



DEVELOPMENT IN THE 6 DE FEBRERO COMMUNITY

PROGRESS REPORT

JANUARY 2007 - JUNE 2007

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

6 de Febrero is a community that is located at the northeast of the city of Sincelejo, in the state of Sucre at the north of Colombia. This is an invasion territory that was founded by around 670 families on 1992. Most of these families did not have a home and some were displaced of their lands because of the armed conflict in Uraba, Apartado and Turbo; municipalities of the state of Antioquia. Today in the community live 173 families with around 1,225 children, adolescents and adults.

Since 2004, Plan has helped 6 de Febrero to formulate a 2 year pilot program, focused on the Community Child Centered strategy. At the beginning, the community worked in the Development Plan and highlighted five areas of work: Infrastructure, Health, Education, Income Generation and Recreation. After identifying those areas, the development plan displays the main problems sensed by the community. The problems that it mentions are: the overcrowding conditions of the houses, the lack of a library and a play room for the children of the area, the early age pregnancies, the drug abuse in the adolescents, domestic violence and child abuse, the lack of income generation of the families, and the need to promote recreational activities for the children of 6 de Febrero.

Identifying those problems, it was decided to implement the following projects:

- 1. Construction, restructuring and equipment of the Community Centre:** This project will give the community a library and a play room for the children; a computing room; will adapt a community meeting rooms and build a kitchen to optimize the dining room service for the elder and the young children of the community and nearby neighborhoods.
- 2. Sexual and Reproductive Initiative:** With the development of a variety of educational and artistic activities we want to promote the sexual and reproductive rights of the youngsters and prevent early age pregnancies.
- 3. Drug Consumption Prevention:** The community calls this project “The beginning of change” and tries to prevent the consumption of illegal drugs through educational and artistic alternatives for the adolescents.
- 4. Income Generation:** This project is currently under study, where the families that participate will try, through collective supportive strategies, to generate economic incomes in a Community Bank System.
- 5. Communication and community sponsorship:** The purpose of the project is to promote a constant dialogue, between Sweden and 6 Febrero, about the process of community development through the website created by Sweden. Especially the community will communicate to Sweden all about their lives and the development of each of the projects promoted by Sweden by writing articles, messages and questions.
- 6. Building Responsible Families (Rights based approach):** The main objective is to educate and inform the families of 6 de Febrero on how to reduce the domestic violence and child abuse. It is planned to start next year and the community has called it: “Make a Stop and love me more”. Since there are no activities and the project is currently under study, it will not be mentioned closely on this report.

The following table presents a summary of each project and the main activities conducted this year.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECTS AT 6 DE FEBRERO

PROJECT	DATES	OUTPUTS AND BENEFICIARIES	MAIN ACTIVITIES
<p style="text-align: center;">CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE</p>	<p>May 15 /2007 - June 29 /2009</p> <p>The project began just as planned</p>	<p>One full equipped Community Centre.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conformation of the Infrastructure Committee (February 19/2007) 2. Accounting training for the efficient management of the resources donated to the community. (April 13-15/2007) 3. Carrying out of the Community Fair (June 3/2007)
<p style="text-align: center;">DRUG CONSUMPTION PREVENTION</p>	<p>February 1/2007 – December 19 /2009</p> <p>The project began on March 30/2007</p>	<p>185 children and youngsters involved in the process</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Motivate the community to participate in the Healthy Lifestyles Committee. (March 30 and May 1/2007) 2. Conformation of the Healthy Lifestyle Committee at 6 de Febrero. (May 7/2007) 3. Workshop to develop vocational or training job skills. (May 16, 21,23 and 24/2007)
<p style="text-align: center;">SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE INICIATIVE</p>	<p>March 27/2007- December 19/2009</p> <p>The project began just as planned</p>	<p>160 adolescents educated in Sexual and reproductive health and rights with a preventive approach towards early age pregnancies and HIV- AIDS and Sexual Transmitted Diseases-STD.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identification of the juvenile leaders and other community stakeholders interested in getting involved in the process. (April 19/2007) 2. Presentation of the project with the identified juvenile leaders. (April 26/2007) 3. Agreement with the adolescents to build and validate an instrument to gather the basic information for the project. (May 18/2007) 4. Implementation of an educational activity with the participants. (May 18/2007)

