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PROGRAMA CIMIENTOS – BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA – QUARTERLY REPORT

APRIL – JUNE 2008

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Colombia Regional Governance & Consolidation Program CIMIENTOS

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I. INTRODUCTION

During the fifth program quarter (April to June 2008), MSI focused on supporting the departmental and municipal planning process, assisting in the development plan approval process and fostering citizen participation in the planning process. MSI began providing assistance to mayor's and governor's offices on plan implementation utilizing tools required by the national government. In each case, it also worked with community groups to provide inputs on priorities and on the budgeting process. All development plans were approved during this quarter (except San Calixto due to the delayed election of the mayor). MSI continued working through all five program components to provide technical assistance on thematic sections of the plan and support the development of the separate health plans. Transparency for Colombia launched their Transparency Municipal Index supported by CIMIENTOS, providing MSI with a baseline to measure the CIMIENTOS municipalities' levels of transparency and public administration capacity. In addition, MSI promoted cooperation between communities and municipal administrations through the facilitation of 12 community assemblies (*mesas de concertacion*) to agree upon the selection of small infrastructure projects, which after coordination with local authorities become grants under the CIMIENTOS Bases program. In total, 5,220 citizens and government officials (847 women, 504 afro-colombians, 218 indigenous, 82 IDPs, 54 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 the USAID, Acción Social and contract indicators. The fifth section is a success story regarding the Bases grant program delivered to the Acandí community which demonstrates building trust between the community and the local administration. The sixth section is a table of expenditures for the reporting period. Annex 1 includes a list of projects under the rapid response 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

During this quarter, Citizen Security/Prevention and Coexistence activities focused on creating Prevention and Coexistence Observatories in the Cesar and Norte de Santander departments. To accomplish this task, MSI visited the regions to assess institutional commitment and the capacities of institutional authorities involved in this activity. During the visits, the program established contacts with institutions responsible for security and prevention, statistical follow-up, and departmental and municipal authorities. MSI met with government secretariats, regional offices of the Colombian Institute of Forensics (*Instituto Colombiano de Medicina Legal*), prosecutors, Public Defenders (*Defensoría del Pueblo*), family inspectors, *personerías*, and regional police post commands, among other institutions.

During the visits, the program also identified similar experiences developed by international donors, such as various observatories in Norte de Santander, and the possibility of integrating them. The objective of such collaboration is to better optimize program funds and guarantee the impact of the initiative.

Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo Grant

A grant with *Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo* was approved in June. Starting July, this organization will develop a project entitled —“Peace Begins at Home” (*-La paz empieza por casa*”). The main objective is to create a methodology that will enable public officials in Coexistence Centers

(*Centros de Convivencia*), particularly the ones located in Ocaña and Tibú, to promote constructive relationships in the family which, in turn, will influence citizen culture and coexistence.

General Observations

Regarding the observatories, in the interviews, CIMIENTOS found sufficient institutional capacity but also a strong debate about the data collected by the various institutions, even though differences between them are not very significant. The distinct institutions do not make efforts to develop common data analysis practices across the distinct sets of data gathered by other institutions. In addition, current coordination scenarios, such as security councils, generally do not discuss and establish public policy on security. On the contrary, these work as informational fora. One of CIMIENTOS' greatest challenges will be to help security councils achieve their true potential based on the information, methodologies and analysis developed by observatories.

In addition to the observations to this ongoing activity, it is important to mention program activities in joint initiatives carried out with the National Police and the Ministry of Interior and Justice.

- a) National Police: During this quarter, CIMIENTOS met several times with the Safe Departments and Municipalities Program (*Programa Departamentos y Municipios Seguros – DMS*), the program's main counterpart in this institution. In these meetings, MSI presented program activities and their scope, such as support to security plans, security councils, etc. To date, DMS has not defined municipalities and activities to implement with CIMIENTOS support.
- b) Ministry of Interior and Justice: MSI has also had several meetings with the ministry, mainly to promote better use of funds destined for regional and municipal security. So far, this institution has not informed CIMIENTOS of a particular initiative in which it needs program support, in spite of several MSI proposals.

Activities planned for July – September 2008

- July 15: Assessment review workshop in Ocaña with CIMIENTOS municipalities in the *Catatumbo* region to create the observatory.
- July – August: Develop a methodological proposal to create an observatory in each department. The proposal will take into account an historical base line and will also identify mechanisms to create, fund, and maintain observatories in the future.
- July – September: Implementation of the proposal –Peace Begins at Home.’’

Subcomponent 1.2: Health

During this quarter, the Health Component focused its work on supporting the formulation of territorial health plans, particularly in the *Catatumbo* region. MSI also started the inspection model to assess, with the National Superintendent of Health (*Superintendencia Nacional de Salud – SNS*), program-target municipalities in La Guajira, and provided direct support to specific requests in Fundación, Carmen de Atrato, and La Playa. The program also continued to support the SNS strengthening process by providing technical support to carry out a risk assessment survey in this institution.

Support to Territorial Health Plans

In the previous quarter, MSI helped new administrations and their teams during the initial stages of development planning work. During this quarter, the program continued this activity, providing additional support to compensate for the great weaknesses that municipalities have in political and technical leadership, administrative structures, and understanding of the health system. MSI provided assistance to motivate and guide municipalities in implementing the methodology¹ to formulate, follow-up, evaluate, and supervise Territorial Health Plans, as well as tasks included in Collective Intervention Plans in each department and corresponding municipalities. To accomplish this task, the program provided technical expertise to target municipalities, first in the Catatumbo region and then in the Sierra Nevada. This activity was not possible in the Bajo and Medio Atrato region since the GOC has not established clear guidelines regarding health administration in Chocó.

MSI helped municipalities implement the health planning methodology in three stages in table 1:

TABLE 1: THE STAGES OF TECHNICAL SUPPORT ON HEALTH PLANS

STAGE	CONTENT
1. Create conditions for health planning	Identify parties involved, convene them and actively involve them in the exercise (Health Social Security Territorial Council [<i>Consejo Territorial de Seguridad Social en Salud</i>]); form a technical team; carry out fora and discussion scenarios, train the team responsible for this task.
2. Prepare the Territorial Health Plan proposal	Develop assessment; prepare a summary of the plan strategic process; draft the multi-year health investment plan for the four-year period; review and modify the plan; draft the investment plan.
3. Project approval and dissemination	Review attachments, matrices, and include corrections to disseminate the Territorial Health Plan and the Multi-Year Investment Plan; incorporate plans to corresponding Development Plan.

MSI provided technical assistance to 18 municipalities and three departments: ten municipalities in the Catatumbo region, eight municipalities and three departments in the Sierra Nevada region.

In the Catatumbo region, MSI focused on reviewing and modifying territorial health plans. Specifically, MSI:

1. Gathered information to develop a baseline and provided municipalities with specific support to assess the situation. Previous to program assistance, authorities lacked a baseline to evaluate health conditions. This information enabled health public officials establish realistic goals in territorial health plans that responded to health priorities set by national and departmental policies, while connecting them to the local context. Municipalities also received technical assistance to prepare the additional documents required by Resolution 0425 issued on February 11, 2008. The Departmental Health Institute (*Instituto Departamental de Salud*) approved the investment plans developed by program advisors. In addition, MSI trained local public officials

¹ Resolution 425 issued on February 11, 2008, mentioned in the previous quarterly report. This resolution elaborates on Decree 3039 issued on August 10, 2007, regarding the National Plan on Public Health for 2007-2010.

responsible for Territorial Health Plans on how to resolve issues that the Departmental Health Institute requires.

2. Worked together with municipal teams to prepare health baselines.
3. Supported municipal working groups to approve program issues that contemplate mandatory activities included in the Territorial Health Plan (insurance; health provision; health care services; public health; social work; emergency, relief, and prevention; oversight; professional risks).
4. worked with public health coordinators to share experiences on the process in their municipality and their progress in the plans.
5. Helped public officials responsible for the plans to complete matrices and prepare attachments, empowering them and sharing information about municipal contexts.
6. Trained health public officials on Resolution 0425/2008, Logical Framework Approach, problems and objectives, and preparation of the epidemiology profile.
7. Convened and worked with members of 10 existing Social Security Territorial Councils (*Consejos Territoriales de Seguridad Social en Salud*) to prepare the health plans. Here, MSI promoted the creation of the Hacarí Territorial Council.
8. The Departmental Health Institute approved nine of the ten territorial health plans supported by MSI. The remaining one, from San Calixto, was delayed due to delay in electing local officials.

In the Catatumbo region, 56 municipal public officials, eight municipal council members, and eight civil society representatives participated in this process (overall, 36 women).

During this quarter, MSI started the technical assistance process targeting three departments and eight municipalities in the Sierra Nevada region. In this case, technical assistance began in the third stage by reviewing existing territorial health plans. The idea behind this task was to focus on corrective measures and improve the work that municipalities carried out previous to program support, aiming for coherent, relevant, consistent, clear and goal-oriented plans. The MSI health expert visited municipal and departmental administrations to monitor progress, review documents, and train and resolve weaknesses identified in the formulation process. Specifically, MSI:

1. Informed mayors and governors about the new circular issued by the SNS alerting health departmental, district, and municipal offices about the new deadline to present territorial health plans: departments and municipalities that failed to submit plans on time could present them before July 15, 2008 to the corresponding Departmental Assembly or Municipal Council for their review and approval. Municipal and departmental administrations were not aware of the new deadline. With this information, authorities then understood how this change affected preparation, approval, and dissemination timeframes and processes that health service providers (*Empresas Promotoras de Salud-EPSs*) and subsidized health regimen organizations must follow when they fail to receive the plans on time.
2. In Cesar, MSI helped identify errors committed during the preparation stage, such as failure to include attachments 3 and 4 regarding detailed budgets, the municipal assessment process and operational plans, weaknesses regarding public health issues and management indicators, and failure to mention inspections, and oversight.
3. In La Guajira, the program noticed that attachment 1 was omitted, important sections were missing from attachment 2, attachments 3 and 4 were not integrated, and that the theoretical section was not included in the document. MSI enabled the department to be aware of possible consequences for not delivering the plan on time and not complying with the stages.
4. In Magdalena, the program presented the scope of the Territorial Health Plan. MSI helped parties realize the importance of the process and the institutional commitments required to draft a coherent plan. This, by itself, was an accomplishment since it was particularly difficult for parties to identify and put into practice the methodology in a logical manner. This exercise helped the department speed up the process of drafting the investment plan attachments and the final document in order to submit it to the Departmental Assembly.

