



Corporación Juntos
Construyendo Futuro

Institutional Profile Corporación Juntos Construyendo Futuro

Executive Director: Alba Inés Zapata Gálvez – albitzapata@juntosconstruyendofuturo.org
www.juntosconstruyendofuturo.org

Organizational Profile

Juntos Construyendo Futuro is a private not-for-profit organization registered at the Chamber of Commerce of Bogotá June 2004. The institution is managed by the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and the Executive Director. They all work together for the development of the social purpose of the institution.

The main **objective** of Juntos Construyendo Futuro is to design, promote and implement social intervention processes for the benefit of the most vulnerable communities.

Mission and Vision

The mission of Juntos Construyendo Futuro is to promote the communities social development, through the design, management, implementation and evaluation of social programs and projects, especially with children and young people. With these actions, the organization promotes:

- Leaders with a strong feeling of equity and respect for the others
- Communities engaged with their own development, and
- Contributions to the peace building

Its vision is to be institutionally recognized as the most trusted option in the design and implementation of social development projects; regaining trust inside the vulnerable communities in the country, the hope for a better future and improving the quality of life.

General Objectives

- To promote educative processes that reach autonomy, freedom, prevention, motivation, the commitment and the development of the communities.
- To implement economic development process and the creation of productive networks that bring together knowledge, community organization and associability.

dirección

Calle 87 No. 20-42
Oficina 204. Bogotá - Colombia

teléfonos

(+57)(1) 6228998
(+57)(1) 6228573

correo electrónico

corporacion@
juntosconstruyendofuturo.org

página web

www.juntosconstruyendofuturo.org

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- To work with local communities, in the design and implementation of programs and projects, designing and implementing play-based learning tools, community planning, and training, focused on children and the youth.
- To promote interdisciplinary and network-based work in order to obtain better results that benefit the wellbeing of the communities.

Geographical Coverage

Juntos Construyendo Futuro is currently working in eleven (11) Colombian cities: Barranquilla (Atlántico), Bogotá D.C. (Localidad de Ciudad Bolívar), Bucaramanga (Santander), Cartagena (Bolívar), Floridablanca (Santander), Girón (Santander), Medellín (Antioquia), Montería (Córdoba), Quibdó (Chocó), Santa Marta (Magdalena) y Valledupar (Cesar). The organization is recognized at a national level as an actor that contributes to the social development of the country, but the goal of the organization is to expand its activities to other cities and regions of Colombia.

Programs

Aiming that happiness reaches everywhere; Juntos Construyendo Futuro directs its intervention to working with children, youth and their families who present levels of vulnerability. To achieve this goal, it has developed several lines of action and experience:

Formal education: quality education for the eradication of child labor, school and homework support, ICT inclusion. All these in after-school programs linked with the schools. Training teachers for the eradication of child labor and the promotion of educational quality. Training parents to promote their involvement in the children's development.

Non-formal education: time investment strategy developed through sports, culture, technology, science / ecology. In schools, libraries, parks, among others. Citizenship skills.

School Nutrition: management and operation of school restaurants, community organization for the provision of services in the restaurant (training mothers in food handling, coexistence). Assessment and nutritional monitoring. Nutritional support.

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Prevention and eradication of child labor: comprehensive protection associated to the issues of child rights restoration. Management of time, health and education. Psychosocial support. Sexual and reproductive health.

Youth Empowerment: Through community-based techniques, training techniques, groups organization, life project.

Training for productivity (income generation): socioeconomic characterization of the families, training in arts and crafts, training in life skills (teamwork, leadership, etc.). Support to business ideas.

Volunteering: spaces for voluntary service, volunteer training processes. Ability to manage a corporate volunteering.

2010 Key Projects

Prevention and eradication of child labor

Proniño Program contributes to the eradication of child labor that affects the rights of the children and adolescents. It promotes integral and collaborative actions that benefit children, their family, school and community. It promotes integral protection, education quality and strengthening of social stakeholders in 11 municipalities in Colombia (Barranquilla, Bogotá, Bucaramanga, Cartagena, Floridablanca, Girón, Medellín, Montería, Quibdó, Santamarta y Valledupar).

Components: education quality, integral protection (psychological educational and psychosocial support, nutrition, health, after school activities, transformation of cultural trends), and socio-institutional strengthening.

Accomplishments:

- 11 municipalities in Colombia with integral protection actions, education quality and articulation of institutional networks for the restoration of the rights of children and adolescents, coordinated under the same methodology.
- 7220 children and youth with follow up support to their personal development, linked to programs in education, health, nutrition, psychosocial support and adequate management of free time.
- 3.402 children and youth that have quit the worst forms of child labor.
- 1.968 children and youth that have decreased their working hours

Youth Empowerment

Strategy for the protection of human rights of youth at risk of being recruited by the armed conflict actors: its purpose is to generate protective surroundings

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related to the risk of recruitment by conflict actors (guerrillas and paramilitaries), and having children and youth as victims of the armed conflict in Colombia. The project promotes and ensures the rights of the children and youth, working in partnership with the families, the State and Civil Society. This project was done in the municipality of Medio Baudó in Chocó.

