International Assistance

ICH-04-Report – Form

United Nations · Intangible
Educational, Scientific and · Cultural
Cultural Organization · Heritage

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND

PROGRESS NARRATIVE REPORT

Beneficiary State(s) Party(ies): Ministry of Culture

Project title:	INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AS BASIS FOR RESILENCE, RECONCILIATION AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF PEACE ENVIRONMENTS IN COLOMBIA´S POST-AGREEMENTS
Reporting period:	From: 23/07/2018 to: 08/05/2019
Budget:	Total: US$172.060,00 *Including:* Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund: US$99.400,00 State Party contribution: US$51.646,00 Other contributions: US$3.984,00
Implementing agency (contracting partner or UNESCO Field Office):	Fundación Universidad del Norte
Contact person:	Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): MS Family name: Rico Revelo Given name: Diana Institution/position: Fundación Universidad del Norte Address: Km.5 Vía Puerto Colombia, Área Metropolitana de Barranquilla, Colombia Telephone number: 3004703489 E-mail address: ricod@uninorte.edu.co
Partner agency (in the case of a service from UNESCO project):	Ministry of Culture

Implementing partners:	Territorial Training and Reintegration Spaces (ETCR for its acronym in Spanish)

Provide a brief description of the situation existing at the time of the request and the need that the assistance aimed to address. For safeguarding of a particular element, provide a description of the element, its viability and why safeguarding measures were required. For preparation of inventories, strengthening of capacities, awareness-raising, visibility or other safeguarding not focussed on a particular element, identify gaps that were to be addressed. For emergency assistance requests, describe the nature and severity of the emergency at the time of the request.

Not fewer than 750 or more than 1000 words

The peace agreement signed by the government of Colombia and the FARC-EP at the end of 2016 meant a de-escalation of the armed internal conflict, since parties previously confronted were willing to seek a constructive solution to the conflict. From this perspective, the design of this project emphasizes point III of the agreement, which corresponds to the End of the Conflict, as its early implementation implied the transition from armed life to civil life, from a point of view of stable and lasting peace. It is fundamental to offer tools to build environments for peace that contribute to social reconciliation, avoid the repetition of conflicts, and contribute to social reintegration in the territories where the Territorial Training and Reintegration Spaces (ETCR for its acronym in Spanish) were installed.

In this framework, one of the main challenges has been the creation of projects for the personal and community life of former combatants, as well as their social interactions with the people of the area. In this context, within the scenario of the transition to the ETCR of Pondores, the population expressed their need to dynamize the local culture to move towards development, reparation in the post agreement, and promotion of community work as part of the reintegration in the region.

Conflict dynamics in the region have affected cultural practices, local knowledge, and community processes. It is essential to help rebuild the social structure of the territory as a reparation and reconciliation measure, through culture as a tool of dialogue and constructive transformation of the conflict.

In this sense, the early implementation of the peace agreement with a territorial approach allows recovering practices that belong to the local culture and knowledge, through their visibility and significance in the territory. Likewise, former combatants, since they are collective individuals with their own knowledge, have experienced the transformation of their cultural practices during their reintegration into civilian life, which has caused that some knowledge become invisible and some practices are at risk of being lost. This is what happens, for example, in the environmental and community management of territories and peasant life, as well as in the promotion of values associated with such practices, such as solidarity and reciprocity. Additionally, cultural interaction with the Conejo civil community - that surrounds the ETCR-, promotes the creation of new practices and strengthens other practices, and also new social agreements are being created.

Given the reasons mentioned above, the need for the project is presented as an emergency measure, due to several contextual factors that affected the community in the territory, such as: the political instability of the country affecting the implementation of the peace agreement; the lack of physical security guarantees for former combatants, their families and social leaders; the latent risk that former combatants consider crime as part of their new life project because they cannot find other options in the reintegration process; the risk that after laying down arms, the war victim-victimizer collective image is reinforced; the precarious implementation of peace agreements; and the fact that the Conejo community is afraid of the stigma inherent to the presence of the ETCR in their area.

Given this scenario, the joint work between the international community, official institutions, academics, communities affected by the conflict, and former combatants, is highly relevant for peace-building in territories such as Conejo. Through participation and action initiatives, which articulate the past and the present and lay the foundation of spaces to rebuild the

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social structure, we contribute to reconciliation and dialogue. Not only to recognize the different levels and types of relationships that have existed throughout the conflict and during the implementation of the agreements between the communities; but as a pilot project that can offer inputs to create a methodology that can be replicated in different areas where other ETCRs are located.In fact, this project has shown that through the intangible cultural heritage (PCI for its acronym in Spanish) and the memory, changes in polarization concepts can be achieved, as well as the emergence of initiatives that demonstrate the resilience of communities.

