

ART REDES COLOMBIA PROGRAMME

GENERAL INFORMATION

Since its inception in 2007, the ART REDES Programme in Colombia has aimed to contribute to the social construction of peace, sustainable human development, democratic governance, the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and reconciliation. It does this by supporting and strengthening initiatives from the civil society and the State concerned with national and territorial cohesion and the promotion of political, economic and socially inclusive processes.

In Colombia, ART promotes the methodology of participatory planning among actors and fuses with the Reconciliation and Development Programme REDES strategy. As a territorial strategy, ART REDES aims to contribute to the achievement of development, peace and reconciliation in the country through a comprehensive approach that promotes a new type of multilateralism. Under this new scheme, the United Nations System strengthens local capacities by promoting the active participation of actors and communities from the South and North. It also seeks to eliminate and temper the causes of violence in Colombia, as well as to prevent it from spurring in the regions where it is latent, besides encouraging the convergence of local, national and international efforts and technical and financial resources.

The objectives set for the ART REDES strategy are to contribute to the social construction of peace, the non-violent transformation of conflict and sustainable development. It concentrates all its efforts on reinforcing initiatives and processes through the institutionalised dialogue between local government and social actors from the territories, and its ability to converse with the national institutions in charge of promoting regional development strategies and public policies. Moreover, it also looks to take full advantage of international opportunities, coordinating the contributions and participation of the international cooperation as well as the contributions from the South-South cooperation, with the unified technical support of the different UNS agencies.

RESOURCE MOBILISATION AND EXECUTION

INSTITUTION	AMOUNT IN USD
a. National Counterparts	Total: 200,000
Presidential Agency for Social Action	200,000
b. Regional/Local Counterparts	Total: 200,000
Governorate of Nariño	200,000
c. Bilateral Cooperation	Total: 3,900,000
Swedish Agency for International Development Cooperation (SIDA)	2,500,000
Spanish International Development Cooperation Agency (AECID)	1,000,000
Italian Cooperation	400,000
d. Decentralised Cooperation Partners	Total: 250,000
Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation (ACCD)	200,000
Region of Tuscany	50,000
e. UNS Agencies/Programmes	
UNDP BCPR	800,000
Total Mobilised	Total 5,350,000
Total Executed	Total 4,700,000

2010 FUNDS MANAGEMENT

For the 2010-2012 period an additional 7.7 million USD from UNDP BCPR and 7.5 million USD from the Swedish Agency for International Development Cooperation (SIDA) have been mobilised.

The Programme for Building Capacities for Local Peace in Nariño was funded by the MDGs Fund for an amount of 7.0 million USD, in coordination with five UN agencies. From 2010, a complementarity link with the MDGs Fund for Climate Change has been established, representing a contribution for 7.0 million USD.

PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

Duration	2007-2012
Operational Plan (OP)	January-December 2009
Projects	The ART REDES 2009 Operational Plan has focused on the implementation of inclusive and strategic initiatives in the following territorial and national priorities: governance and local democracy; socioeconomic local development for peace;

	justice, victims' rights and human rights; conflict prevention and transformation and culture of peace; and gender equality.
Donors and partners	<p>National Counterparts: Presidential Agency for Social Action; Governorate of Nariño; Municipality of Pasto, Governorate of Antioquia.</p> <p>Bilateral Cooperation: Swedish Agency for International Development Cooperation (SIDA); Spanish International Development Cooperation Agency (AECID); Italian Cooperation.</p> <p>Decentralised Cooperation: Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation (ACCD); The Andalusia Municipalities Fund for International Solidarity (FAMSI); Region of Tuscany; University of Florence; Cittadinazattiva.</p> <p>UN Agencies: UNDP; UNIFEM; UNFPA; UNHCR; UNHCHR.</p> <p>Others: Norwegian Council for Refugees (NRC); Peace and Development NGO; Global Humanitaria NGO; Oxfam International; European Commission; Canadian Cooperation.</p>
Budget	<p>Total amount mobilised: 5.3 million USD</p> <p>Total amount executed: 4.7 million USD</p>
National Management	The National Coordination Committee (NCC) orients the Programme's guidelines, approves the Annual Operational Plans (AOPs) and promotes the coordination with other strategic programmes. In the last NCC, a follow-up and evaluation Technical Committee was created also to promote better coordination with other projects and public policies.
Local Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departmental Working Groups (DWGs), Municipal Working Groups (MWGs) and Specific Boards. • International Cooperation Offices from the Governorate of Nariño and the Municipality of Pasto. • Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the Region of Nariño.
Other Aspects	The ART REDES Programme that fuses the ART methodology with the REDES peace-building approach intervenes in coordination and complementarity to the MDGs Fund, particularly the Nariño MDGs Window (peace building) and the Cauca MDGs Window (climate change).

RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Department of Nariño

The comprehensive implementation of ART REDES began in 2007 in the pilot Department of Nariño. Located south of the country on the border with Ecuador, in the last 10 years it has been transformed into by violence between armed groups and the presence of illegal crops thus resulting in a worrisome humanitarian situation. The Department of Nariño is currently one of the worst violence-stricken areas in Colombia. Despite the difficult situation it faces, the civil society and traditional authorities have created non-violent solutions to the various forms of violence. There also exist international efforts to contribute to the peace-building process.

The UNDP office in Nariño has implemented the territorial development, peace and reconciliation strategy ART REDES, technically and economically accompanying the implementation of the programming cycle of the ART methodology and mainstreaming the social construction of peace and the transformation of the structural causes for inequality and vulnerability. To this end, traditionally excluded groups and beneficiaries of REDES such as indigenous, Afro-descendants, women, displaced farmers and victims have been incorporated to this process through their participation in various planning groups.

It is deemed as important to address the growing humanitarian crisis, without this implying getting trapped in the logic of the humanitarian emergency. This is why the aim is to link humanitarian action with strategic programmes for peace building and human development. During 2009, the Departmental and Municipal Working Groups have defined a structure based on 5 inter-institutional articulation realms around thematic areas concerning gender, youth, media and culture, local economic development, and human rights and victims.

Ownership: One of the most remarkable results is precisely the level of departmental ownership of the ART REDES strategy by the different stakeholders. The local programming cycle of the participatory ART methodology has become a common language and a work fashion fostering the interaction between authorities at the national, departmental and municipal levels, the ensemble of actors of Nariño's civil society as well as those from the international cooperation.

Governance and local democracy: ► Elaboration of a Plan on Ethno-Development in Nariño Pacific by the 33 Community Councils integrating the Association of Community Councils of the Centre and North of Nariño (ASOCOETNAR). ► Approval and implementation of the "*Strengthening Local Capacities for Peace in Nariño*" programme (MGD Spain Fund; Governorate of Nariño; various municipalities and local associations; UNDP; UNIFEM; UNHCR, UNICEF; FAO). ► Implementation of the "*Growing Together in Nariño*" project for the development of economic

alternatives for the youth (Canadian cooperation; 9 municipalities in Nariño; DWG's Youth Board). ► Consolidation of the "Programme for Peace and Development at the Border" as a platform for bi-national human development (local Ecuadorian and Colombian institutions; UN Agencies; Nariño's Local Development Agency; ART Ecuador). ► Within the framework of the "Rights and Development" project, elaboration of a background document on participation and social control; development of a communication campaign on citizen rights and duties; establishment of 6 new Development and Social Control Committees and the election of 6 new Control Representatives; organisation of a Diploma with the Mariana University on community training and support to the Suyusama Programme (Cittadinanzattiva; University of Nariño; Mariana University; community representatives; Secretaries of the Municipality of Pasto; Nariño's Departmental Planning Secretary; DWG's Public Services Board; UNDP's Communication Office; Suyusama Programme).

Socioeconomic sustainable development: ► Development of a strategy stimulating the rural economy under agro-ecological principles (Nariño's Economic Development Agency). ► Creation of the (soon to be formally constituted) Development Agency for the Nariño Border (ADISUR) and the Development Agency for Nariño Pacific (ADEP). ► Implementation of a District Irrigation Project that has benefited over 5,000 families. ► Creation of a community-based company for the production and marketing of vegetables with the participation of 645 families belonging to 17 producers' associations. ► Encouragement of Shagra through 60 production units in Pasto's indigenous reserves for income generation and the promotion of food sovereignty and indigenous identity. ► Consolidation of the Regional Cocoa Council and establishment of the Agreement on Regional Cocoa Competitiveness as an economic and production alternative to coca cultivation (15 organisations of small farmers and peasants; 5 Community Councils from Afro-descendent communities). ► Formulation of 23 productive projects to the benefit of 184 families responding to the calls by the Colombian Institute for Rural Development (INCODER). ► Implementation of an early recovery program with the Awa indigenous population (UN Agencies; International NGOs; IASC).

