

QUARTERLY NARRATIVE REPORT

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| Grantee: Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (REDLAD) | Reporting Period: April 1 st to June 30th of 2016 Report date of submission: 22/07/2016 |
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| Country/Region: Latin America | Submitted by: Gina Romero |
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1a. Brief description of the project:

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

1b. Collaboration and partnerships: For this period of time the Team has strengthen the contact with each stakeholder involved for the success of the project:

Collaboration and Partnerships by the Consortium:

During this period, 11 agreements were signed with the Focal Points from Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico 1 y 2, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Enclose 1 to 10). This process has helped to clarify some procedural details and we expect the remaining agreements to be signed in much less time. In the coming weeks we expect to start making the required payments.

During this quarter each organization dedicated time to keep building trusting relations among them and with the Consortium members and Redlad's team by organizing meetings and planning upcoming events in some cases:

- Central America - CECADE:

April: worked with the focal points by sharing documents and giving advise about the creation of national civil society organizations councils (which will be part of the mechanism of participation of civil society created by PASCA). Nicaragua and Guatemala demonstrated a weak response, therefore Cecade used a strategy of presential meetings with to clarify doubts. There were meetings with the focal point of Honduras (ASONOG) in El Salvador, in Costa Rica with the focal point there (Fundación Arias). On the last week of April CECADE's director went to the activities prepared by PASCA during the International Civil Society Week. Those activities strengthen the incidence and development of PASCA's objectives in the region.

May: Redlad held several meetings with CECADE to establish a working method and accelerate the signing of the focal point's agreements. During this month CECADE sent information to their focal points, and coordinated with the base team in Bogota to guarantee their participation at the activities in Santo Domingo, during the OAS General Assembly.

In **El Salvador** on May the 13th Cecade and the Focal Point in El Salvador, Jóvenes en Acción Política (JAP), held a meeting with other NGOs that represented women, LGBTI, afro communities, youth, indigenous people. The purpose was to develop actions toward the constitution of the National Council of Civil Society (NCCS). In addition, on May the 18th, there was a meeting with an organization of women, Colectiva Feminista Akelarre, with the intention of increasing their commitment and motivating the contact with more women's organizations. The contract with JAP is still in process for its adoption. One of its members went to PASCA meetings in Santo Domingo.

In **Honduras** ASONOG, the focal point, delegated Claudia Díaz, as technical contact to execute the project. There was a virtual meeting on May the 16th, about the process of signing the agreement. In addition, on the second week of May, there were meetings with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the OAS, which expressed positive welcoming to PASCA project.

Lludely Aburto, from Red Local (**Nicaragua**) and Norayda Ponce, from CONGCOOP (**Guatemala**) were designated as responsables of the project in their organizations. Virtual meetings were held with them on May 9th, where it was agreed that the organizations will resolve directly with Cecade any enquires and problems related to local schedules and budgets.

Mexico's focal points has expressed some problems which they want to solve at Santo Domingo's meeting. The Southern Initiative for People Empowerment (SOUPEM) from **Belize** was invited by CECADE to be focal point. **Costa Rica** is waiting for the first payment to start the execution of Project activities in their country. But they have not sent their plan and they did not showed interest in attending the meetings in Santo Domingo.

June: Most of the countries were able to attend the meetings in Santo Domingo and solve some doubts and queries they had. The organizations from Costa Rica and Panamá could not be present, since their representatives were unable to be reached in time to make the proper travel arrangements. After the meeting, a lot of progress was made in formalizing the organizations' relation with the project. During the last month we have signed contracts with the organizations from Belice, Mexico (both CESEM and Equipo Pueblo) and Nicaragua. The organizations from Honduras and Mexico (Equipo Pueblo, one of two focal points) have submitted work plans that have required changes, which we expect to solve during July and start with the process of financial and technical execution.

Regarding Guatemala, the focal point agreed to participate fully on the condition that they would use their own funds, since they have some reservations with signing the contract under the current political climate. The organization (CONGCOOP) is a member of Redlad and has over 30 years of experience in the country, so the project can benefit from it. CECADE are currently looking for another local organization that's willing to receive the funds contemplated for Guatemala and can assist CONGCOOP in its duties as a Focal Point. Regarding Costa Rica and Panama, two countries that had been absent for the last months, CECADE has retaken contact and expects to have the contract signed and the local plans finalized during July. A meeting of Central American afrodescendent youth will be held in El Salvador during August, in which CECADE aims to participate and promote the project. Furthermore, a regional meeting of focal points is also being planned for August.

- South Cone - Semillas para la Democracia:

April: In a visit that Semillas did to Uruguay, contacted organizations which became focal points: El Abrojo (Uruguay) and Fundación Multitudes (Chile). Semillas had previously had confirmation from Directorio Legislativo to be Focal Point in Argentina. The Project's Director had several virtual meetings with the focal points to clarify some information and encourage them to become national referents.

May: The focal point representatives from Uruguay (El Abrojo), Argentina (Directorio Legislativo), Chile (Fundación Multitudes) and Paraguay (Semillas) held a meeting in Uruguay on May 30th, where they discussed each organization's mission and began to formulate a regional strategy for enlarging and strengthening the network in the coming months (Enclose 11). Pictures from the event can be accessed [here](#). Fundación Multitudes, submitted its signed agreement on May 10th and thus formalized its entry in the project.