Within this context of the post-agreement, the strengthening of the PCI and the memory is a tool to facilitate reconciliation, resilience, and the promotion of new ways for community coexistence and integration. In this regard, the needs that the project seeks to address, in addition to the emergency measure, are linked to the PCI abilities strengthening strategy, while the development of inventories is linked to the conceptual and methodological approach of the memory and heritage line created by the Ministry's PCI group. The purpose of this line is to generate reflection processes aimed at safeguarding the PCI and strengthening the collective memory to rebuild the social structure, reconciliation, and resilience, and build environments for peace.

The gaps that need to be addressed in this area are:

- The reconfiguration of relations between the Conejo civil community and the ex-combatants that arrived at the ETCR Pondores.

- Dialogue around cultural, social and productive activities among the inhabitants of the ETCR Pondores and the civilian population of Conejo.

- Training cultural managers of Conejo and the ETCR of the territory on PCI/memory management and reflection abilities.

- The Reconstruction of the social structure of communities affected by the armed conflict, through the strengthening of joint cultural processes, the construction of collective memory, and the creation of new joint practices.

Objectives and results attained

Overall, to what extent did the project attain its objectives? Describe the main results attained, focussing in particular on the perspective of the direct beneficiaries and communities. For each expected result identified in the request, explain whether it was fully or partially attained. Also describe any unexpected results, direct or indirect, whether positive or negative.

Not fewer than 100 or more than 500 words

The project has met the specific objectives raised from its design until the development of phase I and phase II, through an action-participation approach, whose progress is described below, according to each objective:

1. Promote education processes that strengthen the PCI management capacity among the cultural managers of the territory, through the implementation of the PCI capacity strenghtening strategy: PCI training processes were carried out in workshop 1. The attendants were receptive. However, it is difficult for them, evidently, to understand the PCI through activities carried out by the initial tutor and to relate the concept with the memory. In view of this situation, two measures were taken: first, another PCI tutor was hired; and second, an advisor from the Ministry of Culture provided on-site support, responded to concerns, reduced the gap in the subject, and attended some sessions.

2. Strengthen the identification, research and documentation abilities of project participants through the creation of a participation inventory that identifies cultural expressions and practices associated with the PCI in the territory and promotes measures for its promotion, management and safeguarding: guided by a new tutor, the participants developed, during phase II, a successful research process where they managed to identify

cultural practices associated with the PCI and to raise awareness about its promotion, management and safeguarding. This originates projects associated with the memory and PCI line.

3.   Develop a collective memory construction initiative related to the way in which the Conejo territory has been built socially and historically and the role of the PCI in this construction: The first four activities with the participants were focused on this objective. From the creation of the collective concept of memory, the knowledge and recognition of the participants through approach activities, and the profiling of the territory. It should be noted that the PCI and memory activities took a turn, and rather than focusing on the territory, they focused on the concept of community.

4.   Make the narrative forms of the participating community visible, fostering their self-representation abilities through audiovisual languages: this objective is considered for a later phase.

5.   Promote the creation of social agreements for coexistence between ex-combatants and the people of Conejo through the creation of meeting spaces and the creation of coexistence agreements: agreements, commitments and shared objectives have been generated through meetings between the two communities (ETCR and Conejo). The project participants say that they now share common interests, that they have overcome stigmatization, that they feel empathy, and that the project has fostered rooting and reconciliation feelings. However, the development of this objective is considered for the later phase that includes the sustainability of the process.

Description of project implementation

Provide a description of the activities undertaken and the outputs they generated (e.g. trainings, consultation process, technical assistance, awareness raising, publications, toolkits, etc.). Also describe any problems encountered in project delivery and corrective actions taken. Describe the role of the implementing agency and of the partner agency (in the case of a service from UNESCO project) and the role of other implementing partners in carrying out activities and generating outputs.

Not fewer than 1000 or more than 1500 words

Activities carried out

Phase I. In this recruitment and convocation phase developed in September and October, actions were carried out on: definition of methodological routes, hiring, and schedule adjustments through the following activities:

1.   Meeting with representatives of Uninorte, the Ministry of Culture, and the directorate of the ETCR to discuss the administrative processes, define the schedule of activities, the enrollment form, the information desk, and delivery of the enrollment forms.

2.   Project socialization meeting in Conejo with several organizations and social groups to discuss the execution of the project, respond to concerns, identify expectations and, open the call for enrollment in the project.

3.   Project socialization meeting in Pondores with the ETCR communication and tourism team. Participation commitments were made, and other potential interested parties were invited to participate in the project.

