

INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION



2011 IN REVIEW

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Cover: Bolivian cacao farmer Estanislao Quispe, who heads an association working with ECOTOP, p. 19 (Sean Sprague); bird and leaf from Monteverde, Costa Rica, p. 27 (Marc Hoffman); Honduran student-tailor of GJD, p. 41 (Mark Caicedo); detail from weaving by Edmundo Huarancca of former IAF grantee Procaya Peru in Ayacucho (Mark Caicedo).

Opposite page: Juan Carlos Rheineck. Centro de Textiles de Cusco, pp. 50, 62.

INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION



2011 IN REVIEW

October 1, 2010, to September 30, 2011

Managing Editor: Paula Durbin

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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. IAF grantees confirm their commitment by contributing in kind or in cash toward the success of their projects and by mobilizing resources to continue their impact. The IAF encourages partnerships who participate in businesses, government and other community organizations directed at improving the quality of life for poor people and in 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 4,981 grants valued at more than \$680 million. Grantees have committed or mobilized an additional \$969 million. Together, the IAF and its grantees have improved the conditions of hundreds of thousands of poor families in communities throughout the hemisphere.

Bertha Navia and Emilio González are pig farmers who participate in ECOTOP's agroforestry program. See page 19.

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* On Sept. 30, 2011.

IAF's president, directors and new Advisory Council.

TIE XU



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*On Oct. 5, 2011.

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*On Sept. 30, 2011.



ADS' solar ovens reduce exposure to smoke and the use of wood for fire. See page 35.

CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Little more than a year ago, I announced the appointment of Robert N. Kaplan to the presidency of the Inter-American Foundation. As this report goes to press, I am pleased to note that he is finalizing the new management team that, under his able guidance, should energize the IAF's leadership in grassroots development. Going forward—to explore new directions, expand the IAF's reach and enhance its capabilities—the team can count on the board's full support and the valuable insights of our Advisory Council, which recently welcomed several new members. Drawn from the United States and the principal regions in Latin America and the Caribbean in which the IAF works, this distinguished and diverse group brings the board and the agency impressive knowledge and experience. On behalf of my colleagues on the board, I would like to express our gratitude to the entire council, and, most particularly, to the departing members, for their commitment and contribution toward

furthering the IAF's special role in the United States government's foreign-assistance effort.

The value that the IAF adds to this effort was well illustrated when Bob Kaplan testified before the United States Senate in February 2011, an event that was a highlight of the IAF's first year under his direction. In testimony remarkable

for its clarity, he explained how each year grassroots groups from struggling communities across the hemisphere send the IAF hundreds of proposals that set forth their imaginative ideas for overcoming their challenges. The organizations that obtain IAF support, the Senators learned, embrace democratic values,

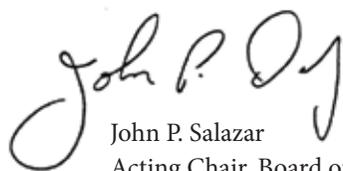
participate actively in civic life and believe in the opportunities that a market economy offers. "These are decent, hard-working people living in difficult circumstances but full of spirit and the will to succeed," Bob said. "Their creativity and perseverance, despite the odds, are inspiring."

Good economic news from the region in recent years makes it easy to forget that those odds can still be overwhelming. Glaring poverty and social exclusion persist in every country of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the region is the most unequal in the world. In this context, the IAF works to reach the poor directly and helps them join in economic advances taking place locally or connect with global opportunities.

While the testimony did not emphasize the critical importance of getting the greatest return from each taxpayer dollar invested in development, this has always been a salient feature of the IAF's approach to foreign assistance. Current fiscal challenges make the agency's judicious use of its small allocation more relevant than ever. Year after year, the IAF transforms modest resources into ventures that yield quantifiable results, build resilient communities, foster effective institutions and strengthen our country's relationship with the region. The IAF's focused assistance is so cost-effective, in part at least, because it funds priorities identified by the poor themselves, who are then understandably willing to commit their own hard-earned resources, along with their determination and goodwill, as documented in this report.

“*The value that the IAF adds to U.S. foreign assistance was well illustrated when Bob Kaplan testified before the United States Senate in February 2011, a highlight of the IAF's first year under his direction.*”

The economic, political and social changes unfolding throughout Latin America and the Caribbean are exciting and daunting. In this dynamic and rapidly evolving environment, the IAF must remain flexible, agile and, as always, responsive. At a minimum, as we pursue each unique opportunity, we must accept the corresponding obligation to ensure that the voices of marginalized communities continue to be heard and considered when foreign-assistance policy is formulated, and that these communities have the resources to pursue those strategies that they themselves determine will most likely lead to self-sufficiency and a life of dignity.



John P. Salazar
Acting Chair, Board of Directors



GABRIELA BOYER

Mexican farmers with the camedor palm. See page 42.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



As I write this report, I am marking my first anniversary as president of the Inter-American Foundation, though my identification with the IAF's ideals goes back much further. I first heard about the agency in the mid-1980s as a graduate student in a seminar featuring several foundation representatives. My then recent experience as a Peace Corps volunteer in Santa Cecilia, Paraguay, a relatively isolated community of about 150 homes, shaped my academic study as I pondered how the analytic tools I was acquiring reflected the circumstances of my Paraguayan neighbors. So I was impressed with the IAF's commitment to hear, learn from and support people who were working to make their communities better places to live and work.

Before coming to the IAF, I spent two decades at the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. Policies and investments supported by these institutions

can be game changers, and we have seen progress. But to take advantage of the opportunities that progress brings, people such as my neighbors in Santa Cecilia have to be players, not bystanders. I have found over the last year that such involvement is still the cornerstone of the IAF's approach, and it is, I believe, essential to smart, cost-effective development assistance. Travel with the IAF last year introduced me to grantees in six countries, and I have witnessed first-hand how the IAF recognizes the power of ideas and of organized people to turn their ideas into results:

- I met fishermen from Salvadoran cooperatives on Lake Ilopango who tripled their household income by producing their own fingerlings on site. Their tilapia are reaching new markets, and the fishermen have acquired valuable commercial and managerial skills and created new jobs in their communities. (Their story is chronicled in the 2010 edition of *Grassroots Development*, the IAF's annual journal.)
- Recyclers in Colombia and Paraguay, who collect, process and sell waste material, told me how they have increased their income and won respect by working together. Often desperately poor and living at the margins of society, these men and women have formalized relationships with local authorities and improved their working conditions and prospects. (Meet Nohra Padilla in *Grassroots Development* 2011.)
- Walking through forests in Southern Mexico, I learned how the indigenous communities who own them track biomass growth and sell carbon offsets to Mexican businesses that want to neutralize their carbon footprint. Few projects illustrate better how communities are part of globalized systems. They feel the effects of what happens beyond their borders and take advantage of opportunities that a globalized system presents.

At the end of fiscal 2011, the IAF's active portfolio included 262 grantees, representing an investment of \$65.1 million by the IAF and the organizations' own commitment of another \$92 million. During fiscal 2011 alone, the IAF invested \$15 million in 94 grantees who contributed another \$20.3 million in counterpart funding. Most of these organizations are working to increase income through more productive agriculture, tourism, and crafts and food-processing enterprises. Others will provide access to clean water and sanitation or offer training. IAF funding reaches Colombians displaced

by armed conflict and Haitian victims of the January 2010 earthquake as they work to build more resilient communities. Most of the IAF's grants serve the region's poorest groups: African descendants, indigenous communities, persons with disabilities, women and young people. The IAF tracks and independently verifies the principal results of each grant every six months. This helps our grantees and us see what works and adjust accordingly, and it allows the IAF to deepen its specialized expertise in the dynamics and practice of community-based development, which has been the agency's focus for four decades.

A concentrated focus and coordinated efforts to achieve results are two principal tenets of our country's first presidential policy directive on global development, issued by President Obama in September 2010. The IAF brings its specialized insight and civil society partnerships developed over 40 years to complement efforts of other agencies. In the coming years, for example, IAF funding in El Salvador will reflect the priorities in the joint action plan of the Partnership for Growth pilot initiative, which provides a framework for coordinating the assistance programs of about a dozen U.S. government agencies. The flexibility and agility that comes with being small and independent have been assets as the IAF reaches out for partners in the private sector. These include an IAF-initiated network of Latin American corporate foundations launched 10 years ago as RedEAmérica to support grassroots solutions.

If conditions have improved for many in Latin America and the Caribbean, inequities have deepened and desperate need still wears at the fabric of many communities. The organized poor come to the IAF with their ideas, their determination, their willingness to work and the resources they can muster. Respectfully and without fanfare, the IAF supports their efforts to overcome poverty and improve opportunities for themselves and their children. Over the decades, this has resulted in goodwill toward the people of the United States and in a constructive U.S. presence throughout the hemisphere, even in countries where relations may be strained. Cost-effective investments at the grassroots that help make communities in Latin America and the Caribbean good places to live are fundamentally in the interest of the United States. This is the mandate with which Congress charged the Inter-American Foundation four decades ago, and it is as important and relevant today as ever.

I am grateful to the IAF's board of directors for its support and confidence as I learned on the job during the past year. I also want to recognize and thank three colleagues who retired in 2011 after their long and especially productive service: Wilbur Wright, who rose through the ranks of the program office to become the regional director for South America and the Caribbean; Linda Kolko, who has rotated through various vice presidencies since 1991 and served twice as interim president; and Pam Palma, who joined the IAF in 1978 and is currently director for information and management systems. All three have made the world a better place, and we will miss them.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert N. Kaplan', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Robert N. Kaplan

FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL REPORT

Grants By Country 1972 - 2011

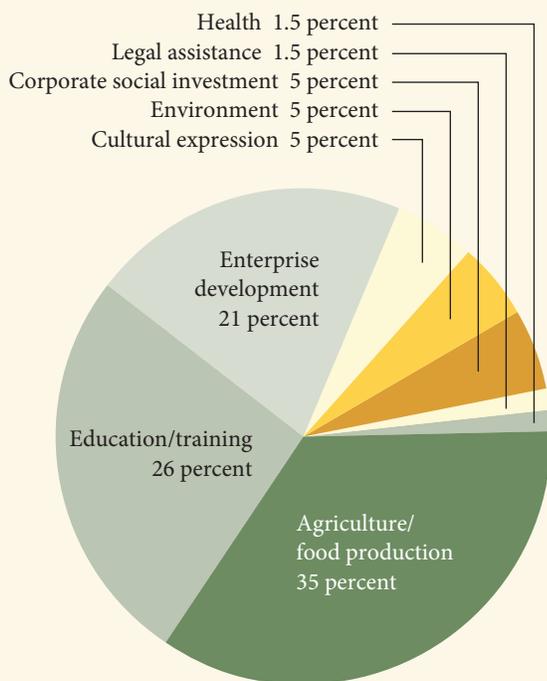
	Fiscal 2011			Fiscal 1972-2011		Grantees Active in Fiscal 2011**	
	New Grants	Grant Supplements	Investment*	Total Grants	Total Investment*	Grantees	IAF Investment*
Anguilla				1	3		
Antigua & Barbuda				8	507		
Argentina	4	2	1,208	243	33,097	13	4,082
Bahamas				7	144		
Barbados				11	925		
Belize				80	4,566	2	607
Bolivia	6	5	1,992	280	41,531	17	5,075
Brazil	6	3	1,938	404	55,784	30	9,046
Chile				264	43,836	4	1,059
Caribbean Region				62	7,308		
Colombia	4	3	1,014	327	46,618	22	6,027
Costa Rica	4	-	555	226	16,375	9	1,213
Dominica				75	2,282		
Dominican Republic	1	2	461	235	25,190	7	1,766
Ecuador	2	-	311	206	33,482	9	1,456
El Salvador	6	3	1,011	226	37,727	19	3,694
Grenada				17	540		
Guatemala	2	2	489	201	31,173	10	1,910
Guyana				7	294		
Haiti	5	1	1,093	144	17,474	12	2,860
Honduras	-	3	385	167	27,596	11	3,135
Jamaica				71	5,050	2	785
Latin American Region				135	12,969	3	763
Mexico	6	1	720	376	58,522	27	5,396
Montserrat				1	3		
Netherlands Antilles				2	126		
Nicaragua	5	-	820	196	35,505	15	3,876
Panama	1	1	322	217	28,744	13	2,538
Paraguay	2	3	634	153	20,017	9	2,139
Peru	6	2	1,558	294	54,028	21	5,889
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	2	453	137	18,684	5	1,114
Venezuela				159	17,212	2	682
TOTALS	61	33	14,964	4,981	680,603	262	65,112

* In thousands of dollars. ** On Sept. 30, 2011.

