

QUARTERLY NARRATIVE REPORT

Grantee: Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (REDLAD)	Reporting Period: July 1st to September 30th, 2017 Report date of submission: 10/28/2017
Agreement Number: SLM-AQM-15-GR-1267	Project Duration: From: 9/24/2015 Through: 9/30/2018
Country/Region: Latin America	Submitted by: Gina Romero
Funding Liquidated (Quarter - July - September 2017): \$62,625 Funding Liquidated (Total): \$663,074 Total Award: \$990,099	Contact Information: Gina Romero Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy gina.romero@redlad.org 573152228450

1a. Brief description of the project:

REDLAD is awarded a grant to support the development of a Summit of the Americas civil society coordination mechanism to ensure that the civil society organization (CSO) community in the region has a meaningful and institutionalized role in the Summit process. This by facilitating systematic consultations with a representative group of civil society and providing technical assistance to CSOs needing to build capacity and better engagement that allow them to monitor the Summit process.

1b. Collaboration and partnerships: For this period of time the team has been in touch with each stakeholder required for the success of the project:

Collaboration and Partnerships by the Consortium:

Throughout July-September period, our Peruvian allied organizations approached the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs several times to establish a line of communication and to better be able to strategically position the project.

July was marked by the official announcement of 2018's Summit of the Américas main topic, which is "Democratic Governance Against Corruption". Most of the comments we received from the July 20th event were related about little attendance from CSOs and a very unilateral dynamic, with no space to pose questions or formulate comments from those in attendance. During August the Ministry of Foreign Affairs prepared a concept paper detailing how it will approach the topic, in preparation for the SIRG meeting which was held on September 14th and 15th, in Washington. The document outlines three themes: **Democratic Governance and Corruption; Corruption and Sustainable Development and Corruption, International Institutions and Public-Private Partnerships.**

On September 6th an informal PASCA meeting took place in El Salvador to take advantage of the fact that focal points from Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru were attending the Civil Society Forum of the EU-ECLAC Summit. The meeting was helmed by Gustavo Amaya, Director of CECADE - the Central America + Mexico subregional coordinator (annex 1 Spanish). Participants shared their impressions of the Cancun General Assembly and drafted an action plan for the 2018 Summit, which includes proposing "enabling environment" as a topic for the 2021 Summit, establishing a more dynamic skype-focused method of communication (instead of a document-based method) and extend alliances with other CSOs at a national and regional level .

Central America and Mexico - CECADE:

In **Costa Rica**, thematic roundtables advanced the monitoring exercise and made progress on four topics: Citizen Participation, Democratic Governance, Environment and Energy. The focal point organization participated in the July 20th event where it was announced that the theme for the 2018 Summit of the Americas will be “Democratic Governance Against Corruption”. Eight other organizations attended the event, which were contacted later to engage them in the national process. Throughout August progress concentrated in the report involving Environment and Energy, of which an advance was delivered on September 13th (annex 2 Spanish). The advance showed that the National Council considers energy issues to be inseparable from environmental issues, which is understandable for a country that derives most of its energy from hydroelectric plants. The complete report on Energy and the Environment, along with those for the mandates of Citizen Participation and Democratic Governance, are expected to be delivered in October.

In **El Salvador**, the National Council focused activities during the first half of July on the monitoring report, of which the first half was delivered in Mid-July focusing on five topics: Education, Environment, Health, Migration and Security. A representative from the focal point organization attended the July 20th OAS event. On August 16th the organization met with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss national implementation plans for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and share impressions on the June General Assembly. During September campaigning started for parliamentary and municipal elections set for March 2018, and some of the National Council organizations started holding meetings with local candidates which were used to also promote participation at the OAS Summit. A National LGBTI Confederation was formed to promote its agenda with candidates.

In **Guatemala**, the focal point kept promoting the project in institutional events during July, such as a presentation of a report on women’s participation in local affairs, on July 18th, where a section on PASCA was included to connect the research topic with the summit mandates. A representative from the focal point organization participated in the July 20th OAS event, which was attended by several organizations working on issues of open government. On July 26th a representative from the focal point met with Fernando Us, a representative from UDEFEGUA (an organization supporting human rights defenders) who is also a gay indigenous person, to draft ideas for involving the Guatemalan LGBT community in the Summit process. During August, a series of corruption scandals broke out, causing CSOs to stage massive protests which demanded involvement from our focal point throughout August and September. This situation also impacted work on the monitoring report, which we now expect during October.

In **Honduras**, in July the person in charge of PASCA coordination at ASONOG (the focal point) left, so coordination efforts have had to be temporarily assumed by the organization’s Director. Due to 2017 being an electoral year the focal point has found it hard to convene the National Council since participant organizations are focused on electoral matters, worried about the different populist movements brewing up in the region. Short on funding, the National Organization took advantage of events convened by other donors during August and September to promote discussion on PASCA topics and specially focus on discussing its findings in the monitoring of subjects such as Citizen Participation, Security, Environment, Migration and Health issues. The monitoring report had been promised for September but wasn’t delivered. The base team is coordinating closely with the focal point organization to facilitate local exercises and produce a report and a national civil society agenda during October.

In **Mexico**, a partial meeting of the National Council was held on July 14th to share impressions on the General Assembly held in Cancun on the previous month. The impression was that the OAS event was much better organized than the ECLAC event which was held in Mexico City in May and where the coalition methodology was first implemented. A follow-up meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held in Early-September where they learnt that the Mexican Government considered that the number of coalitions should be lowered to allow for more participation time and easier logistics, since more than 100 civil society members attended the Cancun event and this posed problems. This means that they are probably advising the Peruvian Government to lower the number of coalitions. Work during September slowed due to the earthquakes that hit different regions of the country during the month, which forced an understandable change of priorities. However, the handling of the crisis by the Mexican Government has raised questions regarding the possible impact of corruption in disaster aid efficiency, which they are looking into as an input for discussion during the 2018 Summit.

In **Nicaragua**, the OAS will be monitoring the municipal elections process in November, which is seen by several CSOs as evidence that the OAS intends to legitimize an increasingly repressive regime. This has caused some organizations to retire from the PASCA process during the July-September period, despite our focal point's best efforts to the contrary. Despite this general mistrust towards the OAS, some work has been able to advance in platforms focused on issues regarding women, environment, land reform, enabling environment and climate change. A meeting to construct the civil society agenda couldn't be held in September but we expect it to happen soon.

