

INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

2009 IN REVIEW



40 YEARS
1969-2009

CONTENTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	4
ADVISORY COUNCIL	5
FOUNDATION STAFF	6
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR	8
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	10
FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL INFORMATION	12
AWARDS BY COUNTRY	
<i>Argentina</i>	14
<i>Bolivia</i>	16
<i>Brazil</i>	20
<i>Chile</i>	23
<i>Colombia</i>	24
<i>Dominican Republic</i>	26
<i>Ecuador</i>	28
<i>El Salvador</i>	30
<i>Guatemala</i>	33
<i>Haiti</i>	34
<i>Honduras</i>	36
<i>Jamaica</i>	38
<i>Latin America Regional</i>	39
<i>Mexico</i>	40
<i>Nicaragua</i>	42
<i>Panama</i>	44
<i>Paraguay</i>	46
<i>Peru</i>	47
<i>Uruguay</i>	50
REDEAMÉRICA PROGRAM	51
OFFICE OF EVALUATION	52
DISSEMINATION	53
FELLOWSHIPS	54
CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS	56

Cover photos: Front cover: Haitian filmmakers (courtesy FFFJ, page 35); Ecuadorian baker (courtesy AAMP, page 29); child of Nicaraguan dairy farmers (courtesy TEPEYAC, page 43); Colombian farmer (courtesy Asoduende, pages 24-25). Back cover: Bolivian ceramics (courtesy CIDAC, page 17). The cover background is taken from the Bolivian Jalq'a textile that appears inside in its traditional crimson and black (courtesy ASUR, page 16).

Opposite: Peruvian weavers working with ECOAN (Jefry A. Wright, page 49).

INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION



JERRY A. WRIGHT

2009 IN REVIEW

October 1, 2008, to September 30, 2009

Managing Editor: Paula Durbin

Contributing Editor: Eduardo Rodríguez-Frías

Photo Editor: Mark Caicedo

Translation Supervisor: Darío Elías

Editorial Assistants: Nancy Díaz and Jason Frost

Design: Gwynn Fuchs and Jamie Harvey, United States Government Printing Office



While this report was in production, Haiti was struck by a devastating earthquake. Among the victims are IAF grantee Haitian Partners for Christian Development (HPCD), described on page 34. Through its business incubator, HPDC had been providing assistance, mentoring, space and services to entrepreneurs such as the young manufacturers of solar-powered lighting systems pictured here. The quake destroyed the warehouse into which this enterprise had “graduated” and severely damaged HPCD’s main facility in Port-au-Prince. IAF receives updates from its Haitian grantees as news become available and expects to continue working with these organizations.

THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

The Inter-American Foundation (IAF), an independent foreign assistance agency of the United States government, provides grants for grassroots development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Created by Congress in 1969, the IAF responds directly to grassroots groups and the organizations that support them. It also encourages partnerships among community organizations, businesses and local government directed at improving the quality of life for poor people and strengthening democratic practices. To contribute to a better understanding of the development process, the IAF shares its experiences through its publications and in a variety of fora.

The Inter-American Foundation is governed by a board of directors appointed by the president of the United States and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Six members are drawn from the private sector and three from the federal government. A president, appointed by the board, serves as the Inter-American Foundation's chief executive officer, managing a staff of 47 employees based in Arlington, Virginia.

Congress appropriates funds annually for the Inter-American Foundation. The IAF also has access to the Social Progress Trust Fund administered by the Inter-American Development Bank and consisting of payments on U.S. government loans extended under the Alliance for Progress to various Latin American and Caribbean governments. Since 1972, the IAF has awarded 4,845 grants valued at more than \$648 million. Together, the IAF and its grantees have improved the conditions of hundreds of thousands of poor families in communities throughout the hemisphere.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS*

John P. Salazar, *Acting Chair*

Attorney
Rodey, Dickason, Sloan, Akin & Robb
Albuquerque, N.M.

Thomas J. Dodd, *Acting Vice Chair*

U.S. Ambassador to Costa Rica (1997–2001) and
Uruguay (1993–1997)
Associate Professor Emeritus, School of Foreign Service
Georgetown University
Washington, D.C.

Kay Kelley Arnold

Vice President, Public Affairs
Entergy Corporation
Little Rock, Ark.

Gary C. Bryner

Department of Political Science and Public Policy
Brigham Young University
Provo, Utah

Thomas A. Shannon, Jr.

Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere
Affairs
United States Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Jack C. Vaughn, Jr.

Vaughn Petroleum, LLC
Dallas, Texas

Roger W. Wallace

Vice President, Government Affairs
Pioneer Natural Resources Company
Irving, Texas

* On September 30, 2009.



LINDA KOLIKO

IAF directors and staff with Argentine community organizers who were trained by grantee Fundación Pro Vivienda Social (FPVS).

ADVISORY COUNCIL

James R. Jones, Chair

Peter Beck

Renata de Camargo Nascimento

Rita DiMartino

Georgette M. Dorn

Elena Echavarría

Kathryn Hochstetler

Luis Alberto Moreno

Diana Natalicio

Jerry Pacheco

Wendy J. Paulson

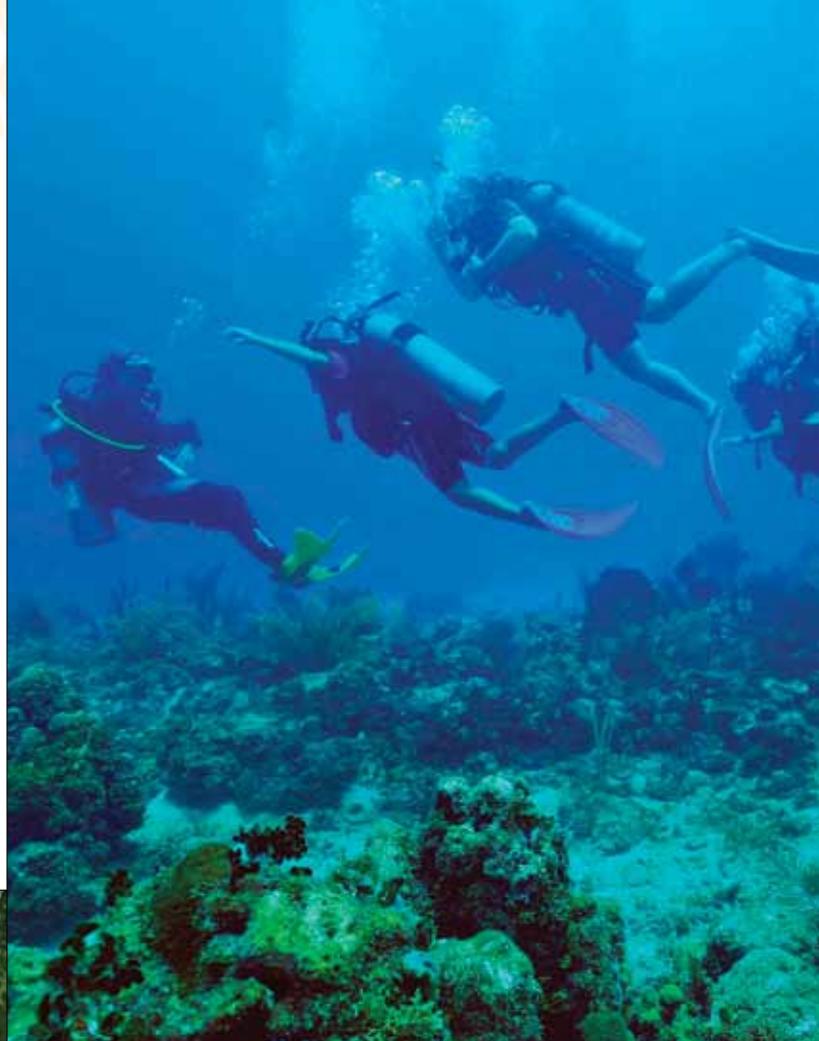
Anita Perez Ferguson

Cynthia Radding

Renate Rennie

Dumas M. Siméus

Frank D. Yturria



COURTESY RCDR



Reef Check Dominican Republic is working with fishers and others to assure the responsible use of marine resources, page 27.

FOUNDATION STAFF*

Office of the President

Larry Palmer, *President*

Cindy Soto, *Executive Assistant*

Office of the General Counsel

Jennifer Hodges Reynolds, *General Counsel and
Vice President*

Nicholas Bryner, *Legal Assistant*

Megan Fletcher, *Congressional Affairs Specialist*

Mara Quintero, *Legal Specialist*

Rebecca Verreau, *Associate General Counsel*

Office of Operations

Linda Kolko, *Vice President for Operations*

Edith Bermudez, *Operations Staff Assistant*

Mark Caicedo, *External Affairs Specialist*

Anthony Cochran, *Office Assistant*

Paula Durbin, *Director of Publications
and Fellowships*

Dario Elías, *Translator*

Robert Freeman, *Financial Specialist*

Eduardo Rodríguez-Frías, *Public Affairs Specialist*

Ana Savage, *Financial Specialist*

Juanda Smith, *General Services Specialist*

Office of Evaluation

Emilia Rodríguez-Stein, *Director of Evaluation*

Michael Campbell, *Auditor*

Miguel Cuevas, *Analysis and Evaluation Specialist*

Rosemarie Moreken, *Analysis and
Evaluation Specialist*

Office of Information Management

Pam Palma, *Director of Information and
Human Capital*

María Mercedes Torres, *Administrative Assistant*

Teresa Torres, *Administrative Assistant*

Tie Xu, *Information Technology Specialist*

Office of Programs

Judith Morrison, *Regional Director for South America
and the Caribbean*

Miriam Brandão, *Foundation Representative, Peru*

Zakiya Carr Johnson, *Foundation Representative,
Ecuador and Venezuela*

Jeremy Coon, *Foundation Representative, Paraguay,
Southern Brazil and Uruguay*

Nancy Díaz, *Program Staff Assistant*

Kevin Healy, *Foundation Representative, Bolivia*

Amy Kirschenbaum, *Foundation
Representative, Brazil*

Jenny Petrow, *Foundation Representative,
the English-speaking Caribbean,
the Dominican Republic and Haiti*

Monica Radwan, *Program Staff Assistant*

Juanita Roca, *Foundation Representative, Colombia
and Chile*

Oscar Ruiz, *Program Staff Assistant*

Alexis Toussaint, *Program Staff Assistant*

Wilbur Wright, *Foundation Representative,
Argentina*

Jill Wheeler, *Regional Director for Central America
and Mexico*

Alejandra Argueta, *Program Staff Assistant*

Gabriela Boyer, *Foundation Representative,
Central and Southern Mexico*

Seth Jesse, *Foundation Representative, El Salvador*

Marcy Kelley, *Foundation Representative,
Costa Rica and Panama*

Paul Lubliner, *Program Staff Assistant*

John Reed, *Foundation Representative, Belize
and Honduras*

José Toasa, *Foundation Representative, Guatemala*

Philip Walsh, *Foundation Representative,
Nicaragua and Northern Mexico*

* On September 30, 2009.



Peruvian children taught with the methodology developed by Asociación Cultural Ayllu Yupaychay (YUPAY), page 48.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Early during this transition year, President Obama selected me to act as chairman of the board of directors of the Inter-American Foundation, and I am honored by his confidence. Having served on the board since 2006, I was well aware of

the IAF's special role in United States foreign policy and of its sterling record in grassroots development. All this was soon to come into even sharper focus: I became chair just as the IAF was preparing to mark the 40th anniversary of its creation on Dec. 30, 1969, when Congress authorized a bold alternative to traditional development assistance in Latin America and the Caribbean.

That milestone, along with the lasting impact of the IAF on families and communities throughout the hemisphere, was celebrated on Oct. 14, 2009, when a capacity crowd gathered at the Library of Congress. There, on behalf of the IAF, I presented the Dante Fascell Award for Congressional Leadership in Grassroots Development to five members of the United States Congress in recognition of their extraordinary support for our mission: Senators Christopher Dodd, Patrick Leahy and Richard Lugar and Representatives Howard Berman and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen. The award was named for the late congressman whose vision had led him to spearhead the 1969 legislation. "The Inter-American Foundation Act set out to try something revolutionary in development—using government funds directly with individuals and private organizations, ignoring so far as possible government bureaucracies," Michael Finley, Fascell's advisor for many years, explained to those present.

Fascell considered the Inter-American Foundation his finest achievement. The value of that achievement was certainly evident in the photos documenting IAF's work that were on exhibit during our celebration and later acquired by the Library. A few weeks after the event, the U.S. House of Representatives confirmed Fascell's judgment when it passed, with overwhelming bipartisan support, House Resolution 858 recognizing the 40th anniversary and the IAF's effectiveness.

The resolution constitutes a much-appreciated validation of the IAF mission. Poverty persists in Latin American and Caribbean communities and poverty reduction is a daunting goal. IAF's limited resources cannot address the full magnitude of need, but they do make a difference to those people who come together to devise their own solutions to the problems of poverty. As H.R. 858 recognizes, the IAF's commitment to the poor has been uninterrupted over four decades and its bottom-up approach has proved remarkably efficient. Delivery of U.S. assistance directly to the organized poor means *they* take the initiative, do the work and invest in projects that yield outstanding returns.

This report offers a glimpse into the range of grantees funded in 2009. Their awards will support loan funds, education and training programs, micro- and community businesses and housing, as well as technology to purify water, provide sanitation, preserve the environment and boost agriculture. If this inventory of goals is striking, IAF-funded projects are even more impressive on the ground, as we observed in June when our board visited grantees in Argentina and Uruguay. We traveled to tough neighborhoods of Buenos Aires where an IAF grantee uses photography to help young Argentines develop skills; to a Uruguayan women's farming cooperative that was diversifying its food products and developing its brand to market locally and abroad; to a donated site where former residents of a dump outside Montevideo were building homes for each other. Everywhere, we saw people focused on a better future, the outcome envisioned in the legislation Congress approved 40 years ago.



Chair Salazar with Sen. Patrick Leahy, Sen. Richard Lugar, Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Sen. Christopher Dodd.

Serving on this board has been a pleasure and a privilege. I am grateful to my colleagues, whose support allowed me to make the transition from member to chair, and to my predecessor, Roger Wallace, whose exceptional direction resulted in a significant impetus to the growth of RedEAmérica, an IAF-initiated alliance of corporate foundations committed to grassroots development. We look forward to advancing and building on those partnerships. I would also like to thank our very supportive Advisory Council, especially Georgette Dorn of the Library of Congress and Diana Natalicio of the University of Texas at El Paso, for contributing to the success of our recent anniversary celebrations.

Our board starts fiscal 2010 hopeful for greater hemispheric cooperation and deeper mutual respect under the leadership of President Obama. I am confident that the dedicated professionals on IAF's staff will contribute to achieving these ideals as they continue to identify the promise and potential emerging from the grassroots.

John P. Salazar

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Reflection is always the starting point of these reports on the Inter-American Foundation's accomplishments during the fiscal year, and a 40th anniversary offers a special opportunity to reflect.

The IAF's longevity defies the conventional wisdom of four

decades ago and validates an approach to addressing poverty centered on responsiveness to ideas from the grassroots. This agency now stands in the vanguard of the development community, thanks to two prescient statesmen: Dante Fascell, architect of the legislation creating the IAF, and its first president Bill Dyal, who turned Fascell's vision into a functioning organization. We have honored both on major anniversaries, including the 40th, whose celebration began with the events detailed in the chair's message. In truth, every year that the IAF has been in operation has reaffirmed the wisdom of their trust in the ability of people to overcome poverty through self-help, always the most reliable form of help.

In 2009, the IAF responded with 118 new and supplemental grants to proposals received from organizations in 18 countries whose diverse constituencies range from schoolchildren to all manner of entrepreneurs and count as members African descendants, indigenous communities, the disabled and women. Some new grantees work to further inclusion, prevent violence and fill urgent needs for day-care, education, sanitation, access to water, and adequate housing and nutrition. Their services are essential to safe, healthy communities where residents live and work in dignity. Overwhelmingly, however, the 2009 cycle of awards will be invested

in assets and opportunities—not words immediately associated with the poor, but certainly applicable to the landscapes, businesses, skills, technologies and traditions that are elements of so many plans for a better life.

A significant cluster of new grantees is looking to the environment for solutions to poverty. Intent on repairing past damage and preventing future degradation, these several dozen organizations deserve special mention for their unflinching willingness to address serious concerns related to their resource base. The efforts of some center on organic farming methods that benefit the soil, the reintroduction of native crops suited to the surroundings, and the responsible management of watersheds and forests. Ambitious bottom-up approaches, several profiled in this review's sections on Bolivia, Colombia, the Dominican Republic and Peru, are expected to advance economic development by recovering pasturelands, countering threats to the water supply, managing a reef ecosystem and halting deforestation. These projects reflect thinking for the long-term, so that natural resources yield benefits for years to come.