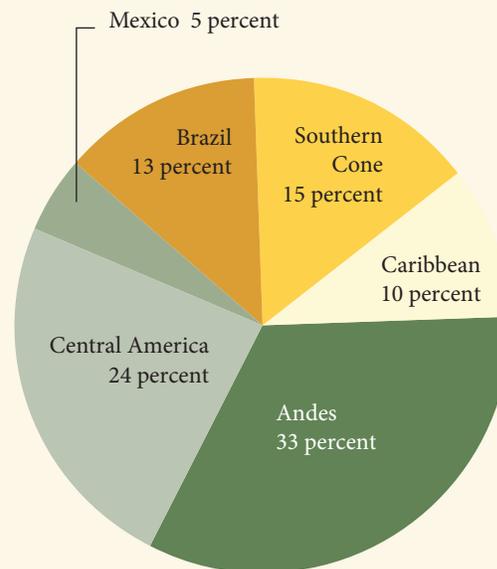
FISCAL 2011: NEW GRANTS AND SUPPLEMENTS

Program Area	IAF Investment	New Grants and Supplements
Agriculture/food production	\$5,943,221	33
Education/training	3,925,116	24
Enterprise development	2,409,612	20
Corporate social investment	1,068,077	5
Environment	646,054	5
Cultural expression	632,922	5
Health	299,100	1
Legal assistance	39,851	1
Total	\$14,963,953	94

New Grants and Supplements by Program Area

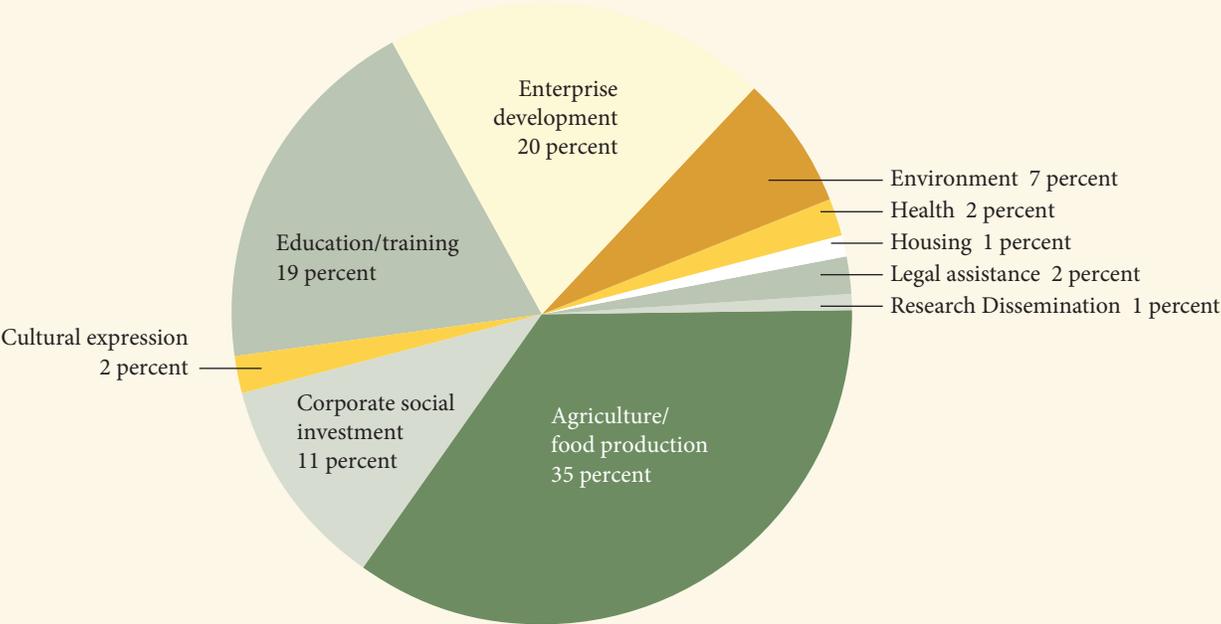


New Grants and Supplements by Country

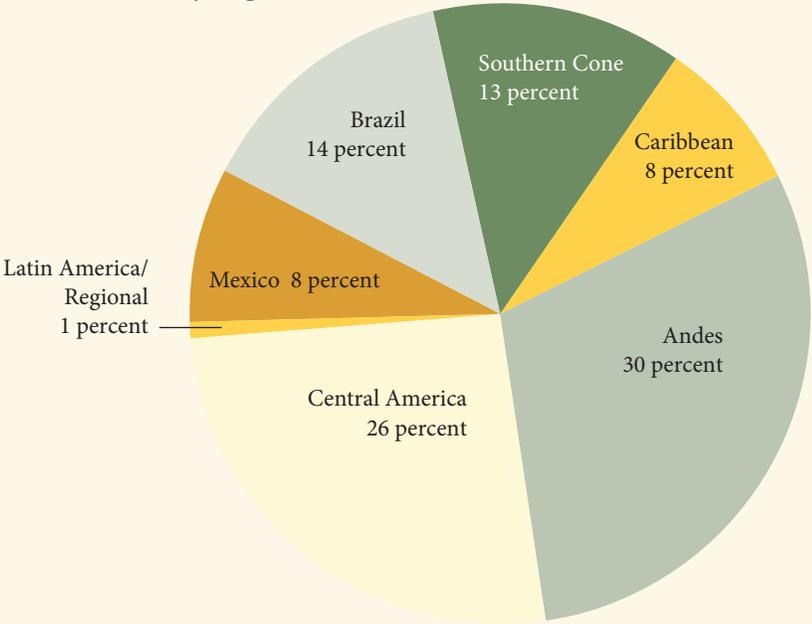


PORTFOLIO OF 262 GRANTEES ACTIVE IN 2011

Investment by Program Area



Investment by Region





FUNDAWI, page 19, supports the cultivation of aromatic and medicinal plants (bottom photo) that are often intercropped with coffee (right). The leaves are processed into tea-like products (above).



SEAN SPRAGUE



ARGENTINA

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 13

IAF commitment:
\$4,081,705

Counterpart value:
\$11,859,066

Total investment:
\$15,940,771

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture (rural development), civic participation, education, enterprise development, inclusion of indigenous peoples, women and young people.

New Grants

Fundación para el Desarrollo en Justicia y Paz (FUNDAPAZ), \$355,480 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$353,435.

FUNDAPAZ, in conjunction with Unión de Organizaciones de Pequeños Productores de la Cuna Boscosa y los Bajos Sub-meridionales (UOCB), an association of base groups, will improve access to water in 21 communities in the department of Vera, Santa Fe, by building mini reservoirs, retention basins, storage tanks and windmills and by training 785 families to maintain them. (AR-359)

Caxi Asociación para el Desarrollo Integral (Caxi), \$233,820 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$281,752.

Caxi will provide 320 farmers in Mendoza and San Juan the training and technical assistance necessary to improve the efficiency and productivity of their small businesses that process meat, honey, tomato sauce and paste, jam and jellies, canned fruit and animal feed. (AR-361)

Asociación Civil Nuestras Huellas (Nuestras Huellas), \$379,500 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$1,407,099.

will provide credit, training and technical assistance to improve the production and marketing practices of 3,640 entrepreneurs belonging to 200 savings-and loan-associations (community banks) in Greater Buenos Aires. (AR-362)

Asociación Pescadores del Chaco (ASOPECHA), \$160,300 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$138,640.

ASOPECHA will work toward the conservation of fisheries along the Paraguay River and its tributaries and toward better income for its 567 member-fishers. (AR-363)

Supplemental Grant*

Fundación Solidaridad (FS), \$46,670 and \$31,750; counterpart commitment \$40,200.

FS will work with farmers in northern Mendoza province, and with young people interested in providing services to tourists, to diversify their markets and reduce their dependency on intermediaries. The project is expected to benefit 520 farmers and 2,900 members of their families. (AR-349-A2 and A3)

**This annual report includes supplemental grants for \$10,000 or more. All supplemental grants are for a period of one year unless otherwise indicated.*





COURTESY FUNDAPAZ

“Water is the source of health and life and so we pledge to take care of it.”

Rather Than Wait for Rain.

Argentina’s agricultural regions are suffering from one of the worst droughts on record. More than 1.5 million head of livestock have been lost and dehydration has left many of the surviving animals so weak they can not breed. Financial losses from dwindling meat and grain yields are estimated in the billions. With government assistance insufficient to address the magnitude of this crisis, farmers are trying to find their own solutions.

In the province of Santa Fe, which straddles fertile *pampas* and the rugged Chaco, the drought has been merciless and some farmers have lost more than 80 percent of their cattle. **Fundación para el Desarrollo en Justicia y Paz** (FUNDAPAZ), which has been partnering with *santafesinos* and their organizations for 37 years to address social and economic issues, is working alongside Unión de Organizaciones de Pequeños Productores de la Cuna Boscosa y los Bajos Sub-meridionales (UOCB), an umbrella association of farmers’ groups, to confront the alarming lack of water.

Based on their studies of the region, FUNDAPAZ and UOCB will map natural sources of water and assess various proposals for how 21 rural communities around the city of Vera should collect and store water. FUNDAPAZ will also educate farmers on conservation and efficient water use. Some 700 families will learn to build, manage and maintain mini reservoirs, retention basins, storage tanks, rain catchments, wells, windmills, manual rope pumps and other infrastructure. Farmers will decide which options are best suited to their circumstances and will receive the necessary assistance with organizing committees to oversee an equitable distribution of water.

Via a series of workshops and radio spots, FUNDAPAZ and UOCB will inform public officials and farmers about responsible water use and the ways in which the communities of Vera are taking the initiative rather than waiting for a downpour of rain—or an outpouring of government aid. The hope is that other locales in distress follow their example and develop their own approaches to dealing with drought. Effective mitigation should restore agricultural production and help these struggling Argentines thrive once more.—*Eduardo Rodríguez-Frías, contributing editor*



BOLIVIA

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 17

IAF commitment:
\$5,075,432

Counterpart
commitment: \$4,635,713

Total value: \$9,711,145

Salient themes:

Agroforestry, land
tenure, Andean livestock
and grains, textiles/
crafts, adult education.

New Grants

Centro de Investigación y Servicio Popular (CISEP), \$199,317 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$81,632.

CISEP will work with women in 14 mining cooperatives in the department of Oruro to improve their productivity, income and occupational safety and environmental standards. The workers will receive machinery, equipment, tools and safety gear as well as related training and technical assistance (BO-518)

Asociación de Mujeres Aymaras Lecheras de Irpa Chico (AMALIC), \$195,338 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$266,106.

AMALIC's 70 members, most of them Aymara women from four communities in the municipality of Viacha on the Bolivian *altiplano*, will improve the output of their dairy enterprise. Farmers will acquire technical skills related to livestock, pasture management, processing and marketing. The municipality will purchase some of AMALIC's production for its school-breakfast program. (BO-519)

Sub Centralía Sindical Única de Trabajadores Campesinos Mojoyoya (SCSUTCM), \$114,003 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$60,251.

SCSUTCM will launch a school offering adults from 30 member communities courses in civics, the management of natural resources, territorial rights, basic accounting, the use of computer software and other subjects, to support the transition of the municipality of Mojoyoya into a model autonomous *campesino originario municipio* within the framework of the new Bolivian constitution. (BO-520)

Asociación de Artesanos Andinos (AAA), \$226,437 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$142,524.

AAA will continue to revive Andean weaving traditions and will undertake a program of community tourism expected to provide, among other benefits, more marketing opportunities for 350 Quechua and Aymara men and women from 19 communities in the department of Cochabamba. (BO-521)

Protección del Medio Ambiente Tarija (PROMETA), \$387,978 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$622,802.

PROMETA will work with 1,059 families from 50 communities in the municipalities of Yunchara and El Puente, on the *altiplano* of the department of Tarija, to improve the production and marketing of camelids and benefit the environment. Herders will acquire the skills necessary to recover natural resources, manage prairies, produce forage crops and protect water sources. (BO-522)

Servicios Múltiples de Tecnologías Apropiadas (SEMTA), \$347,026 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$234,762.

SEMTA will develop small reservoirs and ponds, improve small-scale irrigation and water-harvesting and expand native and exotic pastures. Some 400 Aymara families from 34 communities in three municipalities in Pacajes are expected to increase their production of cattle, sheep, camelids and of crops that include quinoa, canawi and vegetables. (BO-523)

Lidia Llapaco Limachi of FUNDAWI with varieties of herbal teas.



Supplemental Grants

Centro de Investigación, Diseño Artesanal y Comercialización Comunitaria (CIDAC), \$176,050 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$746,570.

CIDAC will continue to assist craftspeople from associations in Santa Cruz with design, product development and financial management. It will also finalize the transfer of most of its functions and assets to ARTECAMPO, the regional FEDERATION and will develop export markets for ARTECAMPO's products that adhere to the principles of fair trade. (BO-496-A6)

Fundación Uñatatawi (FUNDAWI), \$125,154, over 18 months; counterpart commitment, \$122,128.

FUNDAWI will expand its production and marketing of medicinal and aromatic plants in the Caranavi region and work in new communities in the province of Larecaja, where it will help form an association that supports its activities. Its technical assistance will enable farmers to work toward organic certification. (BO-500-A8)

Consultora en Servicios de Desarrollo Rural y Agricultura Ecológica (ECOTOP), \$165,287 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$69,810.

ECOTOP will incorporate seven additional communities, consisting of 150 farm families, into its program of training and technical assistance in environmentally-sound agroforestry. A complementary program that supports the production of *jochis*, or wild pigs, and *criollo* chickens is also expected to improve the local diet. (BO-509-A2)

Fundación para la Investigación Antropológica y el Etnodesarrollo (ASUR), \$15,000.

ASUR will renovate its center for Munaypata artisans in the city of Sucre for use as a museum and a central store. (BO-512-A1)

Fundación Pro Justicia Bolivia (FPJB), \$39,851.

FPJB, which works to reduce violence through training in conflict resolution and the justice system, will use the additional funds to conform benefits and salaries to Bolivian law and to offset inflation. (BO-514-A1)

Cacao farmer Estanislao Quispe Surco drying cacao, a strategic commercial crop in ECOTOP's diversified agroforestry.





COURTESY PROMETA

Herder Mateo Tapia and Gladys Alarcón, mayor of the altiplano municipality of Yunchara, at the launch of a departmental camelid fair in Tarija's plaza mayor.

Llamas Return to Tarija

Tarija department, which borders Argentina, has been known primarily for its warm valleys, vineyards and wineries that are the best in Bolivia. But, until recently, the department's *altiplano*, soaring up to 4,000 meters above sea level, was a forgotten corner of Tarija, considered to produce little of value. With few options available, its herder families provided a steady source of seasonal labor for Argentina's sugar industry.

Today they have an important additional source of income. Tarija's *altiplano* is the site of a grassroots-development strategy based on repopulating the area with llamas. Just a decade ago, sheep were the driving force in the local subsistence economy and llamas numbered only 316. Now 12,000 of these camelids graze on prairies owned by 620 herders in 30 communities. Bolivia is the world's leading producer of llamas, and the herders of Tarija have been recognized for their superior stock in their own country and internationally.

Protección del Medio Ambiente Tarija (PROMETA) is the pioneering nongovernmental organization whose vision put llamas back on the map by encouraging farmers to exchange burros and sheep for llamas. Much better suited to the local ecosystem, llamas do not have hooves that tear the terrain and they graze without destroying roots. PROMETA used its previous IAF grants to offer the training and technical assistance that facilitated the conversion and to provide herders breeding and veterinary services, processing facilities and assistance with marketing meat, fiber and fleece. Pampas reforested with species adapted to high altitudes and pastures improved with native and exotic species and forage crops were features of the effective approach that elevated llamas as a development resource.