In **Panamá**, the National Council decided in July to focus the civil society agenda on the topics of citizen participation and democratic governance. Events were held on August 10th (in Panama City) and 16th (in David City, located in the Western part of the country) to follow-up on the mandates of Citizen Participation and communicate advances in the 2018 Summit. A workshop was held on September 26th in Panama City with representatives from 26 organisations, to evaluate progress on the 2015 mandates and to develop the first draft of a Civil Society agenda for the 2018 Summit.

Southern Cone and Brazil - Semillas para la Democracia:

In **Argentina**, a representative from the focal point organization participated in the July 20th OAS event, which was attended by 15 organizations who provided their contact data to know more about the project and how to work with the national council. During August, the focal point prepared events in the inner regions of the country, the first of which took place in the Jujuy province on August 28th and consisted of a debate regarding gender and human trafficking issues. The event was co-hosted by ELA (*Equipo Latinoamericano de Justicia y Género*) a member organization from the National Council and *Fundación Siglo 21*, a local partner in Jujuy. Participants included local CSOs and public servants (both from provincial and municipal governments). On September 4th, an event was held in Buenos Aires, at the Senate's offices, to discuss energy and environmental issues. The event was co-hosted by FARN (*Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales*) and participants were mainly CSOs fluent in one or both kinds of issues. On September 7th, an event was held in the Rosario province to discuss issues regarding enabling environment, hemispheric cooperation, citizen Participation and democratic governance. The event was co-hosted by RACI (*Red Argentina para la Cooperación Internacional*) and was attended local CSOs and public servants. A final event is being planned for October in Buenos Aires, to finish up the exercise and deliver the monitoring report and the Civil Society agenda.

In **Brazil**, the focal point organization contacted in July the Abrinq Foundation (Fundação Abrinq), the corporate foundation of the Brazilian Toymakers Association, who are in charge of monitoring compliance with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in different regions of the country. Also, ANDI (our focal point organization) was elected president of a network of more than 200 organizations related to issues of health, children and human rights, which should help increase the project's reach in the country. In August, the focal point organization officially incorporated the Abrinq Foundation (*Fundação Abrinq*) to the national coordination team, after consulting with the PASCA Base Team and after an interview between ANDI, Abrinq and the Base Team. Both organizations will be joining forces for the October 17th event. After the topic for the 2018 Summit ("Democratic governance in the fight against corruption") was announced in Late-July, the focal point warned us about a perception problem regarding the subject of corruption among Brazilian civil society, since the Temer government (which has little legitimacy among many CSOs due to its non-electoral origins), has used the "fight against corruption" as a framing device for its judicial crusade against the previous regime. This poses a challenge since the topic is heavily politicized currently and could signal an endorsement of the Temer government which we don't want. During September, logistics and contents were finalized for the October 17th event.

In **Chile**, work continued during July in promoting the project and expanding participation in the national space. Monthly meetings were scheduled for the 24th of every month. In the July 24th meeting two new organizations were incorporated: FIMA (an organization specialized in environmental law), and MILES (an organization that defends and promotes sexual and reproductive rights), and instructions were imparted to focus on the topics of health, gender and human rights and convene again on August 24th to finalize the report on these areas. In August, the meeting on the 24th focused on solving doubts or issues regarding the indicators for the mandates on health, gender and human rights, and the group agreed to meet again on September 24th to prioritize topics for the construction of the Civil Society agenda. The topic of "fight against corruption" has gained relevance among Chilean CSOs in recent years, particularly around the issue of public procurement and expenditure in child-care programs and campaign financing. We couldn't establish contact during September with the organization.

In **Paraguay**, a representative from the focal point organization participated in the July 20th OAS event, which was attended by only three other organizations. Regional activities were scheduled for the August/September timeframe, focusing on the monitoring exercise and in building the civil society agenda. We've been informed informally of how the events have advanced but are currently awaiting a full progress report, which we expect to share in the October monthly report.

Andean Region - DESCO:

In **Bolivia**, a representative from the focal point organization participated in the July 20th OAS event, which was attended by few organizations. The political climate in the country has made it difficult to focus on PASCA as the Bolivian Government is closely aligned with the Venezuelan Government and the OAS has taken a very belligerent role regarding the Venezuelan crisis. This situation, along with a political environment usually hostile to CSO action, has limited the public profile that the National CS Council can assume in promoting the project. This has been a constant during 2017. The National Council met in La Paz on September 27th to discuss findings on the monitoring exercise and a follow-up meeting was set for October 20th to finalize the report and develop the Civil Society Agenda.

In **Colombia**, the focal point found a lot of interest in knowing how events turned out during the Cancun meeting. A schedule of meetings was planned during the July-September timeframe to review information in sectors such as Health, Education, Enabling Environment, Childhood and Youth for the

monitoring exercise, and to build the civil society agenda. In Early-August the focal point met with its regional partners to find connections between the 2015 Summit Mandates and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Coincidences were found among the mandates of democratic governance, citizen participation and enabling environment, and topics such as childhood and youth are being studied for incorporation. A representative from the focal point organization attended the Civil Society meeting of the EU-CELAC Summit held in El Salvador, where an informal PASCA meeting took place on September 6th to take advantage of the fact that many of our focal points will attend the event. The National CS Council expects to deliver its mandate report and the Civil Society agenda on November.

In **Ecuador**, the focal point organization delivered its reports on the mandates of Education and Health in Mid-July, with other topics to be reviewed at a later date. A representative from the focal point organization participated in the July 20th OAS event. In August, the new national government opened a window for legitimizing CSO work in the country. The focal point kept promoting the Citizen Forum of the Americas while participating in events such as the Forum on Transparent Resources ("*Recursos Transparentes: Lucha contra la corrupción en América Latina*") held in Quito on August 31st, and meeting with different stakeholders such as CSO platforms on human rights advocacy; women, children and youth rights, as well as the CONAIE (*Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador*). We expect to receive the monitoring reports on human rights, enabling environment, democratic governance and citizen participation in October, along with the Civil Society agenda.

