



## PILARES BULLETIN #29 / 2010

Promoting institutional capacity and peaceful coexistence and strengthening the provision of health and education services.



Photo USAID CIMIENTOS

*Softball championship opening ceremony in the municipality of Ovejas, Montes de Maria region.*



Photo USAID CIMIENTOS

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Photo USAID CIMIENTOS

*An equipped and operational computer classroom in CER Guaduas – El Carmen de Atrato (Chocó), Bajo & Medio Atrato región.*

**Softball as a strategy to promote dialogue and tolerance** – During the week of December 19–23, 2010, CIMIENTOS delivered softball equipment to 360 people participating in “Softball for Peaceful Coexistence” in the municipalities of San Onofre, Ovejas, and El Carmen de Bolívar. The beneficiaries of this activity are internally displaced people (IDPs) with whom CIMIENTOS has worked on conflict resolution and consensus building. Thirteen teams participated in a softball championship sponsored by CIMIENTOS in the IDP communities of Don Gabriel, Salitral, Los Numeros and Chengue (in the municipality of Ovejas) and Macayepo and El Salado (in the municipality of El Carmen de Bolivar).

**Young Leaders of Catatumbo meet in Cucuta** – During the first week of December in the city of Cucuta, 82 members of municipal youth councils from Norte de Santander participated in the “First Departmental Encounter for Youth,” sponsored by CIMIENTOS in collaboration with the NGO Ocasa and the office of the governor. The event disseminated departmental policies focused on young people and encouraged discussions among youth on the positive use of spare time, holistic approaches for vulnerable young people, health services, employment, and peaceful coexistence. During this event, the Departmental Youth Council, whose function is to promote and monitor public policies for young people, was also elected and sworn in.

**Strengthening quality in the provision of education services and facilitating access to computer equipment** – In December CIMIENTOS handed over eight computer classrooms that meet the construction and security standards required by the Ministries of Education and the Communication to take part in the national government’s “*Computadores Para Educar*” [Computers for Education] program. Due to CIMIENTOS’ support, students from five rural schools in San Jacinto (Montes de Maria) and three rural schools in El Carmen de Atrato (Bajo & Medio Atrato) now have an equipped, secure, and operational computer room.