PROMETA will use its current IAF grant to expand its livestock program to 52 communities and further develop the skills of 1,059 herders, including many new to the program. It will work with five communities to experiment with rezoning pasturelands for more rational management. Part of PROMETA's strategy over the last decade has been to work with municipal governments. Consistent with past practice of collaboration is the pledge of Tarija's regional government to support the new project with \$500,000 toward the purchase of 1,500 llamas for animal exchanges.

PROMETA's biggest challenge remains the negative impacts of overgrazing by sheep. While burros all but disappeared from Tarija's *altiplano* via PROMETA's program, sheep continue to occupy an important niche in the household economy. PROMETA's campaign to boost llama production will work in tandem with a concentrated effort to reduce further damage caused by sheep that destroy the *altiplano*'s vegetation, exposing topsoil to the wind. Beyond the booming llama herds, the ultimate test of PROMETA's success will be effectively containing sheep, a goal whose attainment has thus far proved elusive—and is essential to a sustainable future.—Kevin Healy, IAF representative



Herder Leocadio Copa, who has benefited from PROMETA's services, with a prize-winning llama at a camelid fair in Sucre, Bolivia's official capital.

BRAZIL

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 30

IAF commitment:
\$9,046,418

Counterpart value:
\$15,433,289

Total investment:
\$24,479,707

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture,
conservation, corporate
social responsibility,
enterprise development,
inclusion of African
descendants, women
and young people.

New Grants

Bahia Street, \$172,360 over two years;
counterpart commitment, \$479,540.

Bahia Street will supplement the school curriculum of 120 girls and young women so they continue to high school and university. Its program will also reach another 170 Brazilians in Salvador da Bahia. (BR-863)

Grupo de Informática, Comunicação, e Ação Local (GIRAL), \$196,635 over two years;
counterpart commitment, \$230,450.

GIRAL will train 120 young Brazilians from Pernambuco to produce broadcasts, videos and publications. Its members will participate in the Pernambuco Forum on Communication (FOPECOM), other fora and in networks of instructors in information technology. (BR-864)

Fundação Foco de Luz, \$221,550 over three
years; counterpart commitment, \$391,740.

Foco de Luz will expand its program of training and internships, its cultural and sports activities, and its handicraft workshops to reach 1,000 young Brazilians at risk and 3,500 adults. (BR-865)

Fundação Maurício Sirotsky Sobrinho (FMSS), \$343,000 over two years and six months;
counterpart commitment, \$1,164,700.

FMSS will fund grassroots organizations in Rio Grande do Sul focused on economic development, food security and the inclusion of Brazilians of African and indigenous descent. (BR-866)

Associação dos Agricultores Agroflorestais de Barra do Turvo e Adrianópolis (COOPERA Floresta), \$297,385 over three
years; counterpart commitment, \$633,440.

COOPERA Floresta will expand its agroforestry school and offer its members training and the opportunity to share experiences with technicians, researchers and other farmers. Its new plant will process fruit pulp, ice cream and dried fruit. At least 2,000 Brazilians should benefit directly and another 11,000 indirectly. (BR-867)

Instituto Comunitario Grande Florianopolis (ICom), \$297,650 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$1,165,480.

ICom will further develop its Centro de Apoio a Iniciativas Sociais (CAIS), a resource center for nongovernmental and grassroots groups in Greater Florianopolis, which should benefit 400 organizations and 1000 individuals. (BR-868)

Supplemental Grants

Associação BrazilFoundation
(BrazilFoundation), \$149,977; counterpart
commitment, \$281,254.

BrazilFoundation will award additional subgrants to seven organizations, evaluate their effectiveness and publish the findings in a document commemorating its 10th anniversary. (BR-831-A3)

Centro de Estudos e Promoção da Agricultura de Grupo (CEPAGRO), \$115,000; counterpart
commitment, \$112,239.

CEPAGRO will document its success with developing standards for organic certification, supporting farmers in transition to organic production, planting vegetable gardens and fruit trees in an urban setting, and installing “dry” latrines that use ash and lime. It will share the information in print, online and at a conference for 1,300 participants. (BR-832-A6)

Instituto Asta, \$144,325; counterpart
commitment, \$295,805.

Instituto Asta, formerly called Instituto Realice, will focus on marketing the products of the craftspeople it serves in the state of Rio de Janeiro and will organize workshops to improve their design and output. (BR-844-A1)

COURTESY BAHIA STREET





Closing the Education Gap, One Girl at a Time

Regional leadership, economic success, a vibrant democratic process and sheer geography have combined to make Brazil the essential player that it is today in the international arena. This distinction notwithstanding, critics cite a lingering disparity in income distribution that should be addressed with a more effective educational system. While universities offer first-rate instruction, public elementary and secondary schools have not kept pace, and children from marginalized communities, especially girls, are often left behind.

Bahia Street, a nongovernmental organization, was founded in 1997 in Salvador da Bahia to encourage disadvantaged girls and young women, between the ages of 6 and 17, to reach their academic potential. With funds raised by affiliates in the United States and the United Kingdom, Bahia Street addresses the educational gender gap by offering classes that supplement the school curriculum so students can successfully make the transition to high school and university. Bahia Street's board of directors and staff are women of African descent for whom education provided the way out of poverty. Through their service to Bahia Street, they set an excellent example of giving back, which the girls enrolled in the program already follow by helping other students after school.

Bahia Street will use its IAF grant to bring its tutoring and mentoring to 120 students now enrolled in elementary and middle school. Five days a week, they will attend after-school sessions that reinforce their daily lessons in Portuguese, history, geography, math and English in anticipation of the examinations they must pass in order to progress to the next grade. Basic instruction in personal hygiene, nutrition and safety is also included. High school students will benefit from weekly classes in math and science as additional preparation for university entrance exams.

The program's reach extends beyond the students to their parents and other caregivers through weekly classes in literacy, health, mathematics and English, and monthly workshops addressing domestic violence, nutrition and dengue fever. To assure an approach in the classroom that is culturally sensitive and conducive to learning, Bahia Street will develop a curriculum that structures quarterly opportunities for teachers to update their understanding of the local context and otherwise develop professionally. IAF funds will be invested in the renovation of Bahia Street's headquarters and in construction of a science laboratory.

Bahia Street makes a long-term commitment to each student that it serves. Its leadership hopes the program can inspire similar efforts elsewhere in Brazil, so that more girls at risk stay in school. Closing the educational gap and developing talent is critical to assuring an effective work force for the future.

— Amy Kirschenbaum, IAF representative

COLOMBIA

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 22

IAF commitment:
\$6,027,264

Counterpart value:
\$7,717,212

Total investment:
\$13,744,476

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture,
conservation, corporate
social responsibility,
education, enterprise
development, legal
services, inclusion of
African descendants,
indigenous peoples and
young people.

New Grants

Asociación de Desplazados Dos de Mayo (ADOM), \$35,000 over one year; counterpart commitment, \$11,970.

ADOM, an organization of Afro-Colombians displaced from their homes because of the armed conflict in the department of Chocó, will revise its mission statement and work to improve its members' income, skills in math and reading, and psychological well-being. (CO-526)

Asociación de Comunidades Andinas de Nariño (Tierrandina) \$217,932 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$192,599. Tierrandina will work with 252 farmers from the municipalities of Consacá, Yacuanquer and Sandoná, department of Nariño, to strengthen a network of sustainable farms and to develop as a grassroots organization. (CO-527)

Corporación Grupo Semillas (Semillas) \$292,500 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$338,551.

Semillas will work with six organizations of African descendants and indigenous Colombians in the departments of Cauca and Tolima to improve relations with Colombians of other ethnicities and support responsible agriculture. The project will directly benefit 1,760 Colombians. (CO-528)

Corporación Taller de Promoción Popular y Desarrollo Alternativo (Prodesal) \$212,006 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$191,226.

Prodesal will involve 1,036 young Colombians in local policy-making, raise their awareness of their rights and improve their business skills through technical assistance, training, forums and exchanges. A subgrant fund will finance 40 start-up businesses. (CO-529)

Supplemental Grants

Fundación Para El Etnodesarrollo De los Llanos Orientales de Colombia (ETNOLLANO), \$118,478; counterpart commitment, \$43,904.

ETNOLLANO will work to improve the quality and volume of baskets, wood carvings, ceramics and handbags produced by 240 Sikuani, Amorua, and Piarioa craftswomen from five *resguardos*, or indigenous territories, and from one other rural community along the Orinoco River in the eastern Amazon region of northern Vichada department. (CO-512-A3)

Asociación de Cabildos de Caldono de la Zona Nororiente Ukawé'sx Nasa Cxahb (Asociación de Cabildos), \$18,941 for two years.

Asociación de Cabildos will work with young Colombians in indigenous Nasa *resguardos*, in the department of Cauca, to develop enterprises marketing meat, wool and organic coffee. (CO-517-A2)

Asociación de Campesinos Agroecológicos de la Zona de Amortiguamiento al Parque Natural Regional del Duende (Asoduende), \$119,284 for 18 months; counterpart commitment, \$84,750.

Asoduende will work with 11 grassroots organizations in the buffer zone of the Regional Natural Park "El Duende", department of Valle del Cauca, to improve conditions in 13 communities. (CO-518-A3)



COURTESY SEMILLAS

Striking a Balance at 14,000 Feet

Consacá, Yacuanquer and Sandoná, in the department of Nariño on Colombia's border with Ecuador, are three of seven municipalities located in buffer zone of the Santuario de Flora y Fauna Galeras, a national park created in 1985 from more than 7,000 hectares ranging in altitude between 6,400 and more than 14,000 feet above sea level. The park is named for Galeras, an active volcano that soars 14,029 feet and is the area's most striking landmark. Although Colombian law restricts land use in buffer zones, insufficient staff and the difficulty of access limited the government's regulation of the farming practices that put pressure on natural resources until recently.

Asociación de Comunidades Campesinas Andinas de Nariño (Tierrandina), founded in 2003, is comprised of 14 member-communities in Consacá, Yacuanquer and Sandoná. Through this grassroots organization, the 252 families who reside in the buffer zone are trying to strike the right balance between development and conservation on this harsh and beautiful landscape. Working in coordination with park authorities from all levels of government and with other grassroots organizations in the region, Tierrandina encourages farmers to diversify crops, recover native seeds and adopt strategies for retaining and improving their soil. Water shortages, a consequence of deforestation, have prompted Tierrandina families to collaborate with the Colombian National Natural Park System on solutions expected to result in the more organized and responsible use of farm land and the introduction of conservation measures at high altitudes. Tierrandina and the Park Service assure that farmers know of the incentives offered to those who are willing to forego cultivating a portion of their land and set it aside as a legally recognized natural reserve. Successful applicants for this status become members of the Asociación Red Colombiana de Reservas Naturales de la Sociedad Civil (Resnatur) and eligible for its training and funding programs. They receive priority consideration for government programs and funding and are exempt from property taxes.

Tierrandina will use its IAF award to encourage the designation of additional privately-owned land as nature reserves, assure their success and to develop as a leader in spearheading efforts to protect the environment. Of the farms it serves, 79 are already registered as private reserves and 85 qualify for this status; the rest lack sufficient forest cover. Tierrandina will provide the technical assistance and supplies that registered farms require to adhere to their conservation plans and that qualified farms need if they are to register as reserves and develop plans of their own. Owners of ineligible farms will be encouraged to adopt environmentally-responsible agricultural practices. Farmers who take advantage of opportunities for exchanges and workshops in effective practices can develop proposals that reconcile conservation and agricultural production and apply to Tierrandina for support from its subgrant fund. The resulting advances should benefit both the ecosystem and the farmers.—*Juanita Roca, IAF representative*

COURTESY TIERRANDINA



COSTA RICA

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 9

IAF commitment:
\$1,213,100

Counterpart value:
\$1,648,783

Total investment:
\$2,861,883

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture (organic),
conservation, corporate
social responsibility,
enterprise development,
resource mobilization,
inclusion of indigenous
peoples.

New Grants

**Corporación Educativa para el
Desarrollo Costarricense S.C. (CEDECO)**,
\$35,000 over one year; counterpart
commitment, \$26,500.

CEDECO will work with four
organizations of farmers who apply
organic methods to study the feasibility of
businesses that produce organic fertilizer
and to develop plans for operating those
determined feasible. (CR-333)

Asociación Instituto Monteverde (IMV),
\$49,600 over 18 months; counterpart
commitment, \$36,750.