PROJECT	DATE	OUTPUTS AND BENEFICIARIES	MAIN ACTIVITIES
INCOME GENERATION	July 23/2007 – October 23/2008	1. 180 persons oriented on life skills. 2. 10 groups of collective income support formed in topics related to credit and savings.	1. Organization of the Income Committee. (February 19/2007) 2. Presentation of the Project to the Community (May 8/2007) 3. Identification of the possible participants in the project. (June 3/2007)
COMUNICATION ABOUT COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP	July 15/2007 – October 28/2008	All the community of 6 de Febrero	1. Organization of the Communication and Sponsors Committee (February 19/2007) 2. Preparation and training on article writing. (March 3/2007)

PROJECTS

1. CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE: (May 15 - June 29 2009)

- INTRODUCTION

In the Development Plan, build and worked with 6 de Febrero, we saw the priority to restructure and expand the Community Centre. Today the Community Centre has two rooms in which we operate a community dining service for the elder (lunch is distributed 5 days a week for free to the poorest elders of the community) and a sewing shop for 30 women of the community. Also, in those rooms, operate the religious project of the Franciscan nuns and the gathering of different meetings of the community. All those activities are done in a reduced space, where 40 persons fit maximum. As well, the centre lacks of adequate installations that allow the expansion and improvement of a dinning service for the elder and young children. Similarly, the limited space doesn't allow the gathering of all the youngsters of the community around big educational and recreational activities with the boy and girls of the community.

Precisely the infrastructure of the Community Centre has some damages. The centre has an entrance area, two collateral rooms and two bathrooms that can't be used because they are incomplete. There are a variety of services that are projected with the redesigning and expansion of the Community Centre, including:

- **A space for community events:** This space will facilitate the community encounters to plan, monitor and evaluate the actions where they participate and also to promote activities related with the recovery of the local culture.
- **Computing and Library Service:** This room was proposed by the youngsters due to the difficulties to find a library and a computer in the sector. This is a tool that supports the education and knowledge of the community.
- **Children's Community Play Room:** It wants to support the work that the community day care mothers do with the children between ages 0-5 and allow the access to spaces for their education, play and recreation.
- **Dinning Service for the children and elder:** These two projects financed and promoted by the governmental Family Welfare Institute, will be able to continue with all the hygienic standards for its operation.

- **Educational and training services:** The objective is to organize in the community centre, all the different educational and training offers that the community, municipal entities and private organizations give.

The following are the main activities conducted during the first semester of the project:

ACTIVITIES	OBJETIVES AND GOALS	DESCRIPTION	ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESULTS	DIFFICULTIES
1. Conformation of the Infrastructure Committee (February 19/2007)	<p>Objective: Organize a committee to manage the acquisition of the land and do the follow up of the construction and redesign of the community centre.</p> <p>Goal: One community group created.</p>	<p>In the community meeting there was a participation of around 30 persons that determined the profile of the members of the Committee.</p> <p>After that, some participants were elected as members of the Committee. They established the main tasks to carry out.</p>	<p>An integrated committee with 4 members of the community.</p> <p>Selection of two joint territories to develop the construction.</p> <p>The committee is managing the acquisition of the land.</p>	<p>The members of the committee consider that the identified land inside de community doesn't count with the expected dimensions and technical specifications to carry out the construction.</p>
2. Accounting training for the efficient management of the recourses donated to the community. (April 13-15/2007)	<p>Objective: Give basic accountant tools and skills to the committee.</p> <p>Goal: One committee that effectively manage the donated resources.</p>	<p>The committee is trained in the management of accounts, because this group will receive a donation from Plan, to buy the lot for the Community Centre.</p> <p>The basic concepts that they should learn are related with the diligence of accountant formats and the register of cash flows.</p>	<p>The committee has the necessary knowledge to manage efficiently the donated recourses.</p>	
3. Carrying out of the Community Fair (June 3/2007)	<p>Objective: Generate an opportunity for the boys and girls of the community to participate on the creative designs of the Community Centre.</p> <p>Goal: The participation of at least 50 boys and girls from the community in the designing of the Community Centre.</p>	<p>The community fair allows the members of 6 de Febrero to relate with all the projects and promotes the participation of other in the design of the Community Centre.</p> <p>Also, the fair helped the members of the community identify Sweden as the country that sponsors all these projects identified in their Development Plan.</p>	<p>The community identified itself with the community fair. It is noticed the active participation of the children during the designing of the Community Centre and the motivation they have with the new spaces that they will soon have.</p> <p>A Community Fair with the participation of around 150 persons of the community. They were all informed about the projects financed by Plan.</p>	

