the IE tile house in the municipality of Abrego.	Abrego	TOTAL 23 (18 women): 6 departmental public officials, 17 citizens

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
04-nov	Meeting with principals about adequacy of the Municipal Ministry of Education	Ocaña	TOTAL: 8 departmental public officials (4 women)
04-nov	Technical assistance on Risk Maps and Strategic Guidance	Cúcuta	TOTAL: 10 departmental public officials (5 women)
05-nov	Technical assistance on Risk Management	Tibú	TOTAL: 9 municipal public officials (5 women)
07-nov	Seminar workshop on the community component of the PIERC in San Calixto	San Calixto	TOTAL: 1 departmental public official
07-nov	Seminar workshop on the community component of the PIERC in El Tarra.	El Tarra	TOTAL: 2 departmental public officials (1 woman)
07-nov	Technical consulting – in the community component – Institutional Rural Education Project – Horizonte	Hacarí	TOTAL: 10 departmental public officials (6 women)
07-nov	Monitoring progress and practical exercises in Risks	San Calixto	TOTAL: 8 municipal public officials (5 women)
07-nov	Accompaniment of the budget to the Municipal Council in Tibú.	Tibú	TOTAL 15 (1 woman): 2 municipal public officials, 13 council members
10-nov	Training on political control to the Council Members	La Playa	TOTAL 10 (2 women): 1 municipal public official, 9 council members
11-nov	Workshop strengthening the critical path – Good Treatment, A Path Towards Peace (El Buen Trato, una Ruta Hacia la Paz)	Tibú	TOTAL 14 (9 women, 1 afro-colombian): 3 municipal public officials, 1 departmental public official, 3 national governmental public officials, 7 citizens
11-nov	Raising awareness, monitoring, and workshop on Risk Management	Abrego	TOTAL: 9 municipal public officials (5 women)
11-nov	Training on political control to the Council Members	Teorama	TOTAL 11 (1 woman): 1 municipal public official, 10 council members