5. In CIMIENTOS municipalities in Cesar, MSI noticed significant progress. Health plan implementation was on target regarding management and planning, despite certain administrative and technical difficulties. MSI focused on the contracting process and plan follow-up, planned public health activities on a greater scale and supported the preparation of attachments 3 and 4. With this help, municipalities drafted coherent plans following the methodology.
6. In the CIMIENTOS municipalities in La Guajira, the program reviewed plan attachments 1 and 3 and discovered that municipalities made some mistakes. MSI helped municipalities correct their mistakes in indicators, helped draft attachment 4, and present public health responsibilities. MSI worked with mayors' offices, particularly Dibulla, to rethink funds available to implement the plan and manage local oversight capacity. In this regard, public oversight is a key element to strengthen compliance and follow-through on communal issues.
7. In the CIMIENTOS municipalities in Magdalena, MSI discovered significant flaws in the planning process. In Aracataca, the program worked with the planning team on all planning issues as they were unaware of the regulation and health issues in the municipality. MSI redefined planning strategies to establish adequate mechanisms to oversee the planning stages and directed the team to formulate attachments following the methodology.

Eighteen departmental and 34 municipal public officials participated in the planning process that took place in the Sierra Nevada region.

Ministry of Social Protection (MPS)

MSI helped information flow and coordination between the government at the national level and the regions by notifying municipal and departmental governments about new rules and regulations, such as official announcements of video training conferences that take place in each departmental capital (a total of three during this quarter); public notice 001 regarding deadlines; administrative rules, requests, and replies to specific issues.

National Superintendent of Health (Superintendencia Nacional de Salud – SNS)

MSI and the SNS worked together to develop an action plan to train public officials that work with health administrators and service providers on their inspection and oversight responsibilities. Through this experience, department and municipality will be able to identify key elements in implementing the inspection model. San Juan del Cesar was chosen to carry out the pilot exercise.

Working Group to Update Regulations for Indigenous EPSs and IPSs

MSI suggested that the SNS and the Vice Minister of Interior and Justice create a technical working group with the MPS to review current regulations on indigenous EPSs (*Empresas Promotores de Salud*—health promotion enterprises and IPSs (*Instituciones Promotores de Salud*—institutional service providers), focusing on constitutional legislation that protects indigenous peoples and recognizes their government, culture, and traditions.

Currently, private and indigenous EPSs and IPSs follow the same management parameters. MSI recommended that the national government review the management requirements for health providers and administrators and offer indigenous organizations some flexibility regarding assets, liquidity, and profit margin. The SNS and the Vice Minister consider that the proposal is viable and are committed to review it in greater detail.

General Observations

In June, new staff members were appointed for the Departmental Health Institute in the *Catatumbo* region. Previously approved territorial health plans had to go through an additional review, delaying the approval process with municipal councils and departmental assemblies.

Activities Planned for July – September 2008

- July 31: Trainer of Trainers workshop on the health system in Valledupar
- Technical assistance for eight municipalities and three departments in the Sierra Nevada region.
- Submission of Territorial Health Plans to municipal councils and departmental assemblies in the Sierra Nevada and Catatumbo regions.

Subcomponent 1.3: Education

During this quarter, the Education Component refocused its activities to take into account new education priorities established by the new Vice Minister of the Ministry of National Education (MEN). With MEN, MSI reviewed the work carried out by the program so far and identified tasks where MSI and MEN goals overlap. One area identified is the priority for municipalities to access education funds allocated to rural areas through the Rural Education Plan (*Plan de Educación Rural*). The Vice Minister asked MSI to meet with the ministry's three main offices – Coverage and Equal Rights (*Dirección de Cobertura y Equidad*), Decentralization (*Dirección de Descentralización*), and Quality (*Dirección de Calidad*) – to identify additional joint projects in CIMIENTOS municipalities. Based on these new priorities, MSI began restructuring the component's plans and implementation of new activities.

Ministry of National Education (MEN)

To help increase school coverage, MSI worked with MEN's Coverage and Equal Rights Unit to create 200 new places for the basic literacy program in CIMIENTOS municipalities in Cesar. MSI will work with municipal education offices to identify eight groups of 25 people to register in a virtual-learning program.

With the Decentralization Unit, MSI is promoting the infrastructure inventory survey in the schools in the CIMIENTOS regions to identify needs and to access MEN funds assigned for this purpose. MSI will help departments and education-certified municipalities reach agreements with the MEN regarding counterpart funding and will provide assistance and additional funds to municipalities and departments that need it.

MSI will assist the organizations the departments designate to carry out the inventory exercise. The governor's office in the Bajo and Medio Atrato designated Chocó University. The other four CIMIENTOS departments have yet to designate an organization. In the case of the Magdalena department, MSI suggested the governor's office open a request for proposals. In Bajo and Medio Atrato, MSI began orienting authorities in Carmen de Atrato to organize all the information (personnel, property titles for school grounds, etc.) that Chocó University needs to prepare the inventory on education infrastructure. This information is necessary to support requests for funds that Law 21 allocates for education infrastructure. MSI also advised Ciénaga and Fundación on required procedures to restructure schools and carry out the infrastructure inventory.

The information collected in the inventory exercise will be used to in the Education Infrastructure Information System (*Sistema de Información sobre Infraestructura Educativa*). This system is a MEN database that contains information on ministry field visits all over the country. The system is used to identify needs in school infrastructure and establish whether or not the institution can attend to more students.

MSI worked with MEN's Rural Education Project team to define the methodology and strategy to respond to requests from CIMIENTOS municipalities, carry out an assessment and prepare a Rural Education Plan. MSI already started providing assistance on this topic in three municipalities: Ciénaga, Fundación, and Aracataca. Ciénaga is going through a financial crisis that limits the municipality's potential to invest funds in education. Nonetheless, the municipality demonstrated strong interest in participating in all other activities and displayed particular interest in working with MSI on the Rural Education Plan. Ciénaga is an education-certified municipality prioritized by the MEN. The Magdalena's Governor's Office is interested in helping the Fundación and Aracataca municipalities and will work with MSI to form a group to prepare the plan. Without a Rural Education Plan, certified entities are unable to access World Bank funding available to increase education coverage, efficiency, and quality in rural areas.

MSI also worked with MEN's Quality Unit to put in practice methodologies to evaluate students' and schools' accomplishments in order to prepare education improvement plans, which serve as technical strategies to correct deficiencies in curricular and institutional evaluations. The pilot project is currently taking place in Ciénaga and, based on its results, it will be replicated in other CIMIENTOS municipalities.

Ministry of Communications

In order to donate computers to schools through the Ministry of Communication's *Computadores para Educar* program, the Ministry requires that schools have classrooms equipped with network installations, proper furniture, and adequate security conditions. Assessment of the IT school infrastructure is required to be eligible to receive the computer donation. The assessment is also required to identify what aspects are missing in order for the municipality or other sources to provide the infrastructure. MSI assessed school conditions in Ocaña, Convención, La Playa, El Carmen, Teorema, and Hacarí, in the Cataumbo region, to deliver computers donated by *Computadores para Educar*. With the results of the assessment, MSI will coordinate with the Ministry, municipalities and directly help leverage funds to provide the missing infrastructure.

Local Administrations

MSI provided Riosucio, Dibulla, Valledupar, and Aracataca municipal administrations and the Magdalena and La Guajira departmental administrations guidance to harmonize local and regional education policies with national-level requirements, rights, and policies. The program also provided feedback on the education development plans, suggesting to local government the need to focus more attention on special programs and projects, elaborate on goals, and allocate funds to implement activities.

Following program guidelines regarding interactions and joint activities with other program components, Education and Public Administration organized training sessions on planning for municipal education public officials in Riosucio, Carmen del Darién, and Ungía, Chocó. Public officials from Aracataca and the Magdalena Governor's Office participated in a similar training session. Participants worked on development plans, elaborating on programs, projects, activities and goals in order to improve the section on education.

Together with the Citizen Participation component, MSI assisted social audit groups (*veedores*) in organizing oversight projects for education in Ciénaga, Bojayá, and San Juan del Cesar.

Other activities

MSI formalized the agreement between the MEN, the International Organization for Migrations (IOM), the *Universidad de Los Andes*, and Productive Existence *Convivencia Productiva* to implement the program –Peaceful Classrooms,” aiming to train 44 school and university teachers on methodologies to reduce hostility in schools. The project will take place in 14 CIMIENTOS municipalities located in CIMIENTOS regions. MSI will contribute 25% of the total cost of this first phase.

During the quarter, MSI awarded a grant to the Promigas Foundation to implement the preschool support program, –First Steps towards Academic Excellence.” MSI is funding 28% of the total project cost. Education public officials in Ciénaga selected ten preschool centers to participate. Due to municipal administration commitment and interest, the administration agreed to increase the number of beneficiary schools from 10 to 13, including four preschools located in the rural areas. The Universidad Norte who are implementing the project will evaluate current learning processes and train teachers, school managers, and education public officials on developing strategies to provide quality education to boys and girls.

MSI received an unsolicited proposal from the Reconciliation Foundation *Fundación para la Reconciliación* to train 40 parents and 85 teachers – half the total number of teachers in Carmen de Atrato – on citizen skills and values. Along the same lines, MSI also received another proposal, submitted by the Dominican Charity Sister’s Community of Presentation of the Holy Virgin Bucaramanga Province through their training school *Escuela Normal*, to train school teachers that work in the rural areas in four target municipalities in the Catatumbo region. Both proposals are currently under evaluation.