On the Brazilian focal point, Redlad reached ANDI Brazil (an organization that promotes the rights of children and youth, human rights, social inclusion and participatory democracy) and proposed them to be focal point.

In Paraguay, on May 25th there was a meeting between Claudia Aguilera, Director of Regional Forums of the Paraguayan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Margarita Araújo and Paulo González from Semillas. The objective was to have a dialogue about the Paraguayan CSO in the country, the South Cone subregion and to obtain the institutional support to facilitate the CSO participation. As a result, it was agreed to elaborate and sign an agreement between Semillas and the Direction of Regional Forums (Enclose 12) towards the creation of a working team of collaboration.

June: in June we welcomed an organization to work as the Focal Point for Brazil: *ANDI Comunicação e Direitos*. Its representative was able to attend our events in Santo Domingo and establish contact with the other participating organizations. We hope ANDI can catch up with the administrative and strategic planning processes during the month of July. Semillas has continued to discuss the agreement with the Direction of Regional Forums and a draft is awaiting revision from the Foreign Office team. The regional work plan was discussed and approved. Fundación Multitudes from Chile presented a national plan that will be used as a template for the other countries. All organizations were able to attend the Santo Domingo meetings and agreed to develop local action plans for the promotion of the project. A regional meeting was tentatively set for September.

- Andean Region - DESCO.

April: An important result from the events during the ICSW was the contact with Molvina Zeballos, director of DESCO (Perú), who accepted to be our Consortium member for the Andean Region and to coordinate the activities in Peru related to the next Summit there. Also, during the ICSW, Redlad held a meeting with the proposed focal points in Colombia (CCONG), Bolivia (Fundación Construir), Venezuela (Transparencia Venezuela), and Ecuador (Cedeal and Democracia y Desarrollo). Bolivia and Ecuador's focal points accepted the task, Venezuela and Bolivia's representatives expressed their concern on the use of the logo and flag.

May: Progress has been made on the formalization of focal points in the region. CEDEAL (Ecuador) signed the agreement on May 15th (Enclose 2) and Transparencia Venezuela agreed to participate as a focal point. On the first week of the month Gina Romero had a meeting with the Confederación

Colombiana de ONG (CCONG) to propose them to be Colombian focal point. They will be present the proposal to their next board of directors meeting, to be held at the end of June.

On the matter of the waivers required by Bolivia and Venezuela (enclose 38), Redlad sent the proposed texts to the State Department, and they were approved. Redlad held several meetings with DESCO, the Consortium organization, to explain PASCA's working toolset and gather information on the Peruvian electoral context and its possible implications on 2018's Summit.

DESCO, also contacted the Peruvian team responsible of the Summit of Americas. On May 19th was a meeting with the Minister David Málaga Ego Aguirre, director of Organisms and Multilateral Policies, and the Minister Rodolfo Enrique Coronado Molina, member of the OAS sub-direction and Hemispheric Affairs. They were informed about the project and the expectancies related to the Summit which is going to be held on 2018. Also, it was offered the will to collect civil society recommendations. With those same objectives, there was a meeting with José Manuel Domingo Boza Orozco, chief of staff at the Vice-ministry of Foreign Affairs.

From those conversations it was concluded that after the presidential elections on June 5th, would be news about the position of the hosting country of the next Summit. Education seems to be the main topic, but it is not definite yet. It would depend on the new government. However, one advantage for the civil society is that the current contacts are career officers that will not be removed after the presidential change and they are willing to open to civil society participation.

They were invited to join the PASCA activities in Santo Domingo, on June, but they will arrive one day after the Civil Society Meeting organized by PASCA.

June: A proposed meeting with a Peruvian representative to the OAS, to be held during the General Assembly in Santo Domingo, could not be carried out. During these meetings, however, the focal points from the region got to know each other and agree on the general guidelines for the regional planning process. DESCO has started expanding the database of NGOs and CSOs to be invited to future events, and has also managed to incorporate another Peruvian organization, Grupo Propuesta Ciudadana, to handle Focal Point duties in the country.

- Caribbean - Fondation Espoir.

April: Taking advantage of the meeting with Hans Tippenhauer, our contact at this new Consortium member, during the ICSW, there were dialogues about the political environment for working in the region, also, there were identified some possible partners to build trust in the oncoming process. In addition, it was established contact with Cuban organizations, to think together in the approach to this country.

May: Redlad and Fondation Espoir have established contact with organizations in Barbados, Cuba, Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago which will attend the OSC Forum in mid-June. The Cuban organization (CEDEL - Centro de Desarrollo Local y Comunitario) shared with us a document with proposals for the OAS.

June: The region was represented in the Santo Domingo meetings by organizations from Barbados, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Trinidad & Tobago. While relations have been established in Cuba (CEDEL), Haiti (Fondation Espoir) and the Dominican Republic (Alianza ONG), the next step is

establishing proper representation in the english speaking caribbean, of which there has been some progress with Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago.

- North America - Redlad.

April: In Bogotá, at the ICSW, Redlad made contact with the Canadian Council for International Co-operation (CCIC) that was invited to be focal point in the Canadá. In may a virtual meeting will be held with its Director, Julia Sánchez. On the other side, in April Redlad has been strengthening its relation with regional organization such as DPLF, and prepared several mails to contacts with NGO in USA.