4.   Meeting with the principal of the school of Conejo to arrange the socialization process with the students who will participate.

5.   Socialization of the project with 20 students from the school of Conejo.

6.   Meeting with the librarian to review enrollments and extension of the term.

7.   PCI training for memory tutors and project coordinators in Bogotá by the

Ministry of Culture, presentation of the Memory and PCI guidelines, and discussion of potential methodological routes for the development of the workshops of the II phase.

8. Meeting with the legal representative of the COOMPAZCOL cooperative, to inform about the hiring process.

9. Presentation of the project in the General Meeting of the ETCR of Pondores.

10. Meeting with the National Reintegration Agency to inform about the development of the project.

11. Collection of enrollments at the Conejo Library.

12. Meeting with all the participants and meeting with parents of minors.

13. Advance in hiring processes and definition of services to be hired from COOMPAZCOL cooperative.

14. Meeting with a teacher of the school of Conejo to inform about the beginning of activities.

Phase II. This phase of construction of PCI training strategies from active participation, developed in 6 months, will include 6 workshops of 20 hours each, during two weekends, every 15 days; Simultaneously, internal methodoligical and administrative evaluation activities and sessions were carried out:

1. Workshop 1: Presentation and awareness raising about the concepts of memory and PCI. Project participants introduced each other, socializing personal experiences in the territory. The activities carried out were a) exercise to get the participants closer to each other, identify expectations, fears, and intentions (what we want, what we do not want, what we can give), and raise awareness about the objective of the project, b) exercise to present the significant object, linking members of the ETCR and the community of Conejo, c) cartographies on cultural manifestations in the territory and population groups in the territory and emblematic places, d) definition of the concept of territory, e) construction of the timeline, f) socialization of guidelines on PCI and Memory and f) tasks assigned based on field research.

2. Workshop 2: Awareness raising on PCI fields, and qualitative and quantitative research techniques. The activities carried out were: a) identification of cultural expressions that represent the two communities, organized by PCI fields, b) presentations of the groups that reflected on the functions and validity of the PCI identified, c) plenary session on topics to be discovered in the "other" community, and information exchange, d) "Recreating the PCI" exercise, e) construction of the concept of PCI, f) Elaboration of mandalas, prioritization matrix, maps of actors of prioritized manifestations, and g) fair of qualitative research tools.

3. Workshop 3: Formulation of research projects and delivery of research and field research incentives. The activities carried out were: a) Sessions for participatory formulation of research projects for the PCI and memory line, b) delivery of research incentives with which the field research was carried out and c) field research for three weeks.

4. Workshop 4: Socialization, systematization and analysis of the results from researches. Internal socialization of the project results and analysis of the results from researches based on the categories of resilience, reconciliation, and construction of environments for peace. It was agreed that these categories would be the focal points to guide the chapters of the publication after the first chapter regarding the context of territory and community.

5. Workshop 5: Writing. During the first session, creative writing activities related to the elaboration of contents of the publication for dissemination of project results, through

the creation of editorial committees, were carried out. The second session encompassed the return of contents that will be part of the chapters of the publication for accreditation of participants and start the editing process.

6.   Workshop 6: Socialization of the results from researches. Various strategic stakeholders of the territory participated, including participants/interviewees during the field research.

7.   Meetings between representatives of Uninorte, project coordinators, ETCR, Ministry of Culture, as well as PCI and Memory tutors were held in order to discuss administrative, academic, and methodological aspects at different moments of Stage II.

8.   Review session regarding projects between the methodological consultant of Uninorte and the Ministry of Culture's consultant.

9.   Meeting with local, regional, national, and international institutions with an impact on the territory to create alliances to guarantee process sustainability.

10.   External socialization session of Stage II results.

Unexpected events in project development and measures implemented

-          During schedule elaboration, it was not taken into account that, in December, the community undertakes traditional family activities for Christmas and New Year holidays. For this reason, in March, an extension for the project was requested, so the new ending date was 30 November.

-          During budget preparation, support material from academic and methodological consultants of Uninorte was not enough to give a permanent support to the process. Therefore, Uninorte provided an additional resource from the Center for Thinking in Peace Construction Un Caribe.

-          The participatory development of community research projects focused on contents thereof, instead of the detailed elaboration of a budget. The measure implemented was the correction of the budget to projects with comments so that tutors socialize them with the community. Additionally, it was agreed that COMPAZCOL cooperative would administer the project items.