In **Peru**, the focal point organization met with the CONADES (*Conferencia Nacional sobre Desarrollo Social*, or National Conference on Social Development) on July 11th and 12th to present the project and work on issues of corruption and institution strengthening. Earlier in the month it also held meetings with representatives from Human rights, indigenous peoples and people with disabilities organizations. A representative from the organization participated in the July 20th event to announce the theme of the 2018 Summit. During August and September the focal point organization along with the consortium member strengthened ties with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Their impression is that in August the Government was distracted with several short-term foreign policy priorities and an internal legitimacy crisis that shifted its focus during September, delaying key decisions by a couple of weeks. After a SIRG meeting held in Washington on September 14th, our local partners contacted the Ministry representative to corroborate information on what was discussed but hadn't met with them by the end of the month.

In **Venezuela**, political conflictivity reached new heights during July in preparation for the election of a National Constituent Assembly which took place on the 30th. After the election things appeared to calm down and work resumed at a better pace. A meeting was held on August 18th to evaluate the national context, the challenges it presents to the compliance of mandates and to start building the civil society agenda, and a follow-up meeting was held on September 26th where information was organized and correlated to build the Civil Society agenda, which we expect to receive in Early-October.

Caribbean - Fondation Espoir (FE):

In the Caribbean, the summer months slowed down the pace of work and September hit with the harshest Hurricane Season in years, which means that contact practically stopped.

In July, after the meeting in Barbados on May, the base Team has been waiting for response from CPDC to the call to lead PASCA process in that country and to support the CSO in the other countries where they have activities. However, this organization remain silent although the attendants to PASCA

encounter pointed to them as an important actor in the region,

Cuba. Cuba has been able to mobilize enough activists to participate in the Civil Society Forum and has already had its first inception meeting. The main challenge in the country remains the difficulty for having big meetings and opening a true free civil society dialogue, as the country is still under an authoritarian regime. It has been identified that a good way to develop some contact with the Cuban civil society is through support programs to small and medium enterprises and through the environment issues.

Belize. Although Belize geographically belongs to Central America, the country is part of the Caricom and feels more culturally integrated to the Caribbean. Belize already has an implementing team working on the ground and it will soon join the Caribbean region forum.

In August and September, unfortunately, work in the Caribbean region basically stalled due to the severity of the hurricane season and the change of priorities it imposed on CSOs.

North America

In August, Continuing to look for a partner in the US, the Project Officer contacted and met with Colette Pichon, Executive Director of the US Human Rights Network (USHRN) on August 4th, to present the project and look for ways in which both teams could cooperate. Although the encounter showed promising signs and information was sent to the USHRN, subsequent attempts to follow up on the conversation have produced no results.

Collaboration and Partnerships by the Team Project with other stakeholders:

In July, the Base Team has kept in contact with the OAS Civil Society team to understand how the General Assembly was perceived and how much of that experience is expected to be transferred to the 2018 Summit. While a first after action review with the Mexican Government yielded a generally positive evaluation, the Base Team stressed that the small presence of National Representatives during the June 19th dialogue with Civil Society was a grave sign of disrespect, and recommended that measures be taken for the 2018 Summit if this mechanism is intended to be used again.

In August, Regarding relations with the OAS, the team was in constant communication with the Civil Society Relations Office and the SIRG, to keep pace with preparations for the 2018 Summit of the Americas and to better articulate efforts with our Peruvian partners. A series of conferences on corruption culminating with a SIRG meeting between the OAS and the Peruvian Government are planned in Washington for September 12nd to 14th. We expect clearer directions for the 2018 Summit to emerge from this meeting.

In September, a SIRG meeting was held in Washington on September 14th, where some of the conditions for participation were discussed. Although the meeting was closed for Civil Society, the information we gathered indicates conditions for participation will be tighter (fewer coalitions will be allowed, the application window will be much narrower and will close in Early-November) which demands a faster response from the base team and our partners. Although this information was still unofficial at the end of the month, we had started coordinating with the Consortium and focal points to channel those conditions to our advantage and make a stand regarding the narrowing of the public space for CSOs.

Population groups

In July, led by REDLAD's LGBTI coordination was being preparing an academic activity in Chile to discuss about a broad religious perspective of LGBTI community's inclusion, but at this moment the place and date are not defined. It is going to be an input to prepare a LGBTI coalition which would present their recommendations and claims at the next Summit in Peru.

In August, **Afrodescendants**. From August 24th to 27th, ONECA (*Organización Negra Centroamericana*, or the Black Central American Organization) held its XIII Annual Afro-Central American Youth Meeting in Roatan Island, Honduras. The event was attended by Gustavo Amaya, President and Director of CECADE, the coordinator of the Central America and Mexico region. During the event, Mr. Amaya did a status update on PASCA activities and obtained support from ONECA to organize an Afro Central American Coalition for the 2018 Summit, and also committed to supporting the national ONECA chapters in El Salvador and Honduras (Annex 3).

Communications:

- Monitoring of the PASCA microsite www.hacialacumbre2018.info.
- Content management for the PASCA website: www.proyectopasca.org and for the project's social network accounts. Facebook: [/proyectopasca](https://www.facebook.com/proyectopasca) and Twitter: [@proyectopasca](https://twitter.com/proyectopasca).
- Content management and distribution of the project's monthly virtual bulletin "[Entre Regiones](#)".
- Monitoring and reporting of news and events in the region.
- Media monitoring for the project.
- Coordination with focal points for the provision of information on their events.
- Coordination of messages to participate in the Virtual Forum of the OAS Secretariat of Summits on: http://svc.summit-americas.org/es/viicumbre_foro
- We organized a webinar about corruption in october, which we called "Corrupción: el robo de los derechos" (Corruption: theft of rights) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZNb_DigmwW4

Relevant data of digital communications:

Website www.proyectopasca.org			
Number of visits per month	July	649	
	August	476	-173
	September	577	101
	Total	1702	
Countries with the highest number of visits			
	Argentina	223	
	United States	187	
	Colombia	160	
	Peru	158	
	Panamá	99	
	Chile	96	
	El Salvador	79	
	México	60	
	Costa Rica	60	