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
12-nov	Monitoring and technical assistance on Risk Management	Teorama	TOTAL: 11 municipal public officials (3 women)
12-nov	Training on political control to the Council Members	El Carmen	TOTAL 12: 1 municipal public official, 11 council members
13-nov	Reinforcement workshop on sexual abuse	Ocaña	TOTAL 18 (15 women): 3 municipal public officials, 6 departmental public officials, 4 national governmental public officials, 5 citizens
13-nov	Technical assistance and training on MECI to Municipal Officials	Ocaña	TOTAL: 11 municipal public officials (8 women)
13-nov	Roundtable that took place in El Carmen-Vereda El Sul.	El Carmen	TOTAL 33 (7 women): 3 municipal public officials, 4 departmental public officials, 1 mayor, 25 citizens
13-nov	Accompaniment of the budget to the Municipal Council of Convención.	Convención	TOTAL: 9 council members (2 women)
13-nov	Training on political control to the Council Members	Convención	TOTAL: 9 council members (2 women)
14-15 Nov	Workshop on productive mandatory pedagogical projects of the PIERC in San Calixto	San Calixto	TOTAL: 86 citizens
14-15 Nov	Seminar workshop on productive mandatory pedagogical projects of the PIERC in El Carmen.	El Carmen	TOTAL: 2 departmental public officials (2 women)
14-15 Nov	Workshop on productive mandatory pedagogical projects of the PIERC in El Tarra.	El Tarra	TOTAL: 75 citizens
14-15 Nov	Technical consulting on the development of the mandatory pedagogical project.	Hacarí	TOTAL: 8 departmental public officials (7 women)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
14-nov	Monitoring and training in MECI to Municipal Officials	La Playa	TOTAL: 3 municipal public officials (1 woman)
14-nov	Training and accompaniment of budgeting	El Tarra	TOTAL: 5 council members (1 woman)
14-nov	Training on methodology and proceedings of the 2009 Budget Approval to the council members	Abrego	TOTAL: 10 council members (1 woman)
14-nov	Training on political control to the Council Members	El Tarra	TOTAL: 5 council members (1 woman)
14-nov	Training on political control to the Council Members	Abrego	TOTAL: 11 council members (1 woman)
18-nov	Review of the Tax System	La Playa	TOTAL: 4 municipal public officials (3 women)
18-nov	Review of the Tax System	Ocaña	TOTAL: 5 municipal public officials (4 women)
18-19 Nov 2008	Third training session of Citizen Competency aimed at teacher exercises and teacher training in the municipalities of Ocaña, Teorama y Hacarí	Ocaña	TOTAL: 2 departmental public officials (2 women)
19-nov	Meeting monitoring methodological route – “Peace Begins in the Home” Project (<i>Proyecto La Paz Empieza por Casa</i>)	Tibú	TOTAL: 2 citizens (2 women)
19-nov	Monitoring and technical assistance on MECI	Tibú	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official
19-nov	Review of the Tax System	Abrego	TOTAL: 6 municipal public officials (2 women)
19-nov	Review of the Tax System	Hacarí	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials
20-nov	Review of the Tax System	Teorama	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials (1 woman)
20-nov	Review of the Tax System	San Calixto	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
20-nov	Roundtable for Bases Projects	Hacarí	TOTAL 28 (10 women, 10 youths): 4 municipal public officials, 7 departmental public officials, 1 council member, 16 citizens
20-nov	First meeting monitoring the "Peace Begins in the Home" Project (<i>Proyecto La Paz Empieza por Casa</i>)	Ocaña	TOTAL 4 (4 women): 2 municipal public officials, 1 departmental public official, 1 national governmental public official
20-21 nov-08	Monitoring Risk Map of the Governorship of <i>Norte de Santander</i>	Cúcuta	TOTAL: 6 departmental public officials (6 women)
20-21 nov-08	Third training session of Citizen Competency aimed at teacher exercises and teacher training in the municipalities of El Tarra, El Carmen y Ocaña	Ocaña	TOTAL 9 (9 women, 3 youths): 6 departmental public officials, 3 citizens
21-nov	TA on the preparation of a discussion forum on the synthesis of PIERC programs	El Carmen	TOTAL: 81 citizens
21-nov	First training session of Citizen Competency aimed at teacher exercises and teacher training in the municipalities of El Tarra, El Carmen y Ocaña	Ocaña-Regional	TOTAL 29 (18 women): 17 departmental public officials, 12 citizens