			More than 60 designs elaborated by children that suggest how to build the new community centre.	
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- PROYECTIONS

The construction will begin on August on an owned land. The current Community Centre will be remodeled and will be used for the community meetings.

The infrastructure committee says that there have been difficulties finding an available land in the community with all the measures that will allow the projected construction. Most of the lands that are available are too small and this has delayed the development of other related activities such as the buying of the land, the soil studies and the design of the Centre. Recently the committee negotiated the acquisition of two joint lots that were for sale. They already started to do all the necessary procedures to acquire the lot and start the building.

The following are the main projected activities:

- Purchase of the land and the legalization. June 19/2007
- Hand in of the soil and design study results. July 16/2007
- Beginning of the construction. July 31/2007

During the designing of the Community Centre, they will consider all the pictures made by the children during the Community Centre. It is important to mention that the children emphasize in their pictures, a Centre with a lot of colors, a garden at the entrance, a lot of didactic materials and an exclusive place for them, separate from the adults.

- TESTIMONIES

“Thanks to Sweden the community will have a Community Centre with everything for our children” Adela is 60 years old and lives in 6 de Febrero.

“I imagine the Community Centre like one school of the north of the city which has computers, lots of books and places to play. It is great to know that 6 de Febrero will have a space of its own.” Sergio is 11 years old.

- PHOTOS



- Boys and girls elaborating the creative designs of the Community Centre during the Fair. June 3/2007-

2. DRUG CONSUMPTION PREVENTION INICIATIVE: (April – May 2007)

- INTRODUCTION

This project wants to generate the organization and participation of the adolescents of the community, to promote healthy lifestyles with them and their families. It will carry away educational actions to prevent the consumption and abuse of drugs in the family and community.

While studying the evaluation done to the adolescents at 6 de Febrero, 35.4% of the surveyed declared that they have drunk alcoholic beverages, 12.2% said they smoke cigarette and 2.7% have tried psychoactive substances. The whole community classified with a 64% as one of the principal problems that the young have in the community.

The general objective identified is to prevent the increase of adolescents consuming psychoactive substances in the community. The specific objectives are:

1. Raise the awareness and knowledge of the youngsters and adults about the consequences that bring the consumption of drugs.
2. Develop a community strategy to support the prevention of drug abuse in the community.
3. Strengthen the families' abilities on how to deal and manage the issue at home.

It is important to highlight that during the gathering and motivation work, it was considered convenient that the youngsters stayed in their familiar and daily spaces. This facilitated the identification of the members of the Committee, because all are members of an acrobatic dance group. With the consolidation of the committee this group got more integrated. This as an opportunity to develop more recreational activities oriented towards the prevention of drug consumption.

The exchange with other adolescents of Sincelejo and specially with other members of projects where Plan Program Colombia promote rights through the composition of music, will allow them to make use of their body language and music abilities while practicing all the hip hop culture and other urban rhythms. The idea is to conduct all those opportunities towards the prevention of drug consumption and promote the juvenile organization and healthy lifestyles.

