








United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



« Cultural Creativity and Identity
for Local Development »

MDG-F Culture and Development
Joint Programme implemented in

HONDURAS

DURATION : July 2008 – June 2012	CONTRIBUTION TO MDGS :     
UN PARTNERS : UNESCO, UNDP, WTO, FAO, UNICEF, ILO, UNV	
BUDGET : 8 million USD	

OVERVIEW :

The Joint Programme aims to strengthen institutional and human capacities to manage cultural and creative development at a decentralized level, by reinforcing the capacity of Regional Culture Councils to implement local cultural activities and policies, by providing technical and financial support to creative and cultural enterprises, and by promoting the impact of culture on development.

Specific objectives :

- Develop and implement culture-based strategies and programmes for local development, as the foundation for a national policy on culture and development centered on cultural diversity and the strengthening of cultural identity
- Develop creative and cultural industries, foster socio-economic growth and ensure new opportunities for the population of the eight targeted regions
- Generate, compile, analyze and disseminate information about the impact of culture on development, to develop and guide cultural policy-making and private investment

DIMENSIONS ADDRESSED BY THE JOINT PROGRAMME:

- Economics
- Heritage
- Communication
- Governance
- Social

CULTURAL DOMAINS COVERED :

- Cultural and natural heritage
- Intangible cultural heritage
- Performance and celebration
- Visual arts and crafts
- Books and press
- Design and creative services

INTERNATIONAL CULTURE CONVENTIONS COVERED :

- 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
- 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage
- 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Convention 169 of the International Labor Organization, of 1989
- 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination Against Women
- 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE :

9 regions: Región Norte A, Región Norte B, Región Occidente A, Región Occidente B, Región Central, Región Sur, Región Oriental, Región de la Mosquitia y Región Francisco Morazán

SNAPSHOT OF MAIN ACTIONS TO DATE :

- **Development and implementation of inclusive cultural development programs and strategies:** General Law for the Promotion of Culture developed; cultural policies recognising the rights of the indigenous population and Afro-Hondurans implemented by 9 Regional and 45 Local Cultural Councils; 24 Houses of Culture strengthened
- **Development of creative and culture industries in 8 regions:** 400 cultural businesses strengthened through seed money and loans; 56 handicraft businesses strengthened ; 5 associations of craft workers established; commercialisation channels formed between industrial and touristic companies and cultural entrepreneurs
- **Generation and dissemination of information about the impact of culture on development:** centres providing cultural information operating in 50 rural zones; cultural mapping carried out; regional campaigns on the value of culture developed; courses on culture and development organised for cultural actors; 8 networks of cultural volunteers established

BENEFICIARIES :

Direct: 3 900 – 43% women

Indirect: 531 707 – 52% women

- Population of the 9 targeted regions of intervention – namely teenagers aged 12-15 years and vulnerable categories: teenage mothers, single mothers, youth and children at social risk, people with special needs, senior citizens and women in situations of violence
- Cultural entrepreneurs and micro-businesses
- Artists, cultural promoters and managers
- Historical and cultural researchers, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras, Honduran Institute of Anthropology and History
- Secretariat of Culture, Arts and Sports; Ministry of Education

LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS :

- Secretariat of Culture, Arts and Sports; Technical Secretariat of International Cooperation
- Honduran Institute of Anthropology and History, National Statistics Institute, National Vocational Training Institute, Honduras Council on Research and Technology
- 45 municipalities, regional and local cultural councils, traditional authorities – namely the Vara Alta (an auxiliary mayor responsible for conducting Lenca ceremonies)
- Private sector (e.g. hotels, restaurants, advertizing agencies)
- Cultural volunteers
- Traditional fairs committees; artistic associations

ALIGNMENT TO NATIONAL PRIORITIES :

The Joint Programme is aligned to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Document for 2007-2011.

SUCCESS STORIES :

- ❖ Implementation of the “Guidelines for Training Organisations in the Development of Artisanal Products”
Economic development has been fostered by increasing product quality and providing new market opportunities for craftsmen working in 56 handicraft businesses through technical and methodological support, namely workshops organised by the ILO to implement the “Guide for Design and Craft Product Improvement”.
- ❖ Building an active cultural citizenship
To ensure access and participation in cultural life, policy-making and implementation of activities in the culture sector have been strengthened at the regional and local levels, through the creation of 9 Regional and 45 Local Councils for Culture. Each Local Council has its own cultural agenda, upon which regional cultural strategies have been formulated.
- ❖ Strengthening the Houses of Culture
In view of enhancing access and participation in cultural life, cultural capacity-building has been undertaken at the local level to strengthen existing Culture Houses, thus enabling them to provide cultural services and implement local cultural policies: 14 Houses have received basic equipment, yearly work programs and sustainability plans have been established, and various workshops have been organised on themes such as cultural heritage management and cultural volunteering.
- ❖ Business development: “El Trapiche” Don Goldon
Economic development and environmental sustainability have been fostered by supporting a cane producer to establish a family-run business using a new eco-friendly evaporation technology, thereby enabling him to register a trademark and patent a product and contributing to improving his family’s livelihoods.
- ❖ Cultural volunteering in Honduras
The importance of culture for development has been highlighted through cultural and artistic activities (such as photo exhibits, recreational days, cultural evenings etc.) organized in various municipalities by eight newly established groups of cultural volunteers (one per region). The groups have raised external funds and developed their own logo as well as a manual on Volunteerism, Culture and Development.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

- Joint Programme website:
<http://www.culturaydesarrollohn.org/>
- MDG-F website :
<http://www.mdgfund.org/program/creativityandculturalidentitylocaldevelopment>