21-nov	Review of the Tax System	Convención	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials
21-nov	Provided support to the municipal council of Teorama in the Budget Approval Process	Teorama	TOTAL: 9 council members
21-nov	Technical consulting on public consulting to Council Members	Tibú	TOTAL 11 (1 woman, 1 indigenous): 1 municipal public official, 10 council members
21-nov	Technical consulting on public consulting to Officials	Tibú	TOTAL: 4 municipal public officials (2 women)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
24-nov	Feedback on public contracting to Officials	Hacarí	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official (1 woman)
24-nov	Feedback on public contracting to Officials	La Playa	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official
24-nov	Feedback on public contracting to Officials	Teorama	TOTAL 3: 2 municipal public officials, 1 mayor
24-nov	Feedback on public contracting to Officials	San Calixto	TOTAL 6 (2 women): 5 municipal public officials, 1 mayor
25-nov	Feedback on changes to the Public Contracting System	Abrego	TOTAL: 4 municipal public officials (1 woman)
25-nov	Feedback on Public Contracting to Officials	El Carmen	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official
25-nov	Feedback on Public Contracting to Officials	Convención	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials (1 woman)
25-nov	Feedback on Public Contracting to Officials	Ocaña	TOTAL: 4 municipal public officials (1 woman)
25-nov	Monitoring and technical assistance on MECI to Municipal Officials	El Carmen	TOTAL: 3 municipal public officials (1 afro-colombian)
25-nov	Reinforcement workshop on sexual abuse	Tibú	TOTAL: 1 departmental public official
26-nov	TA on changes to the public contracting system	El Tarra	TOTAL: 1 citizen
26-nov	Changes to the public contracting system	Ocaña	TOTAL: 1 citizen
27-nov	Monitoring the MECI work plan	La Playa	TOTAL: 3 municipal public officials (2 women)
27-nov	Monitoring the MECI work plan	Convención	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official
27-nov	Second monitoring meeting of the "Peace Begins at Home" Project (<i>Proyecto La Paz empieza por Casa</i>).	Ocaña	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
29-nov	TA on the preparation of the municipal education forum and results of the PIERC in San Calixto	San Calixto	TOTAL: 86 citizens
02-dic	Review of the Tax System	Tibú	TOTAL: 5 municipal public officials (4 women)
02-dic	Institutional meeting of the course of action against domestic violence	Ocaña	TOTAL 13 (9 women): 4 municipal public officials, 3 departmental public officials, 5 national governmental public officials, 1 citizen
4-5-Dic	Monitoring and technical assistance on the general review of MECI products in the Governorship of <i>Norte de Santander</i>	Cúcuta	TOTAL: 6 departmental public officials
02-dic	Fourth institutional meeting on the course of action against domestic violence	Ocaña	TOTAL 10 (4 women): 3 municipal public officials, 3 departmental public officials, 4 national governmental public officials
09-dic	Assessment of MECI products – Monitoring DAFP response	El Carmen	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official
09-dic	Assessment of MECI products – Monitoring DAFP response	Ocaña	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials
02-dic	Reinforcement workshop on the “Peace Begins in the Home” Project – “Good treatment, a Path Towards Peace” (<i>Proyecto La Paz Empieza por Casa – El Buen Trato, una Ruta hacia la Paz</i>)	Tibú	TOTAL 7 (4 women): 1 municipal public official, 1 departmental public official, 1 national governmental public official, 4 citizens
10-dic	Assessment of MECI products – monitoring DAFP response	San Calixto	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials
10-dic	Assessment of MECI products – monitoring DAFP response	Teorama	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
16-dic	Fifth institutional meeting on the course of action against domestic violence – “Peace Begins at Home” Project (<i>Proyecto la Paz Empieza por Casa</i>).	Ocaña	TOTAL 12 (10 women): 5 municipal public officials, 2 departmental public officials, 4 national governmental public officials, 1 citizen

