omos Tesoro advances

The Somos Tesoro program was in full swing during the second semester of 2016. Productive projects are in the pilot phase and some highlights include social mobilization campaigns and cultural, educational, and mining events organized by Somos Tesoro in eight municipalities of Antioquia and Boyacá.

ore than 40 facilitators worked enthusiastically in the implementation of the four components of the comprehensive Somos Tesoso program: Livelihoods, Educational Opportunities, Mining Formalization Process, and Public Policies.

Somos Tesoro has intensified its efforts to target 13,000 children and adolescents and 3,500 households to ensure greater impact and sustainability.

Livelihoods



Pact continues to provide Livelihood services in eight municipalities targeted by Somos Tesoro: Sogamoso, Mongua, Tópaga and Gámeza in Boyacá, and Remedios, Segovia, El Bagre and Zaragoza, in Bajo Cauca.

The pilot productive projects supported by Pact are already showing results: production of large vegetables; and potato starch bakery products and fish are now being sold in these regions. The program supports 43 family and community productive projects in the two departments: 36 vegetable cultivations; 2 fish farming projects; 2 agricultural projects; 2 bakery and dairy projects; and 1 handicrafts

project. These projects were complemented with training and advice by Pact, with support from the SENA, on productive, administrative, associative, and marketing matters, strengthening their capacity and creating conditions for sustainability. There are currently more than 350 beneficiaries of these projects.

The mercury-free fish farming projects in the mining zones of Bajo Cauca, in particular, have drawn attention in the country as a promising alternative to small-scale mining and as a sustainable livelihood option that can contribute significantly to reducing child labor.

With the support of the SENA, Agrosolidaria and other institutions, Pact has carried out more than 600 training activities to build employability and economic strengthening skills.

Somos Tesoro has also undertaken extensive education outreach to turn these communities into environments that protect the rights of children and adolescents. Through these actions, Somos Tesoro has been able to increase the economic and social resilience of 4,616 households, exceeding the final target for this project.

Public Policies

As a result of the work of Fondo Acción, Somos Tesoro achieved the inclusion of analyses, programs and resources for the prevention and reduction of child labor in the development plans of the two governors' offices and the mayors' offices of the eight municipalities covered by the project. Fondo Acción and Semana Sostenible gave the public officials working at these offices the award for public recognition from Somos Tesoro. This distinction was disseminated nationwide and helped highlight the inclusion of child labor issues in local and departmental development plans.

At the same time, Fondo Acción



continued to work with eight coordination bodies or municipal committees, who have been increasing their use of the comprehensive pathway for territorial action to prevent and eliminate child labor in mines. This pathway was produced and validated by the Somos





Tesoro program. The training processes increased the technical capacity of 200 local committee delegates on eradication of child labor

In the second semester of 2016 the program, together with each one of the mayors' offices, municipal committees and civil society organizations, formulated eight municipal projects on prevention of child labor in mining. These initiatives, which are already underway, include primarily projects on creative use of free time to foster skills development in children and adolescents at risk of child labor in mines. These include the creation of a children's playground in the Morca hamlet of Sogamoso and support to a music school in Mongua, Boyacá.

Mining Formalization Process

In this component of the Somos Tesoro program, implemented by Alianza por la Minería Responsable (ARM), 80 mining units in Antioquia and Boyacá received technical assistance and training on Mining Safety and Hygiene, as well as other aspects of the mining formalization process. Of these units, 31 have gone through the complete Somos Tesoro process, which includes: assessment of mining safety and hygiene conditions; safety inspections; management systems on safety and health in the workplace; mine ventilation plans and isometric drawings; training for miners on 21 topics; six training sessions for mine owners and managers; periodic visits to provide support and advice on mining formalization and provision of safety equipment to incentivize formalization. The training has benefited 1,650 miners.



Somos Tesoro used the Self-Care campaign as a strategy to promote the use of protective measures by miners. This campaign includes messages and activities for miners and their families, and has been disseminated on local radio programs and at cultural events. In addition, women miners received training on gender and leadership, and an innovation contest is currently underway to award four pilot projects with innovative ideas for the mining sector.

In the second semester of 2016, four miners traveled to Peru to exchange experiences with Magdesa, Sotrami and Fidami, three small-scale mining organizations in Santa Filomena. Small-scale miners also exchanged experiences during an event in Boyacá, which included a visit to model mining units.

ARM has also made recommendations on mining policy, publications and training for mining sector officials on issues such as child labor in mining, mining formalization, and mining safety and hygiene.

Participation in Educational Opportunities

Together with the Fundación Mi Sangre, Somos Tesoro continued to provide training to teachers on the PAZalobien method, which seeks to improve educational practices by increasing the use of art and games in the classroom. During the second semester of 2016, the teachers participated in training activities on educational principles, life skills, prevention of child labor, child rights, and peaceful coexistence in schools, among other topics.

In addition, this year the Fundación Mi Sangre continued to support teachers and students on the creation of creative projects on prevention of child labor, which has been shared extensively with the educational community. This work was complemented with awareness-raising activities for directors of educational institutions and training for parents. A total of 12,000 children and adolescents have already benefited from this project, reaching the

formal education target for the project.

The Fundación Mi Sangre and PACT also offered vocational and non-formal education guidance to adolescents. Together with the



II Peasant fair, Cultural and Mining, Boyacá

Ministry of Culture, the project has offered training to communication groups. Youth in the Líderes de Cambio program who received training and support from Somos Tesoro carried out several activities that have generated social impact, such as youth camps and events to disseminate information. These activities have increased their leadership abilities and their

motivation to work towards social transformations.