A reward of working at the IAF is seeing actual results. My travels to the field with Kevin Healy and Wilbur Wright, two of our senior representatives, gave me a chance during this anniversary year, first, to witness the respect and trust these men inspire and, second, to celebrate the IAF's long and productive history with indigenous communities. This agency came into operation just as indigenous Latin Americans were rediscovering their roots and rallying around their identity. With IAF support, some of their new institutions tapped ancient civilizations for development resources long underestimated, among them native livestock whose production had for centuries been discouraged. Healy and I visited a grantee in Tarija, Bolivia, whose fifth annual camelid fair teemed with llamas, alpacas, vicuñas and guanacos, all prized today, especially for their luxurious wool. Later, we accompanied Wright to the gala opening of an IAF-funded museum in Pisac, Peru, a focal point for cultural tourism and a source of great pride for the townspeople who had donated its collection of Inca artifacts.



Amb. Palmer with children scheduled to move into homes built by their parents, neighbors and Uruguayan grantee Una Casa Un Sueño.

The IAF has allied itself as well with newer movements involving African descendants and disabled people. In 2009, the IAF and its grantees continued to contribute to the Joint Action Plan to Promote Racial Equality, an initiative to improve conditions for Afro-Brazilians that has brought the Brazilian government into collaboration with the U.S. Department of State. Similar initiatives are underway in Colombia, Panama, Honduras and Uruguay.

In this connection, I commend two individuals: Dayana Martínez, the blind Afro-Honduran congresswoman who invited disabled and other disadvantaged citizens to Tegucigalpa in June to learn their rights and increase their visibility; and Linda Kolko, my vice president for operations, whose outreach has brought so many African descendants into IAF programs. In July, I designated her to represent the IAF in Montevideo at the celebration of the 20th anniversary of former grantee Organizaciones Mundo Afro, the only Afro-Latin entity to regionalize its work advancing social and economic justice. Because of Mundo Afro, Afro-Uruguayans now

fill government positions and several countries will disaggregate census data by race, resulting in a more accurate basis for official policies.

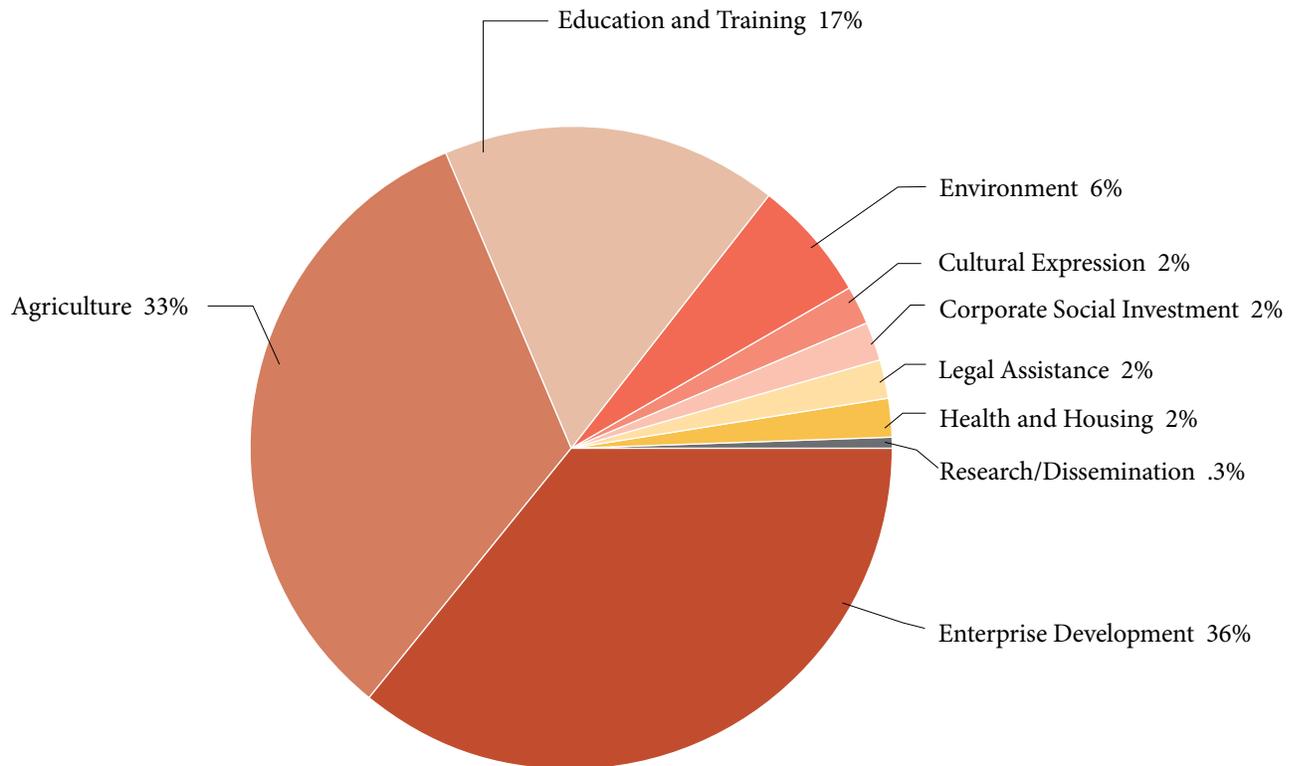
A vast array of such organizations, durable and effective, testifies to the Inter-American Foundation as a positive and proactive partner in catalyzing the growth of civil society and improving the quality of life throughout the hemisphere. Forty years after the United States Congress created the IAF, this is truly what we celebrate. My tenure here has honored me with the opportunity to nurture a commitment to the founding principles that still guide a unique foreign aid program, and I have tried my best to do that. With this in mind, I express my sincere gratitude to my staff, a very special group of people who often adopt the unaddressed needs of others as their personal mission.

Larry L. Palmer

Larry L. Palmer

GRANT PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Area	Grants and Supplements	Investment
Enterprise Development	39	\$6,062,689
Agriculture	32	5,599,822
Education and Training	30	2,827,550
Environment	7	1,003,849
Cultural Expression	4	418,518
Corporate Social Investment	2	400,287
Legal Assistance	2	297,760
Health and Housing	1	296,000
Research/Dissemination	1	50,000
Total	118	\$16,956,475



INVESTMENT BY COUNTRY

Country	Fiscal 2009			Fiscal 1972–2009	
	New Grants	Grant Supplements	Funds*	Grants	Funds*
Anguilla				1	3
Antigua & Barbuda				8	507
Argentina	5	1	662	238	31,393
Bahamas				7	144
Barbados				11	925
Belize				78	3,959
Bolivia	3	8	1,455	271	38,139
Brazil	8	6	2,164	391	51,891
Chile	1		50	263	43,508
Caribbean Region				62	7,308
Colombia	5	3	1,411	317	44,078
Costa Rica				218	15,417
Dominica				75	2,282
Dominican Republic	3	3	956	232	24,416
Ecuador	5	1	816	200	32,526
El Salvador	7	3	1,195	213	35,504
Grenada				17	540
Guatemala		1	30	192	29,596
Guyana				7	294
Haiti	3	3	852	137	16,126
Honduras	4	3	934	163	25,943
Jamaica	1		385	69	4,600
Latin American Region	1	1	245	135	12,969
Mexico	7**	3	1,801	360	56,258
Montserrat				1	3
Netherlands Antilles				2	126
Nicaragua	4		669	189	34,195
Panama	6	4	1,084	213	27,832
Paraguay	1		166	148	18,607
Peru	7	6	1,808	284	51,172
St. Kitts & Nevis				6	541
St. Lucia				12	696
St. Vincent				12	746
Suriname				3	347
Trinidad & Tobago				14	949
Turks & Caicos				2	12
Uruguay	1		273	135	18,085
Venezuela				159	17,165
TOTALS	72	46	16,956	4,845	648,802

*Investment is indicated in thousands of dollars.

**Includes RedEAmérica program.

ARGENTINA

New Grants

Cooperativa de Provisión de Servicios para Productores, Comercialización y Consumo, Centro de Comercio Solidario, Ltda. (CCS), \$215,600 over three years

CCS, which applies and promotes the principles of fair trade, will develop its network of vendors, broaden its consumer base, offer its members and others access to credit and administer a working-capital fund from which to pay for their crafts, food products and furniture upon delivery. (AR-354)

Caxi Asociación para el Desarrollo Integral (Caxi), \$34,830 over one year

Caxi will engage 180 farmers from 12 rural communities in the departments of Lavalle and San Martín, Mendoza, in the design of a plan to further economic development. The grantee will also study the feasibility of including an additional 10 communities in its agricultural program. (AR-355)

Red Puna y Quebrada (Red Puna), \$274,700 over three years

Red Puna will offer training, technical assistance and marketing services to 160 indigenous Coya weavers, primarily women, from 16 communities in the province of Jujuy. (AR-356)

Fundación Modelo Argentino de Turismo y Empleo (Fundación MATE), \$85,765 over one year

Fundación MATE will work with indigenous Mbya Guaraní Argentines residing in the Yryyapu community, Misiones, to develop tourism as a source of income by building infrastructure, providing training and developing promotional materials. (AR-357)

Federación Asociaciones Centros Educativos para la Producción Total (FACEPT), \$39,960 over one year

FACEPT will work with 10 Asociaciones Centros Educativos para la Producción Total in the province of Buenos Aires to engage 1,100 residents of rural communities in assessing the needs of farmers and drafting a proposal for economic development. (AR-358)

Supplemental Grant*

Asociación Civil Raíces (Raíces), \$11,200 over six months

Raíces will continue providing technical assistance to three recycling cooperatives in Córdoba. (AR-348-A3)

*This report includes only supplemental grants that exceed \$10,000. All supplemental grants are for one year unless otherwise indicated.



COURTESY CCS



COURTESY CCS

Fair-trade honey producers.

Entering the Fair-Trade Market

Fair trade is an approach to commerce based on adequate compensation, responsible social and environmental practices, and the assumption that consumers are willing to pay a little more for superior quality and the assurance that workers and resources were not exploited in its production. According to Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International (FLO), which certifies products meeting its standards, consumers spent \$4.08 billion in 2008 on fair-trade merchandise from more than 50 countries and that volume of sales benefited more than 7 million people. Historically, Latin Americans, Asians and Africans have harvested or manufactured fair-trade goods for Europe and the United States but this is changing as consumers in these regions begin to purchase fair-trade products.

Founded in 2003, *Cooperativa de Provisión de Servicios para Productores, Comercialización y Consumo, Centro de Comercio Solidario, Ltda.*, (CCS) is committed to the principles of fair trade, called *comercio solidario* in Argentina, and its rigorous criteria for membership and production are in full compliance with them. CCS is made up of 30 microentrepreneurs and three organizations representing farmers, artisans and furniture-makers from the provinces of Santa Fe, Buenos Aires, Formosa, La Rioja, Mendoza and Misiones. Not long ago, CCS beekeepers met FLO's standards, enabling them to export honey certified as fair trade to European countries. This success has encouraged CCS to help other members work toward certification.

CCS will use its IAF grant to boost distribution of *comercio-solidario* products through direct sales to domestic clients and through exports. It will develop its network of nongovernmental organizations functioning as vendors and advocates for fair trade in Argentina, broaden its Argentine consumer base, and staff a sales and exhibits center in Rosario. A study will gauge customer satisfaction, evaluate the habits and preferences of fair-trade consumers and identify new products for its inventory. CCS micro-entrepreneurs will have access to loans toward improving their production and will receive assistance in meeting FLO standards for safety, labeling, design and packaging. A working-capital fund will facilitate payment upon delivery—a basic tenet of fair trade.—*Gabriela Boyer, Foundation representative*

BOLIVIA

New Grants

Fundación para la Investigación Antropológica y el Etnodesarrollo (ASUR), \$342,250 over three years

ASUR will improve the skills, earnings and cultural pride of indigenous weavers, embroiderers and silver-smiths from five municipalities of the Potosí region. The grantee will consolidate four weaving centers and offer training and technical assistance in product development, quality control, research, promotion, marketing and organization. (BO-512)

Servicios Múltiples de Tecnologías Apropriadadas (SEMTA) \$262,393 over two years

SEMTA will work with 400 Aymara farm families from 34 communities in three municipalities in the Pacajes department of the altiplano, on small-scale irrigation, water harvesting and the recovery of pastures. It will introduce technologies and infrastructure, offer workshops and technical assistance, and organize exchanges. (BO-513)

Fundación Pro Justicia Bolivia (FPJB), \$167,600 over two years

FPJB will consolidate two centers in marginalized sections of the city of Cochabamba that will facilitate the access of 800 residents to legal and social services. The grantee's goal is to reduce vigilante, domestic and other forms of violence and to train constituents in conflict resolution and the justice process. (BO-514)

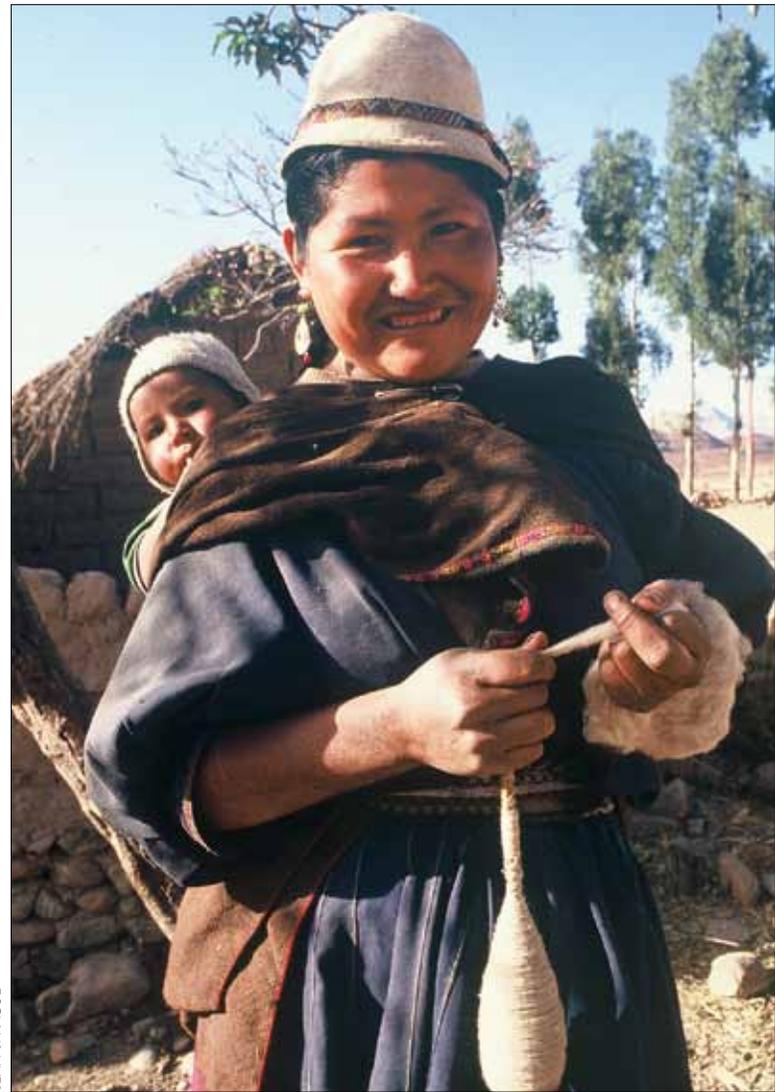
Supplemental Grants

Tukuypaj, \$10,400

Funds will offset losses from fluctuations in the exchange rate, allowing Tukuypaj to expand its experimental program of trout farming in 41 high-valley Andean lagoons to include 10 new communities in the municipalities of Sacaba and Colomi, Cochabamba department, as envisioned. (BO-494-A1)

El Instituto Para el Hombre, Agricultura y Ecología (IPHAE), \$100,880

IPHAE will expand diversified agro-forestry in northern Bolivia, including the cultivation of Amazonian fruits,



SEAN SPRAGUE

ASUR weaver.