D. Sierra Nevada

Public Order and Security Conditions

In the month of October, the Attorney General’s Office began an investigation of the governor of La Guajira and three official secretaries for alleged irregularities in state contracting. In November, the case was initially ruled on by the First Administrative Judge of the Riohacha Judicial Circuit, which annulled the election of the Mayor of San Juan del Cesar, Mr. Moisés Enrique Daza Mendoza. The Mayor objected to this ruling and appealed the case.

On November 16, a confrontation broke out between troops of the Tenth Shield Army Brigade (*Décima Brigada Blindada del Ejército*) and members of the ELN in a rural zone within the municipality of Dibulla. This produced one casualty of a guerrilla and the capture of two others.

The municipality of Dibulla declared a state of emergency due to the damages and flooding caused by winter. The same situation occurred in the municipalities of Aracataca, Fundación, and Ciénaga.

Activities – Tables of Beneficiaries

During the last quarter, MSI made significant progress in the institutional strengthening of municipal and departmental administrations in terms of: training and technical assistance on contracting, management of municipal revenue, linking of financial planning tools and implementation of the Standard Internal Control Model (*Modelo Estándar de Control Interno - MECI*). Furthermore, this strengthening included the supply of computer equipment to municipal and departmental administrations as well as to council members and assemblies. It is also important to highlight the support provided by MSI to the Mayor’s office of Valledupar in the crafting of the Revenue Statute, which identified new sources of revenue for the municipality itself that could result in an increase of over 60%. Likewise, MSI oversaw the socialization of the Statute before the Municipal Council for its approval.

Within the project “Peaceful Classrooms” (*Aulas en Paz*), MSI trained 98 teachers from 13 educational institutions from the municipalities of Valledupar, El Copey, Pueblo Bello, Fundación, Aracataca and Ciénaga. They were trained in citizen competencies in order to develop pedagogical skills to foster peaceful coexistence, to understand how to generate constructive and democratic environments in the classroom, and to receive feedback about their teaching practices and implementation of “Peaceful Classrooms” in the educational institutions. MSI also developed the diagnosis for the rural educational situation of the municipalities of Aracataca, Ciénaga and Fundación, with the formation of rural education projects.

Also during this quarter, the first phase of the project, “First Steps Toward Academic Excellence” (*Primeros Pasos Hacia la Excelencia Académica*) was completed. This project instructed 48 teachers

from 10 preschool institutions in Ciénaga in the identification of educational gaps in child care and in the formulation of strategies to improve the skills of preschool children.

Additionally, MSI provided support to municipal governments through technical assistance for developing local health plans for each municipality and department in the region.