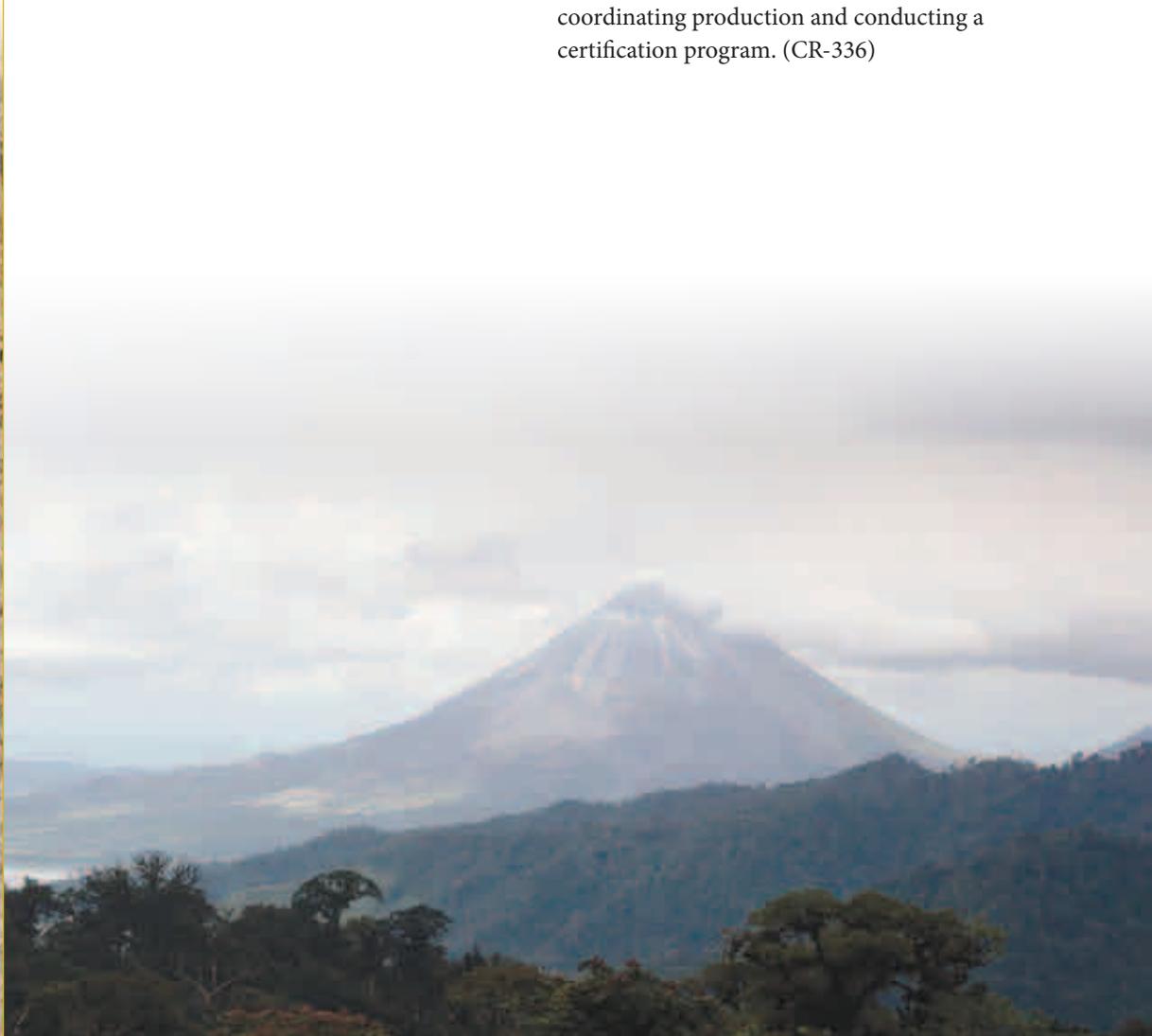
IMV will create an autonomous nonprofit
organization that will raise funds from the
tourism sector and other local businesses
to finance small grants supporting
community-based initiatives in the
municipality of Monteverde. (CR-334)

**Fundación Corcovado Lon Willing
Ramsey Junior (FC)**, \$227,850 over three
years; counterpart commitment, \$414,950.

FC will launch a fundraising operation,
expand its environmental education
program to include waste management and
low-impact tourism throughout the Osa
Peninsula, and manage a program of small
grants. The project will directly benefit 600
individuals and will indirectly impact all
3,000 residents of the peninsula. (CR-335)

**Asociación Movimiento de Agricultura
Orgánica Costarricense (MAOCO)**,
\$243,000 over three years; counterpart
commitment, \$153,800.

MAOCO will strengthen its network of
900 producers through improving their
access to markets, identifying the demand
for organic goods not currently available,
coordinating production and conducting a
certification program. (CR-336)



Travelers' Philanthropy for Grassroots Development

In the 1950s, a small group of Quakers left the United States to settle as dairy farmers in a remote Costa Rican cloud forest in Monteverde, which became a municipality five years ago. Cloud forests, constituting just 1 percent of world's woodlands, are an uncommon natural wonder. Aware of this, the settlers soon resolved to protect their mist-covered surroundings. By the 1970s, they were collaborating with scientists from around the globe on a conservation program that resulted in a vast complex of privately-held reserves extending over more than 65,000 acres. The eclectic vegetation in this unique ecosystem includes bromeliads, whose foliage is the most widely patterned of any plant, and some 450 varieties of orchids. Hundreds of species of birds nest in moss-covered trees, notably toucans, with their colorful beaks, and glorious *quetzales* whose golden-green and scarlet plumage was used as currency in Meso-American civilizations. Jaguars, tapirs, sloths and howler monkeys are among the exotic fauna that prowl, roam or hang from branches.

Monteverde, population 6,500, has evolved from an isolated cluster of farms into a destination that hosts 240,000 visitors annually. Their needs are met by 131 registered businesses. Now residents are concerned that wealth from this tourism has not been channeled to benefit the community and they are probing the possibilities of "travelers' philanthropy," a trend in giving whereby tourists donate cash or services to the communities on their itineraries. According to a report issued in 2009 by the World Travel Market, these kinds of contributions totaled \$248 million.

The Monteverde Institute (MVI), a center for research and education, will use its IAF award to explore the viability of an autonomous organization that encourages such donations from visitors and the local travel industry. Funds raised will finance a program of grants supporting community-based initiatives and will defray the expenses of promotional materials and a study of how travelers' philanthropy works in other parts of the world. The group of Monteverde residents who form the nucleus of the new organization is currently engaged in a campaign to raise \$55,000 to invest in improvements that should bring Monteverde's multi-use community center into compliance with contemporary safety standards.

Partners in this effort include the Monteverde Chamber of Tourism, the National Bank of Costa Rica, many local businesses and the Center for Responsible Travel, a pioneer in furthering travelers' philanthropy worldwide. Once the new organization has formed, travelers' philanthropy will become the primary source of revenue for future development initiatives and conservation measures. For more information, visit www.philanthropymonteverde.org or www.filantropiamonteverde.org.—*Marcy Kelley, IAF representative*



MARC HOFFMAN



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 7

IAF commitment: \$1,765,823

Counterpart value: \$1,722,408

Total investment: \$3,488,231

Areas of emphasis: Agriculture, corporate social responsibility, education, enterprise development, inclusion of women and young people.

New Grant

Fundación Castillo (FUCAS), \$356,560 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$502,979.

FUCAS will work with members of two farmer associations and an agricultural cooperative in Elias Piña, near the Haitian border, to increase their harvest of avocados and limes, pool production to sell in volume, develop their management and marketing skills, and protect the upper Artibonite watershed through organic farming and the application of agroforestry techniques. At least 160 families are expected to improve their income. (DR-342)

Supplemental Grants

American Chamber of Commerce of the Dominican Republic (AmCham-DR), \$94,925; counterpart commitment, \$121,622.

AmCham-DR will support additional grassroots-development projects through its subgrant fund, will train the subgrantees in project management and will offer business leaders workshops on corporate social responsibility. (DR-329-A8)

Fundación Taigüey, \$9,911 over six months; counterpart commitment, \$1,584.

Fundación Taigüey will continue to provide Cooperativa para el Desarrollo de La Ciénaga (COOPDECI) training and technical assistance that improves its management and its marketing of jams and jellies. (DR-336-A4)



JENNY PETROW

A Path to Prosperity in the Borderlands

Las Matas de Farfán, just 10 miles from the Dominican-Haitian border, is the birthplace of many Major League baseball players. Less known is that it is also the home of Amariys Castillo, founder of **Fundación Castillo** (FUCAS). In 2010 the Pan-American Development Foundation honored Castillo with its *Héroes del Hemisferio* award for her efforts on the border and her organization's work to reforest communities, introduce economic opportunities and increase binational cooperation. Although she spent two decades in New York, Castillo, a social worker, always felt destined to return to the southwestern Dominican Republic and help the impoverished communities there. When she finally did go home, she founded FUCAS, which, since 1990, has worked to improve the living conditions and the production of families in Las Matas de Farfán and neighboring Elias Piña.

Traditionally, farmers living along the border sell produce in small quantities, often to middlemen for a pittance. With modest support from the United Nations Development Programme and from the Dominican government, FUCAS set out to help them use organic methods to cultivate high-value crops. Since 2002, 162 families have planted more than 150,000 avocado and lime trees, which, together with the application of agroforestry techniques, has resulted in better income and less damage to the environment. The challenge now is to find a way for farmers to pool their harvests to sell in volume directly to wholesalers. To meet it, FUCAS will continue its collaboration with two groups of farmers, la Asociación Santa Clara No. 4 de las Lagunas and el Bloque de Productores de Guanito, and partner with a third organization, Cooperativa de Productores Agropecuarios de la Sección de Guayabo (COOPROYABO), to build a center where farmers can amass, sort and prepare produce for bulk sale. Members of all three organizations will receive training in business administration and marketing so they can manage the center. With farmers in a better bargaining position, the partnership hopes to identify new domestic and international outlets.

As a founding member of Nuestra Frontera, a network linking 23 Dominican civil society organizations, Castillo recognizes that working together is crucial to community development. Stronger, more productive associations of farmers in Elias Piña will not only improve conditions for families in the rural southwest but should also help fortify civil society in the Dominican Republic.—
Alejandra Argueta, IAF program staff assistant



ECUADOR

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 9

IAF commitment:
\$1,456,085

Counterpart value:
\$1,016,320

Total investment:
\$2,472,405

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture, cultural
expression, enterprise
development, inclusion
of African descendants.

New Grants

Federación Provincial de Organizaciones Campesinas de Zamora Chinchi (FEPROCAZCH), \$261,750 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$247,300.

FEPROCAZCH will increase the production of organic cacao by farmers in 22 member associations, improve their management of the local watershed and other features of the environment, and launch a business that produces fine chocolates. An additional 2,000 Ecuadorians will benefit indirectly from the project. (EC-423)

Federación de Organizaciones Negras y Mestizas del Sur Occidente de Esmeraldas, Atacames, Muisne (FONMSOEAM), \$49,500 over 18 months; counterpart commitment, \$48,800.

FONMSOEAM will study the feasibility of operating a cacao-processing plant and will develop a business plan. Sixty cacao farmers will participate in this exercise that is expected to benefit more than 500 Ecuadorians. (EC-424)



MARCY KELLEY

A Plan and Then a Processing Plant

Federación de Organizaciones Negras y Mestizas del Sur Occidente de Esmeraldas, Atacames, Muisne (FONMSOEAM) represents 12 community organizations in 30 communities around the Mache Chindul reserve in Esmeraldas, which encompasses 70,000 hectares of tropical rainforest. FONMSOEAM's 500 farmers, mostly of African descent, annually produce some 250 tons of cacao certified as organic.

FONMSOEAM collects the raw cacao from the farmers in its member-organizations and manages the drying and sales. A quarter of the production is sold to European buyers who are willing to pay a fair-trade premium of about \$5 per pound, which FONMSOEAM invests in training for the farmers. Most use rivers and their tributaries to transport their cacao and themselves between communities, sometimes as far as six hours away. Despite their remote locations, and high rate of illiteracy, they participate in the training, apply for microcredit and believe that a better life is possible.

Limited by its infrastructure, FONMSOEAM now sells the rest of its organic production to intermediaries at the lower price paid for conventional cacao. With profits from annual sales and some materials exchanged for cacao, it bought land and constructed a building where it has an office and an area for fermenting and drying cacao. According to staff, of every \$100 a consumer might pay for chocolate, a farmer receives as little as \$5 and, after expenses are paid, can be left with just \$2. Costly links in this chain are transit to Guayaquil and the processing of cacao into paste by a contractor there. If FONMSOEAM had its own plant, it could do the processing and then ship the product from the port of Esmeraldas to its European buyers, leaving more of its export revenues to flow to the farmers.

Until this year, FONMSOEAM had never received funding from a donor. It originally proposed building a processing plant, a goal that required significant additional groundwork. The IAF suggested that FONMSOEAM first apply for a small award that would allow for more planning, an opportunity that FONMSOEAM has welcomed. Two representatives of each member will attend training and share what they learn with their communities. The feedback will allow FONMSOEAM to develop a business plan consistent with the aspirations of the farmers and needs of their organizations. Once the enterprise is realistically defined, FONMSOEAM expects to move ahead with its vision for exporting more of its production and increasing the income of its famers.—*Marcy Kelley, IAF representative*



EL SALVADOR

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 19

IAF commitment: \$3,693,901

Counterpart value: \$3,225,411

Total investment: \$6,919,312

Areas of emphasis: Community enterprises, remittances, conservation, inclusion of women and young people.

New Grants

Asociación de Desarrollo Comunal de la Isla de Méndez (ADESCOIM), \$121,895 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$114,410.

ADESCOIM will work with residents of Isla de Méndez, Usulután, on conservation and income-generation in the Jiquilisco Biosphere Reserve. Activities will include fishing, marketing, construction of artificial reefs, the propagation of sea turtles and improvements to the grantee's tourism center. (ES-249)

Asociación de Municipalidades de la Montañona (Mancomunidad La Montañona), \$44,755 over one year; counterpart commitment, \$57,005.

Mancomunidad La Montañona will engage residents from seven municipalities of Chalatenango in a grassroots process that includes workshops to assess needs and priorities, consider economic alternatives and develop an economic development plan for the region. (ES-250)

Asociación Acuícola Lago de Ilopango (ASALI), \$159,180 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$290,160.

ASALI will work with fishers around Lake Ilopango to improve and expand their aquaculture and facilitate sales. The project will directly benefit 112 fishers from associated cooperatives and other groups and will indirectly benefit 560 other residents of the lake basin. (ES-251)

Fundación para la Educación Social, Económico y Cultural (FUPEC), \$286,485 over two years and six months; counterpart commitment, \$246,775.

FUPEC will work with Salvadoran hometown associations in the United States to fund subgrants for grassroots producer associations and for micro- and small businesses. The project is expected to benefit 370 farmers and businesses in the departments of Cabañas, Cuscatlán, Usulután and San Miguel. (ES-252)

Iniciativa Social para la Democracia (ISD), \$46,540 over nine months; counterpart commitment, \$50,310.

ISD will work with residents of San Pedro Masahuat to prioritize needs of microentrepreneurs and farmers, to develop an economic development plan that incorporates leaders of hometown associations in the United States, and to draft a proposal for an income-generating project. (ES-253)

Instituto para el Rescate Ancestral Indígena Salvadoreño (RAIS), \$279,640 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$177,850.

RAIS will offer training and technical assistance that enables residents from 11 communities in Suchitoto to revitalize and market traditional crafts and to engage in cultural tourism. The project is expected to improve the skills, earnings and cultural pride of 800 Salvadorans. (ES-254)



SETH JESSE

Farmer working with EL BÁLSAMO surveys his indigo crop.

Supplemental Grants

Fundación para el Desarrollo Juvenil (FDJ), \$38,290 over six months; counterpart commitment \$20,290.

FDJ will help adolescents from the departments of Cuscatlán and San Salvador develop their leadership and technical skills and launch microbusinesses that produce small livestock. (ES-236-A3)

Centro Arte para la Paz (CAP), \$23,325; counterpart commitment, \$6,400.