COURTESY ASUR

such as *copuazu*, for processing into products to be sold throughout Bolivia. The grantee will work to improve the food supply, income, farming systems, and the negotiating and marketing ability of 867 families from 54 communities in five municipalities (BO-495-A2)

Centro de Investigación, Diseño Artesanal y Comercialización Comunitaria (CIDAC), \$88,963

CIDAC will continue to assist artisans from associations in Santa Cruz with their inventory of raw materials, financial management and product development, and will organize a two-week exhibit at the National Museum of Art in La Paz. (BO-496-A3)

Asociación de Artesanos Andinos (AAA), \$142,285

AAA will continue its work with indigenous weavers in the Arque and Tapacari provinces of the Cochabamba department toward reviving and further developing traditional techniques and designs. It will reach 100 new weavers, will make available its 120 additional traditional looms and nine pedal looms, will launch programs for tourists, will support participation in the

International Folk Art Market in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and will explore other marketing opportunities. (BO-497-A3)

Fundación UÑATATAWI (FUNDAWI), \$101,793

Toward its goal of protecting forest resources and increasing income, FUNDAWI will consolidate the production and marketing of medicinal and aromatic plants in 12 communities in the Caranavi province of La Paz, including four new communities, and further promote the organization of farmers. It will continue its training in organic agriculture and its development of a farmer-owned and -managed enterprise that includes a seedling nursery and infrastructure for processing leaves and essential oils and for storage. (BO-500-A4)

Apoyo Para el Campesino-Indígena del Oriente Boliviano (APCOB), \$117,934 over three years and six months

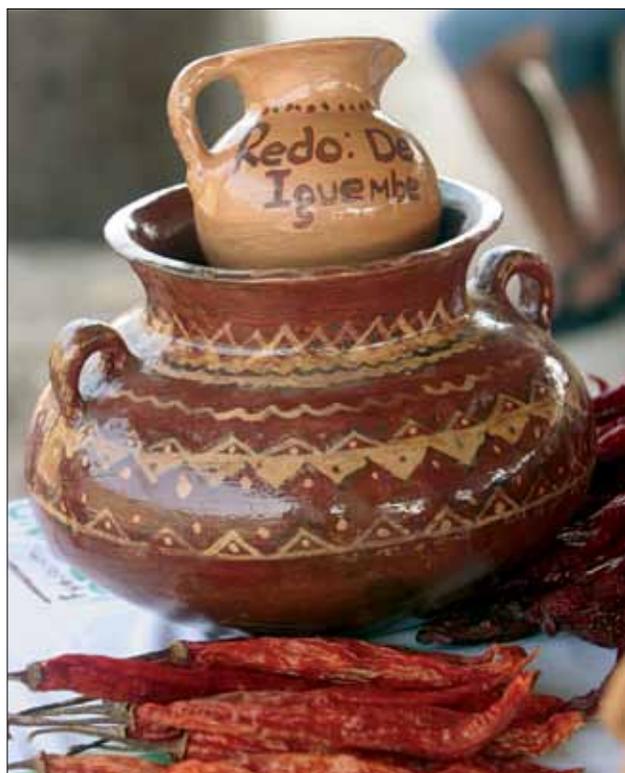
APCOB will advance economic development and the sustainable use of a tropical forest and improve the management of community-based timber enterprises in the indigenous Chiquitano territory in Santa Cruz department. It will conduct training, organize meetings and exchanges, and provide technical assistance to the seven participating communities, benefiting 800 Chiquitano Bolivians. (BO-502-A3)

Formación Solidaria (FORMASOL), \$70,676

FORMASOL will improve the skills of 42 community leaders working to develop radio broadcasts for an audience of 20,000 Chiquitano and Guarayo Bolivians, furthering their awareness of their rights as indigenous peoples and their understanding of democratic practices. The grantee will also conduct workshops on conflict resolution, leadership and audiovisual production techniques. (BO-503-A2)

Protección del Medio Ambiente de Tarija (PROMETA), \$49,945

PROMETA organized a four-day livestock fair showcasing llamas, alpacas, vicuñas and guanacos in the city of Tarija. More than 350 herders, breeders, tanners, meat-processors, artisans, industrialists, exporters and others exhibited their work. (BO-507-A2)



COURTESY CIDAC



KEVIN HEALY



Restoring the Central Altiplano

Thousands of Aymara and Quechua farmers and herders live 13,000 ft. above sea level on Bolivia's central *altiplano*. Five centuries ago, highly productive and sustainable indigenous agrarian and pastoral systems were the foundation for a powerful polity there. A history of institutionalized discrimination, a dramatic growth in population and irrational practices that diminished natural resources, such as overgrazing sheep and the application of inappropriate technology, helped reduce the central *altiplano* to one of South America's poorest regions. The physical environment, especially the harsh climate with its frequent frosts, adds to the formidable challenges to grassroots development.

Given this difficult context, *Servicios Múltiples de Tecnologías Apropriadas* (SEMATA) has taken an incremental approach, spanning decades, toward improving food production and managing natural resources in Pacajes. And as SEMATA expanded its coverage across this large province of the *altiplano*, it enlisted the support of new municipal governments created by Bolivia's decentralization laws of the 1990s. Results include better cultivation and marketing of native crops, the recovery and development of pastures, and the application of traditional indigenous and contemporary Western conservation techniques.

In this latest phase of its work in Pacajes, SEMATA aims to reach 34 new communities, reversing environmental degradation, improving access to water and increasing farm production. In cooperation with three municipalities and community organizations, SEMATA will construct more than 100 small reservoirs and dozens of wells or ponds supporting agriculture as well as tanks providing water for human consumption. Families growing quinoa and *cañawa*, two supernutritious Andean grains, will receive seeds and technical assistance to improve these staple crops grown for home consumption and an expanding market.

SEMATA expects to recover more than 600 hectares of pasture to plant with a combination of native grasses, alfalfa, cebada and other forage, and will fence and ridge designated fields. Its program, enriched by extensive grassroots experience and involvement with Bolivian and Latin America-wide agro-ecological networks, also includes training and technical assistance for farmers in the efficient use of water and the improved production of livestock, crops and pasture for camelids, cattle and sheep.

Bolivia's indigenous-led government has shown it has the political will to allocate a greater share of resources to the rural poor. Especially in this contemporary setting, the time-tested strategies embraced by organizations such as SEMATA take on importance as sound options for the Aymara farmers of the central *altiplano*.

—Kevin Healy, *Foundation representative*



Quinoa.

BRAZIL

New Grants

Centro de Apoio Sócio-Ambiental (CASA), \$305,000 over three years

CASA will channel small grants for social development and environmental conservation to 350 grassroots groups and nongovernmental organizations throughout Brazil. The IAF will finance 30 projects and CASA will raise \$2.1 million for 320 projects. This is expected to engage Brazilians in the challenges directly affecting them and to improve policy-making. (BR-846)

Organização Cidades sem Fome (OCSF), \$322,000 over three years

OCSF will develop a hub of 10 community gardens on uncultivated, privately-owned land in the eastern part of the city of São Paulo. Its goal is to assure a more reliable food supply, create jobs, generate income and improve nutrition, health and the urban environment. (BR-847)

Conselho Pastoral dos Pescadores/Regional Ceará (CPP-Ceará), \$173,000 over three years

CPP-Ceará will help develop fishing organizations operating in seven communities in the state of Ceará by working with them to increase income, encourage greater participation by women, reduce environmental degradation and improve fisheries. (BR-848)

Sociedade Amigos da Pedra da Mina (SOAPEDRA), \$130,000 over two years

SOAPEDRA will create jobs and help artisans in Queluz, São Paulo, increase their income by working together to produce and market handicrafts made with fiber from taboa (cattail) that is grown, harvested and processed in an environmentally responsible manner. (BR-849)

Associação Ateliê de Idéias (Ateliê de Idéias), \$338,000 over three years

Ateliê de Idéias will improve the earning potential of microenterprises, increase its microcredit fund in order to reach more borrowers, bring banking services to individuals currently excluded from the formal financial system and further develop its ability to serve the community in Vitória, Espírito Santo. (BR-850)

Ação Moradia (Ação Moradia), \$296,000 over three years

Ação Moradia will work to advance the economic inclusion and development of vulnerable families in eight communities on the periphery of Uberlândia, Minas Gerais, by providing women heads-of household and young adults training, technical assistance and financial support, including loans. (BR-851)

Fundação José Lazzarini (FJL), \$39,100 over one year

FJL will offer training in baking bread and pastries in a new location in Batatais, São Paulo, where it will reach 20 additional young adults. (BR-852)

Instituto Fazer Acontecer (IFA), \$20,000 over one year

IFA will offer training in sports to 30 educators and 60 youths in the semi-arid region of Bahia with the aim of demonstrating to local authorities the importance of access to sports for young people. (BR-854)

Supplemental Grants

Centro Diocesano de Apoio ao Pequeno Produtor (CEDAPP), \$107,443

As part of its program of rural development, CEDAPP will construct 85 latrines and will provide the community relevant technical assistance with maintenance. (BR-815-A6)

Instituto Pauline Reichstul (IPR), \$99,200

IPR will add staff, will increase training opportunities and other support for youths who have launched businesses, and will offset losses due to fluctuations in the exchange rate. (BR-818-A3)

Associação de Moradores do Conjunto Palmeira (ASMOCONP), \$100,000

ASMOCONP will train 200 additional youths in vocational and business skills and hire two new employees to offer support services and enlist partners to assure the project's sustainability. The grantee will also publish its methodology and results. (BR-824-A4)



SEAN SPRAGUE

Associação de Agroturismo Acolhida na Colônia
(Acolhida na Colônia), \$98,533

Acolhida na Colônia will contract specialized professionals and purchase materials to complete its restoration of historic buildings and construction of a center where arts, handicrafts, services, and organic products and by-products will be marketed. (BR-825-A3)

Associação BrazilFoundation (BrazilFoundation), \$50,287
These funds will offset losses caused by a change in the exchange rate and allow BrazilFoundation to work as envisioned. (BR-831-A1)

Centro de Estudos e Promoção da Agricultura de Grupo (CEPAGRO), \$85,756

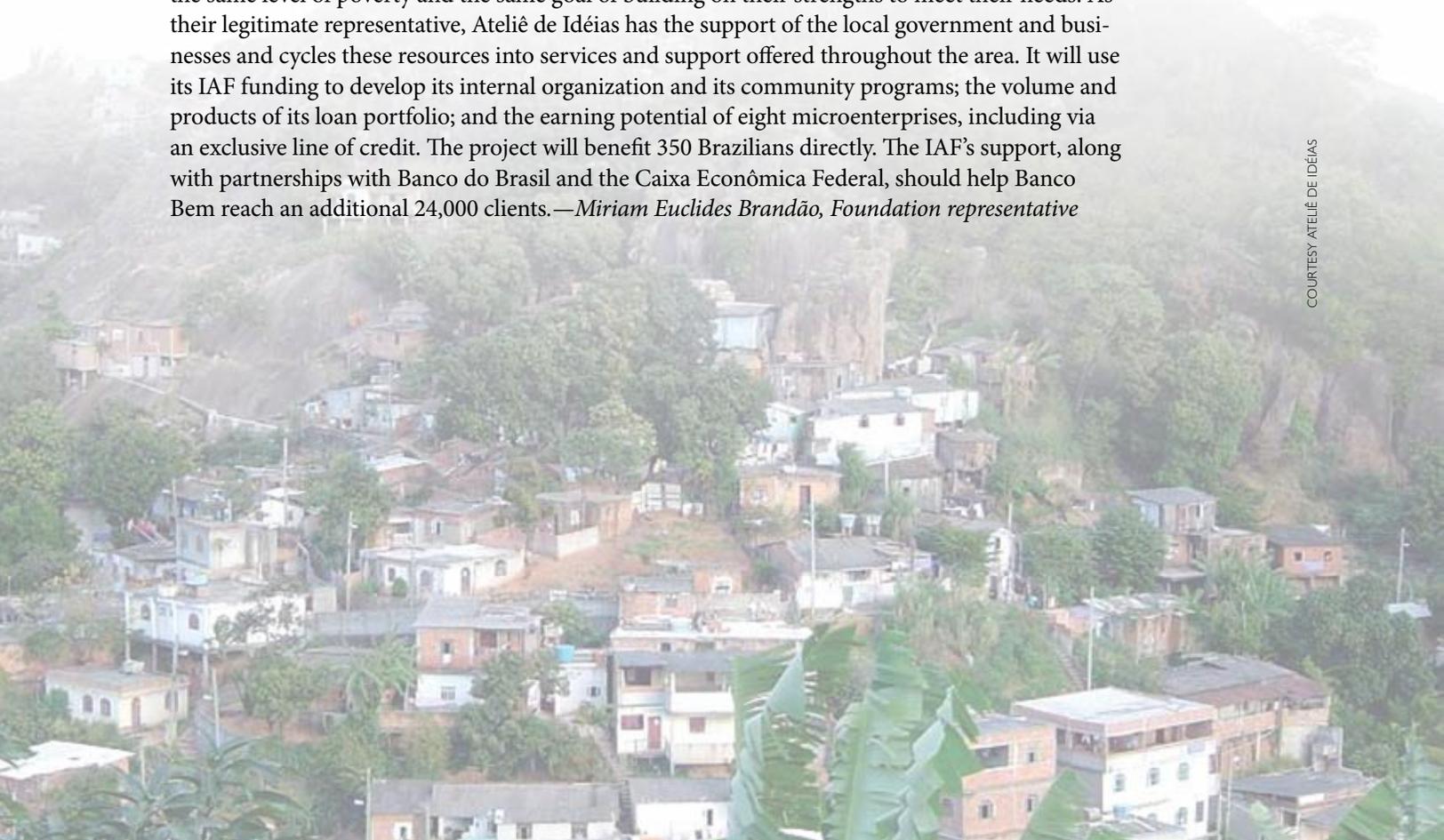
CEPAGRO will train 100 new beneficiaries to produce handicrafts from organic fibers, a feature of their Azorean heritage. It will also educate another 10,000 individuals on the importance of its pioneering program for collecting cooking oil to recycle into bio-diesel, add 100 new collection points, and help up to 200 farm families obtain the bio-diesel for their use. (BR-832-A1)

Building an Economy, Brazilian Style

Associação Ateliê de Idéias (Ateliê de Idéias) emerged in 2003 from a cooperative made up of 60 women from three communities in Vitória, Espírito Santo, who produced hand-crafted clothing and accessories. Once the cooperative began earning a steady income, the women decided to set some of it aside to invest in their business. Soon they had amassed sufficient capital to extend loans to other groups. Then, inspired by their discovery of Banco Palmas, formed by another IAF grantee, Associação de Moradores do Conjunto Palmeira (ASMO-CONP), in Fortaleza, Ceará, the women created Banco Bem, now one of 33 community banks that bring financial and other services to low-income Brazilians who would otherwise not have access to the banking system. These institutions are funded by fees paid by other banks and by interest on loans, and they have the support of the Banco do Brasil and Brazilian government's Caixa Econômica Federal.

Banco Bem was structured to work in a “solidarity” economy characterized by cooperation, reciprocity, self-reliance and fairness. Its success catapulted Ateliê de Idéias into the development vanguard. In quick succession, and with significant community input, it launched Bem Morar, offering technical assistance to mortgage clients; a brick factory in partnership with Ação Moradia, an NGO from Minas Gerais; a microenterprise that recycles construction materials into decorations and accessories; the business incubator Bem Incubar; and Bem Aprender, a training program.

In 2005, as Banco Bem began operations, Ateliê de Idéias added five communities to the three in which it was already working. These eight communities, whose population totals 30,000, share the same level of poverty and the same goal of building on their strengths to meet their needs. As their legitimate representative, Ateliê de Idéias has the support of the local government and businesses and cycles these resources into services and support offered throughout the area. It will use its IAF funding to develop its internal organization and its community programs; the volume and products of its loan portfolio; and the earning potential of eight microenterprises, including via an exclusive line of credit. The project will benefit 350 Brazilians directly. The IAF's support, along with partnerships with Banco do Brasil and the Caixa Econômica Federal, should help Banco Bem reach an additional 24,000 clients.—*Miriam Euclides Brandão, Foundation representative*



CHILE



COURTESY NESST

New Grants

Nonprofit Enterprise and Self-Sustainability Team (NESsT), \$50,000 over one year

NESsT will work with 15 civil society organizations to develop enterprises that generate revenue toward improving the organizations' self-sufficiency and impact. (CH-517)

Bridging the Resource Gap

Adequate financing represents a constant challenge for civil society organizations with social missions. The *Nonprofit Enterprise and Self-Sustainability Team* (NESsT), founded in 1997 in the United States and incorporated in Chile in 2004, addresses this issue by helping civil society organizations launch for-profit enterprises that boost their impact by diversifying their resource base. NESsT's own mission is to find permanent solutions to systemic poverty and social injustice. Toward this end it advocates an approach that combines business skills with social values.

NESsT will use its IAF grant to help civil society organizations in Chile start or expand for-profit enterprises via a three-stage process. First, NESsT will call for proposals from organizations interested in this resource-generating strategy and will choose 15 that will send a representative to a series of workshops in which each participant will draft a feasibility study to submit to NESsT. During the second stage, on the basis of the market potential of the businesses proposed in the submissions, NESsT will winnow the organizations down to 10 whose representatives will learn to conduct market research and otherwise evaluate the likelihood that the ventures will turn a profit.