The model of intervention that suggest the development plan of 6 de Febrero is a global prevention strategy where all the youngsters at the community, between ages 13 and 18 or more, will be motivated to integrate the project. The main idea is to create and develop healthy practices and generate knowledge to prevent drug abuse in the community.

Also the project has the challenge of being the first to work with different age groups and with a specific community intervention, that begins with the identification of the knowledge and practices that the youngsters of 6 de Febrero have around this issue. Also, the idea is to determine some risk and protection factors that will allow preventing the consumption and abuse of drugs.

The following are the main activities conducted during the beginning of the project.

ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES AND GOALS	DESCRIPTION	ACHEVEMENTS AND RESULTS	DIFFICULTIES
<p>1. Motivate the community to participate in the Healthy Life Styles Committee. (March 30 and May 1/2007)</p>	<p>Summon of the adolescents and adults to form part of the committee focused to find alternatives to prevent the consumption of drugs.</p>	<p>During the community meetings.</p>	<p>Plan had the whole support of the community to do the gathering. It is interest the high number of questions that the youngsters have around the problematic.</p> <p>15 members of the community were gathered to form the Healthy Lifestyle Committee.</p>	<p>During the gathering only young men attended.</p>
<p>2. Conformation of the Healthy Lifestyle Committee at 6 de Febrero. (May 7/2007)</p>	<p>Constitute an organized and structured committee to allow the distribution of the actions and responsibilities.</p>	<p>During 3 community meetings and art practices, where 8 youngsters attended, they were informed about the project and about the organization of the committee.</p>	<p>Achievements: A consolidated group established 6 months ago. This facilitates their motivation and gathering around the activities.</p> <p>There is a strong bondage toward the break dance and the motivation to improve their skills on the dance.</p> <p>The identification of the break dance as the strategy to work the project during their dance practices.</p> <p>The support of the “Hijos de la Flor de Sierra” or (Sons of the Flower mountain) Foundation to work this artistic skill.</p>	

<p>3. Workshop to develop community abilities to work. (May 16, 21,23 and 24/2007)</p>	<p>Implement a capacity plan to incentivate the creation of skills and abilities to prevent the consumption of drugs.</p>	<p>During the working session they emphasized the importance of having training activities to acquire break dance abilities and the elaboration of graffiti.</p>	<p>There is motivation to carry out the sessions of break dance.</p> <p>There is a big mobilization, of more than 20 youngsters, during the sessions. These facilitate the gathering of other persons of the community.</p> <p>An opportunity to work with children between the ages 8 till 12 that are present during the dance practices, overwhelmed with what the adolescents do.</p> <p>10 youngsters' have knowledge and tools for the community work around the hip hop culture.</p>	<p>Lack of a structured methodology for promoting the break dance and the future results that can bring for the project.</p> <p>The participation of the Plan staff was voluntarily and we want to do a more formal articulation with the break dance sessions.</p>
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- PROJECTIONS

- On July it is planned to elaborate and implement an educational strategy that will have the pertinent subjects and methodologies for the project.
- Begin the diagnostic investigation about the problematic in the community.
- With the youngsters that form part of the “Hijos de la Sierra Flor” Foundation, the community will establish a formal bond that will allow the exchange of experiences.
- Creation of a platform of didactic and methodological material for all the work related with the prevention on drug abuse.
- With the committee structured, they will start to gather more girls and adults for the group.
- With the juvenile work promote informal encounters and elaborate a more systemic strategy opened up to the realities and changes of the group.
- We can discern that the main attraction of the youngsters towards the project is the promotion of urban arts. Mainly with the new wave that brought the hip hop culture, dance, music and graffiti to the community, we have to explore and learn how this new wave can help prevent the consumption of drugs.
- The community fair was a perfect opportunity to motivate more youngsters towards the project.

