

ILAB TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE	ENHANCING SKILLS OF COLOMBIAN TRADE UNIONISTS	
REGION / COUNTRY	WESTERN HEMISPHERE / COLOMBIA	
PROJECT DURATION	October 2008 – September 2011	
FISCAL YEAR & FUNDING LEVEL	FY 2008 USD (\$) 1,250,000	
PROBLEMS TO BE ADDRESSED		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to promote worker rights in Colombia. • The need to provide skills training and internships for local union representatives. • The need to conduct follow-up training for these representatives. • The need to improve/promote social dialogue. • The need to equip workers/workers' representatives with skills necessary to strengthen civil society and play a positive role in the peace process. 		
ACHIEVEMENTS / RESULTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 2008 and 2011, the project brought 43 trade unionists from Colombia to the United States to participate in an intensive, two-month training and internship program, which included such topics as the labor movement in the U.S., new technologies, fundamental union tasks and skills, and stress-management and leadership support. • The program also provided for follow-up on the participants' return to Colombia to ensure support for new initiatives resulting from the internship and training experience. It also assisted each of the three Colombian worker confederations to develop a strategic plan. 		
PROJECT OBJECTIVES & SELECTED KEY ACTIVITIES		
Objectives <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve the training skills and hands-on capacity of Colombian trade union leaders in trade union organization and administration, collective bargaining, conflict resolution, mediation and arbitration, as well as in computer/ technology, research, and strategic communication. 2. Expose Colombian trade unionists to unionized work places in the U.S. 3. Establish a communication network between international trade unions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). 	Key Activities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bring Colombian trade unionists to the U.S. to attend training workshops. 2. Conduct training seminars for Colombian unionists to improve their skills at replicating the training they receive in the U.S. in order to create a train-the-trainer opportunity once the unionists return to Colombia. 3. Carry out study tours for the Colombian trade unionists of unionized workplaces in the U.S. 4. Conduct seminars between Colombian trade unionists and non-governmental organizations in order to create communication networks. 	
GRANTEE / CONTRACTOR	American Center for International Labor Solidarity	
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