NESsT will then select six of the 10 for the third phase. Their representatives will attend a one-day workshop on how to develop full business plans. After the workshop, the organizations will be eligible for subgrants of \$500 to use to defray the costs associated with the rigorous process of developing a full business plan. They can also compete for four other subgrants of \$10,000 toward starting their business or improving an existing enterprise, which will be awarded on the basis of the soundness of the applicants' business plans and demonstrated ability to follow through. Selected enterprises will be invited to join the NESsT Venture Fund, which provides financial and other support, including multiyear mentoring.—*Juanita Roca, Foundation representative*

COLOMBIA

New Grants

Asociación Nacional de Recicladores (ANR), \$150,380 over two years

ANR will offer technical assistance and new equipment to improve the 12 garbage-collection and recycling organizations in its Atlantic Coast office. (CO-515)

Junta de Acción Comunal Alto de San Rafael (JAC Alto San Rafael), \$44,088 over one year

JAC Alto San Rafael will work with the juntas of the communities of La Cumbre, Buena Vista and Alta Campana to update a development plan drafted in 2004 for the buffer zone of the Tatamá National Park, share successful agricultural experiences, undertake selected projects, improve a distribution center and offer environmental education in the schools. (CO-516)

Asociación de Cabildos de Caldone de la Zona Nororiente Ukawé'sx Nasa Cxahb (Asociación de Cabildos), \$343,666 over four years

Asociación de Cabildos will work with young indigenous Nasa Colombians between the ages of 18 and 32 living in resguardos, or autonomous territories, in the department of Cauca to develop enterprises marketing organic coffee, meat and wool. (CO-517)

Asociación de Campesinos Agro-ecológicos de la Zona de Amortiguamiento al Parque Natural Regional del Duende (Asoduende), \$262,032 over three years

Asoduende will work with 11 grassroots organizations in the buffer zone of El Duende, a regional park in the department of Valle del Cauca, to improve conservation, agriculture, marketing and the organizations. (CO-518)

Cooperativa Multiactiva Agropecuaria del Pacífico LTDA (COAGROPACIFICO), \$316,920 over two years

COAGROPACIFICO will work in seven riverside communities in Nariño province to help 300 African descendent farmers market coconuts and develop a facility for processing products for diverse industries. (CO-519)



COURTESY ASODUENDE

Supplemental Grants

Corporación Asesorías para el Desarrollo (ASDES), \$130,160 over two years

ASDES will train more than 100 Colombians of African descent in constitutional rights, natural-resource management and self-governance and provide legal assistance in 14 African-descendent territories, resulting in a body of community regulations and the designation of venues for the administration of justice. (CO-504-A4)

Corporación Acción por Antioquia (INTERACTUAR), \$122,600

INTERACTUAR will provide credit, technical assistance and training that improves the businesses, income and well-being of microentrepreneurs and their dependents in Medellín and in northern and southeastern Antioquia. (CO-505-A2)

Fundación Corona, \$41,488 over six months

Fundación Corona, a member of RedEAmérica, will help 100 community-based organizations in Medellín develop skills in planning, evaluation, documentation, fundraising, management and in shaping the policies of the municipal government. (CO-506-A2)



An Ecosystem as an Asset

Rural Colombians living in the northwestern mountains of Valle del Cauca value the surrounding ecosystem and they have joined together to preserve it and contribute to its well-being.

Valle del Cauca is one of Colombia's most productive departments, thanks to 56 rivers that flow to its agricultural and industrial sites from El Duende, a pristine 14,000-hectare *páramo*, or mountain top, that rises to between 3,800 and 5,000 meters above sea level and captures and purifies water from rain. When residents of the municipalities Darien, Trujillo and Riofrío became aware of a decrease in their water supply, they created grassroots organizations to address the encroachment of agriculture into the *páramo*.

One of these was *Asociación de Campesinos Agro-ecológicos de la Zona de Amortiguamiento al Parque Natural Regional del Duende* (Asoduende). Founded in 2004 to promote development compatible with conservation, it helped place el Duende under the protection of departmental authorities. Asoduende's involvement with the IAF began in 2007 when it received a subgrant from a group of eight Colombian members of RedEAmérica (see page 51) working together as the Colombian National Fund. It used its small award to improve a sugar-cane-processing plant and the marketing practices of Asoduende's farmer-members.

Asoduende will use its IAF grant to work with 15 communities in El Duende's buffer zone to develop 11 grassroots organizations that focus on reconciling conservation and development. Through a series of workshops, residents will identify 45 hectares in the buffer zone that will be set aside as natural reserves, which will help protect critical areas, such as watersheds. Asoduende will provide technical assistance, training and the necessary supplies to 50 families who will apply responsible farming practices expected to yield sufficient quantities of fruits, vegetables and grains for consumption and income. Biodigestors, which trap methane from animal waste and convert it into fertilizer and biogas for cooking, will be installed on 35 farms for demonstration purposes. Farmers not yet in one of the grassroots organizations will be encouraged to join and to take advantage of assistance with production and processing and of marketing networks. Working together, Asoduende and the communities in the buffer zone of El Duende will demonstrate that conservation and development efforts can be mutually reinforcing.—*Juanita Roca, Foundation representative*

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

New Grants

Coordinadora de Mujeres del Cibao (CMC), \$318,000 over two years

Building on an earlier IAF-funded project, CMC will prepare 225 women from 13 member-associations to advance community development in partnership with local authorities, benefiting 3,800 residents of the municipal districts of Hato del Yaque and Joba Arriba in the Cibao. (DR-337)

Reef Check Dominican Republic (RCDR), \$280,000 over four years

RCDR will partner with *Cooperativa de Pesca y Prestadores de Servicios Turísticos de La Caleta* (COOPRESCA) and the Dominican Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARENA) on a program of community-based marine-resource management and ecotourism directed at restoring the health of the reef in the La Caleta Marine Protected Area and improving the livelihood of 60 fishers and other residents of the adjacent town of La Caleta, located 20 kilometers east of Santo Domingo. (DR-338)

Fundación Igino Giordani (Fundación FOCO), \$25,375 over one year

Fundación FOCO will work with Jóvenes Creativos, a microenterprise in El Café de Herrera, Santo Domingo, to draft a business and marketing plan, develop new products and train young Dominicans, between ages 14 and 20, to design and build educational toys. (DR-339)

Supplemental Grants

Centro de Servicios Legales para la Mujer (CENSEL), \$150,000

CENSEL, which works to address domestic violence, will purchase office space in Santo Domingo. (DR-325-A6)

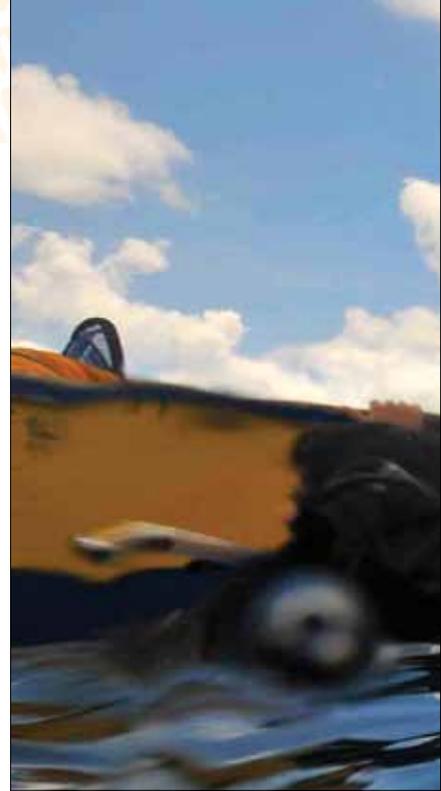
American Chamber of Commerce of the Dominican Republic (AmCham-DR), \$83,234

AmCham-DR will increase its subgrant fund to support up to 12 additional grassroots development projects and will conduct a strategic-planning process to strengthen its program of corporate social responsibility. (DR-329-A6)

Movimiento Sociocultural de los Trabajadores Haitianos (MOSCTHA), \$99,644

In collaboration with other local NGOs, MOSCTHA will continue training a network of three microcredit committees and will incorporate a fourth committee, which will manage revolving loan funds serving approximately 245 women of Haitian descent residing in five *bateyes*, or housing originally built for plantation labor. (DR-335-A1)

COURTESY RCDR





Community Management of Marine Park Resources

La Caleta, located 20 kilometers east of Santo Domingo, is home to 60,000 residents and one of the few marine parks in the Dominican Republic. Parque Nacional Submarino La Caleta was declared a marine protected area (MPA) in 1986 to preserve the archaeological remnants of Hispaniola's original Taino inhabitants as well as coral reefs and marine wildlife endangered after decades of overfishing and neglect. The site has a lot to offer: Several kilometers of rocky coast give way to clear, calm tropical waters perfect for kayaking and snorkeling. A tiny pocket beach offers fine white sand and gentle surf; a network of paved trails invites bikers and walkers. The park's infrastructure—once a museum, a restaurant and an artificial lake—has fallen into disrepair but can be restored as visitor attractions.

Reef Check Dominican Republic (RCDR), the Dominican arm of Reef Check Foundation, an international body, was founded in 2005 to preserve and improve the health of local coral reef resources and ultimately provide for their responsible use. For the past three years, Reef Check has been working in partnership with 60 fishers and other residents of La Caleta to form the *Cooperativa de Pesca y Prestadores de Servicios Turísticos de La Caleta* (COOPRESCA) in an effort to shift the members' primary source of income from destructive fishing practices to ecotourism, thereby protecting the MPA. Reef Check's relationship with the IAF began in 2008 when it received a subgrant from the American Chamber of Commerce-Dominican Republic (DR-329) to train the fishers to gather data on reef health and monitor the fish population.

Reef Check will use its IAF grant to finalize an agreement with the Dominican Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARENA) to rebuild park infrastructure and improve services for visitors. Under the agreement, Reef Check will work with SEMARENA and COOPRESCA on a community-based MPA-management and ecotourism program that will include restoring the restaurant, museum featuring Taino artifacts, visitor center and gift shop. COOPRESCA will manage an aquatic center where visitors can sign up for instruction in diving, snorkeling, kayaking and sport fishing and rent equipment. Some profits from ecotourism will be reinvested in social and conservation projects benefiting the community. USAID, through the Dominican Sustainable Tourism Alliance (DSTA), will assist in developing a business and marketing strategy for the park.—*Jenny Petrow, Foundation representative, and Nancy Díaz, program staff assistant*

ECUADOR

New Grants

Agrupación Afroecuatoriana “Mujeres Progresistas” (AAMP), \$134,420 over two years

AAMP will develop the skills and businesses of Afro-Ecuadorian women in Cenepa and Nigera, two of the poorest communities in Guayaquil, by forming additional microcredit groups, providing training and technical assistance, and extending the services of its community bank to include loans to sole proprietors and cooperative enterprises. (EC-412)

Fundación para el Desarrollo de Alternativas Comunitarias de Conservación del Trópico (ALTROPICO), \$271,790 over three years

ALTROPICO will work with 10 community-run businesses in the provinces of Esmeraldas and Carchi to improve income, access to credit, long-term economic planning, and community organizations. Its training, technical assistance and opportunities to participate in exchanges will benefit 270 individuals directly and could impact 1,200 family members and other community residents indirectly. (EC-413)

Mujeres Solidarias Apoyando a Mujeres (MUSAM), \$98,120 over two years

MUSAM will work to create jobs, increase wages and distribute nutritious and affordable staples in two neighborhoods in the city of Esmeraldas. It will provide training in food preparation, budgeting and microenterprise management and will develop as an organization. (EC-414)

Fundación Foro de Desarrollo Integral de la Mujer y la Familia (FODIMUF), \$182,440 over two years

FODIMUF will work with eight women’s organizations to improve income, leadership and organizational skills in seven *cantones*, or territorial subdivisions, in the province of Esmeraldas. More than 1,000 women will receive training in business administration, marketing, customer service, savings and credit, conflict management and the prevention of violence. FODIMUF will also offer technical assistance and arrange exchanges. (EC-415)

Yanapuma Foundation (YANAPUMA), \$29,740 over nine months

YANAPUMA will work with the indigenous Tsáchila community of Bua to cultivate organic cacao, fruit and vegetables using methods compatible with the responsible use of the environment. Training will emphasize the reintroduction of a tree species and reforestation to decrease erosion and the contamination of local rivers. (EC-416)

Supplemental Grant

Fundación de Desarrollo Social y Cultural Afroecuatoriano—“¡Azúcar!” (AZUCAR), \$99,730

AZUCAR will further understanding between African descendants and other Ecuadorians by promoting the value of Afro-Ecuadorian history and traditions and will improve the income and well-being of individuals of African descent by marketing their arts and crafts country-wide. (EC-398-A1)



COURTESY AAMP

Women Make the Difference in Barrio Nigeria

The subdivision of Guayaquil officially designated Independencia I and II was uninhabited marshland until some 20 years ago when migrant workers, mainly African descendants from Esmeraldas, settled this part of Isla Trinitaria. Others in the city dubbed the new neighborhood “Nigeria,” a disparaging reference to the race of the people who had moved in, and the name stuck. Today Barrio Nigeria is a dense maze of precarious homes and 95 percent of its residents are Afro-Ecuadorian. It is also a proud urban community with a vibrant culture and a positive outlook.

According to a study conducted by the Norwegian Alliance in 2006, most people in Barrio Nigeria live on less than one dollar a day. Reports from the United Nations Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the human rights organization Minority Rights Group International and the Ecuadorian government’s Corporation of Afro-Ecuadorian Development confirm that Afro-Ecuadorians of all ages and backgrounds suffer from racial prejudice. Women of African descent experience double discrimination. Many lack access to decent housing, basic services and education, and they are frequent targets of derogatory stereotypes in the media. This situation is further compounded by violence directed at women in general, inside and outside the home. The impact works to destroy self-esteem and inhibit advancement.

Women in Barrio Nigeria struggle to make ends meet, often by selling Afro-Ecuadorian foods and other cultural wares. Although they lack training and seed capital, many have become entrepreneurs, and, despite daunting challenges, some have moved into positions of leadership in the community. In 1999, 15 women mobilized their neighbors to stop mass evictions from Barrio Nigeria. Later, they united to demand residents be counted in the national census. They then formed *Agrupación Afroecuatoriana “Mujeres Progresistas”* (AAMP) and successfully advocated for access to water, connection to electricity, sanitation services and nurseries and new schools in Barrio Nigeria. By 2004, AAMP had trained more than 50 women in basic accounting and literacy. It created a revolving loan fund for women with small businesses and began to promote a culture of saving.

Working with local NGOs and government, AAMP will use its IAF funding to reach more entrepreneurs. Building on its success, it will expand training in management, marketing, computer literacy and critical thinking and will offer workshops in dealing with stress. AAMP will also expand its loan fund and create a computer and business-resource center. At least 200 small-business owners and 500 children and adolescents will benefit directly from this project; more than other 1,500 families will benefit indirectly.—Zakiya Carr Johnson, *Foundation representative*



COURTESY AAMP

EL SALVADOR

New Grants

Asociación de Mujeres de Santo Tomás (ASMUSAT), \$35,000 over nine months

ASMUSAT will engage its members and residents of 13 communities in the municipality of Santo Tomás, department of San Salvador, in a grassroots planning process that will assess needs, identify possible economic activities and result in a proposal for a development project compatible with the responsible use of natural resources. (ES-235)

Fundación para el Desarrollo Juvenil (FDJ), \$146,100 over two years

FDJ will incorporate adolescents from three municipalities in the departments of Cuscatlán and San Salvador into the social and economic activities of their communities. The grantee will provide the young people a safe environment in which to develop leadership and technical skills and will help them launch and expand microbusinesses involving small livestock. (ES-236)

Centro Arte para la Paz (CAP), \$215,610 over three years

CAP will improve and expand its community museum in the municipality of Suchitoto, develop the leadership skills of young adults at risk, train them in audio-visual production so that they can document and disseminate Suchitoto's history, and generate revenue through tourism activities and sales. (ES-237)

Asociación El Bálsamo (EL BÁLSAMO), \$121,000 over two years

EL BÁLSAMO will work with farmers in Cuisnahuat, Sonsonate, to revitalize the organic cultivation of indigo. Farmers will improve their indigo crop and process it into dye to market. They will also produce organic fertilizer and pesticide for their own use and for sale and develop management and marketing skills as a cooperative. (ES-238)

Instituto de Investigación, Capacitación y Desarrollo de la Mujer (IMU), \$205,275 over three years

IMU will work with women in three grassroots associations in the department of Ahuachapán to improve their income, their food supply, and their leadership and organizational skills. With IMU's support, these farmers will learn to raise livestock, cultivate organic vegetables, and produce and apply organic fertilizer and pesticide, and they will acquire better access to markets. (ES-239)

Fundación Promotora de Productores y Empresarios Salvadoreños (PROESA), \$233,555 over three years

PROESA will collaborate with four rural communities in Meanguera, Morazán, on the production and marketing of crafts, crops and processed foods. It will train tour guides and support a committee of community representatives in its work with the municipality to promote local attractions, products and services. (ES-240)

Instituto para el Rescate Ancestral Indígena Salvadoreño (RAIS), \$49,500 over one year

RAIS will assist women, young adults and Salvadorans of indigenous descent from 11 communities in Suchitoto with revitalizing and marketing traditional crafts, with assessing their needs and with drafting a proposal to be submitted for funding. (ES-241)

Supplemental Grants

Asociación de Desarrollo Económico y Social Santa Marta (ADESSM), \$61,960 over three months

As part of its program of hydroponic production and agricultural diversification, ADESSM will offer 100 families technical assistance with product quality, advertising and the management of a stand for direct sales at the market in Santa Marta. (ES-216-A2)



SETH JESSE

Farming ACCAM loroco.