Digital bulletin Entre Regiones			
Number of receivers per bulletin	Bulleín No. 17 - July 2017	1276	
	Bulleín No. 18 - August 2017	1264	-12
	Bulleín No. 19 - September	1263	-1
The variation of the number of receivers is because of the constant debugging and updating of the database			
Level of reach			
Total Open rate %	Bulleín No. 17 - July 2017	23.8%	
	Bulleín No. 18 - August 2017	13.5%	
	Bulleín No. 19 - September	19.9%	
Total Click rate %	Bulleín No. 17 - July 2017	2.1%	
	Bulleín No. 18 - August 2017	1.9%	
	Bulleín No. 19 - September	1.5%	

Twitter account @ProyectoPasca				
Number of followers		255		
Level of reach per month				
July	Tweets: 29	Tweet impressions: 7.890	Profile visits: 127	Mentions: 49
August	Tweets: 22	Tweet impressions: 6.410	Profile visits: 63	Mentions: 31
September	Tweets: 10	Tweet impressions: 2.896	Profile visits: 69	Mentions: 5

Fan page de Facebook /proyectopasca		
Likes per month	July	349
	August	353
	September	369
Total reach per month	July	484
	August	1721
	September	96
Total impressions per month	July	1052
	August	2897
	September	287
Consumers of content per month: The number of people who have clicked on any of the content of the fan page. (unique users)	July	23
	August	23
	September	6

Microwebsite www.hacialacumbre2018.info
Data range: 2017 July 1 to September 30



A balance on the second year of the project

Focal points

New focal point in Costa Rica

After attempts to establish a focal point partnership with Fundación Arias didn't pan out in Costa Rica during the first Year of the project, in November 2016 a new focal point partner was found in Fundación para la Paz y la Democracia (FUNPADEM), an organization that's registered at the OAS and has taken part in previous summits. After several discussions, a contract was signed on December 1st 2016, and the organization worked diligently during the first half of 2017 to catch up to rest of the subregional partners.

Retreat from Uruguay

After several expressions of concern made by the Base Team to El Abrojo, the focal point organization in Uruguay, regarding the lack of progress in the country, the organization decided to withdraw from the PASCA project in June, citing a lack of capacity to carry out the required activities. Subsequent attempts to secure support from the Uruguayan chapter of Amnesty International to carry out focal point duties for the project were declined by the organization, as its charter precludes it from receiving public funds, such as those from the DoS.

Moving Belize to the Caribbean

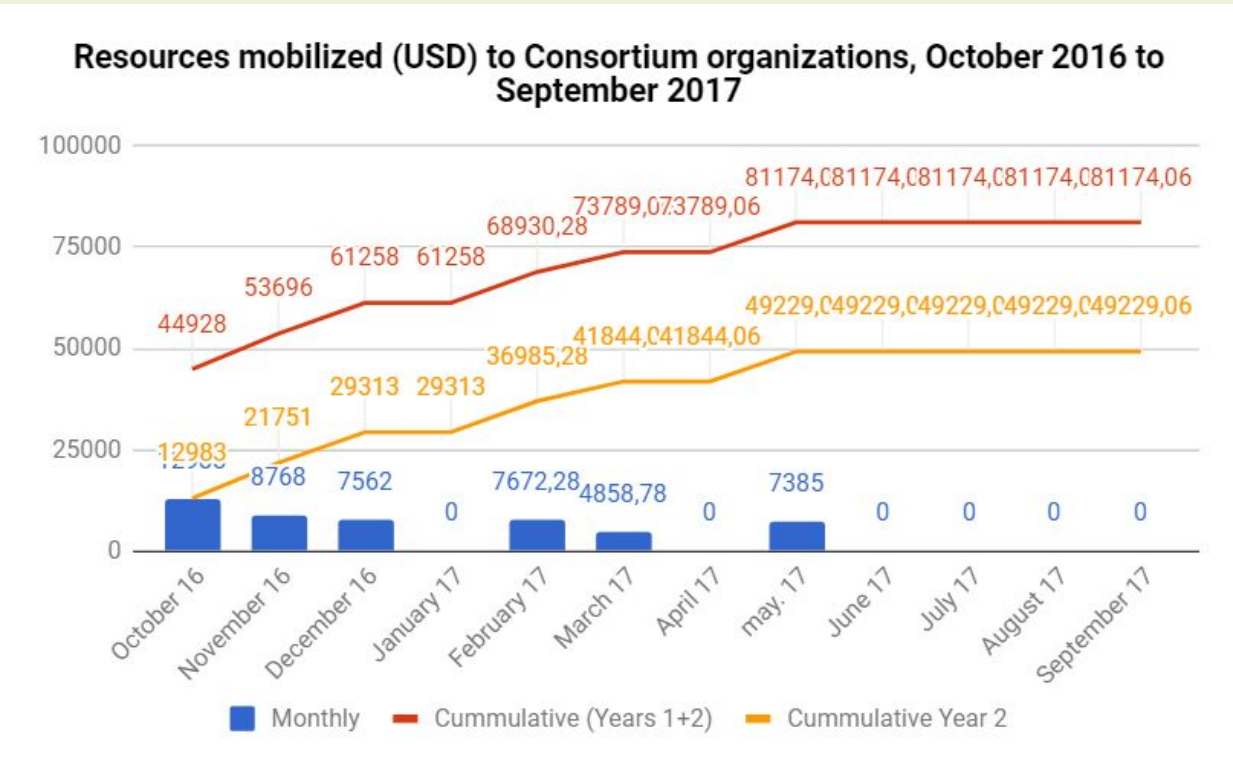
After several months of miscommunication between the Belize focal point and its partners in the Central America + Mexico subregion, the Caribbean subregional coordinator recommended transferring Belize to the Caribbean subregion as the country shares deeper cultural and economic commonalities with the english-speaking Caribbean than with its spanish-speaking Central American neighbors. After consulting with the regional coordinators, the decision was made in July of 2017.

Caribbean woes

Progress in conforming the Caribbean subregion has moved much slower than anticipated, likely due to inefficient governance. After counting on the Caribbean Policy Development Center (CPDC) to partner with Foundation Espoir in leading the process in the region thanks to its ties and legitimacy in many Caribbean countries, a subregional meeting organized in May sparked disagreements between all parties involved and a proper follow-up didn't take place. The subsequent months were host to the most severe hurricane season in recent memory in the region, which means that work stalled and CSO priorities changed due to the climate event.