Activities planned for July –September 2008

- July 9: Meeting with the Cesar’s Education Office to agree with MEN the schedule for the school infrastructure inventory and advance in preparing the Rural Education Development Plan.
- July 14: Technical assistance to Magdalena’s Education Office to develop the Education Action Plan and Indicator Plans by Sector.
- July 26: With Promigás, present the program –Steps towards Academic Excellence in 10 Preschools.”
- July: Training workshop to identify which factors that influence the quality of education are susceptible to public oversight in San Juan and Valledupar.
- Provide technical assistance on the formulation of the Rural Education Plan in Ciénaga, Fundación, and Aracataca.
- Support CIMIENTOS municipalities in Chocó, Ciénaga, and governors’ offices in La Guajira, Magdalena, and Cesar to develop the education infrastructure inventory.
- Advise Valledupar, San Juan del Cesar, El Copey, and Pueblo Bello municipal administrations on modifying their financial frameworks, indicator plans, annual operation investment plans, and action plans.
- Assist Magdalena, Ciénaga, Fundación, and Aracataca’s education offices to prepare an assessment of education services in the rural areas.
- Monitor and evaluate solutions to overcome obstacles in the delivery of computer donations in the Sierra Nevada region.

B. Component 2. Building governance capacity in targeted regions

Subcomponent 2.1: Transparency and accountability of regional and local governments

Interagency Control Agreement (ICA)

During Q2, MSI, the Controller General's Office (*Contraloría General de la República* – CGR), the Prosecutor General's Office (*Fiscalía General de la Nación* – FGN), and the National Inspector General's Office (*Procuraduría General de la Nación* – PGN) carried out a series of workshops on corruption prevention in CIMIENTOS target departments as part of the Interagency Control Agreement (ICA). The objective is to avoid felonies and disciplinary transgressions that typically occur when using national transfer funds (*Sistema General de Participaciones* – SGP) and royalties, both vital for municipalities and departments.

Eight workshops were scheduled in Santa Marta, Riohacha, Valledupar, Ocaña, Tibú, Quibdó, and Acandí. Six workshops have already taken place.

Public officials from the CGR, FGN, and PGN lead these workshops. The audience includes departmental and municipal public officials responsible for managing SGP funds and royalties, as well as community leaders. In these workshops, participants learn about legal restrictions regarding expenditure, the proper use of public funds, and common transgressions and illegal practices. Experts also provide information on what mayors and governors can and must do with funds to promote social oversight on public management.

During this period, ICA parties reviewed the report developed by the CGR regarding the use of education funds in Ciénaga. They analyzed preliminary information and established a schedule for a joint inquiry. The first of these inquiries will investigate the use of public funds allocated for education in this municipality, due to the alarming number of complaints regarding misuse of funds.



Municipal and Departmental Index Launch.
Bogotá.

Lastly, MSI provided technical assistance to prepare the report format that parties will use during inspection visits, handover processes, accountability exercises and to draft the corresponding reports.

Transparency Index

On May 29, *Transparencia por Colombia*, the local chapter of Transparency International, launched the Municipal and Departmental Index, supported by various international donors, including CIMIENTOS. The index, based on indicators from 2005 and 2006, captures the risk level of municipalities and departments in committing acts of corruption. CIMIENTOS will utilize the index as a baseline to measure program impact

in improving governance in its three program regions. The event was opened by the USAID/Colombia Mission Director, Liliana Ayalde. Of special note, four of the five departments that benefited from USAID's Efficiency and Transparency Program (2004- 2006), achieved notable improvements in the index. The municipality of Pasto, which also benefited from USAID assistance under this program, was ranked as the most "transparent" municipality in Colombia.

General Observations

It is extremely difficult to work with the CGR, the FGN, and the PGN at the same time and for the same purpose since each institution uses a different methodology during field visits and investigations. PGN promoted the ICA this quarter. This enabled MSI to reach specific agreements regarding activities financed by MSI. However, the process continues to be slow and cumbersome.

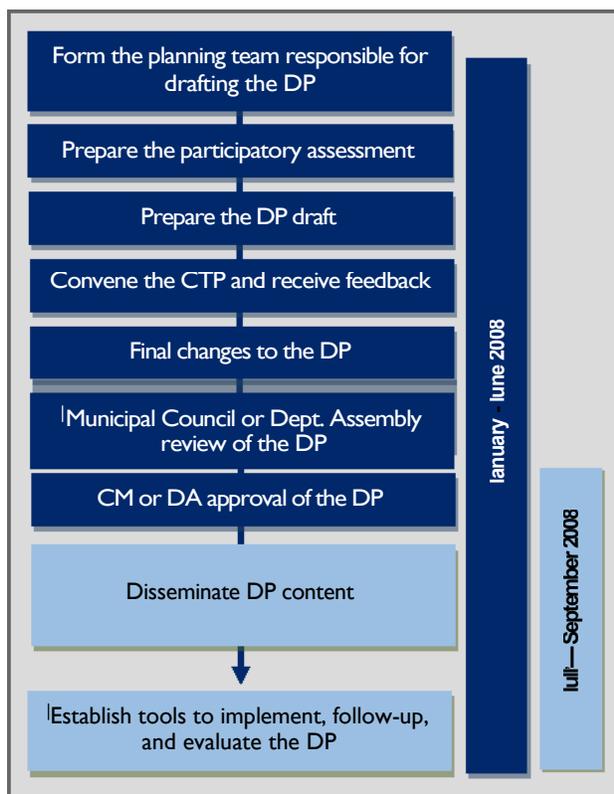
Activities planned for July – September 2008

- July 14 and 15: corruption prevention workshop in Quibdó.
- July 17 and 18: corruption prevention workshop in Acandí.
- July 31: corruption prevention in the health sector with community leaders in Valledupar, as part of the ICA.
- August 11 to 14: Inspection visit to Ciénaga.

Subcomponent 2.2: Improve public administration and local governance

Technical Assistance to Prepare Territorial Development Plans

CHART 1: PHASES OF MSI TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DP



During this program quarter, MSI continued to provide technical assistance to municipal administrations in preparing development plans. Planning exercises are the first stage in public management, whereby local governments identify, organize, and develop strategies to reach the goals that candidates established through their political agendas and campaigns. MSI used National Planning Department (*Departamento Nacional de Planeación – DNP*) regulations and tools to accomplish this task. The program reported activities and results achieved to the DNP and the Ministry of Interior and Justice.

MSI also achieved results in the citizen participation, content, and compliance stages². All development plans were approved, except in San Calixto. In this municipality, the mayor elected in October 2007 was not sworn in due to legal problems. New elections took place in May 2008, resetting the timeframe. Therefore, the development planning in San Calixto is only just starting. During the next quarter, MSI will work with the new mayor and his team to develop a program that strengthens governance in this municipality. There were also some setbacks in Aracataca. The Municipal Development Planning

² See table 2 that describes activities that took place during the first two quarters of 2008, as well future activities particularly PD formulation, implementation, follow-up, and evaluation.

Secretary resigned without prior notice, delaying the development planning process. MSI is working to guarantee that development planning processes comply with all legal requirements.

In this stage of public administration support, the CIMIENTOS program worked in coordination with all program components and regional offices to guarantee that development plans met required standards, while responding to regional issues and national policies in health and education. Technical assistance followed planning stages in each municipal government. The program carried out training sessions, provided direct support and used the following methodological tools during this phase (see table 3 for information on municipal coverage per activity):

1. Technical assistance to Territorial Planning Councils (*Consejos Territoriales de Planeación – CTP*) to review development plans and provide feedback. CTPs act as community representatives in this case.
2. Prepare recommendations to development plan drafts before submitting documents for municipal council review.
3. Train municipal council and departmental assembly members to review development plans. Here, the program prepared an instruction manual describing the methodology to analyze development plans.
4. Provide technical assistance to municipal councils to analyze development plans submitted by municipal administrations.
5. Prepare a guide to help mayors' and governors' offices disseminate development plans.
6. Provide technical assistance to disseminate development plans.
7. Train on development planning management tools to help teams implement, follow-up, and monitor development plans, as well as financial aspects.
8. Develop and disseminate CD containing management tools.

TABLE 2: MSI TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON THE MUNICIPAL PLANNING PROCESS

Exercises and Tools	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ATRATO									
Chocó	X		X	X					X
Acandí		X		X	X	X		X	X
Bojayá	X	X		X	X	X			X
Carmen de Atrato	X	X	X	X		X		X	X
Carmen del Darién			X	X		X	X	X	X
Murindó	X	X		X	X	X		X	X
Riosucio				X	X	X	X	X	X
Unguía				X	X	X		X	X
CATATUMBO									
Norte de Santander				X					X
Abrego			X	X	X				X
Convención			X	X	X				X
El Carmen			X	X					X
El Tarra				X					X
Hacarí			X	X					X
La Playa			X	X					X
Ocaña			X	X					X
San Calixto			X	X					X
Teorama			X	X					X
Tibú			X	X					X
SIERRA NEVADA									
Cesar				X					X
El Copey				X					X
Pueblo Bello				X					X
Valledupar			X	X					X
La Guajira			X	X					X
Dibulla			X	X					X
San Juan				X					X
Magdalena	X	X		X			X		X
Aracataca	X	X	X	X					X
Ciénaga	X		X	X					X
Fundación	X	X	X	X					X

MSI completed some of these activities during the first quarter in '08 in most municipalities, particularly the activity providing CTPs with feedback on development plans. The table only makes reference to municipalities where the program provided support during this quarter.

Technical Assistance on Municipal Budgets

During this quarter, MSI started providing technical assistance on budgets, in coordination with the development plan support. The program offered training sessions on tools to implement, follow-up, and evaluate budgets. Tools such as mid-term fiscal frameworks, indicator plans, investment projects, annual operational investment plans, annual budgets, and month-to-month annual cash flow program, appear to be straight forward but, in reality, municipalities and departments find them quite complex. MSI designed a CD to help public officials responsible for budgeting issues understand the theoretical background and access the formats required by the DNP. With the CD, the public officials only need to follow the instructions and fill in the forms. The program distributed the CD to mayors' and governors' offices. The added value of the training programs and materials created by MSI is that the budget planning process is seen as a value chain, where data in each format complements the rest of the information.

CIMIENTOS carried out training sessions in six of the seven mayors offices located in the *Bajo* and *Medio Atrato* region and will continue in other program target municipalities and departments.

Training on MECI Implementation

The Standard Internal Control Model (*Modelo Estándar de Control Interno* – MECI) is a mandatory tool required to standardize systems of internal control in all public institutions. The model takes into consideration strategic, management, and evaluation issues and helps institutions meet their objectives, boost quality-service levels, and improve commitment among management staff at the senior and regional levels.