During this quarter, MSI also was able to implement important social projects, such as the project “Youth Voices and Action.” This project gave training to 95 youth from the municipalities of Valledupar, El Copey and Pueblo Bello in tools of citizen participation, youth organizational capacity, and project formation. On November 13, the last day of the project, the young participants were able to interact with the Governor and public officials and learn about the operation of the government and the challenges the Department faces. Likewise, MSI made the delivery and opening of two base projects, one in Pueblo Bello and the other in El Copey, which rely on the important and decided participation of members of the community and the municipal governments for their completion.

ACTIVITIES IN SIERRA NEVADA

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
01-Oct	Technical Assistance (TA) in the socialization and adoption of PST before the <i>concejo territorial de seguridad social en salud (Territorial Council on Health Social Security - CTSSS)</i> in San Juan del Cesar.	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL 5 (4 women): 4 municipal public officials, 1 citizen
01-Oct	Support to the mayor's office and municipal council in the application of modifications to the state contractual regime	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL: 11 (5 women, 1 afro-colombian): 9 municipal public officials, 1 mayor, 1 citizen
02-Oct	MECI Workshop with Valledupar mayor's office	Valledupar	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official
02-Oct	TA in the revision and adjustment of annex 3 in the different programmatic priorities	Riohacha-Gobernación	TOTAL (2 women): 2 municipal public officials
03-Oct	TA to the meeting regarding the adoption of PST with the CTSSS	Dibulla	TOTAL 8 (4 women): 4 municipal public officials, 4 citizens
03-Oct	TA to Government Council in the revision and adoption of PST	Ciénaga	TOTAL 11 (2 women): 10 municipal public officials, 1 mayor

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
03-Oct	TA in the monitoring of MECI tasks	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 18 (11 women): 17 municipal public officials, 1 mayor
03-Oct	TA in the monitoring of MECI tasks	El Copey	TOTAL (1 woman): 1 municipal public official
6-7 Oct-08	Formation workshop to instructors of modules 1, 2 and 3-Valledupar	Valledupar	TOTAL 41 (39 women, 15 youths): 25 municipal public officials, 1 national governmental public official, 15 citizens
07-Oct	TA to the Government Council in revision of PST	Aracataca	TOTAL 3 (2 women): 2 municipal public officials, 1 mayor
07-Oct	Regional workshop in municipal finance, socialization, and budget status	Santa Marta-Regional	TOTAL: 11 municipal public officials, (4 women, 2 afro-colombians)
08-Nov	TA and training in MECI implementation	Valledupar-Regional	TOTAL: 4 municipal public officials, (1 woman)
08-Nov	TA and training in MECI implementation	Riohacha-Gobernación	TOTAL: 10 departmental public officials, (1 woman)
08-Oct	Strategic Planning TA to the manager of Eduardo Arredondo Hospital in Valledupar	Valledupar	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials, (1 woman)
08-Oct	TA in balancing budgets with officials from Pueblo Bello mayor's office	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials, (2 women)
08-Oct	MECI implementation Regional workshop on TA and training to the Sierra Nevada municipalities	Santa Marta	TOTAL: 10 municipal public officials
08-Oct	TA in socialization and adoption of fPST before the CTSSS of Pueblo Bello	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 11 (5 women): 3 municipal public officials, 2 council members, 6 citizens
08-Oct	TA in the project formulation of microoversight of health in the Eduardo Arredondo Daza Hospital Association	Valledupar	TOTAL: 3 citizens (1 woman)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
08-Oct	Monitoring meeting to PER with tech team from Café Producers Committee and departmental Education Secretary	Santa Marta	TOTAL: 5 departmental public officials, (2 women)
08-Oct	First zone meeting for the conclusion of PER.	Santa Marta-Regional	TOTAL 38 (21 women): 15 municipal public officials, 18 departmental public officials, 5 citizens
09-Oct	Meeting with Rectors and Instructors for the preparation of a Municipal Education Plan	Fundación	TOTAL: 11 departmental public officials, (7 women)
09-Oct	Meeting with Rectors and Instructors for the preparation of a Municipal Education Plan	Fundación	TOTAL: 11 departmental public officials, (9 women)
09-Oct	Meeting with Government council for the adoption of PST	Aracataca	TOTAL: 6 municipal public officials, (4 women)
09-Oct	TA in the socialization PST meeting with last adjustments in Cienaga	Ciénaga	TOTAL 5 (5 women): 4 municipal public officials, 1 citizen
10-Oct	TA of socialization PST before municipal council of El Copey	El Copey	TOTAL 6 (3 women): 5 municipal public officials, 1 citizen
14-Oct	TA in the monitoring of MECI tasks to Magdalena municipality	Santa Marta-Regional	TOTAL: 6 municipal public officials (1 woman)
14-Oct	Workshop for MECI awareness to governorship	Santa Marta-Gobernacion	TOTAL: 11 municipal public officials (6 women)
14-Oct	TA in the socialization and adoption of PST before government council in Cesar department	Valledupar-Gobernación	TOTAL: 8 departmental public officials (5 women)
14-Oct	TA in the monitoring of MECI tasks to Magdalena municipality	Santa Marta-Gobernacion	TOTAL: 6 municipal public officials (1 woman)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
15-Oct	TA in the revision and adjustments to PST in Guajira department	Riohacha-Gobernación	TOTAL: 3 departmental public officials (3 women)
17-Oct	First municipal workshop for education diagnostic	Fundación	TOTAL: 22 departmental public officials (16 women)
17-Oct	Meeting-small workshop of Hagamos Control with officials from mayor's office	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 9 municipal public officials (6 women)
17-Oct	First municipal workshop for education diagnostic	Aracataca	TOTAL 27 (13 women): 1 municipal public official, 23 departmental public officials, 3 citizens
20-Oct	First municipal workshop for education diagnostic	Ciénaga	TOTAL 13 (4 women): 9 municipal public officials, 1 departmental public official, 3 citizens
20-21 Oct-08	meeting of instructors in behavior control, communicative competence, perspective-taking, and resolving conflict	Fundación-Regional	TOTAL 39 (33 women, 10 afro-colombians): 31 departmental public officials, 8 citizens
21-Oct	Second municipal workshop-planning methodology	Fundación	TOTAL 17 (10 women): 4 departmental public officials, 13 citizens
21-Oct	TA in project formulation of emergency attention oversight in Leonardo Maya Burgues Hospital.	Valledupar	TOTAL: 2 citizens (2 women, 1 afro-colombian)
22-Oct	Meeting for coordination and monitoring of the municipal education plan of rectors and instructors (intends to achieve certification for municipality)	Fundación	TOTAL 15 (6 women): 5 municipal public officials, 10 departmental public officials