- INSTITUTIONAL ALLIANCES

The “Hijos de la Sierra Flor” or the “Sons of the Flower Mountain” Foundation is a non governmental organization of more than 25 years of experience in Sincelejo that articulate community, educational, organizational and cultural work with creative tools.

They give a privilege to the folk culture and how to apply modern rhythms to create artistic fusions that the juvenile groups promote.

This foundation joined formally with the project to give support and advice on break dance and the elaboration of graffiti. We expect to formalize an alliance to articulate and design an adequate proposal that relates with the community's needs.

- TESTIMONIES

After organizing the first meeting with the youngsters they got interested and hooked up with the dance. Since they like to jump around it is necessary that the group practice their dance and organize their presentations. *"We are youngsters that want to take advantage of our free time so that we don't get into trouble"* Karlos is 16 year old.

When we started to question about what they would like to be as a group, they brought up their adolescents condition and that they wanted to print that category in the group. *"We want to find out if with this group we can aware our friends and society of all the damages that the drugs cause."* Yeison is 15 years old.

"What we were looking for, during the community fair, was to present what we know (break dance) and show everyone that we are no strangers" Deibys is 17 years old

- PHOTOS



- Graffiti technique elaborated by the participants of the stand at the Community Fair.



- Boys and girls doing graffiti during the community fair. June 3/2007



Boy during the break dance sessions.

3. SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE INICIATIVE: (March 27/2007- December/2009)

- INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the process carried away with 6 de Febrero, and while writing and building the Development Plan, we identified that one of the main problems of this neighborhood is related with health. Primarily the community analyzed the youngsters' situation and concluded that the prevailing matter was the early age pregnancies. They recognized that this is caused by inadequate sexual practices and deficient preventive and contraceptive measures that bring risky sexual behaviors that predispose the community to have cases of sexually-transmitted diseases and even worst HIV- AIDS patients.

Wanting to be as coherent with this problematic in the community, Plan decides to work with a project that is already implemented in other Sincelejo communities. This project is called "Building my sexual and reproductive live during my adolescence" and that already operates successfully with youngsters in other 12 communities of Plan Sincelejo.

Mainly, the project has the goal to generate in the adolescents, between 12 and 18 years old, knowledge, positive attitudes and adequate practices towards their sexual and reproductive health. Especially, this project will take three year, starting on March 2007 and finalizing on December 2010.

The following are the main activities conducted since the beginning of the project.

ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVE AND GOAL	PROGRESS	ACHIEVEMENTS AND DIFFICULTIES	RESULTS
1. Identification of the juvenile leaders and other community stakeholders interested in getting involved in the process. (April 19/2007)	<p>Objective: Identify those youngsters with the potential and capacity to lead a process in which they will train other youngsters with knowledge related with the project.</p> <p>Goal: 10 leaders identified.</p>	Three meetings were done with the youngsters that had spontaneous questions and expectation around the problematic. Also during the dialogue sessions the youngsters determined alternative options to solve the problem. Through this encounter we were able to identify the leaders on the subject.	<p>Achievement: We were able to start the planning process with the youngsters.</p> <p>Difficulties: At the beginning of the project we saw the low motivation of the youngsters that were interested. This brought a disintegration of the group. That made it difficult to coordination and carry out the planned activities on time.</p>	With this activity we consolidated the committee. There are 7 youngsters from ages 14-17 years old. They have the main role to coordinate all the actions of the project.
2. Presentation of the project with the identified juvenile leaders.	<p>Objective: Make awareness in the youngsters of 6 de Febrero around the</p>	A coordinated activity presented a play developed by already trained youngsters of	<p>Achievement: The play was shown to 26 youngsters of the community.</p>	From this activity we were able to gather 10 boys and 10 girls. We