MSI organized meetings with governors' offices in La Guajira, Magdalena, and Norte de Santander to discuss the technical assistance required to implement the model. During the next reporting period, the program will carry out working sessions at the municipal and departmental levels to create awareness and establish schedules to implement this self-control tool for regional administrations.

Regarding MECI implementation, CIMIENTOS continued working with the SNS to put the model into operation, accompanied by the Quality Management System (*Sistema de Gestión de la Calidad* – SGC). During this quarter, the program focused on identifying and managing risks within the organization.

General Observations

In general, municipal and departmental authorities have shown political will to carry out activities that strengthen local governance. For instance, the mayors in the Bajo y Medio Atrato region are very willing and interested in participating in technical assistance sessions on development planning.

There were some exceptions. However, situations beyond program influence, the new elections in San Calixto, delayed public management processes in this municipality. In Aracataca, the mayor lacks leadership and this reflects on the rest of the municipal administration. In Valledupar, the legal questioning of the election process is weakening governance in the municipality. The Administrative Court has issued a ruling that the mayor unable to serve in public office. Although this sentence can be appealed, it has already affected this municipality.

Regarding security, there are no substantial changes in the El Tarra case, which means that the program still cannot travel to the region to offer direct field support.

Lastly, there is still no information on the appointment of the superintendent for the SNS creating uncertainty in the MECI and SGC implementation processes.

Activities planned for July – September 2008

- July – August: Technical assistance to disseminate development plans in program target departments and municipalities in the Catatumbo and Sierra Nevada regions.
- July – August: Technical assistance on development planning management tools to target municipalities and departments in the Catatumbo and Sierra Nevada regions as well as Bojayá.
- July – September: Sessions to create awareness on the importance of MECI and establish implementation plans in CIMIENTOS departments and municipalities.
- July – September: Technical assistance to municipal and departmental administrations, municipal councils, and departmental assemblies on budgeting issues such as synchronization, preparation of new budgets, and taxation.
- July – September: Technical assistance to Ciénaga on consolidating debts.
- July – September: Training on public contracting procedures for municipal and departmental administrations, municipal councils, and departmental assemblies.

Subcomponent 2.3: Increase institutional coordination among different governmental levels



ICA Workshop in Valledupar, Cesar

During the reporting period, program activities focused on corruption prevention training workshops as part of the ICA which included the participation of departmental and municipal officials. The Public Administration Component also promoted institutional coordination by providing technical assistance, such as support to formulate development plans. For this assistance, MSI worked both with mayors' and governors' offices and municipal councils and departmental assemblies, to guarantee open and proactive communication between the different government levels.

General Observations

As mentioned in the previous quarterly report, it is challenging to foster institutional coordination at the regional level due to the wide composition of CIMIENTOS municipalities, the variations that exist between one region and another, the differences in political will at the departmental level. Individual requests keep growing, thanks to the trust that the program has garnered in target municipalities and team's technical expertise. In spite of this, program activities will continue to aim for institutional coordination based on diverse and complementary activities, such as public management for mayors' offices and political oversight for municipal councils to improve governance, efficiency, and effectiveness.

Activities planned for July – September 2008

July – September: corruption prevention workshops in Quibdó and Acandí as part of the ICA.

C. Cross-cutting component: Civil Society

In this quarter, the Citizen Participation component focused on three fundamental tasks: training citizens and public officials on social auditing practices, Advanced Participatory Methodologies (*Métodos Avanzados de Participación*-MAP) and prioritizing and implementing Bases Projects. Also during this quarter, Ocasa received a grant to strengthen youth leadership in Valledupar, El Copey, and Pueblo Bello, in Cesar, and the last module of the *Radios Ciudadanas* project carried out in Chocó.

Social Auditing Practices: Hagamos Control

MSI continued to train community leaders on social auditing practices in program target municipalities. Training sessions followed the methodology previously developed by USAID, *“Hagamos Control Ciudadano.”* The program also worked to create awareness among public officials.

Training Sessions for Community Leaders

The Citizen Participation component organized and carried out five training sessions on social auditing for civil society organizations. These sessions were supported by the Mayor’s offices. The following table provides information about the training sessions.

TABLE 3: HAGAMOS CONTROL WORKSHOPS WITH CITIZENS

Date	Location	Beneficiaries
April 9	Aracataca	TOTAL 8 (5 women): 8 municipal public officials
April 9 – 10	Aracataca	TOTAL 64 (44 women, 8 youths, 3 IDPs): 3 municipal public officials, 3 departmental public officials, 58 citizens
April 18 – 19	Ciénaga	TOTAL 47 (31 women): 1 departmental public official, 46 citizens
April 21 – 22	Acandí	TOTAL 34 (17 women, 28 afro-colombians, 3 youths, 4 IDPs, 1 indigenous): 3 departmental public officials, 1 national governmental public official, 1 council member, 29 citizens
April 23	Acandí	TOTAL 20 (10 women, 18 afro-colombians): 15 municipal public officials, 2 departmental public officials, 1 mayor, 2 council members
May 8	Bojayá	TOTAL 15 (3 women, 3 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 10 municipal public officials, 4 council members, 1 citizen

Date	Location	Beneficiaries
May 9	Bojayá	TOTAL 46 (17 women, 41 afro-colombians, 9 youths, 5 indigenous): 1 departmental public official, 45 citizens
May 16 – 17	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 52 (4 women, 3 afro-colombians, 11 indigenous, 1 youth, 10 IDPs): 52 citizens
May 22 – 23	Dibulla	TOTAL 68 (22 women, 7 afro-colombians, 3 indigenous, 14 youths, 16 IDPs): 2 municipal public officials, 66 citizens
June 11	Riosucio	TOTAL 20 (8 women, 19 afro-colombians): 12 municipal public officials, 2 departmental public officials, 3 council members, 3 citizens
June 12	Riosucio	TOTAL 34 (14 women, 28 afro-colombians, 5 indigenous): 4 municipal public officials, 2 departmental public officials, 28 citizens
June 23 – 24	Teorama	TOTAL 22 (5 women): 1 municipal public official, 21 citizens

Participants learned about a new proactive and collective approach to social auditing. The program offered information to organize social audits, using methodologies to create technically-based groups that could produce concrete results. MSI also encouraged more contacts and cooperation between citizens and public officials to improve education and health service provision.

Community leaders considered the new methodology original, welcomed it, and showed willingness to put it into practice. In Bojayá, Chocó, workshop participants said that this was the first time they received information on social auditing and social audits as neither the municipal government nor other organizations worked on this issue before. They demonstrated a willingness to undertake social audit projects to exercise their right to oversee education and health services. Participants identified 12 initiatives to carry out social audits to education and health. They will use their ideas for proposals that they will submit to MSI for program review and, possibly, technical and financial support.

Raising Awareness among Public Officials

Similarly, the program worked to create awareness regarding social auditing practices among public officials in three municipal administrations. MSI took into account several important issues in these working sessions. Among them, municipal administrations' resistance to support social audits due, in the most part, to confrontational relationships between social auditors and public officials and the community's lack of trust in the local government.

Awareness sessions helped ease the tension between public officials and citizen auditors. Parties agreed to work together to improve education and health services and to support social audits that result from MSI activities.

The program trained 311 community leaders and raised awareness among 43 municipal public officials.

In addition, the Citizen Participation component carried out a workshop to focus on social auditing practices at the national level, encouraging the SNS to use the *Hagamos Control* methodology. Sixteen SNS public officials participated in this workshop.

Bases Projects

During the quarter, MSI held twelve town assemblies (*mesas de concertación*) in the three CIMIENTOS regions to identify community-led initiatives for small infrastructure improvement projects. Participants included civil society organizations (women’s, youth, indigenous and afro-colombian groups, Juntas de Acción communal among others) and municipal government officials. In these town assemblies, MSI was able to bring about consensus over the municipal priorities for small projects between citizens and public administrations.

Both municipal administrations and community members pledged matching contributions for the projects identified. In the Norte de Santander department, four community assemblies (El Tarra, El Carmen, Ocaña, Abrego) were held with 142 participants (78 women, 4 IDPs). In the Chocó department, four community assemblies (Carmen del Darien, Murindó, El Carmen del Atrato, Riosucio) were held, with 151 participants (55 women, 98 afro-colombians, 5 indigenous, 38 IDPs). In the Sierra Nevada region, four town assemblies with 180 participants (54 women, 5 afro-colombians, 103 indigenous, 5 IDPs) were held. The breakdown of each community assembly is included in Table 4.

TABLE 4: BASES PROJECT TOWN ASSEMBLIES

Date	Location	Beneficiaries
April 1	El Tarra	TOTAL 20 (5 women, 1 youth, 2 IDPs): 1 municipal public officials, 3 departmental public officials, 16 citizens
April 8	El Carmen	TOTAL 40 (18 women, 2 youths, 1 IDP): 2 municipal public officials, 5 departmental public officials, 1 mayor, 32 citizens
April 15	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL 36 (8 women, 3 afro-Colombians, 33 IDPs): 1 municipal public official, 2 departmental public officials, 33 citizens
April 16	Murindó	TOTAL 47 (22 women, 46 afro-colombians, 3 youths): 3 municipal public officials, 1 mayor, 2 council members, 41 citizens

Date	Location	Beneficiaries
April 19	Ocaña	TOTAL 56 (44 women, 1 IDP): 2 municipal public officials, 9 departmental public officials, 1 mayor, 44 citizens
April 26	El Copey	TOTAL 45 (9 women, 3 youths, 5 IDPs): 4 municipal public officials, 41 citizens
May 2	Ciénaga	TOTAL 34 (15 women, 2 indigenous): 34 citizens
May 27	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL 14 (2 women, 14 indigenous): 14 citizens
June 6	El Carmen del Atrato	TOTAL 12 (7 women, 5 afro-Colombians, 1 indigenous, 5 youths): 6 municipal public officials, 1 mayor, 5 citizens
June 10	Riosucio	TOTAL 56 (23 women, 44 afro-Colombians, 4 indigenous, 10 youths, 5 IDPs): 7 municipal public officials, 6 departmental public officials, 5 national governmental public officials, 38 citizens
June 11	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 87 (23 women, 87 indigenous, 7 youths): 1 municipal public official, 2 departmental public officials, 84 citizens
June 18	Abrego	TOTAL 26 (11 women): 4 municipal public officials, 8 departmental public officials, 14 citizens

The program organized town assemblies in urban and rural areas, as well as with indigenous communities. Working sessions in non-urban areas include:

- El Copey: town assembly with the Chimila community, two hours away from the urban center, traveling on an unpaved road.
- Ciénaga: in the Palmor corregimiento, with the Cherua community, located five hours away from the municipal center (two hours on an unpaved road and an additional three hours on a camino veredal).
- San Juan del Cesar: town assembly with the Achintukua indigenous community, an hour and a half away from the urban center traveling on an unpaved road.
- Pueblo Bello: in the Colón corregimiento, vereda Palmarito and Gunchukua indigenous community, two hours and a half away from the urban area on an unpaved road.