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
22-23 Oct-08	Meeting of instructors in behavior control, communicative competence, perspective-taking, and resolving conflict	Ciénaga	TOTAL 15 (6 women): 5 municipal public officials, 10 departmental public officials
23-Oct	Revision workshop of budget and EOT with officials from Pueblo Bello, El Copey and Valledupar	Valledupar-Regional	TOTAL 14 municipal public officials (4 women, 1 afro-colombian)
24-Oct	Instalation of interinstitutional table for the promotion of citizen competencies in the program, Classrooms in Peace (Aulas en Paz)	Fundación	TOTAL 22 (14 women, 1 afro-colombian): 16 departmental public officials, 6 citizens
24-Oct	TA in 2009 budget and medium-term fiscal framework with Mayor's office officials	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials (2 women)
27-Oct	Special meeting-recollection of information diagnostic	Fundación	TOTAL: 3 departmental public officials (1 woman)
27-Oct	TA in project formulation – oversight basic health services	Valledupar	TOTAL: 2 citizens
27-Oct	TA to operating committee and oversight of project: Construction and suitability of school health units, 11 for girls, 9 for boys Manuel J. Del Castillo School	Ciénaga	TOTAL: 5 citizens (4 women)
30-Oct	TA in formulation of diagnostic of illegal school grounds with the Cesar department Education secretary	Valledupar-Gobernación	TOTAL: 3 departmental public officials (1 afro-colombian)
04-Nov	Third municipal workshop-planning	Fundación	TOTAL: 14 departmental public officials (12 women)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
05-Nov	Second municipal workshop, first on planning	Aracataca	TOTAL: 5 departmental public officials (3 women)
05-Nov	Training of San Juan del Cesar municipal Council – second visit, feedback on the contracting regimen – modifications to Law 80, introduced in Law 1150	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL 12 (1 woman, 1 afro-Colombian, 1 indigenous): 2 municipal public officials, 10 council members
05-Nov	Second Visit, Mayor's office -Retroalimentación Regimen de Contratación	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL: 4 municipal public officials (1 woman)
05-Nov	TA and training on MECI implementation	Valledupar-Gobernación	TOTAL: 3 departmental public officials (2 women)
06-Nov	Project TA: oversight of hospital services to older adults in San Roque hospital	El Copey	TOTAL: 1 citizen
06-Nov	Second municipal workshop –planning PER	Ciénaga	TOTAL 19 (7 women): 10 municipal public officials, 9 citizens
6-7 Nov-08	Workshop: Strengthening Magdalena Women's Network (Red de Mujeres de Magdalena-REDEMAG)	Santa Marta	TOTAL: 10 citizens (10 women, 1 afro-colombian, 1 youth, 1IDP)
07-Nov	Meeting with instructors to complete format 1 and 2 information	Ciénaga	TOTAL: 10 municipal public officials (4 women)
08-Nov	Feedback – Contracting Regimen	El Copey	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials
08-Nov	TA and training on MECI implementation to Sierra Nevada municipalities	Santa Marta-Regional	TOTAL 12 (6 women, 3 afro-colombians): 10 municipal public officials, 2 departmental public officials
08-Nov	Feedback – Contracting Regimen	Valledupar	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
11-Nov	TA to project: oversight of the health services to population between levels 1 and 2 of SISBEN at Eduardo Arredondo Daza-Valledupar Hospital	Valledupar	TOTAL: 4 citizens (1 woman)
12-Nov	TA to project oversight of service of school restaurant at IE Ariguaní, headquarters of Pueblo Bello agricultural institute	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL: 1 citizen (1 afro-colombian, 1 youth)
12-Nov	TA to project oversight of citizen control in promotion and prevention program EDA-IRA, Camilo Villazón Hospital. Pueblo bello.	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL: 4 citizens (1 woman)
12-Nov	Third step of instructor formation	Valledupar	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials (2 women)
13-Nov	Project Delivery B012: Construction of computer classroom in Magola Hernández Pardo School, N° 3 Oswaldo Mestre Medina, Municipality of Pueblo Bello, Cesar Department	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL: 279 citizens (143 women, 59 IDPs, 128 indigenous)
13-Nov	TA in MECI, awareness workshop in Magdalena	Santa Marta-Gobernacion	TOTAL: 17 departmental public officials (10 women)
13-Nov	Meeting to accompany planning workshop	Aracataca	TOTAL: 13 municipal public officials (9 women)
18-Nov	Feedback – Contracting Regimen	Aracataca	TOTAL: 1 departmental public official (1 woman)
18-Nov	Feedback – Contracting Regimen	Fundación	TOTAL: 4 departmental public officials (4 women)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