June: Contact with the CCIC continued over the following months and the organization has expressed interest in the project. However on June 13th we were told that they cannot commit to participating as a Focal Point in Canada until October 2016, due to projects already in execution. During June, Redlad has also worked with the Youth Network of the Americas in the organization of a forum to be held in august during the 2016 World Social Forum in Canada. Contacts will be strengthened during the visit.

Collaboration and Partnerships by the Team Project with OAS:

April: On April the Project Director and the Design, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist assisted to the IAHRC Hearings in Washington with the intention to develop meetings (Enclose 13) with organizations from Ecuador, USA, Perú and Panama, and identifying new focal points and consult organizations about the project's objectives.

During this week the following meetings were held:

April 4th.

- Meeting with Ramiro Oirás - Bolivia Fundación Compartir, which is Bolivia's focal point.
- Meeting with Jane Thiery and OAS Team. It was a good opportunity to share with the OAS team about their views on the next OAS Assembly and to update them with the latest information about the project's implementation. A list of confirmed focal points was delivered.
- Meeting with Luís Ramírez, Secretary General's Advisor

April 5th.

- Meeting with Indigenous leaders from Ecuador to explain PASCA project and receive feedback from this group. They showed interest in improving their knowledge about the OAS and the scenarios where indigenous organizations can participate as well as the conditions for that participation. Furthermore, they believe that some themes of their agenda would be interesting for other groups and it is worth sharing common issues and adding efforts.

April 6th.

- **Consultation PASCA.** In spite the Team had the expectation of a massive response to the call, there were few assistants (eight people including representatives from a regional network of LGBT organization), because most of the organizations had previous commitments in the frame of the IAHRC Audiences. However, the dialogue with the assistants offered criteria for designing strategies of relationship and political action of the project.

April 7th

- Participation on the Dialogue between IAHRC and CSOs
- Informal meeting with Cuban activist

- Delivering of letters for all the OAS ambassadors of the countries were the focal points were confirmed.

April 8th

- Participation on a dialogue with youth and OAS Secretary General, with an informal talk with Almagro and two of his advisors.
- Informal meetings with organizations from USA and Brazil.

April 9th

- Meeting with Magaly Castillo, Executive Director of Alianza pro Justicia, who is going to be the focal point in Panamá.

April 11th

- Meeting with DOS points of contact

April 12th

- Meeting with Catherine Pognat, in charge of CSO participation at the OAS
- Participation in a Discussion co-hosted by the U.S. Permanent Mission to the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor with CSO.

May: throughout May, the Project Director remained in vigilant contact with the OAS in preparation for the General Assembly to be held in June in Santo Domingo.

After threatening to close the General Assembly Open Forum, the OAS agreed at the beginning of May to open it under the usual methodology (9 themes, a virtual forum, an event on June 12th, a set of questions to ask the SG). The Project Director closely followed the process of CSO registration. In mid-May the OAS determined that a high number of the registered organizations were radical groups against some gained rights, so participation was restricted to only one member per organization. This affected the possibility of participation of Cuban activists and was met with opposition. Redlad pressured for the re-opening of the space. Later in the month, upon the OAS announcement of restricted participation due to a lack of appropriate spaces with enough capacity in Santo Domingo, Redlad sent some options for selecting a suitable location for the meeting. In the third week of May another problem arose when support for the Secretary General was called into question after a diplomatic crisis with the Government of Venezuela, for which Redlad mobilized again to gather support for the Secretary General.

June: our work in the first half of June was concentrated in facilitating civil society participation at the OAS General Assembly in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and related events which were organized by different organizations, as well as organizing the PASCA meetings with the Consortium Members and Focal Points:

On June 9th, we had a working session with around 50 CSO representatives in the Dominican Republic, and we strengthened our contact and connection with the focal point, Alianza ONG.

On June 11th, we held the CSO Forum at the Crowne Plaza Santo Domingo Hotel, where we presented the PASCA project (enclose 14), gave talks on the state of the Enabling Environment in Latin America (enclose 15), on the particular challenges faced by Caribbean CSOs in co-ordinating actions, and on the state of Civil Society participation in the Dominican Republic. We also conducted roundtable discussions to prepare some proposals for the CSO Forum organized by the OAS, which would take place the next day. The starting point of this discussion was a systematization of CS recommendations made in previous OAS events (Democracy and Human Rights, Education, Governance and Civil Society Participation and Sustainable Development) (encloses 16 to 19). The

forum gave very good results, and we continued polishing our idea of taking the components of enabling environment (civic space) as the main articulator of the SCO common agenda. This was an idea that had been given to us by many organizations that had participated in our meetings. We also discussed the possibility of using a methodology similar to the one used by the Open Government Alliance to articulate the components of the CSO common agenda with other stakeholders such as governments. This is an idea that we just started discussing, and over which we don't have full agreement yet. Around 88 people attended the Forum, and our surveys indicate that participants were satisfied with its results and had a clearer picture of the project. Some people commented that the event helped understand the different national contexts in the region, and requested that we distribute via e-mail the presentations made that day. Other suggestions included improving communications and diffusion via press and other media.. A list of participants is enclosed (enclose 20). The results from our survey can be found at enclose 21, and a gallery of pictures from the events can be viewed at PASCA's webpage [here](#).