These town assemblies enabled local governments to reach distant regions in their municipalities; areas with little or no government presence whatsoever. As for communities, they were able to establish contact municipal authorities and work with them to prioritize a project that solved a priority need. Overall, the

program organized 12 town assemblies with 473 participants, including 187 women, 98 Afro-Colombians, 108 Indigenous, and 47 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

USAID approved six Bases Projects during this quarter. One of them was implemented during the reporting period, while the remaining five will be undertaken in the next quarter. The project that was implemented took place in Acandí, Chocó. MSI provided funding to remodel and equip the computer room in *Institución Educativa Agropecuaria Diego Luis Córdoba*. The project was delivered to the community on June 4, 2008. The following table presents basic information on approved projects:

TABLE 5: APPROVED BASES PROJECTS

Project	Location	Beneficiaries
Furniture grant for <i>Institución Educativa Agrícola de Bojayá, Escuela Rural Mixta, and Instituto Agrícola de la Loma de Bojayá</i>	Bojayá	TOTAL 684
School remodeling and donation of equipment for the <i>Institución Educativa Agropecuaria Diego Luis Córdoba</i>	Acandí	TOTAL 2,380
Furniture and utensils' donation to improve operations of school cafeteria in <i>Institución Educativa Colegio San Miguel</i>	Hacarí	TOTAL 625
Equipment to improve operations of school cafeteria in <i>Institución Educativa Colegio Santo Ángel Corregimiento Guamalito</i>	El Carmen	TOTAL 1,149
Equipment donation for chemistry and physics laboratories in <i>Institución Educativa Colegio Integrado Campo Dos</i>	Tibú	TOTAL 840
School furniture and school cafeteria equipment donation for school <i>El Hoyo, Centro Educativo Rural Soledad</i>	Convención	TOTAL 110

Radios Ciudadanas

The Community Radio diploma course, a key element in the Ministry of Culture's project, Community Radios: Scenarios for Democracy (*Radios Ciudadanas: Espacios para la Democracia*), finished during this quarter. This project received USAID support through MSI and the Pan-American Development Foundation (PADF). The Ministry of Culture and the National University's distance learning unit (*Universidad Nacional a Distancia – UNAD*) were also key players in this project.

The last training module took place on April 28-30. Ministry of Culture representatives participated in the closing ceremony and handed out diplomas to 21 participants (15 community leaders and 6 public officials, including 2 women, 13 Afro-Colombians, and 2 Indigenous) from Acandí, Riosucio, Bojayá, Carmen de Atrato, Carmen del Darién, and Unguía.

The next Community Radio program phase will be held during the next program quarter. In this stage, project implementers will help strengthen community radio stations to serve as venues for public dialogues and discussions. The Radios Ciudadanas project will train participants in radio production, while consolidating participation mechanisms and strengthening radio stations from a technical point of view.

MAP Training Sessions for Public Officials and Citizens

The Citizen Participation component organized and carried out three training sessions on MAP for public officials and civil society representatives. MAP is a set of methodological tools used to facilitate group- and community-based planning exercises. Community organizations use these tools help improve internal planning exercises and workshops, while in municipal administrations, MAP is used to enhance the quality of meetings with citizens with a focus on results.



MAP Workshop. Acandí, Chocó

MSI had two objectives in mind while carrying out MAP workshops: strengthen civil society organizations and support municipal administration efforts to increase citizen participation in local management. MAP workshops also act as meeting grounds where public officials and community leaders from each region share their experiences, learn from each other, build trust, and find opportunities to cooperate. Overall, the program trained 103 people in the three target regions, including 30 public officials and 73 civil society representatives.

Grants

On April 15, MSI awarded Ocasá a US\$55,000 grant to carry out the project *Jóvenes Diciendo y Haciendo* (Youths Conversing and Implementing) in Valledupar, El Copey, and Pueblo Bello, in Cesar. Through this project, Ocasá will offer young people training workshops on citizen participation and encourage activities to support community life and social auditing practices in their municipalities. This project will be implemented during an eight-month period.

During May 6-15, Ocasá team members traveled to Cesar to meet with key actors and present the project in each municipality. The purpose of these meetings was to raise awareness about project activities and build strategic alliances that help project implementation.

In Valledupar, Ocasá met with *Universidad del Cesar's* Student Affairs Office (*Bienestar Universitario*), the Mayor's Office Social Division (*Gestión Social*), the Cesar Youth Network (*Red de Jóvenes del Cesar – REDJUENSAR*), the Women's Network on the Caribbean (*Red de Mujeres del Caribe*), the Valledupar Youth Council, and the Coffee Growers Committee (*Comité de Cafeteros*) for Cesar and La Guajira.

In El Copey, Ocasá met with the school principal (*Dirección de Núcleo Educativo*), the Municipal Council, the Mayor's Office, the Parish representative, and education institutions in the municipality.

Finally, in Pueblo Bello, Ocasá met with the Mayor's Office, the Association of Indigenous *Cabildos* in Cesar, La Guajira, and Magdalena (*Asociación de Cabildos Indígenas del Cesar, La Guajira y Magdalena*), *Fundación Diseñar*, the Municipal Council, and education institutions in the municipality. Ocasá was able to introduce itself and present project objectives during these meetings, and receive institutional support for project implementation.

The Cesar Governor's Office signed an agreement with Ocasá pledging to help convene young people to

participate in the project, offer facilities to carry out workshops in Valledupar, and allow young people participating in the project the chance to visit the governor's offices. REJUVENSAR will help the implementer identify young people interested in participating in the project and put on a motivational cultural exhibit as part of the training sessions. The El Copey Parish will also help Ocasá convene participants and will offer the community meeting room for project workshops. Municipal administrations and municipal councils will provide logistical support to carry out project activities and, like the governor's office, will allow young people participating in this project to visit their offices. Finally, educational institutions will distribute official announcements and encourage students to participate in the program.

Following the meetings, Ocasá organized three events to launch 'Youths Conversing and Implementing' and encourage young people to participate in project implementation. Departmental or municipal officials opened each event; followed by conferences on the effects of corruption and youth participation in public management; a brief program presentation continued; and, finally, the event closed with a cultural activity. The following list provides basic information on these events:

- June 18, El Copey: 44 people participated, including 32 women.
- June 19, Pueblo Bello: 45 people participated, including 26 women, 1 Afro-Colombian, 10 indigenous, and 4 IDPs.
- June 20, Valledupar: 43 people participated, including 25 women, 3 Afro-Colombians, and 1 indigenous.

Once the motivational phase ends, next quarter Ocasá will start registering young people for the training sessions and identify youth participation experiences that can be promoted and replicated.

Other Activities

On June 16-17, the MSI Citizen Participation Coordinator participated in a USAID-sponsored meeting on Democracy and Governance in Latin America and the Caribbean in Miami. He gave a presentation on *Hagamos Control Ciudadano* and explained how this methodology strengthens transparency, governance and democracy. The event was organized to disseminate Latin American experiences, lessons learned, and challenges and to present governance programs that USAID supports in the region.

Activities Planned for July – August 2008

- Continue training community grassroots organizations in social auditing practices following the *Hagamos Control Ciudadano* methodology.
- Training of trainers' workshops on *Hagamos Control Ciudadano* methodology in each of the CIMIENTOS regions.
- Create local municipal committees to develop the social auditing strategy.
- Implement Bases projects.
- Support civil society strengthening initiatives.

III. ACTIVITIES AND CONTEXT AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

A. National Level

MSI worked with the SNS on MECI and SGC and to review its proposed ethics code and create the Quality and Good Governance Committee to monitor code compliance. Table 6 describes the beneficiaries and type of activity provided by MSI to the SNS at the national level during the reporting period.

TABLE 6: ACTIVITIES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Date	Activity	Beneficiaries
May 13	<i>Hagamos Control</i> Workshop to SNS public officials	SNS: 16 public officials (10 women)

B. Bajo and Medio Atrato

Public Order and Security Conditions

At the end of April, there were several FARC guerrilla attacks in Quibdó, capital of the Chocó Department. On April 24, the guerrilla group attacked Tutunendo county, 18 kilometers from Quibdó. As the result of the attack, one police man was killed and several people were wounded. A police patrol was ambushed in La Troje district, seven kilometers from Quibdó. Three guerrilla members were killed during this attack. In May, there were public order disturbances in Quibdó and other municipalities in Chocó. In June, stability returned to the region with no records of attacks or confrontations.

There are still some inconveniences traveling around the region. On May 13, a boat travelling from Quibdó to Turbo sank in Tumarandó county, in the Unguía municipality. On June 8 another boat, carrying five MSI staff members, was stranded in open waters while sailing from Capurganá, Acandí county, to Turbo because it did not have enough gasoline to complete the trip. The team and the rest of the traveling party had to go to a nearby station and wait for almost an hour until there was enough gasoline to refuel the boat.

On May 11, there was an avalanche in El Siete district, three kilometers from the El Carmen de Atrato urban center. The mayor asked for MSI’s support to request that USAID and the Colombian government provide emergency relief assistance. CIMIENTOS efforts were successful and, thus, the coordinator of the Emergency and Disaster Group (*Grupo de Emergencias y Desastres*) and the Vice minister of Health assisted the mayor. USAID helped through the military group by donating mattresses, which are scheduled to arrive soon to the municipality.