(April 26/2007)	<p>problematic and motivate them to join the process.</p> <p>Goal: 20 young leaders full aware about the risks related with their reproductive and sexual health and rights.</p>	<p>other communities acquainted with the World Fond Project and the local organization, Community Development Association – AJUSPAZ-</p> <p>The theater play was a brief representation of a familiar case where they could see the HIV- AIDS problematic and the different stigmas that surround it.</p>	<p>We were able to generate significant expectations towards the project.</p>	<p>already began the training process.</p>
3. Agreement with the adolescents to build and validate an instrument to gather the basic information for the project. (May 18/2007)	<p>Objective: Validate the survey with the participation of the juvenile leaders.</p> <p>Goal: A conveyed survey elaborated</p>	<p>We applied to 20 youngsters a survey of knowledge, attitudes and practices so that they could have a general concept of the survey planned to promote and apply to 80 youngsters of 6 de Febrero.</p>	<p>Achievements: We see the group motivated to participate and give opinions to evaluate the survey and be able to identify the knowledge and practices that are related with the reproductive and sexual practices at 6 de Febrero.</p>	<p>We were able to validate the survey</p>
4. Implementation of an educational activity with the participants. (May 18/2007)	<p>Objective: This training process consists on the carrying out of a variety of workshops to consolidate the committee and form them on the subject.</p> <p>Goal: A training process designed and implemented.</p>	<p>The first meeting was with 19 juvenile leaders of the process were we had a theoretical workshop about basic concepts of sexuality, sexual orientation and gender.</p> <p>The workshop was for 16 hours, developed for two days.</p>	<p>Achievement: The workshop was successful because the youngsters appropriated the subject.</p>	<p>19 juvenile leaders of the project have tools and clear concepts about sexuality and human development.</p>

- PROGRESS

We've seen positive levels of motivation that favor the consolidation and participation of the community during the first two months of intervention. As time pass by, the youngsters are beginning to fell identified with the purposes' of the project and we can see it has satisfied their expectations. We've seen this, during the encounters and meetings that Plan promotes.

- ACHIEVEMENTS

One of the main achievements has been the conformation and organization of the committee with the young leaders of the project. The motivation of the boy and girls allows us to work better and achieve positive results for the community.

We accomplished the agreed activities on time, permitting advances in the process determined.

The Action Plan elaborated by the members of the Committee, has oriented the times and spaces to develop each activity.

The motivation towards the young was a key tool to enthusiastically involve more girls and boy towards the process.

- DIFFICULTIES

At the beginning of the process we saw disintegration and demotivation of the adolescents that wanted to participate. These brought difficulties to consolidate, strengthen and coordinate all the activities planned. Also, knowing that this was a new group at the community the participation was reduced.

- PROJECTIONS

We plan to develop the following activities during this next year:

- Focalize and select the adolescents that we will poll.
- Apply and validate 80 surveys.
- Systemize and analysis the information found in the surveys.
- Design and implement a strategic plan, agreed with the 20 juvenile leaders in the committee.
- Follow up and implementation of the strategic plan with the trained adolescents. They will be trained to educate and expand the identified methodology in the community and especially with 60 more youngsters.

- INSTITUTIONAL ALLIANCES

To carry away this project we established an alliance with: the Life Alliance, formed by the non governmental association called ASPADECO; the juvenile organization Juvenile Peace Dreams Association – AJUSPAZ; and with the World Fond Project – PFMC, financed by the World Migration Organization. All together have intervened in the process with 6 de Febrero.

The main tasks each organization has in the project are: ASPADECO will give support to all the activities related with the project. AJUSPAZ, as a community organization will dynamize the local encounters. And the World Fond staff at Colombia will be helping in the systematization of the surveys done at the community.

- TESTIMONIES

“I have many questions because I had never been in a project like this one. I know that I’m going to learn a lot about Sexual and Reproductive Health” Etianeth is 16 and lives in 6 de Febrero.

“I like this project because it considers the opinion of the youngsters while filling the survey” María Veronica is 16 years old

“To me this workshop has been very different. I’ve learned things that I did not know about sexuality, how to learn about one self and how to building our own identity. What I mostly liked was that we learned while painting, looking at movies about sexuality, asking questions and playing.” Jholman is 16 year old.