On June 12th, Gina Romero was invited by the OAS to moderate their workshop on democracy, which shows that we've had some success positioning ourselves as leaders in the area. We were able to corroborate the usefulness of having set a position beforehand with many organizations, since the document we prepared with reflections made the day before was able to inform some of the views of participant organizations. We were able to position ourselves in front of at least 80 CSOs in the region, many of them with strong advocacy work in the OAS. A series of incidents took place in the afternoon during the dialog with the Secretary General, such as: a protest of religious organizations against abortion who closed the street in front of the hotel for around half an hour; several arguments almost turned violent especially in the roundtables organized around human rights (a point of contention for supporters and critics of the situations in Cuba and Venezuela) and the LGBT community (which escalated in the hallways of the hotel where the meeting took place).

On June 13th we had the meeting with PASCA Consortium members and focal points in the Weston Hotel, where organizations from 19 countries and three population groups (Afrodescendants, indigenous peoples and LGTBI) participated. We were able to strengthen bonds between all organizations, answer some questions regarding the Project and define a common agenda of milestones (enclose 22) that need to be hit in the coming months in all countries, regarding the national consultation processes and the election of national and regional representatives. We were also able to define a plan for the Caribbean to reach at least eight focal points by the end of July. Several of the organizations were able to attend the meeting between the Secretary General and the other delegations.

Attached to this document you will find a summary (enclose 23) of what was discussed and agreed upon the June 11th and 13th events, as well as our systematization of CS inputs in previous OAS encounters, completed with new CS recommendations made on the June 11th forum.

On June 14th and 15th we participated in the General Assembly meetings, where we were able to meet several times with the people in charge of CSO participation at the OAS and with the Summit Secretariat. We articulated our actions with other collectives, and have attached to this document all the official declarations and resolutions that came out of the OAS General Assembly. These meetings were also eventful: on the 14th it was announced that CS representatives would not be permitted to attend the meetings due to space constraints, which meant that some of us who were already there were forcibly removed from the meeting. This measure was lifted for the June 15th meeting. Redlad, along with other CSOs, filed a formal letter of complaint demanding a meeting with the Secretary

General. You can find the letter we sent ([enclose 24](#)), as well as the Secretary General's [response](#) (enclose 25). Lastly, a compilation of the resolutions and recommendations that came out of the General Assembly can be found [here](#) (enclose 26).

In the following days we've followed through on the meeting's conclusions and we have started receiving the signed subgrant documents from the focal points. Therefore we have started the transition toward the creation of the participation mechanism (enclose 27).

In the last days of June, the Project's Director traveled to Washington to meet with OAS representatives to draft an action strategy for the second semester of 2016. On June 27th she met with Beatriz Piñeres, of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG). Mrs. Piñeres let her know that she'll be in charge of the dialog with other actors (youth, private sector, civil society). She requested PASCA's collaboration in the sharing among CSOs of the reports that the SIRG prepares on the implementation of the mandates set by the Summit. We are currently thinking of strategies to help monitor the commitments among CSOs. Mrs. Piñeres let her know that a workshop on Civil Society participation methods is being planned for the coming months and she will be extending an invitation, and that a SIRG will hold a meeting in december.

On June 28th, the Project's Director met with Jane They, of the Summit Secretariat. Mrs. They asked for assistance from PASCA in raising awareness about the funding problems affecting not only the IAHRC, but other OAS divisions. She recommended that we pay close attention to the Summit of the Americas Implementation and Follow-up System. They exchanged ideas on the possibility of instituting a Civil Society award that can be delivered in the 2017 General Assembly in Mexico, with the support of the Vidanta Foundation.

On June 29th, the Project's Director met with Catherine Pognat, who is in charge of Civil Society at the OAS. They did an ex-post analysis of the situations presented at the General Assembly and agreed that Mrs. Pognat would call a workshop with CSOs to devise new strategies of participation for the coming Assemblies.

Collaboration and Partnerships by the Team Project with other stakeholders:

April:

From the 24th to the 28th of April the International Civil Society Week took place in Bogota. The week's events were coordinated in partnership with **Civil Rights Defenders**. The following events were developed in relation to the project:

- On April 25th, **Pasca presentation to 15 cuban activists**, first cuban consultation. The activist decided to call the national council 'Relatoría ciudadana'.
- **On April 26th, Meeting with Andean focal points**. At this meeting they got clarities of the project and their role. Also they discussed about the political context in the region and how to face the challenges in terms of the call to other CSO and the relation with governments.
- On April 26th, Seminar on **lessons to the OAS from different experiences of CSO participation in Multilateral scenarios**. There Paulo González, presented some highlights on the research he is doing. In addition, Socorro Ramirez, who was in charge of organizing the participation of the civil society at the Summit of Americas held in Cartagena, Colombia, shared her lessons and recommendations for the oncoming PASCA process. Finally, Moisés Sánchez, from the Regional Alliance for the Freedom of Speech and Information exposed his experience and advice about CSO processes of self organization, agreement and incidence

toward common agendas. To this venue assisted 43 people, most of them from CSO in the region. Also there were participants from United Kingdom, Hungary, Poland and Equatorial Guinea (article in Spanish about the session: <https://proyectopasca.org/2016/05/14/participacion-de-la-sociedad-civil-en-escenarios-multilaterales-lecciones-para-la-participacion-en-la-oea/>).