Program Highlights

During this quarter, CIMIENTOS delivered the first BASES project: 10 computers for the *Institución Educativa Diego Luis Córdoba*, located in Acandí. The results of this program-sponsored initiative, as well as the mechanisms used to carry it out, allowed the municipal administration to come closer to the community and build trust with each other. This is an initial breakthrough considering that, historically, relations between municipal administrations and communities in this region have been very tense and distant. In this project, parties worked together to achieve a common goal and positive results were seen in the short-term. The municipal administration was responsible for remodeling the computer room in the school and providing the furniture needed for the computers. The community provided the labor to carry out infrastructure improvements. The project also included the creation of an open participation scenario, an audit committee (*comité de veeduría*), formed by five community leaders from the region. The committee followed-up on performance and progress and demonstrated that the project was completed and delivered according to community priorities.

In the Public Administration component, 395 public officials were trained in methodologies to formulate development plans. This included assistance on the strategic lines that should be included in plans, tools to formulate plans using a participatory focus and techniques to synchronize the resulting Municipal Development Plan (MDP) with the Departmental and National development plans. MSI carried out this activity in the seven target municipalities in this region. The program also provided technical assistance to 221 council members, and 45 departmental assembly members on elements and issues to consider while reviewing and approving development plans. All *Bajo Atrato* development plans were approved during this quarter.

Table 7 contains the complete list of MSI activities and corresponding beneficiaries in the *Bajo and Medio Atrato* region during the reporting period.

TABLE 7: ACTIVITIES IN BAJO AND MEDIO ATRATO

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
April 1	Technical assistance to Territorial Planning Council in PDM	Bojayá	TOTAL 12 (3 women, 9 afro-colombians, 3 indigenous, 1 IDP): 1 municipal public official, 11 citizens
April 5	Technical assistance to Territorial Planning Council in PDM	Murindó	TOTAL 13 (3 women, 12 afro-colombians): 3 municipal public officials, 1 mayor, 3 council members, 6 citizens
April 8	Technical assistance to PDM working team to define goals	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL 8 municipal public officials (2 women, 1 afro-colombians)
April 9	Training to Territorial Planning Council on PDM	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL 7 citizens (1 woman, 1 indigenous)
April 15	<i>Mesa de Concertación</i> to identify possible BASES projects	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL 36 (8 women, 3 afro-colombians, 33 IDPs): 1 municipal public official, 2 departmental public officials, 33 citizens

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
April 16	<i>Mesa de Concertación</i> to identify possible BASES projects	Murindó	TOTAL 47 (22 women, 46 afro-colombians, 3 youths): 3 municipal public officials, 1 mayor, 2 council members, 41 citizens
April 21	<i>Mesa de Flujo de Recursos</i> for Chocó department	Quibdó	TOTAL 9 municipal public officials (4 women, 8 afro-colombians)
April 22	Technical assistance to Departmental Assembly in PDM	Quibdó	TOTAL 21 (6 women, 21 afro-colombians): 16 departmental public officials, 5 representatives
April 23	Training to the Territorial Planning Council of Chocó to analyze the PDM	Quibdó	TOTAL 11 (4 women, 9 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 1 departmental public official, 1 representative, 9 citizens
April 28 – 30	Citizen radio project in Chocó – third training session	Quibdó	TOTAL 15 (2 women, 11 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 3 municipal public officials, 1 departmental public official, 1 council member, 10 citizens
May 9	Technical assistance and training to Municipal Council to analyze the PDM	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL 11 council members (1 woman)
May 10	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL 12 council members (1 woman)
May 12 – 13	Technical assistance and training to Municipal Council in PDM analysis - Education and infrastructure	Riosucio	TOTAL 12 council members (11 afro-colombians)
May 13	Technical assistance and training to Municipal Council to analyze the PDM	Bojayá	TOTAL 10 (1 woman, 9 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 1 municipal public official, 9 council members
May 14 – 15	Support to Municipal Council on PDM debate	Bojayá	TOTAL 9 (1 woman, 8 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 1 municipal public official, 8 council members
May 15 – 16	Technical assistance and training to Municipal Council in PDM analysis -	Unguía	TOTAL 15 (2 woman, 15 afro-colombians): 2 municipal public officials, 2 national governmental public officials, 11 council members
May 16	Technical assistance and training to Municipal Council to analyze the PDM	Murindó	TOTAL 9 (3 woman, 8 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 8 council members, 1 citizen

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
May 17	Support to Municipal Council on PDM debate	Murindó	TOTAL 4 (2 woman, 4 afro-colombians): 1 municipal public official, 3 council members
May 19	Technical assistance to Territorial Planning Council, Mayor and government team in PDM	Acandí	TOTAL 9 (4 women, 6 afro-colombians): 6 municipal public officials, 1 mayor, 2 citizens
May 19	Technical assistance to Municipal Council to analyze the PDM	Acandí	TOTAL 16 (5 women, 15 afro-colombians): 12 council members, 4 citizens
May 20	Technical assistance in Citizen Control	Acandí	TOTAL 8 council members (2 women, 8 afro-colombians)
May 20	Technical assistance to municipal public officials and Territorial Planning	Acandí	TOTAL 5 (2 women, 4 afro-colombians): 2 municipal public officials, 3 citizens
May 22 – 24	Technical assistance in veeduría projects formulation in La Loma-	Bojayá	TOTAL 31 citizens (10 women, 30 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous, 5 youths)
May 23	Technical assistance and training to Municipal Council in PDM analysis -	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL 8 (8 afro-colombians): 1 municipal public official, 7 council members
June 6	Mesa de Concertación to identify possible BASES projects	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL 12 (7women, 5 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous, 5 youths): 6 municipal public
June 6	Bases donation delivery: Computers to Institución Educativa Agropecuaria	Acandí	TOTAL 2.940
June 5 – 7	MAP (Advanced Participation Methodology) workshop	Acandí	TOTAL 38 (14 women, 33 afro-colombians, 3 indigenous, 5 youths, 3 IDPs): 6 municipal
June 10	Mesa de Concertación to identify possible BASES projects	Riosucio	TOTAL 56 (23 women, 44 afro-colombians, 4 indigenous, 10 youths, 5 IDPs): 7 municipal
June 12	Technical assistance and training in PDM follo-up and evaluation	Murindó	TOTAL 6 (1 woman, 5 afro-colombians): 5 municipal public officials, 1 mayor
June 13	Technical assistance in PDM management instruments	Acandí	TOTAL 2 municipal public officials (2 women, 1 afro-colombian)
June 16	Technical assistance and training in PDM follow-up and evaluation	El Carmen de Atrato	TOTAL 10 (2 women): 9 municipal public officials, 1 mayor
June 16	Technical assistance in PDM management instruments	Riosucio	TOTAL 12 municipal public officials (3 women, 12 afro-colombians)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
June 17	Technical assistance in PDM management instruments	Carmen del Darién	TOTAL 10 (2 women, 9 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 9 municipal public officials, 1 departmental public official
June 18	Technical assistance in PDM management instruments	Unguía	TOTAL 24 (8 women, 20 afro-colombians): 20 municipal public officials, 1 departmental public official, 3 national governmental public officials
June 18	Technical assistance in PDM management instruments	Unguía	TOTAL 24 (8 women, 20 afro-colombians): 20 municipal public officials, 1 departmental public official, 3 national governmental public officials
June 25	Support to the <i>Veeduría</i> Committee in the <i>veeduría</i> project formulation - <i>SISBEN</i> registry review	Riosucio	TOTAL 5 citizens (3 women, 5 afro-colombians)
June 26	Support to the <i>Veeduría</i> Committee in the <i>veeduría</i> project formulation - Teachers in Riosucio	Riosucio	TOTAL 6 citizens (5 women, 5 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous, 1 youth)
June 27	Support to the <i>Veeduría</i> Committee in the <i>veeduría</i> project formulation - Vaccination for children	Riosucio	TOTAL 6 (2 women, 4 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 1 departmental public official, 5 citizens
June 26	Support to the <i>Veeduría</i> Committee in the <i>veeduría</i> project formulation - Teachers in Riosucio	Riosucio	TOTAL 6 citizens (5 women, 5 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous, 1 youth)
June 27	Support to the <i>Veeduría</i> Committee in the <i>veeduría</i> project formulation - Vaccination for children	Riosucio	TOTAL 6 (2 women, 4 afro-colombians, 1 indigenous): 1 departmental public official, 5 citizens

C. Catatumbo

Public Order and Security Conditions

On May 18, elections for mayor took place in San Calixto. Mr. Jairo Antonio Pérez Quintero was elected as mayor. In June, CIMIENTOS met with him to present the program, sign the MOU and prioritize activities in this municipality. The main priority is technical assistance to formulate the development plan.

During this quarter, there were several public order disturbances in the region. On May 13 the program was forced to restrict the team's trips to Hacarí, El Tarra, San Calixto and Tibú due to:

- Combats between the guerrilla and the army 4 kilometers from the Tibú urban center on May 5. During the confrontation, a bridge was blown up. Passage has been re-established.
- Disturbances on the road between Cúcuta and Tibú on May 8. The guerrilla burned a bus and a car.

Travel limitations were suspended on June 6. Only trips to El Tarra are still on hold due to frequent combats between the guerrilla and the army in the rural area. For this reason, CIMIENTOS has problems carrying out activities in this municipality. Municipal public officials also have difficulties traveling to technical assistance and training sessions that take place in other municipalities, since they have to travel on a dirt road, there is little formal transport available to and from this municipality and there are illegal armed groups in the region.

Program Highlights

During this quarter, program support to develop territorial health plans for the 10 *Catatumbo* municipalities was the most outstanding activity in the Health component. As a part of this task, the program developed base line assessments on health that include statistical information the municipalities lacked. Based on this information, health public officials established realistic goals to accomplish plans and respond to health priorities set by the national government. To date, the program has worked with three health secretaries from La Playa, Ocaña, and Tibú; 10 health coordinators from Abrego, Convención, El Carmen, Hacarí, La Playa, Ocaña, San Calixto, Teorama, Tibú, and El Tarra. MSI also worked with municipalities to disseminate territorial health plans for health institutions in target municipalities such as private IPSs, public ESEs, and the Users Association from the *Emiro Quintero Cañizares* hospital. These organizations now possess sound information on health matters in each municipality and can carry out their institutional responsibilities.