Asociación de Comunidades Campesinas Angel María (ACCAM), \$108,095

ACCAM, which cultivates, processes and sells loroco, a wild vine whose flower clusters are used in pupusas, a stuffed tortilla, will improve its processing and develop its marketing strategy to include exports. (ES-223-A2)

Fundación Museo de la Palabra y la Imagen (MUPI), \$19,165 over 12 months

MUPI will conduct museum tours, organize educational events applying improved technology, and archive historical and cultural materials. (ES-224-A1)



SETH JESSE

Revitalizing Salvadoran Indigo

Indigo holds a special place in Salvadoran history. Before the arrival of the Spaniards, it was known as *xiquilite*, derived from the Náhuatl word meaning blue herb. In colonial times, indigo dye exported to Europe commanded a high price, but in the late 19th century inexpensive synthetics flooded the market. Even so, generations of Salvadorans continued to soak, ferment and dry indigo leaves into a paste they milled into medicines as well as dye. Since the 1990s, the demand for indigo has increased in the United States, Europe and beyond, reflecting the contemporary interest in natural products. And the market for indigo-based crafts is growing in El Salvador.

Asociación El Bálsamo (EL BÁLSAMO), a nongovernmental organization founded in 2000, offers programs serving microentrepreneurs and farmers in communities engaged in improving the quality of life. EL BÁLSAMO was recognized in 2004 and 2006 with awards for its work in microfinance and conservation and for its earthquake-resistant housing for the poor. EL BÁLSAMO will use its IAF grant to build on a pilot project conducted in 2007 that introduced indigo into the San Lucas community in the hills of Cuisnahuat, department of Sonsonate, where farmers, many of indigenous descent, subsisted by growing corn and beans. In Cuisnahuat, the third poorest municipality in El Salvador, 75 percent of homes lack electricity or any connection to a sewer system and few families receive remittances. The area suffered great damage from two earthquakes in 2001 and from Hurricane Mitch and the eruption of the Ilamatepec Volcano in 2005. Little rain falls in Cuisnahuat, but EL BÁLSAMO's pilot confirmed that some species of indigo thrive in its arid climate.

Working with EL BÁLSAMO, farmers will convert more land to the cultivation of organic indigo and will learn to make better dye. They will improve their soil and reduce costs by using fertilizers and pesticides made from byproducts generated when indigo is processed. Excess organic fertilizer and pesticides will be sold. Farmers will also improve the management and organization of their incipient cooperative with the goal of undertaking other projects and advocating for resources. A committee from the cooperative will contact craftspeople who use indigo, enter into agreements with associations that purchase the dye and will participate in fairs. EL BÁLSAMO will also promote sales through its Web site. Indigo brought wealth to the landed elite long before cane, cotton or coffee became dominant commodities in El Salvador. Revitalizing indigo should encourage pride in a singular heritage while improving conditions at the grassroots.—*Seth Micah Jesse, Foundation representative*

GUATEMALA

Supplemental Grant

Coordinadora Regional de Comités para el Desarrollo Integral Ambiental Tikonel (TIKONEL), \$29,700

TIKONEL will continue to offer training, technical assistance and credit to indigenous craftswomen in the municipality of San Martín Jilotepeque and will create a working-capital fund for them. (GT-288-A3)



HAITI

Photos, descriptions and the profile on pages 34 and 35 predate the earthquake that struck Haiti on Jan. 12. Except as briefly noted here and on page 2, content has not been updated to reflect the drastically changed context.—ED.

New Grants

Fondation Festival Film Jakmèl (FFFJ), \$257,420 over two years

FFFJ will expand the programs offered by its Ciné Institute to reach 5,000 high school students in Jacmel and Port-au-Prince and will provide training in filmmaking to 75 young adults. Its goal is to develop the Haitian film industry, create job opportunities and otherwise stimulate the economy. (HA-206)

Fonds International de Développement Économique et Social (FIDES), \$378,000 over three years

FIDES will provide technical assistance, training, equipment, materials and financial resources to 10 of its member organizations toward assuring a more reliable food supply, increasing income and developing technical skills and management. The project will benefit 1,000 farmers and market women in the Bas-Artibonite, Nord-Ouest, Sud-Est and Ouest departments. (HA-207)

MP3K farmer.



JENNY PETROW

Rezo Fanm Fwontyè Ba Plato (Renzo Fanm), \$28,950 over one year

Rezo Fanm, a network of 98 women's grassroots groups in the Lower Central Plateau bordering the Dominican Republic, will conduct a strategic-planning and training process to improve its management and that of its members. The grant will impact 600 women directly and another 2,100 residents of six communes, or municipalities, indirectly. (HA-208)

Supplemental Grants

Haitian Partners in Christian Development (HPCD), \$99,550

HPCD will provide space, support services, technical assistance, mentoring and training to microentrepreneurs from two business incubators in Port-au-Prince and will create a fund to guarantee loans extended by the microcredit institution Société Générale de Solidarité (SOGESOL) to clients from both incubators. (HA-199-A5)

Mouvement Paysan 3ème Section Camp-Perrin (MP3K), \$41,500

MP3K will complete construction of its yam-processing and storage center. (HA-203-A1)

Konbit Fanm Kaskad-Dubreuil (KOFKAD), \$46,800

KOFKAD will finish construction of its workshop and training center in the southern town of Ducis, where 350 young women and adolescents at risk can become computer literate and acquire the skills to work as dressmakers, artisans and bakers. (HA-204-A1)



COURTESY FFFJ

Focus on a Film Industry

In a country notorious for turmoil, Jacmel, located on Haiti's southern coast, stands out as laid back and stable. Colonial charm, beautiful beaches and easy access from Port-au-Prince make this town of 40,000 inhabitants a popular tourist destination. Considered by many Haiti's cultural capital, Jacmel is known for its storytelling heritage, exuberant Carnival and talented artists and artisans. Festival Film Jakmèl (FFJ) brought world cinema to the city in 2004, 2005, and 2006, giving Haitians unprecedented access to screenings, live performances and filmmaking workshops as well as development seminars.

Fondation Festival Film Jakmèl (FFFJ) grew out of the festival and its focus on the link between film and development. FFFJ's mission—to use the power of cinema to enrich the public-school curriculum and spur economic growth—directly addresses two of Haiti's biggest problems: education and unemployment. On educational indicators Haiti rates the worst among the countries in the Western hemisphere. Fewer than half of all school-age Haitians benefit from any formal education. Those who do attend school have little exposure to hands-on learning as most teaching emphasizes repetition and rote. Haitians who finish high school face daunting challenges to finding work.

FFFJ will use its IAF grant to expand three programs under the umbrella of its Ciné Institute. Ciné Klas brings film and television programming in French and Creole into high schools to stimulate discussion and analysis. Through Ciné Lekòl, Haiti's only professional film school, local staff and award-winning filmmakers from abroad offer young Haitians practical training in all aspects of production. While Ciné Lekòl harnesses some of the most advanced technologies, it operates on the premise that great films can be produced on local themes and with limited resources. Films by Ciné Lekòl students, including their documentary on Carnival in Jacmel, can be viewed at www.cineinstitute.com. FFFJ will also use its grant to develop Ciné Services, the income-generating arm of the Ciné Institute. This center gives students and graduates of Ciné Lekòl access to the equipment and studio space necessary to produce commercials for domestic businesses and public service announcements for nonprofit organizations as well as movies and music videos. Professional filmmakers who have relied on crew from Ciné Institute include Patricia Benoit, the director of the Sundance-funded feature film, *Ayiti, Ayiti*. FFFJ's goal is to build on this experience and develop an industry that has already been dubbed "Jollywood." —*Jenny Petrow, Foundation representative*

Haiti's earthquake ravaged Jacmel. But within two days, the young filmmakers of FFJ's Ciné Institute salvaged enough equipment from the rubble of their classrooms to document conditions and, with sporadic power from a generator, upload their video reports to www.cineinstitute.com. —ED.

HONDURAS

New Grants

Organización de Jóvenes Hondureños por el Desarrollo Educativo (GUARUMA), \$85,700 over two years

GUARUMA will offer 250 young Hondurans, between the ages of 10 and 18, training and opportunities oriented toward the environment and ecotourism. Students will become computer literate, develop photography skills and master basic English. Older students will launch microenterprises supported by a fund providing investment capital. (HO-247)

Agua Para el Pueblo (APP), \$289,286 over two years

APP will work with 12 indigenous communities to build the infrastructure for water and sanitation, develop family and community gardens, produce and market oil from the batana palm, improve transportation infrastructure, preserve cultural and natural patrimony, and provide training for government officials and representatives of other organizations. These activities will benefit 3,600 Hondurans directly and 6,000 indirectly. (HO-248)

Asociación de Productores de Hortalizas y Frutales de Intibucá (APRHOFI), \$200,500 over three years

APRHOFI will introduce 120 farmers to modern techniques that increase fruit and vegetable production. It will also improve its storage and processing center and will expand its marketing program. (HO-249)

Fundación Hondureña de Ambiente y Desarrollo VIDA (FV), \$261,600 over two years

FV will work with grassroots groups, nongovernmental organizations, municipal government and a binational coordinating entity to improve income, natural resource management and local organizations and to promote the use of environmentally responsible farming methods along the Río Goascorán watershed straddling Honduras and El Salvador. Its project will benefit 1,000 Hondurans and Salvadorans directly and 1,500 indirectly. (HO-250)



SEAN SPRAGUE

APP's engineer explains water purification.

Supplemental Grants

Consejo de Desarrollo del Sector Social de la Economía Regional de Intibucá (CODESSE), \$50,000

CODESSE will provide relief related to crops damaged by tropical storms, enabling 2,000 Hondurans to replant 28 hectares of beans and 22 hectares of fruit and vegetables. (HO-239-A6)

Comisión Acción Social Menonita (CASM), \$34,534

CASM will expand its activities in forest management to reach 350 additional Hondurans and will cover cost-of-living increases in staff salaries in compliance with Honduran law. (HO-242-A1)

Comisión Acción Social Menonita (CASM), \$12,000

CASM will work with farmers to restart its agricultural activities and replace supplies and equipment damaged by recent tropical storms. (HO-242-A-2)

Strength in Geography, Diversification and Organization

The department of Intibucá is a hodgepodge of mountains and valleys whose array of micro-climates is differentiated by altitude and rainfall. This is the heartland of the Lenca, the largest indigenous group in Honduras and historically among the country's poorest sectors. Mining and agriculture are Intibucá's main economic activities. Mining employs few people, pays them low wages and exposes them to explosions, cave-ins and toxic chemicals. The Lenca role in mining is limited to the brute labor necessary to extract precious metals and gemstones. In contrast, a huge segment of Intibucá's population is involved in agriculture, with most farmers working tiny plots that they own. For decades the potato has been king. Farmers have only just begun to work together to reduce dependence on middlemen, and are transporting potatoes and other crops themselves from the mountains to market.

Recently farmers of Lenca descent decided to take advantage of Intibucá's varied microclimates and began organizing to diversify local agriculture and supply major domestic outlets with strawberries, tomatoes, lettuce and other lucrative produce. *Asociación de Productores de Hortalizas y Frutales de Intibucá* (APRHOFI) was founded in 2003 to help them improve productivity, sell in volume directly to markets and improve their quality of life. APRHOFI started with 55 members and now has nearly 300. Its strength and its members' dedication attracted support from the European Union (EU) and IAF grantee Consejo de Desarrollo del Sector Social de la Economía (CODESSE). APRHOFI farmers now employ 400 workers in their fields and another 30 in post-harvest processing, transportation, marketing and administration. The growth in membership, in fruit and vegetable production, and in sales led APRHOFI to try to further develop its agriculture and marketing.

With its IAF grant, APRHOFI will install drip irrigation systems, undertake covered production and offer training and resources to improve its farmers' potato crop. An existing crop fund will be expanded to allow APRHOFI to enter into contracts with farmers and pay them for their harvests upon delivery. APRHOFI will adapt its cold room to accommodate more goods awaiting transport, thereby reducing spoilage. It will hire a specialist to advise the organization on how to take maximum advantage of its location at the midpoint between Honduras' two largest markets, San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa. Geography serves APRHOFI well and its members' strides in applying technological advances bode equally well for the continued growth that is part of its vision.—*John Reed, Foundation representative*

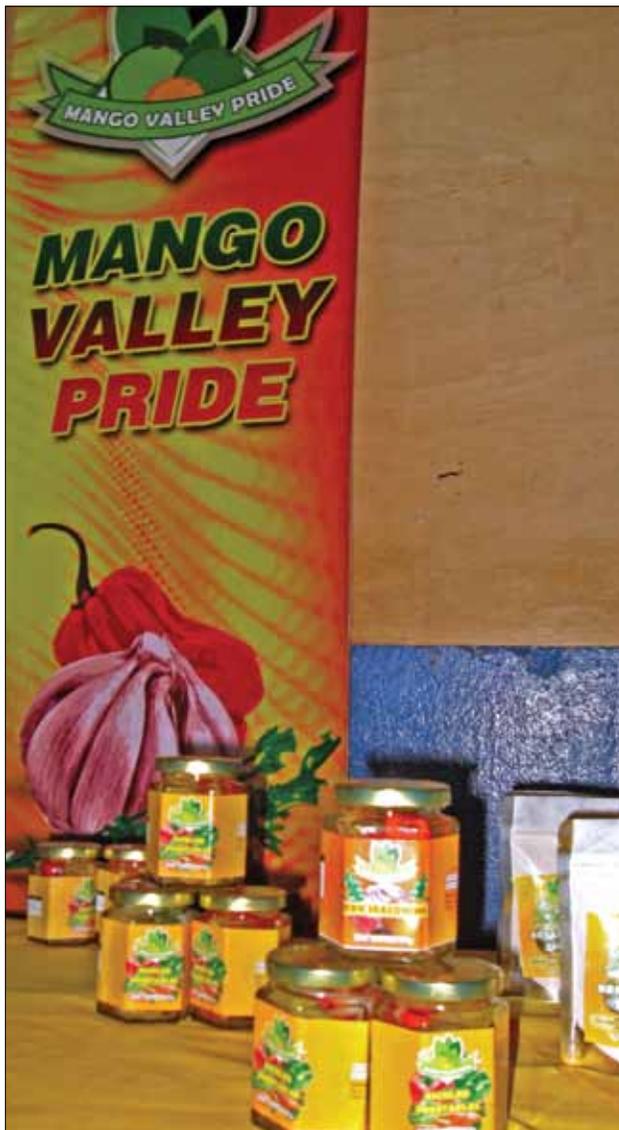


JAMAICA

New Grants

Local Initiative Facility for the Environment (LIFE), \$385,000 over three years

LIFE will work with 13 community organizations and clusters of organizations to improve their management, mobilize resources, address environmental issues and increase their beneficiaries' income through community-based business and training centers. It will target groups that want to engage in self-help but are struggling with poor management and insufficient training and resources. The project will reach 400 people in 80 communities across Jamaica. (JA-111)



JENNY PETROW

LIFE Goes on

Breezy images of suntanned tourists strolling along sandy beaches bordering luxury resorts mask the problems facing Jamaica. To the unemployment, corruption and debt that hobble its development must be added hurricanes, declining sugar and banana exports, and soaring rates of gang and drug-related violence. Infamous urban crime statistics belie the fact that half of all Jamaicans reside in rural areas and suffer from poverty rates almost three times that of their urban counterparts.

In 1994 the *Local Initiative Facility for the Environment (LIFE)* began working with community-based organizations to address urban environmental problems under the United Nations' Agenda 21 initiative. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launched similar efforts around the world with the expectation that each entity would eventually incorporate as a nongovernmental organization. When LIFE undertook its first IAF-funded project in 2003, in partnership with the Jamaican NGO People's Action for Community Transformation (PACT), it had not yet incorporated as a non-profit. LIFE has since become a full-fledged, legally-constituted NGO and has expanded its reach into rural communities.

The earlier PACT/LIFE venture mobilized more than \$1 million in cash and \$60,000 in goods and services from foundations, government, business associations and individuals. PACT/LIFE channeled most of these resources directly to 18 community-based organizations. Eight of them started businesses and seven registered as "friendly societies," meaning non-profits, and cooperatives. LIFE's receipt of an IAF grant is an important step in its growth as an institution that addresses social, environmental and economic issues through dialogue and partnership with grassroots organizations. LIFE will use its IAF funds to work with a dozen more organizations across Jamaica to start community businesses, build rural infrastructure, and develop job-training and literacy programs. It will create a credit program for an island-wide association of beekeepers and will explore the application of technologies such as portable green houses and cages for farming callaloo, a leafy green vegetable. In line with its environmental values, LIFE will help organizations incorporate renewable energy and recycling into economic activities.