- On April 27th, **Consortium meeting**. In addition to Redlad, there were the Consortium members for Central America, South Cone and Caribbean. Mainly during the meeting there were presented advances from the subregions, which have been consolidating the strategy of defining national focal points and their experience was useful reference for the newest partner in the Caribbean.
- On April 27th, **PASCA consultation meeting**. 20 people joined this meeting where the Team presented the Project and developed a workshop to receive feedback about the draft of the mechanism of coordination and participation of Civil Society toward the Summit of Americas (enclose 27). In general it was perceived an optimistic attitude toward the project. which is being seemed as an opportunity for networking and organization with more effective incidence in scenarios like the OAS. Here is a website note in spanish <https://proyectopasca.org/2016/05/14/participacion-de-la-sociedad-civil-en-escenarios-multilaterales-lecciones-para-la-participacion-en-la-oea/>

May: throughout the month, the Project Director remained in contact with consortium members and other organizations to monitor the preparation of materials for the OAS General Assembly in June, and clarify the situation regarding CSO participation.

June: The June 11th CSO Forum was organized in partnership with **Freedom House**, and the organization's Director for Latin America was the opening speaker. During the OAS events we had the chance to speak and interact with dozens of CSOs from the Dominican Republic and other countries that met in Santo Domingo, which helped us extend our contacts networks and the project's incidence. All the CSOs contacted were left very motivated to work for the project.

Team Project Staff:

In mid-may two positions were filled in the project staff through open calls:

Project Officer: We received around 75 CVs and interviewed 7 candidates. The selected candidate was Luis Angel Roa, a venezuelan citizen living in Bogotá with ample experience coordinating regional organizations. He started working with the team officially on may 16th (enclose 28 comparative chart of candidates and enclose 29 CV Luis Roa).

Webmaster: After some problems with the webmaster hired, and taking into advantage of the CVs we received in the process of filling the Project Officer position, we selected Brian Alvarado Pino as webmaster and communication specialist. Brian is a colombian citizen who is graduated in Political Sciences and is finishing a Masters degree in Strategic Communications from the Universidad del Rosario, Argentina (enclose 30 CV Brian Alvarado).

Communications

April:

- A set of of brochures in english (enclose 31 and french (enclose 32) were developed
- Pasca's website was put online <https://proyectopasca.org>

- The two first version of the project's virtual newsletter *Entre Regiones* were build and sent <https://proyectopasca.org/boletin/>

May:

- Press materials were prepared in spanish, english and french, along with POP material such as folders and pens for distribution among consortium members and focal points during the Santo Domingo events.
- Civil Society recommendations presented in previous summits (Port-of-Spain 2009, Cartagena 2012 and Panamá 2015) were systematized as an input for the discussions to be held in Santo Domingo, so that participating CSOs start from there and can further refine their ideas.
- The OAS Virtual Forum was followed and discussions were analyzed to understand the main issues and the opinions that were articulated around them by CSOs. A summary (enclose 33) was prepared to better guide further conversations.
- New editions of the project's virtual newsletter *Entre Regiones* were built and sent <https://proyectopasca.org/boletin/>

June:

- Preparation of a communications plan (enclose 34).
- Production of POP materiales (brochures, pens, folders and banners) for the events held in Dominican Republic.
- Content production and management for the website www.proyectopasca.org
- Content production and management for the project's social network presence in [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Communications management.
- New editions of the [Project's virtual newsletter](#), entitled *Entre Regiones*, were built and sent.
- Guidebooks (enclose 35) and manuals (enclose 36) for the PASCA member organizations were produced.

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

A. Reports: There were sent monthly reports on May and June about the activities developed on April and May.

B. Designing and update of internal documents:

- *Stakeholder Mapping:* the Team project continued the strategy of collecting data from the CSO through the Online Survey which was filled by 115 organizations. Here are the [graphics](#) summarizing the main answers. In addition from events and other databases, we have now 1542 contacts from 1182 Organizations.
- *The Comparative Study on Best Practices and Lessons.* From the information collected by the consultant Paulo González who abandoned the consultancy and her own inputs, Socorro Ramírez, who managed the participation strategy at the Summit of Americas in Cartagena and is researcher and professor in international relations, was hired to advance the study and develop analysis about the context and lessons.
- *Communication Strategy:* the Manual of graphic identity was created and presented to Consortium members. According to that, the Consortium members have been applying those

orientations to their documents. During April, May and June, other advances were the website for the project: <https://proyectopasca.org/>, the Facebook fan page <https://www.facebook.com/proyectopasca/?fref=ts> and the Twitter account <https://twitter.com/ProyectoPasca>

On may, it was produced a first draft of the communication plan and improved according to the project performance. It is being implemented basically through the production of POP and printed materials and publishing information at the website, the Facebook fan page and the Twitter account

- It was created a scheme to explain the proposal of Mechanism of Participation of Civil Society, which was used for the Consultation meeting during the ICSW and adjusted for the Santo Domingo activities from the comments received during the focus group at the ICSW and other contributions (enclose 37). Additionally, a Google Form was developed to make an online consultation about it with CSOs which cannot attend presential meetings to discuss it (<https://docs.google.com/a/redlad.org/forms/d/12J1NCJILGHGhRDYPa5bifBgteN5qerq8OvY4R6kvEkl/prefill>).

C. Consortium update:

- From April our Consortium members for Central America and South Cone have been following their plan of activities, mainly in relation to contact national focal points. The organization leader for the Caribbean has started to plan its work and Redlad started to coordinate with DESCO the transfer of the responsibilities as it will become the new leader for the Andean Region. On May the subregional plans implementation continued and Fondation Espoir joined the Consortium members, being the Caribbean coordinator.
- On April Redlad elaborated a model document for the agreements with the focal points and during May and June supported Consortium members to elaborate agreements with the national focal points.