Also during this quarter, there were training workshops on prevention and proper use of national transfer (*Sistema General de Participaciones – SGP*) funds and royalties in Ocaña and Tibú as part of the Interagency Control Agreement (ICA) between the Controller General's Office (*Contraloría General de la República – CGR*), the National Inspector General's Office (*Procuraduría General de la Nación – PGN*) Prosecutor General's Office (*Fiscalía General de la Nación – FGN*). Workshops focused on the responsibility of each institution, public contracting procedures, administrative processes and the use and disbursement of royalties and SGP funds. Ninety three public officials from 10 target municipalities in the Catatumbo region participated in these workshops.

Additionally, during the quarter, all ten mayors and the governor of Norte de Santander signed MOUs with MSI, pledging to cooperate with the program.

Table 8 includes a complete list of the beneficiaries and type of activity provided by MSI in the Catatumbo region during the reporting period.

TABLE 8: ACTIVITIES IN CATATUMBO

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
April 1	<i>Mesa de Concertación</i> to identify possible BASES projects	El Tarra	TOTAL 20 (5 women, 1 youth, 2 IDPs): 1 municipal public official, 3 departmental public official, 16 citizens
April 8	<i>Mesa de Concertación</i> to identify possible BASES projects	El Carmen	TOTAL 40 (18 women, 2 youths, 1 IDP): 2 municipal public officials, 5 departmental public official, 1 mayor, 32 citizens
April 17 – 19	MAP (Advanced Participation Methodology) workshop	Ocaña	TOTAL 39 (21 women, 2 youths, 3 IDPs): 14 municipal public officials, 25 citizens
April 18	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Abrego	TOTAL 8 council members (1 woman)
April 18	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Teorama	TOTAL 8 council members
April 18	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Convención	TOTAL 7 council members (2 women)
April 19	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Hacarí	TOTAL 9 council members
April 19	<i>Mesa de Concertación</i> to identify possible BASES projects	Ocaña	TOTAL 56 (44 women, 1 IDP): 2 municipal public officials, 9 departmental public officials, 1 mayor, 44 citizens
April 28	Technical assistance to Municipal Council of Ocaña and El Tarra in Health Territorial Plan	Ocaña	TOTAL 8 council members (1 woman)
April 28	Technical assistance to Municipal Council of Ocaña and El Tarra in PDM	Ocaña	TOTAL 8 council members (1 woman)
April 29 – 30	Technical assistance to Health Coordinators in Health Territorial Plan	Ocaña	TOTAL 9 municipal public officials (7 women)
Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
April 30	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Tibú	TOTAL 11 municipal public officials (1 woman)
May 6	Technical assistance in Health Territorial Plan	La Playa	TOTAL 4 municipal public officials (3 women)
May 7	Technical assistance in Health Territorial Plan	Abrego	TOTAL 3 municipal public officials (2 women)
May 8	Technical assistance in Health Territorial Plan	Convención	TOTAL 4 municipal public officials (1 woman)
May 9	Technical assistance in Health Territorial Plan	Hacarí	TOTAL 5 municipal public officials (1 woman)
May 16	Technical assistance in Health Territorial Plan to Ocaña, Abrego and Convención	Ocaña	TOTAL 3 municipal public officials (1 woman)
May 22	Technical assistance in Health Territorial Plan	Ocaña	TOTAL 5 municipal public officials (3 women)
May 22	Technical assistance to Municipal Council of Teorama in PDM analysis and implementation	Teorama	TOTAL 10 council members
May 23	Technical assistance in Health Territorial Plan to Teorama, Abrego and Convención	Cúcuta	TOTAL 3 municipal public officials (1 woman)
May 23	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	La Playa	TOTAL 8 council members (1 woman)
May 23	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Abrego	TOTAL 12 council members (1 woman)
May 23	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Convención	TOTAL 3 council members (1 woman)
May 29	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Ocaña	TOTAL 5 council members (1 woman)
May 29 – 30	Technical assistance in Health Territorial Plan to Abrego, Ocaña, Convención, Harcarí, El Tarra and La Playa	Cúcuta	TOTAL 6 municipal public officials (4 women)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
June 5	Technical assistance in Health Territorial Plan	La Playa	TOTAL 1 municipal public official (1 woman)
June 17	Ocaña's Health Territorial Plan presentation	Ocaña	TOTAL 11 (5 women): 3 municipal public officials, 8 citizens
June 17	Technical assistance in the elaboration of the Health Territorial Plan	Ocaña	TOTAL 2 municipal public officials (1 woman)
June 18	<i>Mesa de Concertación</i> to identify possible BASES projects	Abrego	TOTAL 26 (11 women): 4 municipal public officials, 8 departmental public officials, 14 citizens
June 19 – 20	Technical assistance in the elaboration of the Health Territorial Plan	Tibú	TOTAL 5 municipal public officials (3 woman)
June 23 – 24	Technical Assistance on national transfers, part of the ICA agreement	Ocaña	TOTAL 73 (16 women): 41 municipal public officials, 1 national governmental public official, 4 mayors, 23 council members, 4 citizens
June 24	Technical assistance in Health Territorial Plan	Teorama	TOTAL 1 municipal public official
June 25	Follow-up to the Health Territorial Plan	San Calixto	TOTAL 2 municipal public officials (2 women)
June 26 – 27	Technical Assistance on national transfers, part of the ICA agreement	Tibú	TOTAL 19 (6 women): 6 municipal public officials, 4 departmental public officials, 2 national governmental public officials, 1 mayor, 3 council members, 3 citizens

D. Sierra Nevada

Public Order and Security Conditions

During the first days of June, there were combats between army patrols and ELN groups in the rural area between the municipalities of Valledupar and Pueblo Bello. As a result of the confrontations, six guerrilla members were killed.

On June 26, the Valledupar Administrative Court (*Tribunal Contencioso Administrativo*) issued a preliminary verdict ruling the election of the mayor of Valledupar, Ruben Carvajal Riveira, as invalid. The court argues that during the 12 months that preceded the election, Mr. Carvajal's wife and brother served in public office. The mayor is still in office and appealed the court's decision.

Program Highlights

In May, MSI formalized program support to indigenous communities in the *Sierra Nevada* region through a consensus building meeting held on May 15 in Domingueka, a border town located in Dibulla. All *cabildo* governors and the *Cabildos'* Territorial Council (*Consejo Territorial de Cabildos* – CTC) from the Sierra Nevada region participated in this meeting. Indigenous leaders agreed to work and cooperate with USAID to prioritize BASES projects and improve health conditions in indigenous towns by strengthening the indigenous EPS DUSAKAWI and the indigenous IPS. Thirty-five indigenous leaders and governors, from the *Koguis*, *Arhuacos*, *Wiwas*, and *Kankuamos* indigenous groups, participated in this meeting.

As a direct result of this meeting, the Citizen Participation component started prioritizing BASES projects with indigenous communities by organizing *mesas de concertación* in May, with the *Wiwa* community in Achintuka, San Juan del Cesar, and two more in June: one in Atanquez, Valledupar, with the *Kankuama* community and another one in Palmarito, Pueblo Bello, with the *Arhuaco* community in Gunchukwa. Fourteen *Wiwas*, 25 *Kankuamos*, and 85 *Arhuacos* participated in these meetings. These *mesas de concertación* were very important since, prior to each assembly, each community and institution involved participated in consensus-building exercises that resulted in funding agreements between the *Comité de Cafeteros*, municipal administrations, and indigenous communities.

On May 20-22, MSI provided logistical support to organize a visit of the US Naval Mission to municipalities in the *Sierra Nevada* region, specifically to make arrangements regarding activities that Kearsarge crew members would carry out during the vessel's visit to Santa Marta. On May 22, the USAID Mission met with the Ciénaga municipal administration with MSI support. During this meeting, parties agreed to carry out basic infrastructure improvements to the San Cristóbal Hospital in Ciénaga.

Also during this quarter, the program carried out workshops on SGP funds and royalties in Santa Marta, Valledupar, and Riohacha as part of the ICA agreement. Ninety-one public officials from CIMIENTOS municipalities and departments participated in these workshops. Participants received training on their responsibilities and the use of royalties and SGP funds.

Table 9 includes a complete list of the beneficiaries and type of activity provided by MSI in the *Sierra Nevada* region during the reporting period.

TABLE 9: ACTIVITIES IN SIERRA NEVADA

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
April 1	Technical assistance in BASES projects	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 4 departmental public officials (3 women, 1 indigenous)
April 14	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL 5 citizens (5 women, 1 IDP)
April 14	Technical assistance to the Territorial Planning Council in PDM	Aracataca	TOTAL 9 (2 IDPs): 1 municipal public official, 3 departmental public officials, 1 council member, 4 citizens
April 14	Technical assistance to the Territorial Planning Council in PDM	Ciénaga	TOTAL 8: 1 municipal public official, 7 citizens
April 15	Technical assistance to the Territorial Planning Council (Magdalena department) in PDM	Santa Marta	TOTAL 3 departmental public officials (1 woman)
April 15	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	El Copey	TOTAL 10 citizens (4 women, 8 IDPs)
April 15	Training to Assembly public officials in PDM	Riohacha	TOTAL 21 (13 women, 1 afro-colombian, 6 indigenous): 1 municipal public official, 3 departmental public officials, 8 representatives, 9 citizens
April 16	Training in MECI and SGC to public officials – La Guajira Governor’s Office	Riohacha	TOTAL 9 departmental public officials (3 women)
April 16	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Valledupar	TOTAL 10 citizens (7 women, 7 afro-colombians, 4 youths, 2 IDPs)
April 17	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Aracataca	TOTAL 8 (5 women, 1 youth): 1 municipal public official, 7 citizens
April 22 – 24	MAP (Advanced Participation Methodology) workshop	Santa Marta	TOTAL 26 (14 women, 5 afro-colombians, 3 indigenous, 1 youth, 1 IDP): 4 municipal public officials, 22 citizens
April 24	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Ciénaga	TOTAL 5 citizens (3 women)
April 25	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Aracataca	TOTAL 7 citizens (4 women, 2 youths)
April 26	<i>Mesa de Concertación</i> to identify possible BASES projects	El Copey	TOTAL 45 (9 women, 3 youths, 5 IDPs): 4 municipal public officials, 41 citizens