CAP will train young Salvadorans to conduct guided tours of Lake Suchitlán that emphasize the history of the municipality of Suchitoto, will purchase and equip a boat for tours and will hire the staff necessary to help the center earn income. (ES-237-A1)

Asociación El Bálsamo (EL BÁLSAMO), \$11,270 over six months; counterpart commitment, \$3,950.

EL BÁLSAMO will improve its processing infrastructure and offer other support to farmers working to revitalize the organic cultivation of indigo in Cuisnahuat, Sonsonate. (ES-238-A2)

ASALI's floating cages for tilapia.





COURTESY ADESCOIM

Community event to clear debris from the beach.

Community Leadership in Biosphere Management

Set amongst the gangly roots of the mangrove forests, communities in southern El Salvador are leading the way in the managing of coastal wetlands. One of them, Isla de Méndez, is located along the San Juan del Gozo Peninsula between the Pacific Ocean and Jiquilisco Bay, home to an array of plants and animals that provide residents their livelihood. In addition to yielding abundant harvests of shellfish, the mangroves there also provide a vital nesting area for several species of sea turtles. Tourism, population pressure and illegal fishing practices, including the use of explosives, however, threaten to overwhelm the marine life on which this and other Peninsula communities depend.

Asociación de Desarrollo Comunal de la Isla de Méndez (ADESCOIM) has worked for 12 years to preserve the bay's resources and to support initiatives that generate income for residents. In addition to operating a visitor center featuring a restaurant, cabins and guided tours by boat, ADESCOIM has incubated and released some 185,000 turtles, worked to preserve mangroves and has conducted educational campaigns on the importance of protecting natural resources. It encourages residents to participate in its planning and decision-making and partners with other nongovernmental organizations, the Salvadoran Ministry of Natural Resources (MARN) and the government's Center for Fishing and Aquaculture Development (CENDEPESCA). In 2007, UNESCO recognized Jiquilisco Bay under its Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, a distinction the site shares with 579 other biosphere reserves in more than 100 countries.

ADESCOIM will use its IAF funds to renovate its center, including the cabins and the restaurant, and to purchase equipment that improves visitor services, such as a canopy and life jackets for the boat that takes tourists to the bay and its mangroves. New signs will indicate circuits of interest to ecotourists and will help prevent damage to the environment by directing foot traffic along designated paths. ADESCOIM will expand its hatchery, conduct workshops on the importance of biodiversity and techniques to protect turtle nests from predators, and will encourage residents who discover nests to donate the eggs to the program. Over the next two years, ADESCOIM expects donations to result in the release of some 3,500 newborns. Two community-wide cleaning events will involve students, fishers and other residents in the removal of debris from beaches.

To repopulate Jiquilisco Bay with fish and generate revenue for fishing families, ADESCOIM will coordinate with CENDEPESCA in installing and monitoring artificial reefs at three sites near Isla de Méndez. A newly formed committee will work to sell the catch from the bay directly to consumers, avoiding intermediaries. The goal is to increase the clientele to include local restaurants and markets, as well as capture a larger share of sales revenues for the fishers.—*Seth Micah Jesse, IAF representative*



Hatchlings released from their hatchery.



GUATEMALA

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 10

IAF commitment:
\$1,910,210

Counterpart value:
\$2,301,639

Total investment:
\$4,211,849

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture, community enterprises, disaster mitigation, inclusion of indigenous peoples.

New Grants

Sa Qa Chol Nimla K'aleb'aal (SANK), \$200,900 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$124,335.

SANK will work in 100 communities in the municipalities of Chisec and Raxuhá, in Alta Verapaz, to conform the possession and ownership of land to Q'eqchi' tradition; to raise awareness of environmental degradation; and to train farmers in the advantages of crop diversification and the risks associated with monocropping and the overuse of pesticides. (GT-303)

Fundación ProPetén (PROPETEN), \$247,805 over four years; counterpart commitment, \$489,501.

PROPETEN will work with three Q'eqchi' communities in the municipalities of Poptún and San Luis, Petén, to formalize their operational structure and will provide selected farmers technical assistance with growing and selling cacao. (GT-304)

Supplemental Grants

Asociación Amigas del Sol (ADS), \$20,000; counterpart commitment, \$1,475.

ADS will purchase a vehicle for more reliable access to the remote K'iché and Ixil villages where it is constructing solar ovens expected to reduce exposure to smoke and the use of wood for fire. (GT-296-A1)

Federación Comercializadora de Café Especial de Guatemala (FECCEG), \$20,000 over two years and three months.

FECCEG will invest the additional funds in a working capital fund from which to purchase coffee beans certified as Fair Trade or organic under the brand Café Femenino produced by groups of its women members. (GT-298-A1)



MARK CAICEDO





COURTESY SANK

Ernesto Tzi, SANK director, explains the map of a community's significant features.

Titling in Tuzulután

The Spanish who invaded the fertile valleys of Alta Verapaz, known as *tezulután*, or land of war, in the 15th century could not conquer the indigenous Q'eqchi' residents by force. But in 1535, Fray Bartolomé de las Casas, a Dominican priest, used his faith to win over the Q'eqchi' and within a decade many had ceded control of their land and their lives to his order. The exploitation that followed, along with foreign possession of extensive areas, did not end when Guatemala won its independence from Spain, in 1821. By the 1930s, the oppression was so severe that many Q'eqchi's fled north to escape it.

The Q'eqchi' were again uprooted during the brutal civil war that raged from the 1960s to the 1980s and threatened the very survival of all indigenous Guatemalans. Government forces distrusted the communal way of life and used the means at their disposal to discourage it. The peace accords that ended hostilities in the 1990s promised more tolerance and better treatment. An important component allows indigenous Guatemalans to purchase land that the government had expropriated from large estates.

Sa Qa Chol Nimla K'aleb'aal (SANK) was founded in 2000 in Chisec, Alta Verapaz, by 30 young Q'eqchi' activists. Advised by foreign and indigenous Guatemalan experts in property law, SANK works to reconcile the Western concept of ownership with the Q'eqchi' view that sources of water and firewood, as well as altars, are assets belonging to all residents in the vicinity. Since 2009, SANK has convinced municipal governments to formalize individual and collective ownership of designated plots in four communities. With IAF's support, it will introduce its approach in six more.

SANK's work begins with surveying parcels of land and filing the surveys with the municipality, the initial steps in the current titling process in Alta Verapaz. Now SANK plans to file the surveys with the appropriate agencies of the central government as well, so the titles have its official sanction. Additionally, two municipalities currently assign some 100 Q'eqchi' communities temporary spaces for *mercados campesinos*, where farmers gather to sell their crops. SANK plans to work with the municipalities on a more permanent arrangement, so Q'eqchi' are assured of a stable sales outlet.

The Q'eqchi' collaboration with SANK is especially important in the current economic context and security situation. Businesses are eager to acquire large tracts of land on which to grow African palm and sugar cane; traffickers need properties where they can store drugs in transit to the United States. Secure title, and a predictable work location will help vulnerable Q'eqchi' communities resist this pressure and, this time, hold on to their land and livelihoods.—*José Toasa, IAF representative*

HAITI

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 12

IAF commitment:
\$2,859,935

Counterpart value:
\$2,822,533

Total investment:
\$5,682,468

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture (food security), training in technical skills, cultural expression, enterprise development, inclusion of women and young people.

New Grants

Sant Pon Ayiti (SPA), \$56,000 over nine months; counterpart commitment, \$10,640.

SPA will work with its performing company Troupe Culturelle Dawome, four networks of women's organizations on Haiti's border with the Dominican Republic, and a specialized professional to develop a plan to recover from the January 2010 earthquake. The troupe of young artists will schedule performances of music, dance and theater in camps in Port-au-Prince that are expected to reach 20,000 displaced Haitians. (HA-211)

Meds & Foods for Kids (MFK), \$50,000 over one year; counterpart commitment, \$111,950.

MFK will engage three farmer associations, all currently supplying MFK peanuts, in testing seed varieties, fungicides, fertilizers, the feasibility of seed banks and the application of simple technologies, such as treadle irrigation and tillers. While helping the groups develop their administrative structure, MFK's agronomists will train the farmers in the use of the new products and technologies, analyze their experience and collaborate with them on proposals to apply the results on a larger scale. (HA-212)

Mouvement Paysan de l'Acul du Nord (MPA), \$392,400 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$171,540.

MPA will work with 600 member-families to develop their production, processing and sale of manioc and associated crops, such as pumpkins, sweet potatoes and beans, in Camp Louise and La Souffrière, two *sections communales* of Acul du Nord, near Cap-Haïtien. (HA-213)

Oganizasyon Gwoupman Kominotè Pawas Sakrekè (OGKPS), \$124,675 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$113,565.

OGKPS will renovate and resume operation of its bakery and *cassaverie*, which is expected to result in an income for farmers, bread vendors and bakery workers and to directly benefit other residents of the Lavyolèt neighborhood of Cap-Haïtien. (HA-214)

L'Ecole de Fabrication Métallique pour les Démunis (EFAMED), \$295,770 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$179,965.

EFAMED will work with graduates of its vocational training school based in Jérémie to launch a metalworking cooperative producing industrial doors, windows and gates, and agricultural tools. The project is expected to provide a steady source of income for 50 young men and its products will benefit the entire department of Grand'Anse. (HA-215)

Supplemental Grant

Fondation Festival Film Jakmèl (FFFJ), \$173,860 over 18 months; counterpart commitment, \$988,257.

Its classroom, theater and office destroyed by the January 2010 earthquake, FFFJ will build a structure to house its Ciné Services at its new location, purchase equipment and software, and pay salaries. (HA-206-A2)



OSKAR LANDI

FFFJ student-filmmakers.

Forging a Future for Metalworkers

The French word *démuni* is used to refer to the extreme poverty of an individual without even life's most basic necessities. **L'École de Fabrication Métallique pour Enfants Démunis** (EFAMED) is a vocational training school founded in 2001 to address the extreme poverty of young *démunis* in the Haitian department of Grand'Anse, by teaching metalsmithing skills to disadvantaged adolescents, many of them orphans, with little formal schooling. To date, six classes, totaling 100 students, have completed the program consisting of a year of theoretical training followed by a year of hands-on experience manufacturing doors, window bars and gates.

EFAMED's founders are now concerned with a different but related issue: employment for these trained young Haitians. They believe that the solution might lie in the demand for building components from businesses and nongovernmental organizations in Haiti and from Haitians living abroad, which has been too strong to satisfy with the students' output alone. Additionally, farmers in Grand'Anse want wheelbarrows as do groups in and around Port-au-Prince that are engaged in clearing the wreckage left by the 2010 earthquake. The founders want to bring 50 of the school's graduates together into a cooperative that manufactures more of EFAMED's standard inventory and also wheelbarrows. EFAMED will invest its IAF grant in launching this cooperative and in a program offering the graduates an additional 290 hours of training that will ground them in the skills necessary to manage the business. A Dutch volunteer from Engineers Without Borders, who will work in residence at EFAMED, will introduce the process of making wheelbarrows and otherwise support and mentor the metalsmiths.

This grant to EFAMED marks an expansion of the current portfolio into a remote corner of Haiti that has not had any IAF funding in years. Working in EFAMED's cooperative, young men once considered *démunis* will not only improve their own circumstances, but will also use their skills to contribute toward development that benefits others—in Grand'Anse and beyond.—*Alexis Toussaint, IAF program staff assistant*



JENNY PETROW

HONDURAS

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 11

IAF commitment:
\$3,135,126

Counterpart value:
\$2,945,948

Total investment:
\$6,081,074

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture (crop diversification), access to credit, conservation, education, enterprise development, inclusion of indigenous peoples and young people.

Supplemental Grants

Centro de Educación Vocacional Grupo Juvenil Dion (GJD), \$150,000 over 18 months; counterpart commitment, \$148,595.

GJD will improve its marketing center, open a store that supplies businesses operated by graduates of its vocational training, use the profits to help fund its programs, purchase a vehicle to support operations and replace woodworking equipment damaged in a fire. (HO-244-A5)

Agua Para el Pueblo (APP), \$98,570; counterpart commitment, \$11,778.

APP will supply a store with inventory for maintaining the water systems it develops in partnership with communities throughout Honduras, will purchase drilling equipment and will cover the increased costs of materials and labor. Beyond the 12 indigenous communities of Gracias a Dios, where APP's IAF-funded project is located, the additional funds will contribute to the sustainability of the organization's work that brings potable water to rural Hondurans. (HO-248-A1)

Fundación Hondureña de Ambiente y Desarrollo VIDA (FV), \$136,040 over nine months; counterpart commitment, \$39,654.

FV will collaborate with grassroots groups, nongovernmental organizations, municipal governments and a binational coordinating entity to advance and expand its work in agriculture and conservation in a drought-stricken area of southern Honduras and El Salvador. (HO-250-A1)



MARK CAICEDO



MEXICO

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 27

IAF commitment:
\$5,396,496

Counterpart value:
\$9,211,177

Total investment:
\$14,607,673

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture,
conservation, enterprise
development, inclusion
of indigenous peoples.

New Grants

Unión de Productores Agroforestales de las Comunidades Indígenas de la Huasteca Hidalguense S.P.R. de R.I. (UPACIHH), \$142,060 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$99,340.

UPACIHH will work in Huejutla, Hidalgo, with 215 farmers to improve their production of the *camedor* palm and their ability to take advantage of the demand for it in Mexico and abroad. The organization will train its members, create a working-capital fund and upgrade its facility. (ME-509)

Enlace Rural Regional A.C. (ERRAC), \$131,610 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$166,845.

ERRAC will work with 70 farmers from Asociación Civil Productores De Caprinos y Ovinos (ACPO) in Queretaro to improve their production and marketing of goats, meat and cheese. Its project should indirectly benefit 350 other residents of the seven communities the farmers represent. (ME-510)

Sociedad Cooperativa 10 de octubre (Cooperativa 10 de octubre), \$43,675 for one year; counterpart commitment, \$35,845. Cooperativa 10 de octubre will engage its 300 members, all residents of three rural communities of Tlaxcala, in assessing their needs and priorities, in drafting proposals that benefit the environment and in developing their organization. (ME-511)

Iniciativas para el Desarrollo de una Economía Alternativa y Solidaria A.C. (Ideas Comunitarias), \$152,530 over two years and six months; counterpart commitment, \$90,753.