E. Other Actions

- In relation to the information management of the process, from April the Consortium members have increased their use of the shared Drive to store the documents they have produced °during their activities, mainly by CECADE. However the work to guarantee collection and organizing of it is a daily challenge.

Project Objectives:

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

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

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

| ACTIVITY | INDICATOR | BASELINE DATA (include date/ source) | TARGET (life of the agreement) | Result this Period | CUMULATIVE DATA and % of progress completed if applicable |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 1.1 Conduct a project planning meeting with the partners organizations | One Project Working Plan Document | N/A | 1 | 1 general plan approved. There are subregional plans for South Cone and Central America. We are pending of the other subregions, but the main guide is the general. | 88% |
| | Consortium members increase their confidence in their partners and in the process | N/A | 6 | 1 baseline | 25% |
| 1.2 Organize three focus groups of 20 CSOs each to assess opportunities for creating the Council | One report to guide the creation of the Civil Society Council | N/A | 1 | The first draft was adjusted. It is being presented at national and subregional meetings | 50% |
| | Number of CSOs demonstrating increased levels of understanding and interest in participation in Summit-related events and activities. | N/A | 90% of participants increase their confidence and show interest in participating in Summit related events and activities | From 115 CSO consulted at the moment about their interest in participate at the 2018 Summit of the Americas, 94% expressed high interest. Measurement note: considering the aim of reaching 350 organizations (indicator 1.4), the 91 which expressed this high interest represent 29% of the indicator. | 29% |
| 1.3 Conduct a comparative study about similar regional oversight mechanisms and platforms | One Comparative Study of best practices and lessons in CSO consultation mechanisms | N/A | 1 | Collection of information about the experiences, it analysis in process. | 50% |
| 1.4 Develop and conduct a stakeholder mapping and | One stakeholders' mapping and engagement strategy | N/A | 1 | Data collecting stage. | 35% |

| | | | | | |
|--|---|-----|------------|--|---------------|
| engagement strategy | One strategic communications plan | N/A | 1 | Draft of strategic proposal pending of comments and approval, design and production of materials, management of digital media (website, social networks) | 50% |
| | Number of CSO surveyed that express interest and commitment to participate in the creation of the Council | N/A | 350 | From 115 organizations which filled the survey, 102 (88%) expressed high interest about joining a civil society council. Measurement note: considering the aim of reaching 350 organizations, the 83 which expressed this high interest represent 29% of the indicator. | 29% |
| 1.5 Elaborating of draft documents for CSC establishment | Draft of the CSC proposal to be review by CSOs and other actors and partners | N/A | 1 | 0 | 30% |
| | Percentage of CSOs' inputs taken into account in the draft document for CSC establishment | N/A | 60% | 0 | 20% |
| 1.6 Organizing five sub-regional working-coordination meetings to finalize CSO support for creation of the Council | Number of sub-regional working coordination meetings held, documented and socialized | N/A | 100% | First subregional meeting of South Cone focal points | 10% |
| | Number of CSOs demonstrating increased levels of participation in the creation of the council and interest in participating in other Summit scenarios | N/A | 250 90% | As it was reported at the 1.4 indicator: from 115 organizations which filled the survey, 88% (102 CSO) expressed high interest about joining a civil society council. 91% (106 CSO) expressed high interest about the construction of one agenda for the 2018 Summit. 75% (87 CSO) expressed high interest about monitoring the mandates of Panama Summit. | 98 CSO 84% |

| | | | | Measurement note: the cumulative data is result of the average of CSO and of their percentages in the three categories. | |
|---|---|-----|--|---|---|
| 1.7 Organizing an online vote to elect the members of the council | Number of CSO voting in sub-regional coordination meetings for the CSC creation | N/A | 300 | 0 | 0 |
| | Number of members of the CSC elected | N/A | 20 (2 women and 2 men for each sub-region) | 0 | 0 |
| 1.8 Organize the first meeting of Civil Society Council in Perú (2016) | One meeting held and systematized | N/A | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | Number of active members of the CSC | N/A | 20 (2 women and 2 men for each sub-region) | 0 | 0 |
| 1.9 Redlad will help the council to establish its Secretariat and support the activities of the Secretariat | One CSCs working plan | N/A | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1.10 Develop a financial sustainability model for approval by the Council | One financial sustainability model developed | N/A | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | Number of Council members trained in the financial sustainability model | N/A | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| 1.11 Assist the Council Secretariat in design, implementation and monitoring a strategy of communication, relationship and knowledge management to support the interaction within the CSC and with the different stakeholders | One strategy of communication, relationship, and knowledge management | N/A | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | Percentage of CSO users of CSC's media and communicational scenarios | N/A | 80% | 0 | 0 |