Role of the implementation agency and other peer agencies

During stages I and II of the project, Uninorte has guaranteed a project implementation as per provisions of the agreement, receiving the support of the Ministry of Culture, both in administrative aspects and the academic and methodological process. It is worth mentioning that the role of the Ministry and Uninorte in the territory are essential in a project that requires so much adaptation, since it is a circumstantial and changing context. It is necessary to rethink and conduct a continuous evaluation of activities. For this reason, it has been necessary a more frequent support regarding what is stipulated in the project.

The role of academic consultant of the project has been the articulated systematization of the administrative, academic, experiential, and methodological process. The role of the methodological consultant has been monitoring the role of cultural practices in the

constructive transformation of conflicts.

Likewise, from the perceived and expressed concern of community participants about the uncertainty before the potential arrival of a mining project to the territory, Uninorte managed with the Center for Thinking in Peace Construction Un Caribe, a workshop on Constitutional Needs with a PhD in Law to advice inhabitants and leaders of the ETCR and communities of the three areas that would eventually be affected by the mining project. The current report is that there are no evidences for the entry into operation of the project. However, the lawyer remains in close contact with leaders.

Additionally, the ETCR directorate has requested support to Uninorte to manage the access to education of children and adolescents that receive no education, and who have no resources to attend education centers nearby. In this regard, Uninorte conducted consultancies with the Public Law and Litigation Group for processing any constitutional action on behalf of the right to education of children and adolescents with no access to education of the ETCR and from adjacent rural areas.

Finally, Uninorte, together with Center for Thinking in Peace Construction Un Caribe, conducted two sessions on post-agreement pedagogy with former combatants, students, and teachers to give a context to the general public on complexities of the reincorporation process of the Farc-Ep on a local scenario: ETCR Pondores case.

Community involvement

Provide a description of the mechanisms used for fully involving the community(ies) concerned. Describe not only the participation of the communities as beneficiaries of the project, but also their active participation in the planning and implementation of all activities.

Not fewer than 300 or more than 500 words

The general criterion used to involve the community was the request for participation of 40 persons who would represent various groups of the Conejo Community and Pondores ETCR.

The mechanisms implemented for the call were the following:

1. A meeting with various stakeholders who are representatives of organizations from Conejo in order to socialize the general objective of the project, to discuss concerns, share expectations, and open the call for enrollment in the project.

2. Identification of cultural promotion scenarios of impact on the Conejo community, such as the rural public library of Conejo, which has been a finalist of the National Public Libraries Award; a community entrepreneurship initiative related to rural tourism and the association of peaceful youths of Conejo.

3. Identification of cultural promotion scenarios of impact on the Pondores community and leaders' call in this scenario (communication and tourism groups of ETCR).

4. Open call in Conejo community through "voice-to-voice" dynamic.

After finishing the call, the enrollment of 40 participants, 20 from the Conejo community, and 20 from the Pondores community, started. These represent various interest and

generational groups, as you can see below:

Direct beneficiaries / Participants of the Conejo community

☐ Adult and young men and women who are representative of the group: friends of the rural public library of Conejo.

☐ Young people from the association of peaceful youths from Conejo.

☐ Community representatives of an adjacent township (Corralejas).

☐ Community representatives of an adjacent municipality (Villa Nueva).

☐ Representatives of an Afro-Colombian collective.

☐ Conejo schoolgirls.

☐ Representatives of the civil society.

Direct beneficiaries / participants of the Pondores ETCR community:

☐ Women of the communication team.

☐ A disabled man.

☐ Men and women of the tourism team.

☐ Two adolescents.

☐ A representative of the Community Action Committee.

☐ Women and a young woman of the cooperative.

Other participants who are not direct beneficiaries:

- Women of the coffee tourism team.

- Conejo's Community Action Committee.

- Representative of the Conejo's ecological collectors association.

- UN monitoring mission for the implementation of peace agreements in the territory.

- National Reintegration Agency.

Sustainability and exit/transition strategy

Describe how the benefits of the project will continue after the project has been completed. Where appropriate, describe the steps undertaken to ensure the following:

- *Sustainability of activities, outputs and results, including with reference to how capacity has been built under the project. Also describe any planned follow-up measures to ensure sustainability.*
- *Additional funding secured as a result of this project, if any. Indicate by whom, how much and for what purpose the contributions are granted.*

Describe how the ownership (of activities, outputs, results) by stakeholders and the community(ies) in particular has been promoted.

Describe, if relevant, how tools, processes, outputs, etc. have been adopted, adapted, replicated and/or extended for future use (e.g. in other regions, communities, elements, or fields of intangible cultural heritage).