Ideas Comunitarias will reach more than 240 young indigenous leaders in several communities of Oaxaca with its curriculum that trains them to undertake community development and projects for generating income. Students will be eligible for subgrants to fund their proposals. (ME-512)

UPACIHH farmer.

Comité para la Educación y Desarrollo Integral de la Mujer A.C. (CEDIM), \$54,820 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$51,055.

CEDIM will train counselors in 15 communities of Veracruz in issues affecting women, including basic rights and domestic violence, and provide the institutional resources to address them. (ME-513)

San Sebastián Tlacotepec Ipantepetl S.P.R. de R.L. (SSTI), \$120,660 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$149,274.

SSTI, which groups farmers and markets their coffee certified as organic and fair trade, will offer its members training and technical assistance, will develop its grassroots business and will create a working-capital fund from which to pay farmers upon delivery. (ME-514)

Supplemental Grant

Migramex Asociación Civil (MAC), \$75,083; counterpart commitment, \$134,404. MAC will open additional savings-and-loans associations, form groups offering services in mental health and will provide working capital to four community-based enterprises. The project will benefit 140 women, mostly heads-of-household. (ME-490-A1)



Building on Success with Organic Coffee

According to a recent report published by the International Trade Centre, 8 percent of all unroasted coffee has been certified as fair trade or organic. Not only has this coffee become more common in supermarkets in the United States; it also satisfies a growing demand in other countries, notably Mexico.

IAF grantee **San Sebastián Tlacotepec Ipantepetl Sociedad de Producción Rural de Responsabilidad** (SSTI) is a successful grassroots enterprise based in the Sierra Negra of Puebla. It was founded in 2009 to improve the well-being of marginalized families by supporting their production, storage and marketing of coffee certified as organic and fair trade. Its member-farmers are men and women of Nahuatl and Mazateca descent who grow certified coffee for export and are now ready to cater to discriminating Mexican coffee drinkers. Many live in the community of La Cumbre, located in the municipality of San Sebastián Tlacotepec Ipantepetl, and they initially belonged to Sociedad de Productores Indígenas Ecológicos de Sierra Negra (PIESN). But PIESN's meetings were held too far away, so the farmers from La Cumbre organized as SSTI. The two groups coordinate training and share the costs of operating a vehicle. Working together, they stabilized the local price of coffee and they are no longer compelled to accept the low bids of *coyotes*, or middlemen.

SSTI's farmers use methods that prevent erosion, promote biodiversity and avoid harmful agrochemicals; SSTI's pricing and governance meet the standards of the Fairtrade Labeling Organization (FLO). Additionally, Certificadora Mexicana de Productos y Procesos Ecológicos (CERTIMEX), a Mexican agency, has also certified SSTI. As a result of successfully satisfying the rigorous requirements of two independent certifying entities, SSTI farmers now sell their green, or unroasted, coffee beans to buyers from the United States and Europe through Red de Caficultores Organicos (REDCAFES)/Café y Desarrollo, a marketing network based in Veracruz.

Their next challenge is to tap into the Mexican demand. SSTI has to be prepared to roast its own coffee and must develop channels to regional markets. SSTI will use its IAF grant to develop its infrastructure, remodel its warehouse, and acquire the equipment to process beans into ground coffee. It will further improve its crop and create a fund from which to pay members upon delivery. A preliminary study has already confirmed a local market for packaged roasted coffee. Another study will further gauge the demand. So far, unity has served SSTI's 100-plus farmers well and it should continue to be an asset as they move forward with this new opportunity—*Gabriela Boyer, IAF representative*



GABRIELA BOYER

NICARAGUA

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 15

IAF commitment:
\$3,876,415

Counterpart value:
\$7,150,184

Total investment:
\$11,026,599

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture (dairy
farming, organic),
ecotourism, education.

New Grants

Fundación Luchadores Integrados al Desarrollo de la Región (LIDER), \$260,000 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$415,520.

LIDER will work with farmers in 20 communities of the Peninsula of Cosigüina to improve their access to markets in Nicaragua and abroad, and with entrepreneurs to develop and promote their ecotourism services. (NC-293)

Asociación de Comunidades de la Península de Cosigüina (ACODEPEC), \$85,075 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$76,205.

ACODEPEC will further development through training, organization and the administration of a subgrant fund to support initiatives in 20 communities of Cosigüina. (NC-294)

Cooperativa Multisectorial Productores de Café Orgánico Certificado Las Segovias R.L. (PROCOCER), \$271,795 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$184,735.

PROCOCER will offer coffee farmers in the department of Nueva Segovia training, technical assistance and access to better infrastructure. (NC-295)

Asociación para el Desarrollo del Norte de Chinandega (ADENOCH), \$43,220 over one year; counterpart commitment, \$23,095.

ADENOCH's 450 members from 16 communities of the municipality of San Francisco del Norte will develop their ability to formulate and undertake initiatives that improve their income and living conditions. (NC-296)

Centro Promocional Cristiano por La Paz y La Vida (CPCPV), \$160,000 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$123,000.

CPCPV will offer training and access to a loan fund to members of a new network who provide services to tourists visiting San Ramón. The program is expected to reach 400 Nicaraguans, including low-income youths. (NC-297)



COURTESY CPCPV



Above: Musical group *La Familia en el Arte* at the *Feria Departamental de Turismo*.
Left: ADETUR members, *Salto La Corona*.

Tapping into Tourism

Green mountains with waterfalls, underexplored hiking trails, abandoned gold mines and plots of coffee provide the backdrop for San Ramón. Unfortunately, this beautiful setting cannot compensate for the lack of economic opportunity in this small town in the highlands of Nicaragua, and many young people feel compelled to look for employment in urban centers or abroad.

El Centro Promocional Cristiano por La Paz y La Vida (CPCPV) is working to address emigration by developing job opportunities through a new network of family-owned businesses focused on tourism, the Association for the Development of Sustainable Tourism in San Ramón (ADETURS). The town has, in fact, enjoyed a reputation for its hospitality and scenic attractions since the 1980s, when local families graciously offered lodging and breakfast to the medical, construction, church and peace workers involved in mitigating the effects of Nicaragua's bloody civil war. Even then, residents proudly performed their music and dances, displayed their arts and crafts, shared their tradition of herbal medicines, and hiked to local sites with their guests.

CPCPV will use its IAF award to offer residents access to microloans to invest in developing their homes as bed-and-breakfast and dining enterprises, by, for example, upgrading bathrooms and kitchens, and to improve spaces for the display and sale of crafts. The entrepreneurs will receive training in accounting, customer service, marketing and responsible tourism. Young people will learn to manage lodging for the international and Nicaraguan visitors expected and will acquire the skills to offer them opportunities to ride horses, watch birds, enjoy excursions and participate in picking and processing coffee for export. CPCPV will invest in a center that develops young artists, attracts established professionals, trains music and dance groups and records performances.

ADETURS will upgrade its facility for visitors with a cyber café. Artisans trained as part of CPCPV's program will be able to display their goods in this space. ADETURS will publicize local attractions, put San Ramón on the Fair Trade Coffee Trail and other tour circuits, and study the feasibility of a museum. Its members will visit more developed Nicaraguan tourist destinations and attend trade fairs to market visits to their dynamic town. Better options, along with pride in San Ramón's culture and surroundings, should encourage young people to stay home rather than leave.—Patrick Ahern, IAF representative

Inés Marbeli Picado and Genaro Molina have a bed-and-breakfast in San Ramón.



PATRICK AHERN

PANAMA

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 13

IAF commitment:
\$2,537,629

Counterpart value:
\$2,204,592

Total investment:
\$4,742,221

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture (organic),
access to water,
handicraft development,
inclusion of indigenous
people and women.

New Grant

Fundación Instituto Panameño de Desarrollo Humano y Municipal (IPADEHM), \$299,100 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$811,515. IPADEHM will work in 20 communities in the province of Bocas del Toro and in Comarca Ngobe Bugle to form associations that will build and maintain the infrastructure that brings clean water to 1,800 households. More than 11,000 Panamanians will benefit. (PN-300)

Supplemental Grant

Asociación Pro-Artesana Panameña (PROARTESANA), \$23,000; counterpart commitment, \$19,400.

PROARTESANA will continue improving the skills and earnings of 300 craftspeople, mostly women, from Panama City, the central provinces, indigenous reserves and other areas. Three women will participate in the International Crafts Fair in New Mexico in 2012. (PN-290-A2)



Families keep school uniforms spotless, thanks to water systems built with support from IPADEHM.



MARCY KELLEY



MARK CAICEDO

Water as an Organizing Force

Access to potable water is a serious concern for rural Panamanians, especially those in indigenous communities who disproportionately depend directly on streams and rivers, which are often polluted. Water is scarce during the dry season in the area of Changinola in the western province of Bocas del Toro and in the district of Muna in the neighboring Comarca Ngöbe Buglé, an autonomous indigenous territory, and, when it is plentiful, water-born diseases are far too common.

Community organizers have succeeded in convincing residents of Changinola and Muna of the need to form associations of water-users that can address the inadequate local supply. To move forward, residents sought out **Fundación Instituto Panameño de Desarrollo Humano y Municipal** (IPADEHM), a former IAF grantee that has been serving isolated communities for more than 40 years. IPADEHM helps grassroots groups and municipal authorities address insufficient services and resources by identifying solutions and mobilizing the support necessary to put them into practice.

IPADEHM will use its IAF grant to work in 20 communities to develop new associations of water-users. The residents, who include women and young people, will donate the time and labor crucial to planning, building and maintaining systems expected to bring clean water to 1,800 households and improve the health of more than 11,000 Panamanians. In close collaboration with IPADEHM, each association will select the type of water system best suited to the community's needs, taking into account its own ability to operate the system as well as the environmental impact. The associations will determine the construction materials to be used, will plan how to raise the necessary counterpart funds, and will organize the volunteers who will actually build and eventually maintain the infrastructure. Through IPADEHM, the associations will also work to enlist the cooperation of their municipalities and government agencies and will broadcast via radio information on recommended health and conservation measures. Access to safe drinking water will help residents of the communities involved lead healthy, dignified lives. The skills that members of the associations acquire will be assets upon which to draw when the time comes for the communities to address other challenges or take advantage of future opportunities.—*Amanda Hess, IAF program staff assistant*



MARCY KELLEY

PARAGUAY

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 9

IAF commitment:
\$2,138,828

Counterpart value:
\$2,524,779

Total investment:
\$4,663,607

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture, civic participation, education, enterprise development, inclusion of indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, women.

New Grants

Asociación de Mujeres Reciclatoras Unidas del Bañado Norte de Asunción Paraguay (ARUBAN), \$49,705 over one year; counterpart commitment, \$38,596. ARUBAN will improve the income and working conditions of its women recyclers, will recruit and train new members, and will help 840 residents of metropolitan Asunción learn the practices and value of recycling. (PY-201)

Centro de Educación, Capacitación y Tecnología Campesina (CECTEC), \$329,700 over two years; counterpart commitment, \$241,750.

CECTEC will provide technical assistance and training to families who were resettled in six rural communities in the department of Itapúa pursuant to Paraguay's agrarian reform program, and will work with them to identify and support their development priorities. (PY-202)

Supplemental Grants

Fundación Saraki (Saraki), \$99,970; counterpart commitment, \$40,800.

Saraki will work with Coordinadora Nacional por la Promoción de los Derechos de las Personas Con Discapacidad (CONAPRODIS) to train 1,300 representatives of disability-rights and other organizations, enabling them to more effectively serve 100,000 Paraguayans with disabilities. (PY-196-A1)

Federación de Entidades Vecinalistas del Paraguay, (FEDEM), \$121,900 over one year and six months; counterpart commitment, \$78,092.

FEDEM will train members of 100 neighborhood associations in Asunción in the skills necessary to increase awareness of, access to and oversight of its fund that makes financing available to community organizations. (PY-197-A1)

Estación A–Nucleo Cultural (Estacion A), \$32,500; counterpart commitment, \$24,648.

Estación A will organize a forum where 60 representatives from cultural organizations, businesses and government throughout Latin America exchange practices and experiences relevant to networking and developing businesses that market cultural tours, locally-grown or -processed food and locally-made crafts. (PY-198-A2)



COURTESY CECTEC

A blessing for CECTEC at a seed fair.

Economic Development for Resettled Paraguayans

Booming exports of cattle, corn and soybeans in 2010 made Paraguay's economy the second fastest-growing in the world. For both the environment and for rural families, the impact has been pernicious. The rush to expand production has resulted in unchecked deforestation that threatens soil and water resources. Speculation has induced many poor farmers to leave their land and into remote areas with limited infrastructure.

Founded by a group of educators and agronomists in the mid 1980s, **Centro de Educación, Capacitación y Tecnología Campesina** (CECTEC), a nongovernmental organization, provides training and research services related to rural development. Its agricultural school in Itapúa, 400 kilometers from Asunción, offers instruction to children, adolescents and adults, including those from communities that were resettled in the last seven years. The curriculum for school-age students allows them to alternate their residence between the school and their parents' farms.

CECTEC will use its IAF grant to work with 250 families who left their land. Later, they had the opportunity to be resettled on parcels made available to them pursuant to a Paraguayan government program that also lets them organize into recognized communities and eventually obtain title to the property they occupy. In collaboration with the Paraguayan Ministry of Agriculture, CECTEC will use its school to train farmers from six communities to protect the environment by applying agroforestry and organic methods of cultivating sesame, sugar cane, manioc, cotton and fruits and vegetables. It will also prepare 20 young people to continue offering training in organic methods after the project ends. A refurbished laboratory, new equipment for a local sugar mill and a plant to process manioc into starch are elements of the project. With CECTEC's assistance, participants will identify opportunities to sell their goods at farmers' markets and trade fairs and negotiate contracts with schools, health centers and wholesale distributors.

Partners in the project also include the Secretariat for Social Action and Asociación Global, a nonprofit focused on young people and conservation. Their alliance with CECTEC should help the communities organize designated residents into boards that identify development priorities and ways to address them. Two networks, one in each participating district, will work to improve communication and collaboration on issues of common interest, such as recreational and educational opportunities. Network members will receive training in the root causes of poverty and in their rights under Paraguayan law related to agrarian reform, the environment and domestic violence.