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
April 29	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	El Copey	TOTAL 2 citizens (2 women, 2 IDPs)
April 29	Technical assistance in BASES projects	El Copey	TOTAL 2: 1 departmental public official, 1 citizen
May 2	<i>Mesa de Concertación</i> to identify possible BASES projects	Ciénaga	TOTAL 34 citizens (15 women, 2 indigenous)
May 6	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Ciénaga	TOTAL 6 citizens (2 women)
May 7	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	El Copey	TOTAL 4 citizens (2 IDPs)
May 8	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 4 citizens
May 12	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL 3 citizens (3 women, 1 youth, 1 IDP)
May 12	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Aracataca	TOTAL 16 (3 women): 3 municipal public officials, 13 council members
May 13	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Dibulla	TOTAL 12 council members (2 women, 9 afro-colombians)
May 13	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	El Copey	TOTAL 4 citizens (3 women, 1 IDP)
May 13	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 7 (2 women, 1 indigenous): 1 council member, 6 citizens
May 14	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects to ASODEUPAR, Women's Network and ASOMUCAFA	Valledupar	TOTAL 3 citizens (3 women)
May 14	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects to ASODEUPAR, ASIFEM and REDJUVENSAR	Valledupar	TOTAL 7 citizens (6 women, 4 afro-colombians, 4 youths, 1 IDP)
May 19	Technical assistance in PDM	Aracataca	TOTAL 5 (3 women): 4 municipal public officials, 1 council member
May 19	Technical assistance in inspection, vigilance and control SNS to La Guajira Department – Citizen control	Riohacha	TOTAL 32 (12 women, 8 indigenous): 10 municipal public officials, 9 departmental public officials, 9 mayors, 4 citizens

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
May 20	Technical assistance in inspection, vigilance and control SNS to La Guajira Department – Citizen control in health	Riohacha	TOTAL 59 (25 women, 13 afro-colombians, 10 indigenous): 47 municipal public officials, 12 departmental public officials
May 20	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL 5 citizens (5 women, 2 youths, 1 IDP)
May 21	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 6 citizens (2 women, 1 indigenous)
May 24	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 17 citizens (3 women, 1 afro-colombian, 7 indigenous, 3 IDPs)
May 27	<i>Mesa de Concertación</i> to identify possible BASES projects	San Juan del Cesar	TOTAL 14 citizens (2 women, 14 indigenous)
May 28	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects to ASIFEM, ASOMUCAFA, ASODULPAR and Women's network	Valledupar	TOTAL 4 citizens (4 women, 1 IDP)
May 30	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Ciénaga	TOTAL 6 council members
May 30	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Ciénaga	TOTAL 7 citizens (3 women, 1 afro-colombian)
May 30	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 5 citizens (3 women)
May 30	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Aracataca	TOTAL 11 council members (2 women, 1 afro-colombian, 1 indigenous)
June 3	Training to public officials of National Controller's Office, Mayor's Offices and Governor's Offices in crimes prevention, disciplinary and fiscal issues	Santa Marta	TOTAL 26 (12 women): 6 municipal public officials, 2 departmental public officials, 18 national governmental public officials)
June 3	Training to citizens of Magdalena department in crimes prevention, disciplinary and fiscal issues	Santa Marta	TOTAL 32 citizens (14 women, 2 afro-colombians)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
June 5	Training to citizens of La Guajira department in crimes prevention, disciplinary and fiscal issues	Riohacha	TOTAL 30 (11 women): 8 departmental public officials, 2 national governmental public officials, 1 council member, 19 citizens)
June 6	Technical assistance to Municipal Council in PDM	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 2 council members (2 afro-colombians)
June 5 – 6	Training to public officials of National Controller's Office, Mayor's Offices and Governor's Offices in crimes prevention, disciplinary and fiscal issues	Riohacha	TOTAL 29 (14 women): 4 municipal public officials, 6 departmental public officials, 18 national governmental public officials, 1 mayor)
June 9	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects to indigenous community	Valledupar	TOTAL 27 (8 women, 27 indigenous, 6 youths, 2 IDPs): 2 municipal public officials, 25 citizens
June 10	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Dibulla	TOTAL 11 (4 women): 1 municipal public official, 10 citizens)
June 11	<i>Mesa de Concertación</i> to identify possible BASES projects	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 87 (23 women, 87 indigenous, 7 youths): 1 municipal public official, 2 departmental public officials, 84 citizens)
June 16	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Ciénaga	TOTAL 10 citizens (2 women, 1 youth)
June 17	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects to teachers	Pueblo Bello	TOTAL 4: 1 departmental public official, 3 citizens
June 18	Technical Assistance on national transfers, part of the ICA agreement	Valledupar	TOTAL 90 (44 women, 10 afro-colombians, 2 indigenous, 11 youths, 1 IDP): 8 municipal public official, 2 departmental public officials, 5 national governmental public officials, 75 citizens
June 18 – 19	Technical Assistance on national transfers, part of the ICA agreement	Valledupar	TOTAL 37 (13 women, 1 afro-colombian): 26 municipal public officials, 6 departmental public officials, 5 national governmental public officials
June 20	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Dibulla	TOTAL 3 citizens (1 woman, 1 afro-colombian, 1 IDP)

Date	Activity	Location	Beneficiaries
June 23	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Ciénaga	TOTAL 11 citizens (4 women)
June 24	Technical assistance in <i>microveedurías</i> projects	Dibulla	TOTAL 9 citizens (3 women, 5 IDPs)
June 26	Technical assistance in PDM	Aracataca	TOTAL 4 (2 women): 3 municipal public officials, 1 council member
June 27	Technical assistance in PDD	Santa Marta	TOTAL 17 departmental public officials (4 women, 1 indigenous)

IV. INDICATORS MATRIX

The Tables 10 and 11 below summarize the indicators applicable during the fiscal year 2008 (FY08).

TABLE 10: USAID / ACCIÓN SOCIAL INDICATORS

Indicator	Progress FY08
Citizen confidence in democratic institutions in the consolidation zones	Baseline TBD through DIMS
Government agencies strengthened in zones undergoing consolidation	55
Citizen participation initiatives supported in governance consolidation zones	6

TABLE 11: CONTRACT INDICATORS

Indicator	Progress FY08
# Targeted departments and municipalities where at least one candidate signs a transparency act	1 department, 6 municipalities
# Anchor CSO and CSO initiative grants awarded to promote civil society engagement	3 CSO initiative grant awarded
# Targeted departments and municipalities where voter education programs have been completed	5 departments, 25 municipalities
# Targeted departments and municipalities with public debates among candidates	3 departments, 2 municipalities
# Small project/oversight grants awarded to promote citizen/government cooperation	3 Bases projects awarded
Dollar amount managed effectively to support logistical costs related to execution of priority aspects of the Interagency Control Agreement (ICA).	\$32,000
# Targeted municipalities implementing social projects included in the Departmental Development Plans	19
# Targeted municipalities with approved Municipal Development Plans that contain M&E plans, and are properly discussed and distributed within communities.	23
# Targeted municipalities with development plans that incorporate ethnic and gender policies in health and education	11

V. CASE STUDY

Citizens and Public Administration improve relations through Bases: USAID creates first IT center and donates computers in Acandí, Chocó

In the Acandí municipality of the Chocó department, the community lacked trust in their public administration. In the past, the community had little contact with the mayor and his team and had few opportunities to express their priorities and needs to their elected officials. All this changed on June 6, 2008 when the USAID CIMIENTOS program, together with Mayor Azael Rodríguez Palacios



BASES Project delivery. Acandí, Chocó

“This is the first time that the municipal administration promises to fund a project and follows through in a timely and transparent way”

inaugurated the only IT center in the municipality at the Agropecuario School Diego Luis Cordoba. In late 2007, USAID convened a town assembly with the mayor, his team and the community to prioritize a small infrastructure project, Bases, in the health or education sector in the municipality. The mayor’s office and the community agreed upon the need to have modern computers with internet access capability for use, both by the school’s students, and the community. USAID committed to supplying ten computers, ten surge regulators and two printers. The mayor’s office pledged financial support to remodel the computer room, which was in very poor condition. The community pledged to contribute the labor required to remodel the room and the transport of the equipments from the loading dock to the school.

Community members were excited about the project, but had reservations due to the failure by local government to follow through on commitments made with the community in the past. However, much to their surprise, the mayor went above and beyond the commitments made in the town assembly. According to Francisco Arce Pabón, a teacher at the Diego Luis Cordoba school, —This is the first time that the municipal administration promises to fund a project and follows through in a timely and transparent way.” Not only did the mayor’s office fulfill their commitments, but the mayor decided to increase the agreed upon internet service hours from four to twelve hours a day to enable community member access as well.

One hundred nine people, including the mayor, municipal public officials and community leaders were present at the ceremony and witnessed the delivery of the equipment. The municipal administration inaugurated a remodeled computer room, in excellent condition, with tables and chairs. In the inauguration, students demonstrated the knowledge they had acquired through this project. USAID delivered the computers, printers and surge protectors. —We didn’t know that the municipal administration could expend public funds directly” says Yarledis Beltran, a Diego Luis Cordoba school student. Not only do 2,380 students now have access to modern technology and the latest information available adding to the quality of their education, but the municipal administration has gained the community’s trust.

ANNEXI: RAPID RESPONSE FUND WINDOWS TABLE

Organization Name	Title	Total: US\$ ³	Total: COP\$	Period	% Implemented
1. 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	11%
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 - March 18, 2008	90%
Ocasa	Youths Conversing and Implementing	\$55,000	\$100,000,000	April 15, 2008 – December 14, 2008	50%
Promigas Foundation	First steps towards education excellence	\$13,165	\$23,354,000	June 23, 2008 – December 22, 2008	0%
Bases Projects	Location: Carmen del Atrato, Unguia, Acandí	\$20,000	\$35,155,325	Ongoing	3%
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 ⁴ %

³ The exchange rate used is the official rate on the sub-agreement award date.

⁴ The grant is completed, however MOE did not expend the total grant value.