—Jenny Petrow, *Foundation representative*



LATIN AMERICA (REGIONAL)

New Grants

Latin American Studies Association (LASA), \$50,000 over two years and six months

LASA will support five teams of researchers drawn from grassroots practitioners in Latin America and the Caribbean and from U.S. universities, who will study judicial reform and the rights of African descendants and indigenous peoples. The findings will be published in multiple languages. (LA-171)

Supplemental Grants

DELNET, \$195,012 over two years

The International Labour Organization's Delnet Program will provide specialized training and networking opportunities for an additional 105 scholarship recipients through on-line courses in sustainable tourism, disaster mitigation and local development, which include a gender and a health perspective. (LA-160 A5)

MEXICO

New Grants

Ecosta Yutu Cuii, Sociedad de Solidaridad Social (Ecosta), \$292,400 over three years

Ecosta will emphasize economic development and conservation in 12 communities in the municipality of San Pedro Tututepec, Oaxaca. The goal is to improve food production through environmentally responsible practices, expand ecotourism initiatives, launch small businesses, further wildlife protection and increase Ecosta's loan fund. More than 400 Mexicans of indigenous, African and mestizo descent will benefit. (ME-492)

Enlace, Comunicación y Capacitación, A.C. (Enlace), \$190,000 over three years

Enlace will work with three community-based organizations to develop a more reliable food supply and better access to markets for 225 individuals in four regions of Chiapas. Businesses involved with the organizations will be improved through the application of environmentally responsible practices and land-use plans, the access to new markets, and a savings and loan program. (ME-493)

Xanvil, A.C. (Xanvil), \$304,300 over three years

Xanvil will work with 400 individuals from five indigenous communities in the Usumacinta watershed in eastern Chiapas to promote enterprise development and conservation by reintroducing native bamboo. The grantee will train residents and offer them technical assistance in growing bamboo and using it for construction, handicrafts and furniture. (ME-494)

El Instituto Mexicano de Investigación de Familia y Población (IMIFAP), \$256,500 over three years

IMIFAP will work in three municipalities of Hidalgo to support productive projects and community banks through access to credit and training in business skills for 1,300 residents of indigenous and other marginalized communities. (ME-495)

Unión de Comunidades del Sistema Comunitario para la Biodiversidad (SICOBI), \$177,000 over two years

SICOBI, consisting of 10 member communities, will work in the Copalita-Zimatán-Huatulco watershed in

southern Oaxaca to further economic development and biodiversity through better community management of forestry, agroforestry and ecotourism; to introduce its new products and services in regional markets; and to improve its representation of its members. (ME-496)

Fundación Comunitaria de Matamoros, A.C. (FCMAT), \$33,500 over 18 months

FCMAT will organize two daycare centers with the goal of using the experience to offer the service in other poor neighborhoods of Matamoros. The proposed cooperative model will be managed by the children's parents. (ME-497)

Supplemental Grants

Miel Solidaria Campesina, A.C. (MISOCA), \$49,600

MISOCA will bring nine new associations of honey producers, or 170 additional beekeepers, into its network marketing honey certified as organic and/or fair trade. (ME-478-A3)

Servicios Ambientales de Oaxaca, S.A. (SAO), \$118,750

SAO will promote its sale of carbon offsets via a marketing campaign broadcast throughout Mexico; will make offset credits available in an additional 22,000 hectares of forest and manage another 20,000 hectares; will begin work in two new communities; will improve its Web page; will study the feasibility of alternative tourism; and will develop three community businesses selling non-forest products. (ME-481-A1)

Centro de Atención Infantil Piña Palmera, A.C. (Piña Palmera), \$29,150

Piña Palmera will develop employment opportunities for Mexicans with disabilities, will begin work in a new community, will coordinate the second national conference on community-based rehabilitation and will conduct additional training activities. (ME-485-A1)



MARCY KELLEY

SICOBÍ beehives.

Tradition and Development in Southern Oaxaca

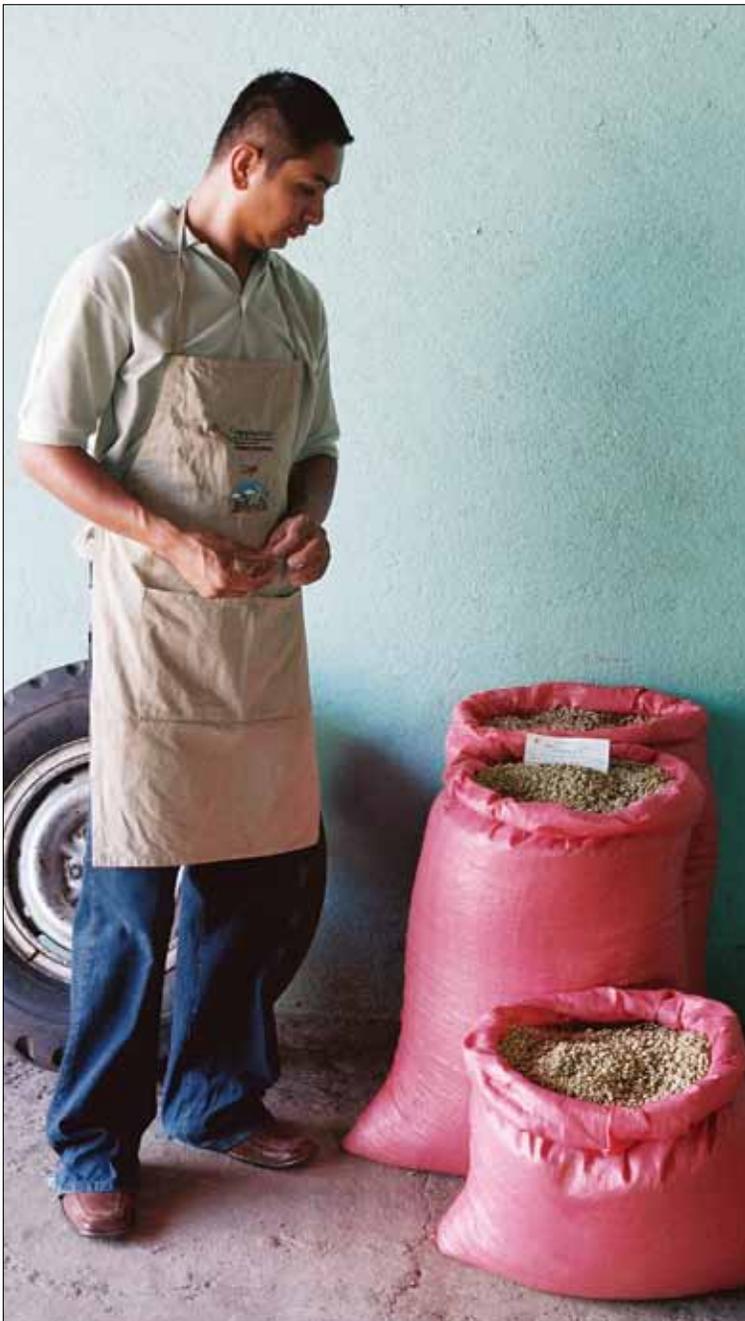
Indigenous Oaxacan communities exercise their autonomy through centuries-old practices acknowledged in Mexican law as *usos y costumbres*. The complex system is flexible in accommodating term limits and election dates but uniformly requires that the men—and occasionally women—chosen to lead put their lives on hold while they govern. Migrants may even be called back from abroad to perform this function. Few Oaxacans shirk the responsibility. All residents participate in community meetings and accept the civic obligation to assist with reforestation, road construction and maintenance, watershed protection, fire-fighting and other public services.

During the past decade, the leaders of 10 contiguous communities of indigenous Oaxacans have begun to work together to address forest management, market access and economic opportunities. Extending over 100,000 hectares of the Copalita-Zimatán-Huatulco watershed in the southern Sierra and along the coast of Oaxaca, they formed the *Unión de Comunidades del Sistema Comunitario para la Biodiversidad* (SICOBÍ). With support from the environmental NGO Grupo Autonomo para la Investigación Ambiental (GAIA), SICOBÍ completed a land-use plan incorporating its members and has been applying environmentally responsible methods to the production of coffee, honey and corn sold under the SICOBÍ label *Pueblos y Selvas*. It also inaugurated *Entre Selva y Veredas*, a tourist circuit that includes a botanical garden, caves and a waterfall.

With IAF funding, SICOBÍ plans to improve its representation of its members; develop their management of 55,000 hectares of forest and five ecotourism ventures; and introduce new products and services. A series of workshops will focus on communication among the communities, the identification of models of watershed management, the development of nurseries under community control, and the use of terracing, irrigation, composting and erosion barriers. SICOBÍ will analyze the nutritional content of its products, conduct market studies and will invest in equipment for two honey-processing centers. It expects to create employment opportunities for women and young people and otherwise improve the quality of life for at least 850 individuals.

The constant turnover in leadership and the remote location of some communities make coordinating SICOBÍ's project a challenge. But this is offset by the shared commitment to working toward economic development that is compatible with an equitable distribution of income, conservation and respect for indigenous practices. SICOBÍ plans to take advantage of a tradition of community deliberations as well as the residents' desire to promote their products and proud heritage.—*Marcy Kelley, Foundation representative*

NICARAGUA



MARK CAICEDO

SOPPEXCCA coffee.

New Grants

Instituto Centroamericano de Administración de Empresas (INCAE), \$142,235 over one year

INCAE will work with 10 IAF grantees to enable them to enter into contracts to export their agricultural products. Its program will include classroom instruction, on-site technical assistance, market research and travel to the United States. (NC-286)

Asociación Familia Padre Fabretto (AFPF), \$234,070 over three years

AFPF will reach more than 1,200 students with its application of the Sistema de Aprendizaje Tutorial, a secondary-school program, in the communities of San José de Cusmapa and San Isidro de Bolas. It will develop teaching materials, train tutors, launch the academic curriculum and offer students community-development and revenue-generating activities as well as opportunities to volunteer. (NC-287)

Unión de Cooperativas Agropecuarias Sociedad de Pequeños Productores de Café (SOPPEXCCA), \$243,770 over three years

Through training and technical assistance, the expansion of its dry mill, construction of two new drying patios, and the purchase of machinery and equipment, SOPPEXCCA will increase the profits of its farmer-members who cultivate conventional and organic coffee in the municipalities of Jinotega and El Cuá. (NC-288)

Fundación Entre Volcanes (FEV), \$48,375 over one year

FEV will engage four communities in the buffer zone around the Maderas volcano in a planning process that will identify business opportunities related to the tourist industry. (NC-289)

Openings for Exports

Agriculture is a cornerstone of the Nicaraguan economy, accounting for more than 30 percent of the country's gross domestic product and employing more than 40 percent of the work force. Most Nicaraguan farmers are poor. They raise labor-intensive crops that net very small profits.

Agricultural projects predominate in the IAF's Nicaragua portfolio and the grantees that undertake them have overcome significant barriers to organizing Nicaraguan farmers for better productivity and income. They have invested their IAF awards in working-capital funds that finance the growing cycle, in storage and processing facilities, and in vehicles used to deliver crops directly to sales outlets. With some of their basic problems solved, these grassroots groups are now looking to expand the market by exporting to other Central American countries and to the United States. This means a host of new challenges: consumer preferences, logistics and compliance with the respective legal and regulatory system.

Instituto Centroamericano de Administración de Empresas (INCAE), one of the most respected business schools in Latin America, recently created the Arnoldo Solórzano Thompson Center for Entrepreneurship (CEAST) to prepare Nicaraguans to participate more effectively in an increasingly globalized economy. INCAE has entered into a cooperative agreement with the IAF under which it will include in its program of training and technical assistance 10 current and former IAF grantees, among them Asociación para el Desarrollo de la Costa Atlántica PANA PANA, an indigenous organization that grows taro and plantains; Tepeyac, a dairy cooperative processing three types of cheese; and CJRRP, a cooperative of farmers who grow pineapples and dragon fruit.

Representatives of the 10 grassroots organizations will participate in "Export Nicaragua," an eight-month course consisting of more than 60 hours of classroom instruction, more than 20 hours of technical assistance on site and six days at the annual conference of the Produce Marketing Association, one of the most important events for wholesalers of fruit and vegetables in the United States. In class, each student will develop a baseline assessment of his or her organization, including its readiness to export, as well as a detailed analysis of its financial fundamentals and a market-entry plan based on contracts anticipated. At the conference, the Nicaraguans will learn about regulatory and quality standards in the U.S. and will negotiate with U.S. buyers. Upon conclusion of the course, INCAE will prepare a comprehensive evaluation that includes an analysis of activities and a quantitative summary of the impact on the organizations. Access to markets in the United States could increase farmer income by 50 percent.—*Philip Walsh, Foundation representative*



COURTESY TEPEYAC

PANAMA

New Grants

Asociación Muchachas Guías Panamá (AMGP), \$104,500 over three years

AMGP will help young women become entrepreneurs and community leaders and will promote civic participation throughout Panama, improving the income and quality of life of 1,000 Panamanians and benefiting another 2,500 indirectly. (PN-291)

Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples San Antonio de Padua, R.L. (CSAP), \$40,000 over two years

CSAP will work with farmers during their transition to environmentally responsible production methods. It will build a facility for storage and marketing and will expand the inventory of its general store. (PN-292)

Fundación de Organizaciones Campesinas e Indígenas de Veraguas (FOCIV), \$267,000 over three years

FOCIV will work with 300 families in 10 indigenous communities in the La Palma municipality of Veraguas to improve food production, protect the watershed through reforestation and further economic initiatives. (PN-293)

Fundación Centro de Proyectos Empresariales y Laborales (CEPEL), \$166,245 over three years

CEPEL will work with the grassroots group Cooperativa Wounaan to improve the members' business skills, market participation, earnings, living conditions and cultural pride. Some 75 indigenous Panamanians will benefit and CEPEL will develop as an organization. (PN-294)

Asociación de Puerto Obaldieños Unidos (APOU), \$213,790 over two years.

APOU will work with residents in the Puerto Obaldia region, near the border with Colombia, to develop endeavors in tourism, crop and poultry production, food processing and marketing. The project will improve the reliability of the food supply and economic opportunities for 350 Afro-Panamanians. Another 350 individuals will benefit indirectly. (PN-295)



COURTESY APOU

Grupo para la Investigación Tecnoecológica y la Conservación (GITEC), \$134,155 over three years

GITEC will develop its ecotourism services and work with a young people's environmental organization in the Montijo region of Veraguas province. (PN-296)

Supplemental Grants

Asociación para el Fomento del Turismo (AFOTUR), \$49,835

AFOTUR will offer training in and technical assistance with agricultural production, forestry and tourism in four indigenous communities in the Río Chagres National Park. (PN-274-A6)

Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples Desarrollo Integral de Gualaca, R.L. (COOP), \$33,700

COOP will provide training in business skills, develop crafts and conduct activities related to culture, folklore and tourism in Gualaca in rural Chiriquí. (PN-280-A2)

Asociación Femenina Carrizaleñas Unidas (AFCU), \$18,030

AFCU will continue its activities in craft and poultry production and will equip its retail outlet to support sales of food and crafts. (PN-284-A2)

Club Rotario de David (Club Rotario), \$57,075

Club Rotario will purchase additional equipment to advance the agricultural component of its training program. (PN-285-A2)



An Afro-Panamanian Community on the Road to Development

No road leads to Puerto Obaldía, an isolated border town located at the southern end of Panama's Kuna Yala indigenous territory. It can only be accessed by foot, by air and by sailing a boat over the emerald and azure waters of the Caribbean. Nonetheless, more than 1,000 visitors arrive every month—300 a day in high season—to enjoy the beaches and tropical ambience.

Puerto Obaldía's 827 residents include Colombian refugees and indigenous Kuna, but African descendants predominate. Their traditions color cultural and religious celebrations and link the community to Portabelo and Colón, where children from Puerto Obaldía board with their extended families in order to continue their education. Puerto Obaldía serves as the portal for Colombian pilgrims traveling to the Festival of the Black Christ in Portobelo each October.

The increasing importance of Puerto Obaldía as a transit point for travelers to and from South America was unimaginable until recently. A police force, 200-strong, has secured the area against incursions by guerillas, smugglers and armed drug-traffickers from Colombia that were common a decade ago. But Puerto Obaldía's economy has yet to stabilize and many residents have left to try to make a living elsewhere. The community is plagued with food shortages caused by the departure of so many farmers as well as by the prevalence of hoof-and-mouth disease that led to a ban on cattle-raising, and by the territorial government's limitation on fishing that excludes residents not of Kuna descent.

Many migrants from Puerto Obaldía have settled in Panama City where they formed *Asociación de Puerto Obaldieños Unidos* (APOU) in an effort to maintain their culture and assist the community back home.