4. GENERATING INCOME THROUGH SOLIDARITY (July 3 2007 – October 3 2008)

- INTRODUCTION

This project came up as an alternative to generate employment and improve the incomes of the families that live in 6 de Febrero. Its origins come from the Development Plan, where they identified the problem and also proposed some alternative solutions.

The project pretends to improve the families’ income through the creation and strengthen of business and economic activities that guarantee a favorable environment for the development of their children.

Another objective proposed in this project is related to motivate and create community organizations that incentivate the gathering of the different businesses and economic activities, according to their preferences, experience and abilities.

The project also wants to strengthen the business capacities and abilities of the owner of small business, through educational processes and technical consulting in management, financial and marketing skills.

Additionally, it will facilitate the owners' access to flexible and fast financial loans with reasonable costs. With this, it is expected to open new spaces in the community that transform the family relation and their mentalities towards this subject.

The next table shows the first activities implemented to conduct this project:

ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES AND GOALS	DESCRIPTION	ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESULTS	DIFFICULTIES
1. Organization of the Income Committee. (February 19/2007)	<p>Objective: Organization of a Committee that will be in charge of socializing and promotion of the project around the community. They will manage the implementation phase.</p> <p>Goal: One established committee that will develop the project.</p>	A meeting where the committee was created with three persons of the community.	The committee was created and meets every 15 days.	It was difficult to gather the community to participate in the project. Some members of the Committee are not motivated and are not assisting the reunions.
2. Presentation of the Project to the Community (May 8/2007)	<p>Objective: Inform the community about the project.</p> <p>Goal: A meeting to gather the community around the project.</p> <p>Participate in the community fair, putting a stand to promote the project.</p>	The majority of 6 Febrero know about the project.	45 persons of 6 de Febrero attended the meeting.	Some of the assistants at the meeting did not agree with the methodology to create a Community Bank System. They think that they have to depend and respond as a community and not as individual. They also noted that they don't have the time to participate in a training process.
3. Identification of the possible participants in the project. (June 3/2007)		The establishment of an informal socialization sessions where it was promoted the project in the community.	The stand during the community fair was visited by around 40 persons and we gave 3 talks about the project. All the members of the committee participated in the organizations of the stand and the promotion of the project.	There was a lot of noise during the presentations at the fair. Theses did not allow a close concentration of the assistants.

One of the main advances of this project has been its socialization in the community. Most of the members of 6 de Febrero knows about the project and 86 persons are involved and participating in the different meetings and activities.

At the beginning there were problems that involved the participation and motivation of the community, because the members of the community weren't too convinced with the Community Bank System. They thought that orienting the project towards a collective supportive strategy wasn't viable for each individual.

One of the identified situations is that at this moment, the community has other credit offers, where the community can have easy access without any educational components.

- PROYECTIONS:

During the month of June, the committee has programmed the design of a survey to learn more about the characteristics of each business and economic activity at 6 de Febrero. Also we want to know what type of businesses could be exploited and the way to help those new initiatives.

Other programmed activities are related with all the field work that the committee will carry away in other communities of Sincelejo, to learn about their operation and experience with a Community Bank. Even, they are going to get familiarized with the project promoted with displaced families at the north of Sincelejo, about "Opportunities for the families earning".

- TESTIMONIES

Mrs. Delfina, member of the committee created for this project, said the following about the talks given on May 8: *"This project is very important for our community because it wants to give support to the persons that have the desire to move forward with their business and families."*

5. COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP (July/2007 – December/2009)

- INTRODUCTION

The Project is conducted within the framework of a development education strategy aimed at promoting awareness among all levels of society through communication material prepared by young members of the community.

Community realities are understood not only as community needs but also as the potential of the population to work together to improve their living conditions. In that sense the sponsors can understand and support the efforts of the community to get organized.

All material is produced according to standards including community participation and universal language, reflecting the importance of the projects conducted in the community to address main issues and seeking positive changes in attitudes of sponsors towards their roles in the development process.