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

| ACTIVITY | INDICATOR | BASELINE DATA (include date/ source) | TARGET (life of the agreement) | Result this Period | CUMULATIVE DATA and % of progress completed if applicable |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|
| 2.1 Support the Council in the development of a consultation mechanism between the Council and OAS-SIRG to improve skills and awareness on the process | One consultation mechanism between the Council and OAS-SIRG developed | N/A | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 2.2 Establish a support network in Peru to work the 2018 Summit Agenda | One networking plan for building the 2018 Summit Agenda | N/A | 80% | Meetings with the officials in the Foreign Affairs Ministry that will be in charge of the Summit. Event with CSO organizations. | 10% |
| 2.3 Establish an ongoing consultation process with governments | Percentage of countries reporting information | N/A | 70% | 0 | 0 |
| 2.4 Develop and Sign an agreement between the Council and SIRG | One agreement subscribed between the Council and SIRG | N/A | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 2.5 Organize 5 sub-regional consultation in coordination with OAS Summit, and one virtual online consultation | Number of regional and sub-regional consultations between the Council and representative organizations held | N/A | 1 regional and 5 sub-regional consultation meetings | 0 | 0 |
| | Number of CSOs consulted during the development of the CSO recommendations for the 2018 SIRG | N/A | 400 | 0 | 0 |
| | One document with the Civil Society agenda for the 2018 Summit, presented to SIRG | N/A | 1 | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | | |
|---|--|-----|-----|---|---|
| 2.6 Conduct 6 Council meetings, 2 each year from 2016 to 2018 | Number of council meetings held | N/A | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| | Council members acquire experience and confidence in relation with CSO, OAS-SIRG and other actors | N/A | 90% | 0 | 0 |
| 2.7 Strengthen the participation of the Council and CSOs to the 2018 Summit | Number of meetings among Council, Secretariat, SIRG, and governments to secure CSO participation. | N/A | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| | Number of Western Hemisphere CSOs, targeted by the project, that express interest in participating in the Civil Society Forum at the 2018 Summit. | TBD | 800 | 0 | 0 |
| | One document with the Civil Society recommendations to the SIRG | N/A | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | Percentage of presented CSO recommendations from the civil society council incorporated by Summit stakeholders into Summit documents or activities | N/A | 40% | 0 | 0 |
| | Number of CSOs demonstrating increased levels of participation in Summit-related events and activities. | TBD | 600 | 0 | 0 |
| | Number of CSOs reporting increased and substantive CSO engagement in the Summit process as a result of the CSO mechanism | N/A | 300 | 0 | 0 |
| | Percentage of CSOs reporting increased satisfaction with the Summit process. | TBC | 60% | 0 | 0 |

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

| ACTIVITY | INDICATOR | BASELINE DATA (include date/ source) | TARGET (life of the agreement) | Result this Period | CUMULATIVE DATA and % of progress completed if applicable |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 3.1 Develop a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating implementation of Summit commitments to be used by the CSO community | Percentage of prioritized 2015 Summit mandates monitored by the council and relevant CSOs. | N/A | At least 40% | 0 | 0 |
| 3.2 Conduct a needs assessment for technical assistance and capacity building among CSOs across the region, to improve knowledge and feedback on monitoring and evaluation mechanism /practices | Number of CSOs demonstrating increased ability to research, monitor and report on Summit commitments in their sub-regions. | N/A | 44 | Some questions about strengths of the CSO are included in the current Survey. Which is going to offer the baseline to design the plan of enhancement. | 0 |
| 3.3 Design and implementation of a plan of enhancement and technical assistance according to the needs identified | Number of CSO joining the enhancement in capacities for monitoring and evaluation | N/A | 70% | | 0 |
| 3.4 Provide training and Technical Assistance to at least 100 CSOs for implementing the mechanism/Summit commitments | Five training activities held (one in each subregion) and one Technical assistance action per CSO involved in the follow up | N/A | 105 | 0 | 0 |
| 3.5 Produce joint report on outcomes of the 2015 Summit of the Americas | Number of CSO participating in the joint report | N/A | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| 3.6 Coordinate the adoption of the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism | Number of CSOs reporting increased and substantive CSO engagement in the Summit process as a result of the CSO mechanism | N/A | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| 3.7 Monitoring and evaluate programs/projects | Number of reports of advance in programs/projects | N/A | 22 | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| that impacted the commitments made at the Summit | impacted by the commitments | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|

Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators

| ACTIVITY | INDICATOR | BASELINE DATA (include date/source) | TARGET (life of the agreement) | Result this Period | CUMULATIVE DATA and % of progress completed if applicable |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Methodological design | One set of orientations for explicit knowledge management | N/A | 1 | Developed and tested methodology for consultation about the mechanism of participation of civil society at the Summit. | 25% |
| Elaborate baseline of the project | One report of the baseline | N/A | 1 | Information collected from consortium meetings and discussions, comparative analysis of previous summits. This information must be organized to build the baseline report. | 20% |
| Elaboration and management of databases for participation monitoring | One database system for monitoring participation of CSO in activities and discussions | N/A | 1 | Until this month there were two databases which were integrated in one file. It contains 1542 contacts from 1182 organizations. | 25% |
| Design and measure CSOs' capacities at national, sub-regional and thematic levels | One report of final state of CSO's capacities (including base line) | N/A | 1 | Some questions about strengths of the CSO are included in the current Survey. Which is going to offer baseline information to design the strategy. | 10% |
| Evaluation of the process | One report of results, impact and recommendations | N/A | 1 | 0 | 0 |

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

- To improve the communication from the Team of the Project to the Consortium members and from them to the focal points in the countries, because all have entered to the project at different time, with different knowledge about the project and the framework of action at the hemispheric level. So it is needed a sort of induction and nivelation, to be all at the same level.
- It has been impossible to make disbursements to Semillas, the Consortium member for the South Cone, there is a problem with the banks that make it hard to send the resources. We are implementing other strategies while the problem is solved.
- As the signing of the focal point contracts has been slow, and the Consortium members from the Caribbean and the Andean Región are new, the expenditure of resources is low.
- After the General Assembly and all the problems and blocks that CSO have, each time seems harder to increase CSO confidence in the OAS and, in turn, in the Summits. We have been having very close communication with Peruvian Government to start building the relation and trust that allows us to guarantee better conditions for next Summit, but in the meantime, all OAS failures in relation with CSO is against us.
- Also, the financial crisis that the OAS is facing is also undermining their capability to strengthen their relation with social actors and CSO. Besides, the crisis and attacks that the General Secretary is also facing has lead Civil Society to be its only ally, but then in return he will not accept our meeting proposals.