Working with those who stayed in Puerto Obaldía, APOU developed a proposal to address the food shortage and job creation. APOU plans to use its IAF funding to mechanize agriculture and to introduce poultry production. Puerto Obaldía will donate public land for farming and for building facilities for processing crops and for storage, allowing residents to sell finished products when prices are most advantageous. APOU will create additional jobs by developing beach businesses and working to improve customer service, signage, garbage disposal and restrooms. Residents who belong to APOU will work together on production and processing and on materials to promote tourism, and some may become paid employees. Deep roots in Puerto Obaldía and advocacy with Kuna Yala and other government agencies should help the hometown association's efforts to jumpstart the economy in this historic Afro-Panamanian community.—*John Reed, Foundation representative*

PARAGUAY

Transforming Paraguay, One Neighborhood at a Time

Civic involvement is a relatively new phenomenon in Paraguay. Between 1811, when the country won independence, and the elections of 1993, strongmen came and went. The last of these was General Alfredo Stroessner, South America's most durable dictator, whose rule of three and a half decades only ended in 1989. Two years after his fall, a group of Paraguayan civic activists began developing a framework for grassroots participation. *Federación de Entidades Vecinalistas del Paraguay* (FEDEM) emerged from these efforts in 2000 to transform the neighborhood association, instituted as an arm of the ruling party in 1987, into a forum for democratic expression and agent for development. According to a poll conducted by Transparency Paraguay in 2007, Paraguayans now rank the neighborhood association third out of 10 mechanisms for its effectiveness in countering corruption.

Based in Asunción and operating throughout Paraguay, FEDEM is mostly staffed by volunteers and has 3,000 members. It has conducted training in leadership, management, computer use and in accessing public information and has organized campaigns to further the awareness and prevention of dengue, yellow fever and HIV/AIDS. It also played a key role in the passage of the 2008 law requiring community participation in decisions made by municipalities, Paraguay's most basic unit of government.

FEDEM will use its IAF funding to train 300 representatives of neighborhood associations in Asunción and its environs in leadership skills as well as civic participation, communication, volunteerism and conflict resolution, including mediation. Participants will also learn to draft development proposals and municipal legislation. Residents from the same communities can work toward certification in business administration, organic gardening, electrical repair, plumbing, and arts and crafts. In coordination with the neighborhood associations, which will cover the costs, FEDEM will open centers that inform the trainees of openings for jobs requiring their new skills. FEDEM will advertise the training and the centers through radio spots and brochures.

To complement its occupational program, FEDEM is collaborating with two divisions of the Paraguayan Ministry of Labor and Justice: el Servicio Nacional de Promoción Profesional (SNPP) and el Sistema Nacional de Formación y Capacitación Laboral (SINAFOCAL), which will offer training in microenterprise development to FEDEM's best graduates and others from participating associations. Those who complete SNPP and SINAFOCAL's course will be certified by Paraguay's Ministry of Education, which will help them secure employment with companies that would not hire them without it. Certification also helps participating business owners expand their client base.—*Jeremy Coon, Foundation representative*

New Grants

Federación de Entidades Vecinalistas del Paraguay (FEDEM), \$165,470 over two years and six months

FEDEM will train 300 members of neighborhood associations in three municipalities to address community issues and will improve employment opportunities for another 300 Paraguayans. (PY-197)

PERU



JEFFRY A. WRIGHT

New Grants

Asociación Comunción, Promoción, Desarrollo y Liberación–COPRODELI (COPRODELI), \$298,720 over two years

COPRODELI will develop a business incubator and dedicated industrial park that will provide production facilities, equipment, business services, training and technical assistance to 100 micro- and small enterprises in the Ica region that suffered recent earthquake damage. (PU-552)

Comunidad Nativa Marankiari Bajo (CIAMB), \$228,455 over three years

CIAMB will expand its program in agriculture and business development by offering training and technical assistance to eight neighboring Asháninka communities. (PU-553)

Centro de Investigación y Promoción Social “Sara Lafosse” (CIPS), \$35,000 over one year

CIPS will work with 19 organizations toward developing a grassroots strategy to improve the economic well-being of the residents of the impoverished coastal Lower Virú River Basin. (PU-554)

Asociación para el Desarrollo Local (ASODEL), \$35,000 over six months

ASODEL will conduct a series of gatherings, meetings and exchanges during which elected officials, their technical staff and community leaders from three jurisdictions in Cajamarca will formulate work plans for undertaking local economic development programs. (PU-555)

Centro de Investigación, Estudio y Promoción del Desarrollo (MINKA), \$264,000 over three years

MINKA will provide training, technical and marketing assistance, and financial support to 150 farmers and to nine microenterprises that are developing into business networks that further the production and marketing of strawberries, mangos, avocados, dairy products and fresh vegetables. (PU-556)

Asociación para el Desarrollo–SISAY (SISAY), \$297,830 over two years

SISAY will open the Artisan Development Center which is expected to enable Peruvian artisans to produce crafts that meet international standards and are competitively priced; will train them to adapt traditional designs and incorporate originality; will introduce them to new technologies; will encourage them to create new products; and will improve their managerial skills. (PU-557)

Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos (ECOAN), \$243,640 over two years

ECOAN will provide training, technical assistance, equipment and marketing services to 1,970 indigenous families in 21 remote communities in the Andean highlands near Cusco, thereby generating income opportunities, improving living conditions and protecting the surrounding forest habitat of many varieties of endangered flora and fauna. (PU-558)

Supplemental Grants

Asociación Cultural Ayllu Yupaychay (YUPAY), \$88,178 over six months

YUPAY will finish training community organizers and new teachers in 10 remote indigenous communities in the Cusco region and will finalize agreements with the Peruvian Ministry of Education on the orientation in the application of its methodology in single-classroom, multigrade rural schools. (PU-531-A3)

Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos (APRODEH), \$34,400

APRODEH will offer more services to leadership trainees in three locations and cover the increased cost of bringing to Peru international specialists in training for the mentally disabled. (PU-535-A1)

Programa Integral para el Desarrollo del Café (PIDECAFE), \$55,000

PIDECAFE will complete construction of a cacao-drying facility and cover the increased costs for water purification equipment, organic certification of cacao groves, and vehicle fuel and maintenance in support of the participation of 760 farm families and their associations in a regional development program. (PU-536-A1)

Instituto de Investigación para el Desarrollo Rural, Agroindustrial y Medio Ambiente “IDRA PERU”, \$88,160

IDRA PERU will expand its tourism project to include more households that will receive visitors and to support more artisan groups. (PU-537-A3)

Centro de Estudios para el Desarrollo Regional (CEDER), \$124,450

CEDER will replenish its regional fund enabling grassroots organizations to undertake initiatives that improve productivity, economic opportunities and the viability of microenterprises and take advantage of development programs in Arequipa, Moquegua and Puno. (PU-540-A1)

Asociación Museo Comunitario Pisac (AMUCOP), \$15,000 over six months

AMUCOP will complete architectural modifications to the building that will house the community museum. (PU-541-A1)



JEFERY A. WRIGHT

Primary school outfitted with a solar panel.

Forest Preservation for and by Indigenous Peruvian Communities

In 2001, a group of young indigenous Peruvian environmentalists came together in Cusco to form *Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos* (ECOAN), a vehicle for focusing attention and resources on combating the degradation of native forests. These diminishing woodlands were not only a source of fuel and lumber but were also the habitat of medicinal plants and of nutritious berries, nuts and roots that brought balance to the diets of indigenous families.

The loss of Peru's forests aroused concern far from the small communities that shared their high Andean slopes with the remaining wooded parcels. Bird watchers and ornithologists throughout the world were distressed at the threat to several rare species. Their associations joined ECOAN in common cause to save the forested land and rescue birds from possible extinction, but something was missing from the joint venture. Otherwise well-intentioned and honorable, it failed to consider the hardship that the loss of the forests had brought on residents of indigenous communities. ECOAN, because of its members' ties to the communities, realized it had to work to address their conditions as well. After eight years of research, evaluation and discussion, it developed a multifaceted proposal for doing so.

ECOAN will use its IAF grant to involve 21 communities in identifying forest areas to be designated reserves, clearing pathways, building reception centers, making signs and training guides and firefighters. In designated areas where they do not endanger native trees, residents will plant fast-growing eucalyptus that can be used for fuel and construction. ECOAN will also take steps to reduce the need to burn wood. Primary schools will be outfitted with solar panels that generate electricity for classrooms, heat water for kitchens and bathrooms, and power telecommunications with hospitals and government offices. More efficient stoves and chimneys installed in school kitchens and in 10 homes in each community will reduce hazardous smoke emissions as well as wood consumption. Some components of ECOAN's proposal have strictly economic objectives: new greenhouses to shelter vegetables and herbs from the harsh mountain climate; the renovation of an abandoned fish hatchery; improved pastures for grazing herds; and assistance with quality control for weavers of wool and alpaca ponchos, scarves and fabric.

ECOAN expects 2,000 families to join in the efforts to protect the fragile forests that shelter and nourish endangered flora and fauna, and to improve their own well-being in the process.—*Wilbur Wright, Foundation representative*

URUGUAY

New Grants

Agencia de Desarrollo Productivo-Centro Económico Social (ADP-CES), \$273,000 over three years

ADP-CES will improve the technical skills and income of 400 farmers throughout the department of Paysandú. It will also encourage their participation in *mesas zonales*, similar to neighborhood boards, that bring together some 4,000 residents of six communities to identify their priorities and develop proposals for funding. (UR-183)



Investing in Family Farms in Paysandú

Uruguay's family farms have traditionally been key players in the rural economy, supplying area markets and purchasing goods and services locally. Unfortunately, a succession of economic crises and pattern of unfavorable policies have driven many rural Uruguayans to abandon their farms for the city. *Agencia de Desarrollo Productivo-Centro Económico Social* (ADP-CES), a coalition of 15 entities, including the municipal government of Paysandú, was founded in 2004 to stem this exodus that threatens the family farm and overwhelms urban services.

ADP-CES traces its origins to a group of businesses and grassroots organizations that came together during the 1990s to improve conditions for Paysandú's rural residents. Asociación Productores Lecheros en Paysandú (APLP), a founding member of ADP-CES, comprised of dairy farmers, received an IAF grant in 2005, which allowed it to set the stage for the coalition's work. By offering training and credit to Paysandú's poorest farmers, and subgrants to communities for infrastructure, education and recreational facilities, APLP effectively slowed migration away from farms.

Agencia de Desarrollo Productivo-Consejo Económico Social building on APLP's efforts, ADP-CES will use its IAF grant to assist farmers in improving their skills in marketing, management and applying agricultural technologies. Farmers will be eligible for loans ranging from \$500 to \$2,000, enabling them to transport goods and purchase supplies. ADP-CES will also facilitate the lease of equipment, the packaging of grains and acquisition of fertilizers, all identified by member-farmers as major roadblocks to financial success. The municipality of Paysandú has committed to continue to co-fund projects that address concerns identified in *mesas zonales*, or neighborhood boards, that bring together some 4,000 rural residents to discuss agricultural and community development.

ADP-CES will complement these activities with outreach that facilitates communication among its members and raises public awareness of the challenges to maintaining a family farm. It will contract two specialists to monitor and evaluate its project and disseminate its experience. Eventually Paysandú's farmers could offer their counterparts elsewhere in Uruguay a model for grassroots development—*Gabriela Boyer, Foundation representative*

REDEAMÉRICA

The Inter-American Network of Corporate Foundations and Actions for Grassroots Development (RedEAmérica), an IAF initiative launched in 2002, is a business-sector alliance committed to supporting self-help initiatives in the Americas. RedEAmérica currently has 68 members in 12 countries, reflecting a net gain of 11 since last year. In 2009, the network welcomed new members Curtiembres Fonseca and Fundación Diario La Capital of Argentina; Siemens of Chile; Fundación Gases de Occidente and Fundación Surtigas of Colombia; Siemens, S.A., of Ecuador; Fundación ADO, Fundación del Empresariado en México, A.C. (Fundemex) and Fundación FEMSA of Mexico; Fundación Belcorp and Asociación Sodexo por el Desarrollo Sostenible of Peru; and Supermercados Unicasa and Fundación Smurfit Cartón of Venezuela.

RedEAmérica invests in grassroots development in several ways:

- *Under cooperative agreements entered into with the IAF, members offer subgrants to community organizations undertaking self-help projects.* The agreements require the members double the IAF's contribution to the subgrant fund using their own resources or resources mobilized and that they assume the cost of administration. Resources mobilized under the new agreement with RedEAmérica member Fundemex, totaled \$1,211,150.
- *In some countries, members work together as "national funds."* Groups that became parties to cooperative agreements with the IAF committed to matching IAF funds two-to-one over three years, as reported during the fiscal year in which the agreements were entered into. These commitments were fulfilled during 2009. The Colombian National Fund contributed \$254,554 (and the IAF \$127,277) toward 26 income-generation and educational projects; Fundación Arcor and other RedEAmérica members working as the Argentine National Fund contributed \$231,811 (and the IAF \$60,234) toward 22 educational projects. The Brazilian National Fund approved disbursements totaling \$127,537 from members and mobilized resources (and the IAF \$64,536) to fund seven projects.
- *RedEAmérica has successfully appealed to external donors.* The Codespa Foundation of

Spain committed \$1 million to grassroots development in Guatemala, Colombia and Peru pursuant to a co-funding agreement entered into with the IAF in fiscal 2008, and in fiscal 2009 Codespa contributed another \$500,000 toward RedEAmérica's work. In fiscal 2008, the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the Inter-American Development Bank awarded RedEAmérica \$4.8 million for grassroots development in Argentina, Brazil, Guatemala, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru, representing the MIF's most generous grant to date and its most extensive geographic coverage with a single award. While MIF funding has yet to be released, in 2009 the network developed funding criteria and members selected to participate in the program began disbursing some of \$3.6 million committed as counterpart.

In fiscal 2009, the IAF continued its "rapid assessments" of the effectiveness of RedEAmérica members in supporting grassroots development. The evaluation of the investment of the Nobis Foundation (Nobis), a RedEAmérica member serving the provinces of Guayas and Santa Elena, Ecuador, showed a change of emphasis. Visits to 15 of the 38 co-funded projects confirmed this significant shift in programs in early childhood education, housing and water services, microcredit and organizational assistance targeting fishermen.

In partnership with the Technological Institute of Monterrey, Mexico, the British bank HSBC and the IAF, RedEAmérica launched its on-line certificate program in funding grassroots development. "Private Sector Investment in Grassroots Development" consists of 110 hours of Web-based instruction for staff of corporate foundations and businesses interested in supporting social investment programs and civil society leaders. —*Juanita Roca, Foundation representative, Linda Kolko, IAF vice president; Miguel Cuevas, evaluation specialist*

New Cooperative Agreement

Fundación del Empresariado en México, A.C. (Fundemex), \$350,000 over three years

Fundemex will provide subgrants to more than 20 Mexican civil society organizations undertaking economic development projects in partnership with grassroots groups. More than 2,500 Mexicans are expected to benefit directly and another 15,000 indirectly. (ME-498)

OFFICE OF EVALUATION

The Office of Evaluation monitors and audits IAF projects during the grant period and evaluates them after completion. Grantees report every six months on progress as measured by indicators selected from the Grassroots Development Framework, IAF's data collection tool. After verification by professionals contracted in-country, the information is summarized in an annual Results Report. Firms contracted in-country audit grantees yearly and upon completion of the project. All contractors will meet in early fiscal 2010 to refine and standardize procedures.

In fiscal 2009, the office evaluated the impact of five grantees whose funding had terminated in 2005. All five are still active: Instituto de Investigaciones Koskun Kalu (Koskun), a community museum in the Comarca Kuna Yala, Panama, is on the tour circuit; Asociación de

Profesionales Agropecuarios Ngobe-Buglé (APANB), in Comarca Ngobe Buglé, Panama, increased its production of organic coffee and exports to Germany. Instituto Peruano de Apoyo al Desarrollo Integral Comunitario (CIPS) builds and maintains canals irrigating farms in La Libertad, Peru; Instituto Regional para la Educación y el Desarrollo (REDES) extends loans and provides assistance to Peruvian women entrepreneurs. Organización Campesina Intercomunal "Diogracio Vides" (Intercomunal) builds reservoirs in rural Bolivia. The effectiveness of Fundación Nobis, a RedEAmérica member working in Ecuador, was evaluated via a "rapid assessment" (page 51.) Finally, the office is working with the Department of Women's Studies of the University of Maryland to glean from IAF-funded projects practices for assuring the inclusion of women in grassroots development.