18-Nov	Modification workshop to the contractual law with municipal council	Fundación	TOTAL 7 (2 women): 1 municipal public official, 6 council members
19-Nov	Feedback – Contracting Regimen in the Magdalena governorship	Santa Marta-Gobernacion	TOTAL: 6 departmental public officials (3 women, 1 afro-colombian)
19-Nov	TA in the AT conclusion of observatory with Cesar, UPC, and Police	Valledupar-Gobernación	TOTAL 6 (1 woman): 4 departmental public officials, 1 national governmental public official, 1 citizen
20-Nov	Hagamos Control workshop with citizens of Ciénaga	Ciénaga	TOTAL 40 (27 women, 5 afro-colombians, 12 youths, 1 IDP, 1 indigenous): 2 municipal public officials, 38 citizens
24-Nov	TA to Pueblo Bello municipal council concerning 2009 budget study	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL: 6 council members
24-Nov	TA to San Juan del Cesar municipal council concerning 2009 budget study	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL 14 (1 women, 6 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 1 municipal public official, 13 council members
25-Nov	Third municipal planning workshop	Aracataca	TOTAL: 1 municipal public officials (1 woman)
26-Nov	TA to Aracataca municipal council AT al concejo municipal on Estatuto Orgánico de Presupuesto, tax code and 2009 budget	Aracataca	TOTAL 13 council members (2 women)
26-Nov	TA to Cienaga municipal council AT on Estatuto Orgánico de Presupuesto, tax code and 2009 budget	Ciénaga	TOTAL 11 council members (2 women)
27-Nov	Third municipal workshop	Fundación	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials (2 women)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
27-Nov	Hagamos Control workshop with citizens of El Copey	El Copey	TOTAL 34 (16 women, 4 afro-colombians, 8 youths): 1 municipal public official, 1 national governmental public official, 32 citizens
28-Nov	Third municipal workshop	Ciénaga	TOTAL: 3 municipal public officials (1 woman)
04-Dec	Hagamos Control Ciudadano Con Comunidad Workshop	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL 27 (8 women, 1 afro-colombian, 3 youths, 2 IDPs, 3 indigenous): 7 municipal public officials, 20 citizens
05-Dec	TA to the citizen oversight project on the supply of medicines to the hospital of ciénaga.	Ciénaga	TOTAL: 6 citizens (2 women, 1 afro-colombian)
09- Dec	TA in the follow-up of MECI's implementation	Aracataca	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials
09- Dec	TA in the follow-up of MECI's implementation	Fundación	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official
08- Dec	Monitoring in the implementation of MECI	Valledupar-Gobernación	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official (1 woman)
08- Dec	Monitoring in the implementation of MECI	Valledupar	TOTAL: 2 municipal public officials
08- Dec	Monitoring in the implementation of MECI	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL: 1 council member
09- Dec	Monitoring in the implementation of MECI	Aracataca	TOTAL 2 municipal public officials
09- Dec	Monitoring in the implementation of MECI	Ciénaga	TOTAL 14 municipal public officials (7 women)
09- Dec	Monitoring in the implementation of MECI	Fundación	TOTAL: 1 municipal public official
10- Dec	Monitoring in the implementation of MECI	Santa Marta	TOTAL: 1 departmental public official (1 woman)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
10- Dec	TA in oversight Project: Servicio de restaurante Escolar en la IE Agrícola Sede la Quinta in El Copey.	El Copey	TOTAL: 4 citizens (4 women, 4 youths)
10- Dec	TA in oversight project: Dinning hall services at the Camilo Torres IE agricultural headquarters in El Copey.	El Copey	TOTAL: 4 citizens (1 woman)
10- Dec	TA in oversight project: Meal Plan for José A. Makenzie Students	El Copey	TOTAL: 4 citizens (3 women, 1 afro-colombian)
10- Dec	TA in oversight projects: Nutrition in dinning establishments for adults in El Copey.	El Copey	TOTAL: 3 citizens (1 woman)
10- Dec	TA in a oversight project: Hospital Waste Management at San Roque Hospital in El Copey.	El Copey	TOTAL: 2 citizens (1 woman)
10- Dec	TA in the follow-up process of MECI's implementation	Santa Marta-Gobernacion	TOTAL: 1 departmental public official
12- Dec	Second meeting for the conclusion of PER.	Santa Marta-Regional	TOTAL 6 (3 women, 2 indigenous): 1 municipal public official, 3 departmental public officials, 2 citizens
12- Dec	TA in a oversight project: Definition of subjects that will conduct. Oversight and Development in the Diligence of Formats".	Fundación	TOTAL: 6 citizens (3 women, 2 IDPs)
19- Dec	Delivery of Project B013: Remodeling and adaptation of Sanitary structural units in the Educational Institution Rafael Soto Fuentes in the locality of Chimila, municipality of Copey	El Copey	TOTAL: 950 citizens (516 women, 37 IDPs, 25 indigenous)