Components: training of youth and families, strengthening of families, strengthening of children and youth, Human Rights School, Youth and Communitarian communications strategy.

Number of beneficiaries: 123 families of the Medio Baudó municipality and 322 children and youth at risk of being recruited by armed conflict actors.

Accomplishments:

- 400 training hours with youth and families with support tools for psychosocial processes.
- 32 youth and family leaders taking action in terms of promotion and prevention that contribute to good practices in living environment that strengthen the community integration processes
- 32 community projects with 21 interest topics for children and youth, and parents, developed to ensure integral protection surroundings.
- 256 activities developed per interest centers, generating individual and collective learnings to identify risks.

Income generation

Strengthening of income generation activities by parents of children and youth that work. Project designed by CJCF for the Mayorship of Cartagena.

Objective: support the creation 20 new small businesses to promote income generation for the families so they can eradicate child labor and improve the quality of life.

Accomplishments:

- 20 families receiving psychosocial support to transform the cultural trends related to child labor.
- 40 parents trained in entrepreneurship, business administration and social marketing.
- 5 new businesses strengthened with technical and entrepreneurial support to promote their products and services.
- 5 business plans developed and in development

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Institution involves in the development of its projects a Monitoring and Evaluation System, in different aspects such as:

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- An inter-institutional working committee: Aims at following the projects components and following up the partnerships. These working groups meet at least every 2 months, and the results are published in documents, further being used to see the evolution of the established working plans. Important results using this mechanism are: strengthen a shared vision of the institutions on the different interventions; network consolidation favoring the projects, network work monitoring; evidence of the inter-institutional work that benefits the projects.
- Management and Information System: It facilitates the information management during the project development, since the early stages where the intervention target data bases are organized, counting on community's involvement, until the development of actions for the monitoring and evaluation of the project's actions; in this way, from the information management maintenance or improvement plans can be developed. With this mechanism, we can have information in real time, operative process organization, decision making in the project implementation.
- Participative evaluation: Based on the exchanges between the different actors that are involved in the projects, like the direct beneficiaries (children and young people), family parents, voluntary workers, professional team, institutions; different tools have been developed to establish each one's vision on the project and its dynamic. These tools are built with questions, opinions of the participants that share their perception, learning and ideas about the activities, impacts and projects' achievements through some playful activities. We now count with different results: involvement of the community that gives its opinion and criticize the projects and activities; mechanism so that everyone can evaluate his/her own achievement; common construction related to the projects' achievements; development of improvement plans for the different interventions.

Partnerships

Juntos Construyendo Futuro is constantly looking for partnerships and develops social and institutional networks in each city it operates through its programs. These alliances are done with public and private organizations involving the national government, local and municipal government, media, local organizations, etc. Examples of these partnerships:

- Public Partnerships: Mayorships of Monteria, Quibdó and Santa Marta, Colombian Institute for Family Welfare (ICBF), Social Protection Ministry, Citizen Engagement Office from Cartagena, Child and Youth Police, Education Secretary of

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Bogota, Education Secretary of Medellin, Education Secretary of Monteria, Education Secretary of Valledupar, Health Secretary of Medellin , National Learning System (SENA),

- Private Partnerships: Movimient per la Pau Pies Asociation, Education for a Culture of Peace Partnership, Makaia Organization, Telefónica Foundation, Terpel Foundation, Piez Descalzos Foundation, San Antonio Foundation, FUNDES, Organization of Ibero-American States – OEI, International Organization for Migration - IOM
- Social Partnerships: Social Caracol Barranquilla, Local Committees for Child Labor Eradication, Social Politics Committees, Child and Youth Committees, Child and Youth Observatory in Cartagena.
- Academics Partnerships: University of Antioquia, University Antonio Nariño, University of Cartagena, Cooperative University of Colombia, University of Cordoba, Metropolitan University, National University, Northern University, Pedagogic University, Pontificia Bolivariana University, Savannah University, San Buenaventura University, Simon Bolivar University, Sinu University, Technological University of Chocó.

Funding Sources

The financial funds of the organizations come from the projects financed by the collaborating institutions. All the projects are co-financed by different organizations from the local and national level, mentioned above in the “Partnerships” section.

References

Name of the organization: Telefonica Foundation

Legal representative: Claudia Aparicio

Contact person: Camilo Domínguez

Affiliation: Private NGO

City, country: Bogotá, D.C. Colombia

Telephone: +57 1 5935399 – Mobile: +57 3158948913

E-mail: camilo.dominguez@telefonica.com.co

Relation with the organization: Collaborator and partner.

Name of the organization: Pies Descalzos Foundation

Legal representative: María Emma Mejía

dirección

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Corporación Juntos
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Contact person: Patricia Sierra Lopera

Affiliation: Private NGO

City, country: Bogotá, D.C. Colombia

Telephone: +57 1 6358770. Mobile: +57 3176427004

E-mail: patricia@fundacionpiesdescalzos.com

Relation to the organization: Collaborator and partner.

dirección

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Oficina 204. Bogotá - Colombia

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