CECTEC's award is the first IAF grant funding work with Paraguayan communities formed pursuant to the government's resettlement program. By helping these communities, CECTEC's staff hopes the residents can benefit from the rapid change and the economic growth occurring all around them.—*Jeremy Coon, IAF representative*



CECTEC technicians develop organic fertilizers and pesticides.

PERU

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 21

IAF commitment:
\$5,888,682

Counterpart value:
\$7,113,131

Total investment:
\$13,001,813

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture,
conservation, corporate
social responsibility,
education, enterprise
development.

New Grants

Acción y Desarrollo, \$210,000 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$90,000. Acción y Desarrollo will train 600 public-school students in the district of San Juan de Lurigancho, Lima, in the skills necessary to compete in the job market or start and manage their own microenterprises. The program will involve parents, teachers, other educational authorities and the local government in formulating policies conducive to the young entrepreneurs' success. (PU-561)

Centro Global para el Desarrollo y la Democracia (CGDD), \$365,000 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$1,151,488. CGDD will further job creation and increase income for 950 families in the Lurín River basin, in the Lima region, through its program to develop management skills and fruit production. (PU-564)

Centro de Desarrollo Étnico (CEDET), \$30,000 over one year; counterpart commitment, \$17,440. CEDET will train 50 Peruvians of African descent, from communities in Yapatera and Cruz Pampa, in skills related to enterprise development. The training will be complemented by opportunities to visit successful former IAF grantees and by the formation and formalization of a producers' association. The individuals trained are expected to develop a work plan for a productive initiative. (PU-565)

Central Piurana de Cafetaleros (CEPICAFE), \$300,000 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$268,400. CEPICAFE will help 880 members of 12 producer associations from the Piura, Amazonas and Tumbes regions of northeastern Peru increase their yields of organic cacao and process plantain chips for export. (PU-566)

Centro de Investigación y Promoción del Desarrollo Andino (CIPDA ANDINO), \$305,000 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$94,705.

CIPDA ANDINO will help 370 farmers from the district of Sitacocha, Cajamarca, improve their production of quinoa, wheat, cattle, sheep and bees, and form microenterprises that market grains cultivated with organic methods, dairy products and honey. (PU-567)

Centro de Estudios, Desarrollo y Acción Social (CEDAS), \$260,800 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$85,300.

CEDAS will work with 200 dairy farmers from the district of Contumazá, Cajamarca, to increase their production of milk and cattle and form microenterprises focused on milk production. (PU-568)

Supplemental Grants

Instituto de Medio Ambiente y Género para el Desarrollo (IMAGEN), \$40,000; counterpart commitment, \$68,708.

IMAGEN will continue to provide training, technical assistance and resources to improve businesses led by women who cultivate and process aromatic and medicinal Andean plants certified as organic. (PU-544-A2)

Centro de Textiles Tradicionales del Cusco (CTTC), \$47,520; counterpart commitment, \$13,500.

CTTC will continue to offer training, technical assistance, credit and marketing services to weavers in seven indigenous communities in the Sacred Valley of the Incas in the Cusco region. The program will be of special benefit to 350 young Peruvians. (PU-547-A2)



MARK CAICEDO

CTTC weaver with dyes.

Chocolate, Food of the Gods

Native to Ecuadorian forests, cacao eventually became an important crop in pre-Columbian Meso-America. The Aztecs, in particular, believed that cacao had a divine origin and commemorated the harvest with lavish religious ceremonies. Swedish botanist Carolus Linnaeus, who first developed modern taxonomy, honored these beliefs by assigning the tree the scientific name *Theobroma cacao*, Latin for food of the gods.

Only in the 19th century, did Dutch entrepreneurs figure out how to process cocoa powder and then the chocolate bar. Beyond candies and confectionary, cacao is now used in cosmetics and to treat medical conditions, including diabetes and renal diseases. Its alkaloids are believed to be potent diuretics, cardiovascular stimulants and coronary dilators and contain a compound credited with combating harmful free radicals. Today, Africa satisfies 70 percent of the international demand for cacao, Asia and Oceania 19 percent, and the Americas just 11 percent. More than 90 percent of the world's annual harvest is from millions of small farms. Peru ranks just 13th in production but its smallholders' beans are prized for their superior quality. Le Salon du Chocolat, held in Paris since 1995, is the biggest celebration of chocolate on the planet. In 2009, 172 participants from 40 countries participated in the competition that is part of the festival. The jury declared Peruvian cacao the best entry in four categories.

A quarter of Peru's cacao farmers belong to cooperative organizations that link them to networks purchasing products certified as fair-trade and organic, which pay more generously than conventional buyers. **Central Piurana de Cafetaleros** (CEPICAFE), also founded in 1995, is an umbrella organization of about 90 grassroots associations comprising almost 7,000 farmers from northeastern Peru. With the IAF's support, CEPICAFE will work with 880 farmers in nine member-associations in the Piura, Amazonas and Tumbes regions as part of a program to further the export of organic cacao and plantain chips from this area. CEPICAFE's training, technical assistance and access to processing infrastructure are expected to help farmers improve their production of cacao and plantains; marketing services should position them to reach a broad and discerning clientele.

Training in soil and water conservation, natural methods of pest- and disease-control, and post-harvest care are important elements in this plan. Cacao does best in primary forests under partial shade. When cultivation is integral to a biologically diverse environment, the trees provide a habitat for forest animals, including migratory birds. Sustainable production not only helps farmers improve their income and assures manufacturers a constant and reliable supply of raw material. It also aids efforts to preserve the world's tropical ecosystems.—*Miriam E.*

Brandão, IAF representative



MIRIAM BRANDÃO

URUGUAY

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 5

IAF commitment:
\$1,114,207

Counterpart value:
\$2,067,507

Total investment:
\$3,181,714

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture, community
tourism, corporate social
responsibility, women's
enterprises.

New Grant

Centro de Promoción por la Dignidad Humana (CEPRODIH), \$399,900 over three years; counterpart commitment, \$576,133.

CEPRODIH will train 460 women as entrepreneurs, support formation of a network to mentor them as they launch or develop businesses, and offer them related technical assistance. (UR-185)

Supplemental Grant

Cooperativa Delicias Criollas (Delicias Criollas), \$47,150; counterpart commitment, \$45,917.

Delicias Criollas, comprised of 15 affiliated enterprises, all managed and supplied by 170 women from 10 Uruguayan departments, will continue to offer training and technical assistance related to the production and marketing of traditional foods, will develop new products and will work toward financial self-sufficiency through increased sales. (UR-181-A2)

COURTESY CEPRODIH



New Options in Ciudad Vieja

Decades of neglect brought violence and a brisk drug trade to Ciudad Vieja, Montevideo's historic quarter, and caused the neighborhood's 19th century buildings to fall into disrepair. But in recent years, city authorities have worked to reverse this decay by investing in renovation and new construction. Now, Uruguayans and tourists frequent the trendy night-life establishments that have moved in, and they fuel a booming retail sector. Low-income residents of Ciudad Vieja, however, have yet to benefit from the transformation.

Headquartered in Ciudad Vieja since 1999, **Centro de Promoción por la Dignidad Humana** (CEPRODIH), a nongovernmental organization that has been an effective advocate for the district's most vulnerable residents, hopes to change this. Its assistance emphasizes victims of domestic abuse and households headed by women as well as the homeless, the elderly and young people at risk. CEPRODIH encourages public policies aimed at reducing violence against women and children and facilitating the services of social workers and psychologists for those who need them. It also offers women vocational training and assists them with developing lines of products to sell in Montevideo.

CEPRODIH will use its IAF grant to reach 460 women from Ciudad Vieja and other low-income neighborhoods with its training program, organize the graduates into a network, and offer them loans to start their own businesses. Training will cover the skills necessary to form groups offering catering services, the techniques for fashioning clothing and recycling glass into jewelry, and general business skills, such as bookkeeping. Women who produce goods individually will market them initially through the network, which will also mentor new trainees. As production improves, CEPRODIH will help women create business plans and identify sales opportunities in malls, markets and local retail outlets. Credit will be available to entrepreneurs for investments in equipment, tools, materials and supplies. CEPRODIH expects the women to start 120 new businesses and increase their income by 50 percent.

Low-income Uruguayan women, usually find work as domestic employees or in other low-paid positions. By helping launch enterprises that create jobs, CEPRODIH gives disadvantaged women in Ciudad Vieja a better option and helps them become employers.—*David Fleischer, IAF representative*



ADDITIONAL CURRENT PORTFOLIOS*

Belize

Active grantees: 2
IAF commitment: \$607,380
Counterpart value: \$606,680
Total investment: \$1,214,060
Areas of emphasis: Agriculture, nutrition.

Chile

Active grantees: 4
IAF commitment: \$1,058,840
Counterpart value: \$2,872,611
Total investment: \$3,931,451
Area of emphasis: Corporate social responsibility.

*There was no funding in these countries in fiscal 2011.

JOHN REED



School-gardeners with Plenty Belize.

Jamaica

Active grantees: 2
IAF commitment: \$785,000
Counterpart value: \$2,012,827
Total investment: \$2,797,827
Areas of emphasis: Conservation, enterprise development.

Venezuela

Active grantees: 2
IAF commitment: \$ 682,310
Counterpart value: \$366,885
Total investment: \$1,049,195
Areas of emphasis: Agriculture, conservation, enterprise development.

JENNY PETROW



Local Initiative Facility for the Environment (LIFE) works with Jamaican members of the Mile Gully Entrepreneurial Group.

COURTESY GARE



Recycling facility of Grupo Ambientalista de Reciclaje Everest (GARE) in Maracaibo.

REDEAMÉRICA

The Inter-American Network of Corporate Foundations and Actions for Grassroots Development (RedEAmérica) is an IAF-initiated business-sector alliance committed to supporting self-help projects in the hemisphere. Launched in 2002, RedEAmérica has grown from 27 founding members to a corps representing 70 corporate foundations supported by 360 companies.

Each year between the network's founding and fiscal 2010, the IAF entered into or amended bilateral cooperative agreements with individual members of RedEAmérica. Much of the initial work in grassroots development was undertaken pursuant to these agreements that have required the corporate parties match or, more recently, double the IAF's contribution to their social-responsibility programs. According to reports submitted at six-month intervals, for the period between 2003 and March 2011 the investment of these 19 members of RedEAmérica totaled \$8,058,243, drawn from corporate and other sources, of which \$5,942,996 was in cash and \$2,115,247 was in kind. The IAF's commitment totaled \$6,001,653 over the same period. This joint funding has reached individuals and communities through initiatives undertaken by grassroots groups, often incipient, whose projects were too small to qualify for IAF awards. In fiscal 2011, 17 RedEAmérica members had cooperative agreements with the IAF.



Mexican farmers in the cooperative Tlaxcala Honey, a subgrantee of RedEAmérica member FUNDEMEX, export their products to Europe.

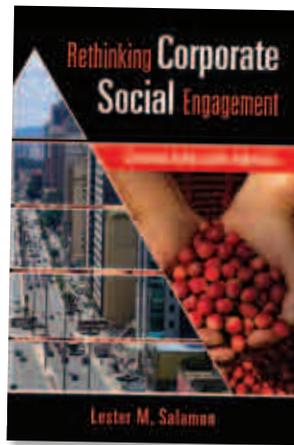
COURTESY FUNDEMEX

PUBLICATIONS

The annual report for 2010 and the IAF journal *Grassroots Development* 2011 were published and distributed in English and Spanish: English, Spanish and Portuguese versions were posted on www.iaf.gov. The 2011 journal focuses on the leadership of women at the grassroots, highlighting some of these remarkable and diverse individuals and their notable accomplishments. A new juried competition for IAF Fellows launched a special section in the journal for the manuscripts recommended for publication after intense peer scrutiny.

Books reviewed in the 2011 journal included *Conocimiento desde adentro*, consisting of essays by African descendants in the Grupo Barlovento, compiled and edited by anthropologist Sheila Walker. IAF-supported workshops in Ecuador and Bolivia made possible the production of this two-volume work on the history and contemporary circumstances of communities of African descent in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. The book, which draws on IAF materials, grantees and experiences, was published in 2010 in La Paz and is now on sale at the Inter-American Development Bank and the United Nations. Also available now at the U.N. is Lester Salamon's *Rethinking Corporate Social Engagement: Lessons from Latin America*. In his lively and cohesive narrative based on IAF-funded research and published by Kumerian Press in July 2010, Salamon, who directs the Center for Civil Society Studies at Johns Hopkins University, credits the IAF for initiating partnerships with corporations that developed new attitudes and more effective practices.

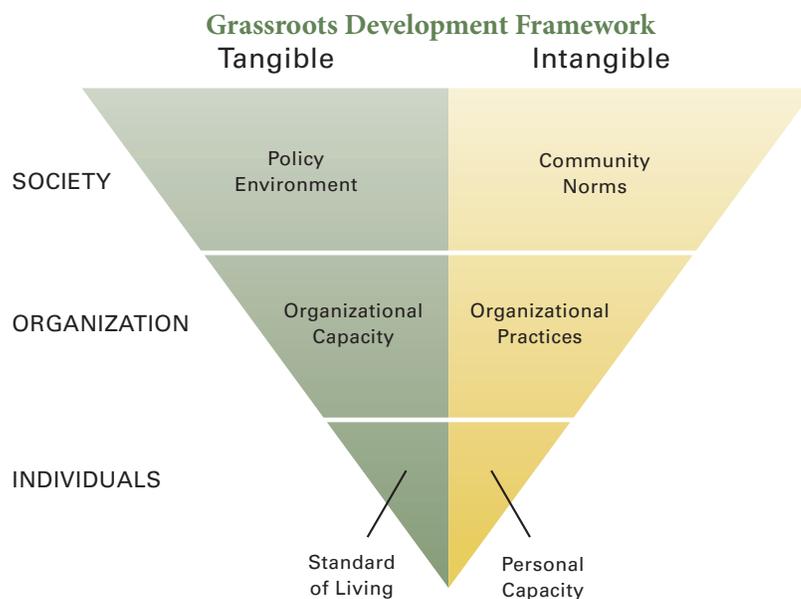
The U.S. Government Printing Office entered the 2009 *in Review* and the IAF's new brochure on grassroots development and the environment in the National Association of Government Communicators Blue Pencil & Gold Screen Awards Competition recognizing superior government communication products and those who produce them.