Development education which is considered one of the main objectives of the sponsorship communication process aims at:

- Promoting understanding of relations between lives of community members and lives of people abroad.
- Increasing understanding about North-South relations and importance of solidarity among global citizens.
- Develop attitudes, values and skills to increase people self-esteem, improving co-responsibility.
- Promote participation in proposals towards a more equitable society.
- Encourage sustainable human development at the individual, local and international level. The community sponsorship communication model tries to establish meaningful two way communication between the

community and the sponsor country as well as the strengthening of the internal communication process in the community.

Following is a description of main activities conducted to date:

ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVE AND GOAL	DESCRIPTION	ACHIEVEMENT AND RESULTS	DIFFICULTIES
1. Organization of the Communication and Sponsors Committee (February 19/2007)	<p>Objective: Establish a communication committee that would be responsible of writing the articles and other writings in the Web Page. Also it is their responsibility to write about the development of the community.</p> <p>Goal: One organized group responsible of the communication with Sweden and the community.</p>	<p>It is important to highlight the interest that the committee has to communicate their experiences in community. Also they consider very important that a country that they don't know, be interested on what they write. They consider that the last articles are better structured and that the committee has develop abilities of writing and get editorial skills.</p>	<p>Write more coherent articles about the reality of the community.</p> <p>One integrated committee with a member of each project.</p>	<p>The absence of a communication strategy</p>
2. Preparation and training on how to elaborate community articles. (March 3/2007)	<p>Objective: Give support to the committee on the Basic elements to write an article.</p> <p>Goal: One committee organized towards the elaboration of community articles.</p>		<p>Improvements on the writing skills of the committee.</p>	<p>It is still difficult to develop skills to attract readers in a process that require a lot of time and practice.</p>

- PROJECTIONS

- o To design a communication strategy to promote the projects among the members of the community to increase the participation and improve the quality of the communications in the web site created by Sweden.
- o To continue with the educational process of the committee, to acquire more skills in the preparation of information related with our daily lives and the projects.
- o To articulate this experience with the Voices Strategy that at this moment Plan is developing in other communities of Sincelejo. This strategy trains the children and adolescents on how to promote the elaboration of community communications through alternative media like: local school radio stations, news papers and murals. This project seeks that participants build their own processes and learn to communicate themselves.

- TESTIMONIES

“We are proud that a country like Sweden would be interested in what we do in our community, 6 of Febrero” Tony is member of the Communication Committee

“I like to write because it is a way to tell others about whom we are and what we feel. I like to hear that they read about what we do” Cleider is member of the Communications Committee.

CONCLUSIONES

The current context of the project implementation indicated that the committees created to manage the different projects have defined and conducted all actions with great interest and motivation. However it is necessary to involve the rest of the community, in a way that will contribute to strengthen the base of the organization, promote team work and promote the development of the process. Based on this evaluation, Plan staff commits to work side by side with the communication committee to support the work conducted by the rest of the committees.

To date three projects presented by the community have started with a positive response from members of the community since the issues addressed affect all people in 6 de Febrero. Although projects were scheduled to begin in January it was not possible because it was necessary to give enough time to the people to define a structure within the community in charge of the planning, execution and monitoring of activities. Plan Sincelejo also had to establish a team for the process of facilitation and monitoring of processes.

Currently approximately 30 people are part of the committees and most of them are new youngsters involved in the process with their families. Therefore during the committee monthly meetings parents and children usually share spaces and exchange opinions; this is considered positive because it indicates that the process is reaching the families in 6 de Febrero.

The committees have new commitments to involve children in a special committee that will highlight their participation within the community process. It is expected that during the following six months the committees will know better the projects, will be able to identify with the processes and will build a stronger organization to support the development of the projects.

Plan as an institution has learned during this period the importance of creating opportunities for people to manage their own community processes. This experience has shown that there are ways to approach the community development different from the implementation of individual projects. In this case there is an innovation on integral interventions that provide new ways to approach the community in support of its development process.