IV. INDICATORS MATRIX

The Tables xx and xx below summarize the indicators applicable during the fiscal year 2008 (FY08).

TABLE: USAID / ACCIÓN SOCIAL INDICATORS

Indicator	Progress FY08 – FY09
Citizen confidence in democratic institutions in the consolidation zones	n/a
Government agencies strengthened in zones undergoing consolidation	55
Citizen participation initiatives supported in governance consolidation zones	39

TABLE: CONTRACT INDICATORS

Indicator	Progress FY08 – FY09
# Anchor CSO and CSO initiative grants awarded to promote civil society engagement	11
# Small project/oversight grants awarded to promote citizen/government cooperation	28
# Targeted municipalities implementing social projects included in the Departmental Development Plans	25
# Targeted municipalities where at least 50% of teachers possess adequate pedagogical skills based on education or specialized training	19
# Targeted municipalities with functioning veedurias	10
# Target Municipalities and Departments implementing MECI (Modelo Estándar de Control Interno-MECI)	28
# Target Departments that have established or improved dialogue forums between departments and municipal governments	2
# Target municipalities benefiting from books and computers connected to internet	16
# Target Municipalities with at least one family member participating in meetings and representing the interests of students and reaching their objectives	7

V. CASE STUDY

In five CIMIENTOS municipalities in the department of Chocó, USAID discovered around 27,884 citizens who did not have identity documents. Although the problem of undocumented citizens is relatively common across the country, it is most pronounced in the department of Chocó. Without documentation these citizens are unable to access public services such as health and education. This problem has worsened due to the difficulty in coordinating the various government entities on both local and national levels. These include the National Registry and mayors' offices, which are both capable of providing the means with which to solve this problem. Without this coordination it is not possible to identify all the citizens.

For three years these entities had tried to coordinate identification campaigns but were not able to arrange and implement the activities. Thanks to the leadership of USAID these government entities quickly organized themselves and agreed upon agendas and budgets, which included national and local support, to implement citizen identification campaigns. As a final result of the five campaigns 11,150 documents, 1,034 records, 3,959 identity cards and 6,157 citizenship *cédulas* were issued; equivalent to 40% fulfillment of the goal according to previous census attempts done by the mayors. These citizens now have the possibility of being identified in the database SISBEN and being able to access subsidized government programs.



VI. RAPID RESPONSE FUND WINDOWS TABLE

Organization Name	Title	Total: US\$1	Total: COP\$	Period	% Implemented
I. Investigation Fund (in support of Interagency Control Agreement-ICA)					
FGN-PGN-CGR	Interagency Control Agreement	\$300,000	\$540,000,000	November 7, 2007 – November 6, 2010	7.8%
2. Grants Fund					
Transparencia Por Colombia	Transparency in Municipal Management: analysis and dissemination of corruption risks for strengthening municipalities	\$34,000	\$68,306,000	September 18, 2007 - October 18, 2008	90%
Ocasa	Youths Conversing and Implementing	\$55,000	\$100,000,000	April 15, 2008 – December 14, 2008	96% ²
Promigas Foundation	First steps towards education excellence	\$13,165	\$23,354,000	June 23, 2008 – December 22, 2008	100%
Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo	Peace Begins at Home	\$85,380	\$151,465,500	July 1, 2008 – February 25, 2009	50%
Convivencia Productiva	Developing Citizen Skills in Regions Affected by the Violence—part of the Peaceful Classroom Program	\$34,166	\$60,612,100	July 1, 2008 – December 15, 2008	65%
Fundación DIS	Design and Formulate the Implementation of Strategy for Matching Funds	\$37,867	\$65,510,000	July 1, 2008 – October 31, 2008	65%

¹ The exchange rate used is the official rate on the sub-agreement award date.

² The grant is completed, however OCASA did not expend the total grant value

Organization Name	Title	Total: US\$1	Total: COP\$	Period	% Implemented
Escuela Galán	Local Leaders School, promoters of peace, Tibú municipality with impact in the La Gabarra rural area	\$67,265	\$121,885,500	August 13, 2008 – February 26, 2009	55%
Dominican Charity Sister's Community of Presentation of the Holy Virgin	Rural Education Institutional Project-PIERC- with 4 municipalities in Catatumbo	\$23,529	\$48,894,000	September 8, 2008 – December 30, 2008	100%
Comité de Cafeteros del Magdalena	Elaboration of consensus based Rural Education Plans in Ciénaga, Fundación and Aracataca, in the Magdalena department	\$45,678	\$94,920,000	September 11, 2008 – January 30, 2009	90%
Bases Projects	Location: Carmen del Atrato, Unguia, Acandí, El Carmen, Tibú, Ciénaga, Hacarí, San Juan del Cesar	\$103,425	\$237.877.625	Ongoing	8%
3. Misión de Observación Electoral (MOE)					
Misión de Observación Electoral	Colombian Civil Society Electoral Observation Mission for Departmental and Municipal Elections	\$300,000	\$540,000,000	July 18, 2007 – February 25, 2008	77 ³ %

³ The grant is completed; however MOE did not expend the total grant value.