Conflict prevention and transformation and promotion of a culture of peace: ► Formulation of the Public Policy for the Youth and the Departmental Strategy for the Prevention of Youth's Involvement in illegal activities and armed conflict (DWG's Youth Board). ► Creation of a Youth Training School for the participatory formulation of the Public Policy and Departmental Strategy; set up of an organisational process leading to youth networking. ► Development of a communication strategy for the respect and upholding of human rights and international humanitarian law (IHL) (Regional media; DWG's Board for Communication and Culture).

Justice, human rights and victims' rights: ► Creation of the Support Committee for Human Rights and Victims' Organisations, development of the International Cooperation Strategy for this realm and organisation of events in the 5 sub-regions of Nariño (more than 90 community, social and ethnic organisations). ► Assistance to the Inter-institutional Committee for Victims' Support as a space to promote truth, justice and reparations in Nariño (CNRR; MAPP OAS Governorate of Nariño; Office of the Attorney General; Defender's Office; IOM).

Gender Equity: ► Consolidation of the School for Women's Political Education, already found in 27 municipalities and managing the Departmental Public Policy for Gender Equity (DWG's Gender Board). ► Design and implementation of a joint strategy against gender-based violence and support for the preparation of the Defender Office's report on this issue (IASC).

Region of Eastern Antioquia (Department of Antioquia)

The implementation of the Programme in Eastern Antioquia will set off in January 2010 with the establishment of the first cycle of local programming in different municipalities in the region (currently being prioritised). The starting point will be a REDES implementation area, where also the following criteria are met: existence of social organisations and networks; political will; presence of conflict victims; working culture on issues of peace and development; return of displaced persons; and existence of international cooperation projects.

RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Ownership: as a result of the success ART REDES in Nariño, its national counterparts, partners and donors have become positively familiar with the ART methodology and have requested extending the Programme to the Region of Eastern Antioquia. The degree of ownership at the national level is important because the Director of Social Action and International Cooperation participating in the NCC have put in place a technical follow-up committee under UNDP and Social Action management. Moreover, all decentralised cooperation initiatives are constantly coordinated with the Social Action Office responsible for new partners.

Although the ART REDES Programme implements its territorial approach to sustainable human development and peace building in prioritised geographic areas, it also covers strategic dimensions of national scope:

Local economic development: ► Formation of the National Network of Local Development Agencies (ADELCO) as a platform for the coordination, promotion and transfer of technical assistance among Colombian LEDAs; design of a

BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

1. **Cooperation Strategy of the Department of Nariño:** is the political reference from where public policies, cooperation offices, groups or workshops, and projects and initiatives have emerged. And that has led to the formalisation of a complex coordination, planning and implementation system for development cooperation in the Department. The strategy is a concrete implementation example of implementing the recommendations of the Declaration of Paris and Colombia's contribution to the MDGs agenda.

2. **Network of Colombian LEDAs - ADELCO:** gradually becomes an important player at the national and continental as a local economic development engine, institutional dialogue promoter around DEL. It has quickly turned into a regional leader for network-building, support for the DEL agenda and the transfer of experience.

3. **Inclusion of conflict sensitive elements within the ART methodology:** Colombia is implementing an innovative, territory-oriented development and peace construction model by using the ART methodology. It is based on the premise that in a context of conflict, any given development programme must avoid fuelling dynamics leading to violence and seek to strengthen local capacities for peace.

Territorial Information system to monitor local development; organisation of international missions on LED and development of a programme for financial technical assistance. ► Technical assistance to, strengthening of and funding for projects carried out by the LEDAs: Cauca LEDA: implementation of a water project (UNICEF); Eastern Antioquia ADEPROA: reinforcement of the planning and territorial development strategy, a community-based tourism programme and the regional financial fund; Nariño LEDA: definition of the new economic development approach including issues related to Development, Peace and Reconciliation; Boyacá LEDA: strengthening of the priority production chains and economic invigoration of the territory; Cesar and Santander LEDA: formulation of projects for the "Local Development and Trade" initiative called by the EU and the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism; support for the implementation of the Theme Annual Operational Plans in the LEDAs of the Metropolitan Area, Urabá and Vélez.