6. Upcoming Events:

- The consortium members will be consolidating the focal points network and working on the election of the members for the Civil Society mechanism of participation.
- Redlad will be preparing some meetings in Canada during the World Social Forum, to enhance relationships with CSO organizations in North America and the rest of the continent.

7. Timeline

In general, the project is advancing according to the approved timeline. However, there are some variations. Please follow the numbers in front of the correspondent activities and its notes:

1. The stakeholders mapping is still in the stage of collecting and organizing data. The Consortium members are giving inputs to it from the subregional data bases which they are building for their activities.
2. The consultation process about the CSO's council is being developed initially through direct approaches to members of the Consortium and focal points. Considering their comments, later it will be opened to other CSO through the focal points.
3. The databases and methodologies are being updated according to the project's contact during its performance. Particularly for monitoring the mandates we are collecting information about the Alliance for Open Government to take good practices.
4. The measurement of capacities is being built from the online survey.
5. The project is collecting, organizing and analyzing data to make a proposal of topics and methodologies to be assumed by the CSO.
6. Now that all the Consortium members are working in their sub regional plans, the subregional meetings are being organized to be held between July and August.

7. The quality control to partners activities is constant, during the performance of the project.

| | 2015 | | | 2016 | | | | | |
|--|------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | oct | nov | dec | ene | feb | mar | apr | may | jun |
| REDLAD | Q 1 | | | Q 2 | | | Q3 | | |
| | M1 | M2 | M3 | M4 | M5 | M6 | M7 | M8 | M9 |
| Objective 1: To develop and implement a Civil Society Council that represents CSOs across the region in monitoring and advancing Summit priorities | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium held planning meeting with partners' organizations | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium design a stakeholder mapping and engagement strategy (reviewing Redlad's methodology) | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium design and conduct an on-line survey to solicit ideas on the Council's structure and processes for making joint CSO recommendations. | | | | 2 | | | | | |
| Comparative study about similar regional oversight mechanisms and platforms, their best practices and lessons | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium develop and implement a strategic communications plan, based in survey's results (including the creation of a portal for dissemination and consultation actions) | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium elaboration of draft documents for CSC proposal (organogram, bylaws, description of roles and responsibilities) | | | | | | | 5 | | |
| Redlad, partners and thematic advisers organize five sub-regional working-coordination meetings to finalize CSO support for creation of the Council | | | | | | | | 6 | |
| Objective 2: To increase collaboration in consultation and engagement between CSO and OAS to present recommendations for the 2018 Summit | | | | | | | | | |
| Objective 3: To improve CSO's capacities to monitor the implementation and impacts of 2015 Summit commitments and to participate effectively in 2018 Summit processes. | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium develop a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating implementation of Summit commitments to be used by the CSO community | | | | | | | 3 | | |
| Redlad/Consortium conducts a needs assessment for technical assistance and capacity building among CSOs across the region | | | | | | | 4 | | |
| Redlad/Consortium design and implementing a plan of enhancement and technical assistance according to the needs identified | | | | | | | | 4 | |
| Redlad/Consortium provide training and Technical Assistance to at least 100 CSOs for implementing the mechanism/ Summit commitments. | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium coordinate the adoption of the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism | | | | | | | | | 3 |

| Program Management | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| Redlad/Consortium develop and assesses work plan | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium held meetings with partners to get feedback and follow up the activities | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium prepare narrative and financial quarterly reports | | | | | | | | | |
| Monitoring and Evaluation | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium general methodologies review and design (participation, systematization, information collection, etc). | | | 4 | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium Review and Consult Methodologies with DOS | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium elaborate baseline of the project | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium elaboration and management of databases for participation monitoring | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium design and measure CSO's capacities at national, sub-regional and thematic levels | | | | | | 3 | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium develops PMEPP | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium collects data | | | | | | | | | |
| Redlad/Consortium conducts quality control of partner activities | | | | | | 7 | | | |

Once the plan is finished, we will report the changes that we see in relation with the proposed timeline.

8. Budget Provide an update of the budget by budget category. Effective expenses, up to may 30th.

| Categories | State Dept Funds | Cost Share | Total |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| A. Personnel | 54,899 | 0 | 54,899 |
| B. Fringe Benefits | 12,940 | 0 | 12,940 |
| C. Travel | 53,174 | 16,518 | 69,692 |
| D. Equipment | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| E. Supplies | 2,363 | 0 | 2,363 |
| F. Contractual | 30,263 | 0 | 30,263 |
| G. Construction | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| H. Other | 17,606 | 0 | 17,606 |
| I. Total Direct Charges | 171,246 | 16,518 | 187,764 |
| J. Indirect Charges | 14,130 | 0 | 14,130 |
| K. Total Costs | 185,376 | 16,518 | 201,894 |