RESULTS

The IAF has operated a robust results-reporting system for more than 15 years. Grantees report every six months on progress as measured by indicators selected from the Grassroots Development Framework (GDF), the IAF's data and results assessment tool. After verification by professionals contracted in-country, the information is summarized in an annual Results Report. In addition, the IAF conducts a financial audit of each project annually and upon project completion.

The IAF supported 343 active grantees during fiscal 2010. The corresponding investment during this period benefited more than 123,000 men and women. These individuals included African descendants, indigenous people and persons with disabilities, as well as disadvantaged women and youths, who had opportunities to participate more fully in economic and civic life. Grantees reported results of their projects using the GDF which assesses results on three levels: the individual or family (as measured by indicators of better conditions and acquired abilities); the organization (as indicated by, for example, better management and the application of democratic practices); and the community or society (as indicated by better policies, practices and programs). The cone below depicts the three levels as they might be affected by tangible and intangible results of the IAF's investment.



Application of the GDF helps ensure observable progress toward development and assess long-term benefits extending beyond the achievement of grantees' immediate objectives. For more complete information on the GDF and its use, visit www.iaf.gov.

In fiscal 2011, the IAF conducted ex-post assessments of four grantees whose projects had been completed in 2006. One of those grantees, Fundação Bento Rubião (FBR), continues organizing families and communities to help each other build homes in Rio de Janeiro. Currently, FBR is providing training and technical assistance to three new cooperatives undertaking the construction of 176 new homes. It contributes its expertise as a member of the Executive Council of the Brazilian government's Fundo Nacional de Habitação whose budget in 2011 totaled \$700 million in funds for extending public housing into more *favelas*. Another grantee, Centro de Estudios para la Promoción del Desarrollo, continues to offer training, microcredit, and employment and cultural programs in Panama. In Bolivia, Desarrollo Local Sostenible de los Ayllus de Quila Quila offers training in

leadership and agricultural methods. Fundación Cooperación y Acción Comunitaria, an incipient organization helping Ecuadoran women improve their microenterprises through loans, training and technical assistance, has developed into a financial full-service institution offering consumer and business loans, as well as health insurance and services. Its loan fund that was started with an initial contribution of \$93,000 from the IAF, has grown to \$3.2 million.

Results of the IAF's Investment in Grassroots Development

In fiscal 2010, the IAF's active grantees accomplished the following:

- Grantees trained 8,000 individuals in agriculture, 16,200 in management, 14,000 in skills related to manufacturing, 11,000 in finance, 9,000 in skills related to environmental conservation, and 8,700 in leadership and other areas.
- New and improved enterprises resulting from IAF-funded training, technical assistance and working capital created 8,700 new jobs. Grantees also saved 2,600 jobs that might have been eliminated and improved 3,200 positions with better pay and working conditions. They extended close to 4,000 loans averaging \$390 each, most supporting business development.
- They improved the health and well-being of 15,000 individuals through preventive practices, vaccinations, medical treatment, access to potable water, the installation of latrines, the removal of trash, and the introduction of a more nutritious diet resulting from more varied food production and the availability of more sources of protein.
- Grantees raised an additional \$3.7 million in cash and in kind to invest toward the sustainability of their projects and organizations. This figure is in addition to grantees' required counterpart commitment of \$19.3 million.
- Collaborations with 375 new partners led to training and marketing assistance for their beneficiaries; donations of meeting spaces, office supplies and equipment and additional funds; and coordination that increased coverage and avoided duplication of efforts.



FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Inter-American Foundation is the only institution that specifically funds academic research on grassroots development in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2011, the IAF awarded 15 Grassroots Development Fellowships to Ph.D. students who have advanced to candidacy in U.S. universities, to fund dissertation research throughout the hemisphere. The Fellows were selected on the strength of their academic records, their proposals and their potential contributions to grassroots development. All U.S. citizens except as noted, they are researching the following topics:

- **Lauren Baker**, Yale University, *oil concessions and indigenous rights in the Peruvian Amazon*;
- **Diana Bueno-Gutiérrez** (Mexico), University of California–Davis, *a community-based intervention to promote breastfeeding on the U.S.–Mexico border*;
- **Janice Gallagher**, Cornell University, *strategic litigation and human rights in Mexico and Colombia*;
- **Sarah Hines**, University of California–Berkeley, *urbanization and grassroots water struggles in Bolivia*;
- **Rebecca Jacobs**, University of Connecticut, *volunteer tourism and development in a Guatemalan weaving cooperative*;
- **Yeri López** (U.S./Mexico), University of Wisconsin–Madison, *community and transformation in Bolivian Aymara politics since 1952*;
- **Gregory Morton**, University of Chicago, *human capital and community organization in Brazil's Bolsa Família*;
- **Jonathan Otto**, University of Kentucky, *forest carbon projects in Chiapas*;
- **Federico Pérez-Fernández**, (Colombia), Harvard University, *policy and space in Bogotá*;
- **Danny Pinedo García** (Peru), University of Florida, *livelihood, social capital, and political mobilization among indigenous people of the Peruvian Amazon*;
- **Lucero Radonic** (Peru), University of Arizona, *indigenous grassroots development and access to water in urban Mexico*;
- **Peter Richards**, Michigan State University, *soy, cattle, and the hidden margins of capital in the Brazilian Amazon*;
- **Luciane Rocha**, (Brazil), University of Texas–Austin, *violence, black women and activism in Rio de Janeiro*;
- **Laura Wagner**, University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill, *perspectives on disaster, aid and community in Port-au-Prince*;
- **Lydia Zacher**, University of California–Irvine, *midwifery in Mexico*.

The Institute of International Education (IIE) is the contractor that administers the Fellowship Program. In consultation with the IAF, IIE assembles an Academic Review Committee that screens applications and recommends the Fellows. In 2011, the committee included the following distinguished scholars:

- **Dr. John Browder**, Professor of Urban Affairs and Planning, Virginia Polytechnic Institute;
- **Dr. Elizabeth Cartwright**, Professor of Medical Anthropology, University of Montana;
- **Dr. Marc Chernick**, Professor of Political Science, Georgetown University;

- **Dr. Kevin Healy**, IAF Representative for Bolivia and Adjunct Professor of Latin American Studies, George Washington University and Georgetown University;
- **Dr. Marie Price**, Professor of Geography, George Washington University;
- **Dr. Peter Wilshusen**, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies, Bucknell University.

In 2011, the IAF held its first juried competition for IAF Fellows aspiring to publish in *Grassroots Development*. Members of the Academic Review Committee conducted the anonymous peer review that resulted in the selection of two manuscripts for publication in 2011. This new feature brings the research supported by IAF Fellowships to a wider audience and results in an additional credential for the successful writers. All entrants benefit from the insights communicated by the reviewers through the IAF.

A unique feature of the IAF program is the mid-year meeting that gives Fellows an opportunity to share the results of their work with each other, with the IAF and with the Academic Review Panel that selected them. At the end of the meeting held Feb.29–March 4 in Antigua, Guatemala, Fellows in the 2010-2011 cycle began organizing to present their work at the 2012 Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), which has scheduled their two panels. They will be chaired by Kevin Healy, IAF representative for Bolivia and an internationally recognized scholar in his own right.

The IAF's Fellowship Program was launched in 1974 to further the IAF's mission. Fellowships have supported doctoral students, post-doctoral researchers and master's degree candidates from throughout the hemisphere; between 1991 and 1995, a handful of outstanding Latin American and Caribbean grassroots leaders pursued independent studies funded by the Dante B. Fascell Inter-American Fellowship. All awards have been conditioned on a clear demonstration of the relevance of the work undertaken to the IAF's grassroots approach that has consistently been validated in development literature. The 1,047 alumni of the program include many highly respected scholars and practitioners who have influenced generations of students as well as institutions and public policy, including development assistance policy. For more information on the program and application procedures, visit www.iie.org/iaf.—P.D.

The mid-year meeting of IAF Fellows for 2010-2011 took place in February in Antigua, Guatemala.

MARK CAICEDO



CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Through the IAF's program of travel grants, academics and representative of nongovernmental organizations participate in conferences and workshops. In 2011, many of these events focused on greater inclusion of African descendants, indigenous Latin Americans and persons with disabilities and young people.

- In celebration of the indigenous arts of the Americas and of the 40th anniversary of the passage of the IAF's founding legislation, a commemorative photo exhibit traveled to Albuquerque in November, along with artisans representing IAF grantees in Mexico, Panama, Peru and Bolivia. Hosted by the **University of New Mexico**, the **Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce** and the **National Hispanic Cultural Center**, the artisans spoke at meetings, seminars and other events on and off campus and displayed their crafts.
- Also in November, IAF grantee Centro de Textiles Tradicionales de Cusco organized the Tinkuy de Tejedores where 400 indigneous weavers from nine countries of the Americas, including representatives of several other IAF grantees, shared traditions.
- The IAF, the **United Nations** and **CONADIS**, which advises the Peruvian government on disability issues, cosponsored the General Assembly of Disabled Persons International–Latin America in Lima in January. Participants discussed the U.N. Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities and developed proposals that emphasized women with disabilities, employment and political participation.
- “The Power of Chocolate,” a Valentine’s Day celebration of cacao’s pre-Columbian roots, hosted by the **National Museum of the American Indian** and co-sponsored by the IAF, featured Kuna craftswomen from IAF grantee Asociación Pro Artesana Panameña and an exhibit of their *molos*, appliqués vibrantly patterned with interpretations of the flora and fauna of their autonomous territory, including the cacao tree and its fruit.

MARK CAICEDO



- In March, IAF sponsored two activists with disabilities representing IAF grantee **Piña Palmera** at the **Movimiento Agua y Juventud Internacional Conference** in Mexico, where they and other youths discussed environmental issues.
- Representatives of indigenous communities from Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Panama and Peru shared their experiences with mapping their territories at a June conference hosted by the **University of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua (URACCAN)**. The IAF has funded such mapping efforts for more than 20 years; *Grassroots Development* for 2012 will feature the work of Kuna cartographers in Panama.
- The **Universidad de la Cordillera** in Bolivia hosted a three-day August workshop to consolidate a network to monitor racism in the Western Hemisphere. Representatives from Bolivia, Guatemala, Colombia, Mexico and the United States, included several individuals from the **Institute of Latin American Studies** at the **University of Texas**.
- The IAF, the **Peruvian Ministry of Education** and schools in Chulucanas, Piura district, cosponsored a workshop in August to address the educational needs of indigenous Peruvians and Afro-Peruvians.
- In collaboration with **Global Rights Partners for Justice** and the **OAS**, the IAF sponsored training throughout the year for emerging leaders of African descent, which was geared to increase their participation at the OAS' General Assembly and Summit of the Americas. Since IAF began supporting these workshops, more than five years ago, nongovernmental organizations representing African descendents that are registered at the OAS have increased from three to 17 and an additional 10 applications are pending.

Throughout the year, IAF staff and grantee representatives shared the IAF's grassroots approach to development with in a variety of fora.

- IAF representative Kevin Healy, a recognized expert on indigenous social movements and grassroots development, lectured on related topics throughout the year at venues that included the **U.S. Department of State**, **USAID** and the **FLAG Latin America Group** in Washington, D.C., and at the **University of Notre Dame** and the **University of Chicago**. Healy also teaches graduate level courses at **Georgetown University** and the **George Washington University**.



Kevin Healy, center, with Luisa Villegas of the Pan American Development Foundation and Ambassador William Stedman, after Healy's lecture for FLAG members in February.

- In October and November, the Hilo and Manoa campuses of the **University of Hawaii** hosted the IAF's commemorative photo exhibit. Paula Durbin of IAF gave the accompanying illustrated lecture on both campuses and at **Kapi'olani Community College** covering IAF's history, approach and accomplishments. Linda Borst Kolko of IAF condensed the lecture at USAID's global training session in Washington, D.C., held in November. A full-length encore followed in July in Washington at the national conference of the **American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese**.
- In May, at the conference **A World of Opportunity**, representatives of Mexican grantee **Fundación Comunitaria de la Frontera Norte** exchanged experiences with others interested in community foundations.
- A June seminar organized in El Salvador by **Voces Mesoamericanas, Acción con Pueblos Migrantes** gave 25 representatives of Salvadoran and Mexican civil society the opportunity to discuss ways to engage migrant communities in the U.S. in development in El Salvador and Mexico.
- Eduardo Rodríguez-Frías of IAF spoke about the IAF's work with persons with disabilities at an event sponsored by **Fondation Canadienne pour l'Amérique Latine** at the University of Ottawa in June.
- Foundation representatives Miriam Brandao, Gabriela Boyer and Jenny Petrow along with three representatives of grantees **Promoción de la Gestión Rural Económica Social** (Peru), **Despertar Maya, Asociación Civil** (Mexico) and **Fonds International de Développement Économique et Social** (Haiti) hosted a round-table discussion at the annual conference of **Grantmakers Without Borders** held in New York City in June. Their presentation "Paralysis or Progress?" was a candid review of what makes relations between NGOs and grassroots organizations work or fail.

MARK CAICEDO



- Ten representatives of IAF grantees participated in a July conference on "travelers philanthropy" organized by the **Center for Responsible Travel** and Costa Rican grantee the **Monteverde Institute**, profiled on page 27, to inform development agencies and governments of the potential for strategic giving and opportunities to volunteer in tourist destinations as a source of support for conservation and other goals.
- The IAF continued collaboration with the **U.S. State Department** on the **Inter-American Social Protection Network** follows up on a mandate from the Fifth Summit of the Americas for OAS member-states to reduce social disparities, inequality and extreme poverty. IAF staff organized a panel on public-private partnerships at the meeting that the Mexican **Secretaria de Desarrollo Social** hosted for representatives of social protection programs in August in Mexico City. Toward the development of a social-protection system in Paraguay, in September the IAF sponsored an exchange involving Paraguay's **Unidad Técnica del Gabinete Social**, the Chilean **Ministerio de Planificación-Mideplan** and the **Chilean foreign-aid agency**.

Workshop, "The Power of Chocolate," National Museum of the American Indian.

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