Addition of a new focal point in Brazil

As was indicated previously in this document, the corporate foundation of the Brazilian Toymakers Association, the Abring Foundation (*Fundação Abring*), joined ANDI as a co-focal point for PASCA, after consulting with the PASCA Base Team.



Resources mobilized (USD) to focal point organizations, October 2016 to September 2017



List of activities and participants reported by country and subregion

	Countries	Number of activities	Number of attendants
1	Argentina	7	114
2	Barbados	3	18
3	Belize	2	9
4	Bolivia	4	36
5	Brasil	1	0
6	Chile	4	13
7	Colombia	11	179
8	Costa Rica	4	61
9	Cuba	2	22
10	Dominica	3	8
11	Ecuador	2	56
12	El Salvador	25	149
13	Estados Unidos	4	14
14	Guatemala	6	13
15	Guyana	4	13

16	Haití	21	73
17	Honduras	7	35
18	Jamaica	18	17
19	México	13	124
20	Nicaragua	6	58
21	Panamá	3	92
22	Paraguay	9	18
23	Perú	12	55
24	República Dominicana	4	116
25	Trinidad y Tobago	2	11
26	Uruguay	3	6
27	Venezuela	4	103
	No especificado / Unspecified	15	16
	Online	22	73
	Total	221	1502

Activities

Design of a methodology for monitoring mandates and building civil society agendas

During the first quarter of 2017, the base team developed a protocol for monitoring the 2015 Summit Mandates, conducted some consultations to refine it and communicated it. In March the base team examined multilateral sources (World Bank, United Nations, etc) to build a baseline of information that could serve as a starting point for finding more up-to-date information from national sources in each country. The team recommended reviewing actions implemented at the national level in each mandate to evaluate whether the situation had improved, remained constant or regressed, and assigning a color (respectively green, yellow or red) to build a graphical representation of the landscape.

To build the civil society agendas, we recommended that each focal point started from the problems identified in the monitoring exercise and incorporated other issues of importance that weren't included in the 2015 Summit mandates, and then proposing solutions that were, when appropriate, realizable in the current legal framework and overall national context.

By the end of September 2017, we had received monitoring reports from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela, for a total of 11 reports. In most countries the national council decided to focus on a selection of topics. The base team is currently working alongside the remaining countries to produce similar reports.

List of monitoring reports by country and subregion

From a preliminary analysis, most findings point to stagnation or regression in compliance with the identified mandates, with progress being detected only in the topics of education (in Bolivia and Ecuador)

and environment, democratic governance and citizen participation (the three of them in Argentina, and citizen participation again in Chile).



11 countries presented preliminary monitoring reports



Subregion	Country	Education	Health	Energy	Environment	Migrations	Security	Democratic Governance	Citizen Participation	Hemispheric Cooperation	Enabling Environment
Andean	Bolivia	Advances	Stagnation					Regression	Stagnation		Regression
	Colombia										
	Ecuador	1									
	Venezuela		-3					-3	-3		-3
Central America + Mexico	El Salvador	Stagnation			Regression	Stagnation	Stagnation				
	Mexico	Stagnation	Stagnation	Stagnation	Regression	Regression	Regression	Regression	Stagnation	Stagnation	Stagnation
	Nicaragua										
	Panama										
	Costa Rica										
Southern Cone + Brazil	Argentina				+1			+1	+1		
	Chile								Advances		

2. Executive summary: During the period of this report, the team worked in different activities:

A. Reports: In July, August and September, the team submitted the monthly report for activities of the month before.

B. Designing and update of internal documents:

- In addition to the 9 Partial reports of monitoring of Panama's Summit mandates received in June, on July we received the report from El Salvador (Annex 7 - Spanish).
- The theme of the upcoming Summit of the Americas 2018 is: "Democratic Governance against Corruption". Attending OAS and Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' requests to PASCA about civil society inputs for this discussion, the Base Team prepared a document with the mentions of corruption at the national reports (Annex 8 - Spanish).
- It was polished a guide about how to elaborate the civil society agenda toward the 2018 Summit (Annex 9 - Spanish).
- After experience with Spanish speakers countries, the methodology was adjusted for the English speakers countries (Annex 10).
- On August we received the partial monitoring report from Costa Rica (Annex 2).
- From June we started to consolidate in one file the notes from the monthly subregional sessions and share it with the Focal Points to keep them up to date with the performance at different countries and subregions. In the annexes 4 (June), 5 (July) and 6 (August) you can read it.

C. Consortium update:





As it was mentioned in the point 1 of this report, our Consortium members for Andean Subregion, Central America and Mexico, Southern Cone and Brazil have been following their plan of activities.

Project Objectives:

1. To develop and implement a Civil Society Council that represents CSOs across the region in monitoring and advancing Summit priorities.
2. To increase collaboration in consultation and engagement between CSO and OAS to present recommendations for the 2018 Summit.
3. To improve CSOs' capacities to monitor the implementation and impacts of 2015 Summit commitments and to participate effectively in 2018 Summit processes.

3. Description of results achieved during the period, using indicators for activities, outputs and outcomes associated with your agreement.

We use here some conventions to show the progress of the indicators, according to the project's timeline performance.

	100% - Completed
	50% to 99% - Activity in progress
	49% or less - Delayed
	Pending (it is not time yet)

Suggested changes

Activity completed with limitations to reach the goal.

Activity 1: To develop and implement a Civil Society Council that represents CSOs across the region in monitoring and advancing Summit priorities.

ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	BASELINE DATA (include date/ source)	TARGET (life of the agreement)	Result this Period	CUMULATIVE DATA and % of progress completed if applicable
1.1 Conduct a project planning meeting with the partners organizations	One Project Working Plan Document	N/A	1	It was completed on January 2017.	100%
	Consortium members increase their confidence in their partners and in the process	N/A	6	The target was defined by 6 Consortium members (Redlad as general coordinator plus 5 subregional leaders, but at the end we have 4 Consortium members: Fondation Espoir for the Caribbean, CECADE for Central America, DESCO for Andean Region and Semillas para la Democracia for Southern Cone, plus Redlad which would coordinates also NorthAmerica (if we find Focal Points there). Therefore we suggest to update the target to 5. Third survey of confidence was completed on March 2017 by Consortium members (annex 11). Next survey will be applied on December 2017.	50%
1.2 Organize three focus groups of 20 CSOs each to assess opportunities for creating the Council	One report to guide the creation of the Civil Society Council	N/A	1	Completed on August 2016.	100%
	Number of CSOs demonstrating increased levels of understanding and interest in participation in Summit-related events and activities.	N/A	90% of participants increase their confidence and show interest in participating in Summit related events and activities	198 organizations have participated at meetings to elect members for national civil society scenarios. They represent 57% of the aim of 350 CSO involved.	57%
1.3 Conduct a comparative study about similar regional oversight mechanisms and platforms	One Comparative Study of best practices and lessons in CSO consultation mechanisms	N/A	1	The final version was completed on October 2016.	100%
1.4 Develop and conduct a stakeholder mapping and	One stakeholders' mapping and	N/A	1	Data collection is being improved. There is significant progress identifying unique persons and organizations.	85%

engagement strategy	engagement strategy			221 activities have been held in 27 countries and by Internet. From there are 1502 attendants which represent 563 individuals and 371 CSO.	
	One strategic communication s plan	N/A	1	From September 2016 the general strategic plan of communications was adopted by the Base Team and it is being implemented.	100%
	Number of CSO surveyed that express interest and commitment to participate in the creation of the Council	N/A	350	We use here the same source at 1.2.2 indicator. We report the 198 CSO who attended national meetings to create their councils.	57%
1.5 Elaboration of draft documents for CSC establishment	Draft of the CSC proposal to be review by CSOs and other actors and partners	N/A	1	From August 2016 Consortium members and focal points received the document which explains objectives, structure, functions and ways of election of the representatives at different levels.	100%
	Percentage of CSOs' inputs taken into account in the draft document for CSC establishment	N/A	60%	During the discussion of the draft, 45% of the comments systematized were applied to the initial proposal of the mechanism of participation of civil society at the Summit of Americas. Unfortunately, CSO's response was lower than expectancies and they tend to prefer spoken comments rather than writing. In the practice each country and subregion is adapting the general proposal to their needs, culture and CSO's dynamic.	45%
1.6 Organizing five sub-regional working-coordination meetings to finalize CSO support for creation of the Council	Number of sub-regional working coordination meetings held, documented and socialized	N/A	100%	The remaining percentage correspond to the planned coordination meetings with North American civil society organizations. We have had some contacts but there are not Focal Points there yet.	80%
	Number of CSOs demonstrating increased levels of participation in the creation of the council and interest in participating in other Summit scenarios	N/A	250	As it was reported at the 1.4 indicator: from 115 organizations which filled the survey, 88% (102 CSO) expressed high interest about joining a civil society council. 91% (106 CSO) expressed high interest about the construction of one agenda for the 2018 Summit.	98 CSO
			90%		84%

				75% (87 CSO) expressed high interest about monitoring the mandates of Panama Summit. Note: the cumulative data is result of the average of CSO and of their percentages in the three categories.	
1.7 Organizing an online vote to elect the members of the council	Number of CSO voting in sub-regional coordination meetings for the CSC creation	N/A	300	The vote is occurring in meetings rather than through an online platform. This number comes from the organizations which joined meetings to create national civil society councils in Argentina (1), Belice (7), Bolivia (22), Chile (4), Colombia (8), Cuba (15), El Salvador (10), Guatemala (3), Honduras (14), México (19), Nicaragua (17), Panamá (41), Paraguay (4), Venezuela (33).	198 CSO 66% of the goal
	Number of members of the CSC elected	N/A	Initial formulation: 20 (2 women and 2 men for each sub-region) Adjusted indicator, according to the proposal of mechanism (reported at indicator 1.5): 10 CSC members (2 for each 5 subregions, plus 3 population groups representatives to be determined).	Attending a rotatory dynamic 2 representatives from Central America and México, 2 from Andean Region and 2 from Southern Cone and Brazil have been elected. Although 2 temporary representatives from the Caribbean, 1 from afrodescendants and 1 from LGBTI have joined Citizen of the Americas' Forum meetings. It is pending to confirm their election and to define North America and indigenous peoples' participation.	13 = total expected members 6 elected = 46 % 6 elected + 4 temporary = 77%
1.8 Organize the first meeting of Civil Society Council in Perú (2016)	One meeting held and systematized	N/A	1	First meeting was in Washington D.C. on March 2017	100%
	Number of active members of the CSC	N/A	20 (2 women and 2 men for each sub-region) Please read the adjustment at 1.7.2 indicator. It changes to 10 subregional representatives plus population groups.	Currently there are 10 elected members, but we have to accept that after the meeting in Cancún (on June) it has been difficult to call them to an online meeting to solve pending issues such as the internal rules of procedure, their working plan and communications plan.	13 = total expected members 6 elected = 46 % 6 elected + 4 temporary = 77%
1.9 Redlad will help the council to establish its Secretariat and support the	One CSCs working plan	N/A	1	The Secretariat presented a draft of working plan on June, which didn't receive comments from Consortium and Forum members. It is pending the final	80%

activities of the Secretariat				approval by them on the next Forum meeting.	
1.10 Develop a financial sustainability model for approval by the Council	One financial sustainability model developed	N/A	1	It was a theme of the first meeting of the CSC. Some needs and strategic contacts were identified. But it is pending the next Forum meeting to assume specific tasks to advance on it.	5%
	Number of Council members trained in the financial sustainability model	N/A	20	0	0
1.11 Assist the Council Secretariat in design, implementation and monitoring a strategy of communication, relationship and knowledge management to support the interaction within the CSC and with the different stakeholders	One strategy of communication, relationship, and knowledge management	N/A	1	The Secretariat developed a proposal which didn't receive comments from Consortium and Forum members. It is pending the final approval by them on the next Forum meeting.	80%
	Percentage of CSO users of CSC's media and communicational scenarios	N/A	80%		0

Activity 2: To increase collaboration in consultation and engagement between CSO and OAS to present recommendations for the 2018 Summit

ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	BASELINE DATA (include date/ source)	TARGET (life of the agreement)	Result this Period	CUMULATIVE DATA and % of progress completed if applicable
2.1 Support the Council in the development of a consultation mechanism between the Council and OAS-SIRG to improve skills and awareness on the process	One consultation mechanism between the Council and OAS-SIRG developed	N/A	1	Base Team is attentive to the next SIRG meeting in Peru (November) to introduce PASCA advances and recommendations but it is critical the lack of direct contact with SIRG members.	5%
2.2 Establish a support network in Peru to work the 2018 Summit Agenda	One networking plan for building the 2018 Summit Agenda	N/A	80%	There is a guide to coordinate Consortium members, Focal Points and Civil Society Councils towards the agenda 2018. Its implementation started on March. DESCO and	70%

				Grupo Propuesta Ciudadana, our partners in Peru, are in permanent contact with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	
2.3 Establish an ongoing consultation process with governments	Percentage of countries reporting information	N/A	70%	Up to August we received 11 partial reports which represent 33% of 33 countries we would like to reach and 42% if we consider just the 26 countries which are effectively joining the project.	42%
2.4 Develop and Sign an agreement between the Council and SIRG	One agreement subscribed between the Council and SIRG	N/A	1	It would be necessary to review this indicator, because after two years of PASCA's implementation there hasn't been contact between the Citizen Forum of the Americas and the SIRG and we unknw if this group is willing or not to make any agreement.	0
2.5 Organize 5 sub-regional consultation in coordination with OAS Summit, and one virtual online consultation	Number of regional and sub-regional consultations between the Council and representative organizations held	N/A	1 regional and 5 sub-regional consultation meetings	0	0
	Number of CSOs consulted during the development of the CSO recommendations for the 2018 SIRG	N/A	400	0	0
	One document with the Civil Society agenda for the 2018 Summit, presented to SIRG	N/A	1	0	0
2.6 Conduct 6 Council meetings, 2 each year from 2016 to 2018	Number of council meetings held	N/A	6	First hemispheric meeting was held on March 2017 in Washington D.C. Second meeting was in Cancun, Mexico on June 2017	2 meetings = 33.3%
	Council members acquire experience and confidence in relation with CSO, OAS-SIRG and other actors	N/A	90%	On March and June, Citizen Forum members joined meetings in Washington D.C. with OAS representatives, and diplomatic missions. But meetings with SIRG haven't been held.	0
2.7 Strengthen the participation of the Council and CSOs to the 2018 Summit	Number of meetings among Council, Secretariat, SIRG, and governments to secure CSO participation.	N/A	20 From the next report we would like to add to this indicator meetings	Members of the Citizens' Forum of the Americas were in meetings with Mexican OAS Mission in Washington DC (March) and with Peruvian government delegates in Cancun (June)	2 meetings of the Forum with other actors =10%

			with OAS offices (in Washington, Peru and other countries), even if those are different to the SIRG.	In addition, DESCO has been in touch with Peruvian Government, REDLAD and Mexican Focal point were in touch with Mexican government to coordinate activities during OAS general Assembly 2017.	
	Number of Western Hemisphere CSOs, targeted by the project, that express interest in participating in the Civil Society Forum at the 2018 Summit.	TBD	800	0	0
	One document with the Civil Society recommendations to the SIRG	N/A	1	0	0
	Percentage of presented CSO recommendations from the civil society council incorporated by Summit stakeholders into Summit documents or activities	N/A	40%	We have received recommendations from Costa Rica about energy and environment, one of our 19 active focal points.	0
	Number of CSOs demonstrating increased levels of participation in Summit-related events and activities.	TBD	600	0	0
	Number of CSOs reporting increased and substantive CSO engagement in the Summit process as a result of the CSO mechanism	N/A	300	0	0
	Percentage of CSOs reporting increased satisfaction with the Summit process.	TBC	60%	0	0

Activity 3: To improve CSOs' capacities to monitor the implementation and impacts of 2015 Summit commitments and to participate effectively in 2018 Summit processes

ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	BASELINE DATA (include date/ source)	TARGET (life of the agreement)	Result this Period	CUMULATIVE DATA and % of progress completed if applicable
3.1 Develop a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating	Percentage of prioritized 2015 Summit mandates monitored by the	N/A	At least 40%	Themes will be prioritized rather than individual mandates. From 10 proposed	50%

implementation of Summit commitments to be used by the CSO community	council and relevant CSOs.			themes 5 are subject of monitoring. It means, at least 50% would be monitored.	
3.2 Conduct a needs assessment for technical assistance and capacity building among CSOs across the region, to improve knowledge and feedback on monitoring and evaluation mechanism /practices	Number of CSOs demonstrating increased ability to research, monitor and report on Summit commitments in their sub-regions.	N/A	44	26 Focal Points were informed about the suggested route of work. At this moment 11 countries presented monitoring report. However 60 CSO have participated on that exercise.	11 Focal Points presented drafts of national reports = 42%.
3.3 Design and implementation of a plan of enhancement and technical assistance according to the needs identified	Number of CSO joining the enhancement in capacities for monitoring and evaluation	N/A	70%		0
3.4 Provide training and Technical Assistance to at least 100 CSOs for implementing the mechanism/Summit commitments	Five training activities held (one in each subregion) and one Technical assistance action per CSO involved in the follow up	N/A	105	0	0
3.5 Produce joint report on outcomes of the 2015 Summit of the Americas	Number of CSO participating in the joint report	N/A	50	60 CSO participated in the process to build the 11 partial reports received.	60 CSO =120%
3.6 Coordinate the adoption of the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism	Number of CSOs reporting increased and substantive CSO engagement in the Summit process as a result of the CSO mechanism	N/A	50	0	0
3.7 Monitoring and evaluate programs/projects that impacted the commitments made at the Summit	Number of reports of advance in programs/projects impacted by the commitments	N/A	22	There are 11 reports from equal number of countries, some evaluate the grade of advance, stagnation or recoil, but to evaluate programs and projects as it is stated here overcome the current capacity of the involved CSO and the resources available to do it (qualified staff, time, access to information)	11 reports = 50%

Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators

ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	BASELINE DATA (include date/source)	TARGET (life of the agreement)	Result this Period	CUMULATIVE DATA and % of progress completed if applicable
Methodological design	One set of orientations for explicit knowledge management	N/A	1		90%
Elaborate baseline of the project	One report of the baseline	N/A	1	First report sent on September 2016. It is pending the baseline related to CSO capacities and needs of technical support (indicator 3.2).	70%
Elaboration and management of databases for participation monitoring	One database system for monitoring participation of CSO in activities and discussions	N/A	1	Unified database reached 2134 contacts and 1433 organizations. Consolidated subregional and national reports show 221 activities in 27 countries and online. From there are 1502 attendants which represent 563 individuals and 371 CSO.	80%
Design and measure CSOs' capacities at national, sub-regional and thematic levels	One report of final state of CSO's capacities (including baseline)	N/A	1	National and subregional meetings of monitoring offer information about weakness and CSO's needs of support.	60%
Evaluation of the process	One report of results, impact and recommendations	N/A	1	0	0

5. Challenges, lessons and best practices related to your project:

Challenges

1. Caribbean and North America are still challenging for the Project. The former, because of the lack of response from Fondation Espoir (the regional coordinator) and the CPDC (the Barbadian organization that other CSO pointed out as "natural leader" for the process) and the weak communication with those organizations which attended to the meeting on last May. The latter, because we have contacted several organizations, but no one has been defined as focal point, to push up PASCA process.
2. One challenge for the Caribbean region forum is to create the national and regional councils in the region without finding too much opposition from the State counterparts who are not very inclined to trust Civils society's demand for more transparency. We can say that with the breakdown happening internationally against corruption and money laundering, and with the Caribbean being an area of particular interest as most Caricom countries are on the black list of the USA, we expect the demands might be received with some suspicion from the government authorities. However, we have also observed a vibrant civil society that wants to take up the

challenge for developing the Caribbean and raise the general quality of life of the Caribbean populations. Making those councils relevant to local social groups or organizations, while also being a voice for them is a big challenge ahead, mainly in a period of scarce resources, which remains the main issue to create the necessary support for the Caribbean Citizens Forum.

3. Although members of the Citizen Forum of the Americas express interest about this space and its role toward the next Summit, it seems to be an expectation rather than motivation to act. The Secretariat shared documents to be commented, but there was not response. One more time we face the “barrier” of the predominant orality, informal communication and great weight given to presencial meetings rather than technology-mediated interactions.
4. After the meeting organized by the OAS on July 20th, there was a common complaint that CSO attending hadn't the opportunity to ask and participate. Therefore, for next calls it is important to clarify when a meeting is informative and when it is consultive. Unsatisfied expectations contribute to apathy about Summit process and OAS' issues.
5. Restrictions to CSO's participation (as at the General Assembly in Mexico and the next Summit in Peru) cause demotivation in the CSO about the OAS activities and it makes harder for PASCA to keep the attention of Focal Points and other CSO at this process. It is more difficult to find the utility of CSO mobilization without space to talk spontaneously and share their viewpoints directly to decision makers; the monitoring exercise seems to have been sterile because the main topic and sub-themes for the next Summit (governance against corruption) broke the continuity with the 9 themes from Panama Summit. Some organizations (specifically LGBTI) find puzzling to fit their findings and speech to a corruption's frame.
6. It would be significant to find an effective way to involve more Caribbean countries because the 13 grouped there represent 38% of the project potential coverage and it partially explains our low achievement in some indicators.
7. In relation to the Citizen Forum of the Americas, since it was promoted several civil society organizations expressed they wanted to have their own agenda and not to be subordinated to the OAS one. However, at the end those organizations and Citizen Forum members have been occupied enough solving their conjunctural issues (natural disasters, political scandals, elections, internal organizational changes etc.) and at the end they move just to reply to OAS' calls to activities such as “Summit 101” in 2016 or the presentation of the VIII Summit (on July 20th of 2018). We have various challenges related to the self-coordination of the Citizens Forum, its sustainability and its members' empowerment. We hope to overcome this now that the stronger work towards the Summit starts.
8. Most Civil Society Organizations are worried about how much do they receive rather in how much they give or achieve. Even agreeing contracts (subgrants) some Focal Points are not willing to respond to the acquired duties, because they separate “technical” requirements from “political statements” and they don't believe the former are input for the latter success.
9. Collecting evidence about the advance has been difficult because the prevalence of orality and some organizations seem to be uncomfortable about this requirement, however it is the way we have to measure progress in our plans.
10. After the first impulse of creating national scenarios of civil society organizations, the remain countries have not advanced in the expected way and we find it would be difficult to pressure those focal points when there is not more funding to organize national meetings to achieve it during the third year.
11. There are various indicator's goals related to relationship with SIRG, but we have not had the quick response we wanted to have a direct interlocution with them. At this moment of the project, we haven't established direct contact with its members and the information we share is mediated by OAS officials.

Lessons

1. Monitoring the mandates of the Summit from Civil Society Organizations allow to develop a better controlling exercise and accompanying better the government, specially because the recognition of spaces such as the Summits to meet key actors in collaborative agendas.
2. The initial proposal of rotation of members at the Citizen Forum was a good idea under the supposal that each country would know how the mechanism of participation works and would develop some abilities. However, some subregions defined a quarterly rotation and one defined semestral one, but not all those periods have demanded Citizen Forum members activity, so some of them have passed in blank. So, we suggest to evaluate with Consortium members and Citizen Forum current members, alternative ways to create and enhance a leading group, perhaps attending criteria different to geographical adscription.
3. Regarding our indicators, after two years of performance we believe it is important to review our assumptions and clarify which are the conditions which would make possible the success of this project.

Best practices





1. In El Salvador the use of the “Law to access public information”, was crucial to elaborate the national report.

6. Upcoming Events:

- In **Panama**, a CSO meeting is being planned for Early-October to finish the monitoring exercise and build the Civil Society Agenda.
- In **Peru**, a meeting with the representative from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is scheduled for Early-October to clarify what was discussed during the September SIRG meeting.
- In **Brazil**, a CSO meeting is being prepared for October 17th, to present the project and start the process of agenda building among Brazilian organizations.

7. Timeline

In general, the project is advancing according to the approved timeline. However, there are some variations which we mark here. We use colours to mark the achievement level, according to the following conventions:

	Planned date
	Real date of execution
	Activity in process
	Pending