Results Reported by Active Grantees

October 2007 through September 2008

- More than 8,700 beneficiaries improved their diet.
- More than 12,800 beneficiaries received medical attention.
- Close to 2,400 individuals benefited from access to clean water.
- IAF grantees helped their beneficiaries improve 322 homes.
- Registration in courses, workshops and seminars in agriculture counted more than 21,900 individuals; in civic participation, approximately 16,700; in management, close to 14,000; and in topics related to manufacturing, more than 9,200.
- IAF grantees created 350 full-time and 456 part-time permanent jobs and 1,280 full-time and 725 part-time seasonal jobs.
- Organizations contributing support in cash or in kind to IAF grantees totaled 1,660.
- Of the 598 organizations working in partnership with IAF grantees, 395 became partners during FY-08.
- Grantees mobilized \$4.3 million and brokered another \$1.1 million for project activities, or a total of \$5.4 million (\$4.2 million in cash and \$1.2 million in kind).
- Businesses located near IAF projects contributed more than \$500,000, mostly in cash, to the IAF grantees undertaking them; local governments contributed \$670,000.
- International nonprofit organizations contributed more than \$660,000 to IAF grantees.
- IAF grantees extended more than 4,800 loans, which averaged \$596 each. Loans for business development represented 48 percent of the total and averaged \$530 each.
- In 17 of the 18 countries where the IAF funds projects, grantees disseminated information on approaches, practices and/or techniques. Haiti was the exception.

DISSEMINATION

The IAF furthers the understanding of grassroots development by sharing its experiences and approach with a broad and diverse international audience through publications, news releases and its Web site and by funding research, most notably through its program of Grassroots Development Fellowships.

Publications

The Office of Operations produces and distributes the IAF's publications and news releases and maintains the IAF's Web site. During the fiscal year, IAF printed its 2008 annual report and *Grassroots Development 2009* in English and Spanish and distributed them to subscribers and other interested readers. These publications were also posted to the IAF Web site in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

The annual report was published and distributed in English and Spanish and posted in English, Spanish and Portuguese versions on the IAF's Web site. The IAF heralded its 40th anniversary with a specially focused *Grassroots Development* that was published and distributed in English and Spanish and posted in English, Spanish and Portuguese. Articles included features on trailblazing grantees from each decade of IAF's work,

thought pieces on the grassroots approach and the Grassroots Development Framework pioneered at the IAF and a profile of the career of Kevin Healy, the IAF's longest serving representative and an internationally recognized expert on Bolivia and on indigenous movements. In commemoration of the milestone anniversary, the Office of Operations also developed an exhibit of 40 photos culled from its archive of 12,000 images documenting the IAF's work over four decades. In early fiscal 2010 the full exhibit traveled to the University of Texas-El Paso and an excerpt was donated to the Library of Congress after display in the Hispanic Reading Room.

www.iaf.gov

The IAF Web site is in the final stages of redesign by the United States Government Printing Office. The new site will feature a search engine, a calendar of events, information on specific initiatives and content in Haitian Creole, among other improvements. IAF's site currently receives approximately 43,000 hits per month, which translates into nearly 1,400 daily. It is regularly updated with publications accessible in English, Spanish and Portuguese in graphic and text formats.



FELLOWSHIPS

The IAF is the only institution that funds research targeting grassroots development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Students awarded its Grassroots Development Fellowships work with practitioners, communities and institutions on a broad range of issues related to grassroots initiatives. In the 26 years before its suspension in 1999, the program supported nearly 1,000 Fellows; their ranks include many now at the forefront of development scholarship.

In 2007, the IAF reinstated the component of the program supporting Ph.D. dissertation research by students from the Americas who have advanced to candidacy at U.S. universities. By fiscal 2009, 12 students constituting the second cycle of Fellows under the reinstated program had reported to sites in Latin America to undertake their projects. Staff from the IAF and from the Institute for International Education (IIE), IAF's contractor that administers the Fellowships, as well as members of IAF's academia review committee, joined the Fellows in Quito in February for the annual mid-year meeting, a unique feature of the IAF program, which gives the Fellows the opportunity to share their work.



MARK CAICEDO

Grassroots Development Fellows for 2008–2009, their academic review panel, and IAF and IIE staff in Quito.

In April, a third cycle of 15 Fellows was selected for the 2009-2010 academic year on the strength of their academic record, their proposals and their potential contribution to grassroots development. All U.S. citizens except as noted, they will research the following topics:

- **Lisette Aliaga-Linares**, Peruvian citizen, University of Texas-Austin, underground economies in Lima and Bogota;
- **Jaime Amparo Alves**, Brazilian citizen, University of Texas-Austin, state-sanctioned violence in a Brazilian shantytown;
- **Laura Brewington**, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, agricultural production, environmental policy and species invasion in the Galapagos;
- **Brian Joseph Burke**, University of Arizona, barter systems in Medellín, Colombia;
- **Amanda Merritt Fulmer**, University of Washington, the rights of indigenous Guatemalans;
- **Margarita Huayhua Curse**, Peruvian citizen, University of Michigan, ethnic hierarchy in the southern Andes;
- **Jennifer Ann Devine**, University of California-Berkeley, cultural tourism in post-war Guatemala;
- **Christopher Laurence Gibson**, Brown University, municipal health councils in Brazil;
- **Jessica Alexis Jolicoeur Rich**, University of California-Berkeley, responses to HIV/AIDS in Brazil;
- **Amy Michelle Lerner**, University of California-Santa Barbara, household maize production in Central Mexico;
- **David Ricardo García**, Guatemalan citizen, University of Florida, frontier land rights in Guatemala;
- **Gustavo Alberto García López**, Indiana University, community forestry in Durango and Guerrero, Mexico;
- **Amy Rebecca Firestone**, University of Illinois, revitalization of the Quechua language;
- **Diana Carolina Ojeda**, Colombian citizen, Clark University, tourism-based development and state violence in Colombia;
- **Alan Shane Dillingham**, University of Maryland, bilingual education in Mexico's Mixteca Alta region.

IAF's Grassroots Development Fellowships provide international transportation to the research site, a monthly stipend for up to 12 months and a research allowance. For complete information on IAF's Fellowships, visit www.iie.org/iaf.

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

The IAF supports the attendance of academics, local officials, grantee representatives and beneficiaries, and others in a variety of events for and about grassroots organizations. In fiscal 2009, some 550 individuals participated in more than 70 workshops, conferences and exchanges that improved their skills, offered opportunities to network and otherwise furthered the mission of the organizations represented. Many of these events were tailored to groups working to overcome a history of exclusion: indigenous communities, people with disabilities, African descendants, women and young people. IAF staff traveled as well in fiscal 2009 to share grassroots experiences in fora throughout the hemisphere.

AFRICAN DESCENDANTS

The IAF continues to be a leader in supporting the efforts of Latin Americans of African descent to organize and work toward better conditions and greater participation in economic and civic life. Through the IAF's travel grant program, representatives of organizations of African descendants furthered the visibility of their communities in fiscal 2009 and contributed to national agendas.

- Mundo Afro's Primer Foro Regional de Organismos Municipales de Equidad Racial e Igualdad de Oportunidades brought representatives from municipal governments in five Latin American countries to Quito in October to discuss race relations.
- In February, 13 women participated in the General Assembly of the Red de Mujeres Afrolatinoamericanas, Afrocaribeñas y de la Diáspora held in Managua.
- Brazilian and Bolivian women of African descent lectured at the fourth annual series of Women of Power held in March in universities in New York, Maine, Louisiana, and Puerto Rico.
- Among the 20 individuals participating in meetings with government officials in Montevideo in July were the Uruguayan vice minister for Afro descendants and indigenous communities and mayors from six Latin American cities with large populations of African descent: Tambo de Mora, Peru; Esmeraldas, Ecuador; Talamanca, Costa Rica; Bluefields, Nicaragua; Coroico, Bolivia; and Tumaco, Colombia. The Uruguayan municipalities represented entered into agreements to provide the foreign mayors technical assistance related to water and sanitation, tourism development, health



LINDA B. KOLKO

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of former IAF grantee Organizaciones Mundo Afro in July at the Teatro Solis in Montevideo: Mayor Neftali Correa of Tumaco, Colombia; Romero Rodríguez, founder of Mundo Afro and advisor to president of Uruguay and to the mayor of Montevideo; Mayor Domingo Vicente Farfan of Tambo de Mora, Peru; Mayor Ernesto Estupiñán of Esmeraldas, Ecuador; and Mayor Ricardo Alvarez Linares of Coroico, Bolivia.

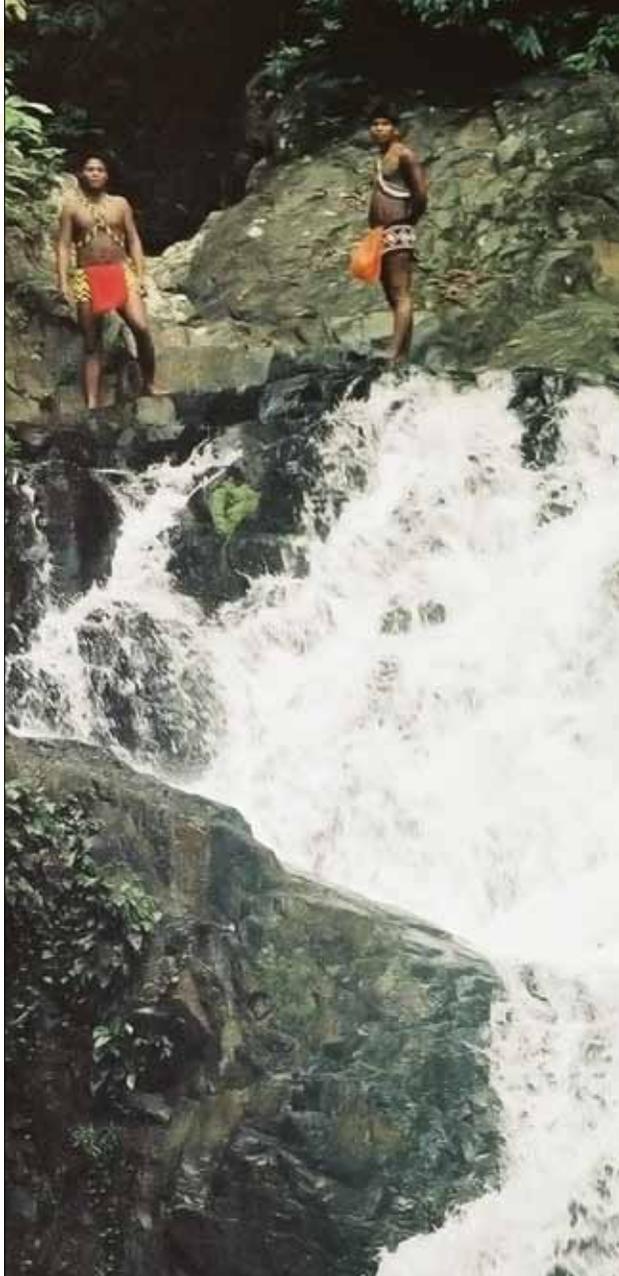
care, information technology and policies to counter discrimination.

- In collaboration with the Department of State and the Brazilian government, the IAF has continued working on the U.S.-Brazil Joint Action Plan to promote international cooperation toward eliminating race-based discrimination. Active in the April meeting were IAF president Amb. Larry Palmer; U.S. Rep. Gregory Meeks; Minister for Racial Equality Edson Santos and Under Secretary Vera Machado of Brazil; and former IAF board member and Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Shannon.
- Amb. Larry Palmer delivered the keynote address at the fourth meeting of the Grupo Barlovento, held in La Paz in May, where nine scholars developed curricula, books and other teaching materials on African descendants in Spanish-speaking countries of South America.
- African descendants from 14 Latin American and Caribbean countries, joined by IAF travel grantees representing the region's two largest networks of the disabled, attended events co-sponsored by Global Rights Partners for Justice to increase their effectiveness at the Summit of the Americas in April and the OAS's General Assembly in June.
- The IAF, USAID, Jatropa Foundation and Fondation CHIBAS-Haiti brought farmers and representatives from IAF grantees, donors, NGOs, businesses and the Haitian government to the first Jatropa Stakeholders Conference, held in Port-au-Prince in June, to analyze the potential of jatropa, a plant native to Haiti, as an alternative source of energy. Participants also discussed food security, land use and reforestation.
- In July representatives of IAF grantee Asociación Afroparaguaya Kamba Cua spoke in Chicago at the annual conferences of the National Council of La Raza, where they demonstrated traditional drumming, and the National Urban League. They gave the Center for Black Music Research of Columbia College its first acquisition from Paraguay, a copy of their CD.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Given the causal link between disability and poverty, the IAF has worked to assure the inclusion of people with disabilities in its development program. In 2009, the IAF also facilitated their representation at events that help the disabled organize to work together to address the attitudes limiting their options and to function independently in their workplaces and their communities.

- This year's Inter-American Conference of Mayors held in Miami in June featured workshops with representatives from Federación Nacional de Ecuatorianos con Discapacidad Física, who spoke of the success of IAF grantee Taxi Solidario in providing transportation for disabled Ecuadorians. IAF travel grantees representing Guatemala City showcased their work to ensure the accessibility of a new mass-transit system.
- Officers of organizations representing deaf Latin Americans attended the VI Encuentro Latinoamericano de Sordos e Interpretes, the region's largest meeting of deaf activists, held in July in Bogota. IAF Fellow Elizabeth Lockwood, who is studying the deaf movement in Uruguay, spoke of her research.
- The Technical Secretariat for the Implementation of the Program of Action for the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities received an IAF travel grant enabling the representation of organizations of disabled people at workshops sponsored by the OAS. The IAF will continue this support over the next two years.
- The IAF sponsored individuals traveling to Cartagena, Colombia, in June to organize the General Assembly of Red Latinoamericana de Personas con Discapacidad y sus Familias (RIADIS), scheduled for October. Rather than opt for facilities that could already accommodate the needs of RIADIS' members, the organizers decided to work with hotels in Cartagena to make their facilities accessible to participants and future guests.



MARK CAICEDO

Indigenous Embera Panamanians in Rio Chagres National Park are developing an ecotourism enterprise with IAF's support.

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

For all their immense diversity, the estimated 45 million descendants of the hemisphere's first inhabitants struggle everywhere with discrimination and desperate poverty. The IAF came into operation just as indigenous peoples in the Americas were rallying around their identity to address inequities. Its history with these grassroots organizations, spanning four decades, includes support for grantees that revived traditional resources as a means to development. Several events in fiscal 2009 showcased some of these successes.

- Four Aymara farmers from former IAF grantee El Ceibo, a federation of 40 Bolivian cooperatives of cacao producers, reprised their role in The Power

of Chocolate, a Valentine's Day celebration that drew 20,000 visitors to the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. The farmers shared the story of the IAF's investment in a grassroots organization that evolved into Bolivia's premier exporter of cacao and chocolate products.

- Two Kuna representing former Panamanian grantees joined El Ceibo at the NMAI and explained their collaboration with the MARS corporation on the development of a chocolate bar made from a patented cocoa powder with possible cardiovascular benefits. The IAF's long and productive relationship with the Kuna has included support for economic initiatives as well as a community museum and the all-important mapping of their territory.
- Some 700 indigenous Panamanians discussed land use in their autonomous territories at the Third Conference on Embera and Wounan Collective Lands, co-sponsored by the IAF and held in Panama's Rio Chagres National Park in March. Approximately 500 participants had benefited from IAF grants to their representative organizations.
- From Tiwanaku to Evo Morales: Quinoa as an Andean Resource, a panel organized by Kevin Healy for the Congress of the Latin American Studies Association held in June in Rio de Janeiro, featured Alan L. Kolata of the University of Chicago, Manuel Tejada Cano formerly of Peruvian grantee Asociación Especializada para el Desarrollo Sostenible (AEDES), and Javier Hurtado of the Irupana Andean Organic Food Company that works with grantee Asociación Boliviana para el Desarrollo Rural (PRO-RURAL). The experts discussed the role of IAF funding in the revival of the Andean staple grain that has become a high-performing export commodity and development engine.
- Bolivian and Peruvian weavers from IAF grantees Asociación de Artesanos Andinos (AAA) and Centro Textiles Tradicionales de Cusco (CTTC) were among the 123 master artists from 46 countries selected via a rigorous juried process to exhibit and sell their crafts in the prestigious Fifth Annual International Folk Art Festival held July 11 and 12 in Santa Fe, N.M. Nearly 1,500 volunteers facilitated



KEVIN HEALY

AAA weaver in Santa Fe, N.M.

the event that attracted more than 23,000 visitors. Sales totaled \$1.95 million, 90 percent of which the artists took home.

- Amb. Larry Palmer and IAF representatives Wilbur Wright, Miriam Brandão and Kevin Healy, and officials from the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) and the municipality of

Pisac joined IAF grantee Asociación Museo Comunitario de Pisac (AMUCOP) at the end of September in celebration of the opening of its museum showcasing artifacts, including many family heirlooms, donated by residents of 12 communities in Peru's Sacred Valley of the Incas.



Opening, Museo Comunitario de Pisac.



JERRY A. WRIGHT



INTER AMERICAN FOUNDATION

901 North Stuart Street, 10th Floor, Arlington, VA 22203 U.S.A.

Tel: (703) 306-4301

Fax: (703) 306-4365

www.iaf.gov