Coordination with government and international agencies on LED: ► Support offered by Social Action for the formulation of ADELCO's 2010 AOP Strategy and guaranteed

participation in events organised in 2009. ► In collaboration with the Vice Ministry of Tourism, access to resources from the Tourism Promotion Fund; articulation between the coordinators of the Vice Ministry and the LEDAs and formulation of the Policy on Community Tourism. ► Within the framework of the European Commission's LED Programme, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, technical assistance for the creation of LED instruments in Valley, Meta, Bolívar and Boyacá. ► Articulation between PRODEPAZ and ADELCO. ► Establishment of cooperation agreements with the Network of Ecuadorian (CEDET) and Dominican Republic LEDAs, and the Colombian Federation of Municipalities for the implementation of joint actions.

Governance: ► Implementation of a Development and Rights project to stir up a debate on citizen involvement in public services and the right to health. ► Organisation of the "Civic Engagement and Public Services" Forum and establishment of a Participation Board (Cittadinanzattiva; Defender's Office: Utilities Superintendent; CSOs).

RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Decentralised cooperation: ► Implementation of the ACCD support strategy for the ART-REDES Programme in Nariño. ► Execution of a FAMSI project in support of the Cesar LEDA. ► Formulation of a Youth Project in Nariño in partnership with the Region of Tuscany. ► Promotion of the decentralised cooperation through the joint organisation of the *III Social Action Meeting for the Promotion of the Decentralised Cooperation*.

International events: ► Participation of a UNDP- ART REDES, Governorate of Nariño, and ADELCO delegation in the "ART International Forum: 4 Years and 10 Results" (Seville, 25-27 November); presentation of ADELCO and Nariño's Cooperation Strategy.

Local economic development: ► Strengthening and promotion of ADELCO with the support of LED experts from Spain and Italy. ► Establishment of a support strategy for Colombian LEDAs. ► Organisation of the Meeting of Latin American LEDAs and a specialisation course on LED.

Innovation identification and sharing: ► Transfer of knowledge on Naturalistic Engineering between the University of Florence and Nariño. ► Signing of an agreement between Maloka and Colombian public and private entities to organise the first national innovation competition.

Training and capacity development: ► Organisation of a specialised course on "Management of Organisations for

Social Development, with Emphasis on Local Development and Territorial Marketing" as a result of the agreement between the Eafit University, UNDP and ADELCO.

South-South cooperation: ► Organisation of the First Congress of Latin American LEDAs, promotion of an agenda for the continent and signing of the Quirama Agreement consolidating the articulation of the Network of Latin American LEDAs.

Knowledge transfer: ► Technical assistance and exchange of experiences between Colombian and Dominican LEDAs: participation in a meeting of Dominican LEDAs, technical advice and identification of a proposal to support Dominican LEDAs; Peru: participation of ADELCO and the Vélez LEDA in two exchange events in Lima; and Bolivia: ADELCO accompanied the formation process for La Paz's Metropolitan Area LEDA. ► Joint work between ART REDES and the Programme on Development and Peace in the Northern Border of Ecuador to restore bilateral relations. ► Participation of ART REDES and UNDP's MGDs Programme in the event on South-South cooperation and territorialisation of the MDGs organised by ART Uruguay.

PROGRAMME CHALLENGES FOR 2010

During 2010, the Colombian ART REDES Programme will face major challenges in terms of consolidation and growth. It will have to join efforts to consolidate the undergoing process and to systematise the best practices and lessons learned that have arisen from ART REDES in Nariño.

Similarly, it is expected to reach the successful implementation of the local programming cycle in Eastern Antioquia. At the national level, it will be sought to strengthen the operation of the NCC and its technical committee, ensuring the active participation of the national and regional government and international cooperation partners; to this processes, efforts to promote functional networks with the European decentralised cooperation will be added. Finally, during 2010 it is expected to consolidate the structure and strategic planning of the ADELCO network, as well as the articulation with other UN Agencies in their support for peace, development and reconciliation processes in the prioritised areas.