Not fewer than 100 or more than 500 words

The empowerment of participants evidenced on the two first stages constitutes a primary starting point to guarantee the sustainability of cultural practices addressed in the project. In this sense, the following initiatives have emerged to reinforce and foster cultural practices

around the territory:

- The recovery of Conejo as the agricultural reserve it was when there was a farmers market.

- The recovery of cultural expressions that have been lost, such as carnival and fariana music.

- Ecotourism activities of Serranía del Perijá as a key aspect for culture and peace.

- The reactivation of the Coffee Festival as scenario for reconciliation, which has been a main axis for the growth of Conejo.

- A cultural center with a community museum in Conejo.

- A medicinal herb garden that integrates ancestral knowledge both in the Conejo community and the ETCR community.

- Strengthening of the House of Memory in ETCR.

These initiatives require strategic allies for their development and sustainability. For this reason, the proposal is to implement the sustainability stage transversally during subsequent project stages, since it was contemplated as Stage V. In this sense, representatives from various local, regional, national, and international institutions and organizations, which currently interfere and intervene in the territory to start the articulation of the process with such allies, were invited; thus identifying sources of support that guarantee the promotion of safeguarding strategies of the PCI identified in this project, which are oriented to the construction of collective memories and the strengthening of the community and the territory.

Lessons learnt

Describe what are the key lessons learnt regarding the following:

- *Attainment of expected results*
- *Ownership of key stakeholders and community involvement*
- *Delivery of project outputs*
- *Project management and implementation*
- *Sustainability of the project after the assistance*

Not fewer than 300 or more than 750 words

- The Conejo community positively perceives the presence of the ETCR in the area because different institutions and organizations have arrived, contrasting the weak institutional presence that has been historically experienced in Conejo.

- The work with stakeholders that are part of cultural collectives has strengthened participants' skills as cultural managers regarding the PCI.

- The PCI and memory link by means of a participatory methodology has contributed to the identification of resilience practices around different acts of violence and historical moments.

- The participation of these two communities in the protection of PCI within the current project context is laying the foundations for social reconciliation, insofar as an integrating category of "us" that activates shared values, beliefs, and emotions, has been set. Also, new social agreements have been projected through participatory decision making at different times of Stage II.

- At the beginning of the PCI and memory workshops, it was evident, among the ETCR participants, that collective senses related to PCI focused on the concept of

community but not of territory, because Farc-Ep actions were not located on a specific territory. The mobile guerrilla concept caused community settlements to have a temporary nature, if the conflict areas allowed this fact, and they extended throughout the country. However, the ETCR settlement in the area strengthens the sense of belonging and the attachment to the territory.

- The participatory action-research methodology has contributed to the construction of environments for peace by: 1) increase of the understanding regarding the complexity of micro social dynamics around PCI and Memory; 2) hearing and joint work activities have facilitated tolerance, solidarity, and a change of imaginaries that contribute to improve coexistence; 3) debate activities have strengthened the participatory communication and the generation of social agreements within the project development framework; 4) socialization of project results favors project adoption; and 5) participation of representatives from different collectives have allowed the recognition of cultural and ethnic diversity.

- The project implementation by community showed: 1) the need to provide administrative training, 2) to have technical and methodological support for field research, 3) the need that research project formulation starts from workshop 2, and 4) the inclusion of training on handling the equipment delivered to the community for collecting information.

Adoption by stakeholders and community

The adoption of the project by the community has become an attachment strategy of the territory, based on alliances made in social interaction within the project, as participants feel that they are part of a place shared between communities with different histories.

Delivery of project results

- Participants showed the highest empowerment level with respect to the process and their ability to raise different ways of awareness about the protection of PCI structured to the Memory.

-The analysis of research results through editorial committees facilitated the collective construction of general and particular guidelines that will be part of the publication of results socialization.

Project Administration

- The hiring of the COOMPAZCOL cooperative has facilitated logistic aspects of the project as long as it is directly located on the area. It has also been an opportunity to strengthen a productive and organized initiative, which started within the framework of the peace agreement. Likewise, the hiring of the cooperative has helped strengthen the local economy.

- The general budget of the project did not include the transportation of participants to attend the project activities. If these activities are undertaken in Conejo, then ETCR participants require transportation, vice versa.

- The staff hired shall also be on the site on a permanent basis in order to have a complete vision of the project, understanding the dynamics of both the territory and community.

Sustainability

- From the socialization of project results, protection actions emerge regarding PCI related to the Memory.

- Articulations with institutions as sustainability strategy should be implemented

transversally from the project start and not at the end as it was proposed at the initial of project formulation.

Annexes

List the annexes and documentation included in the report:

- *publications, evaluation reports and other outputs, when applicable*
- *progress reports prepared during the contract period*
- *list of major equipment provided under the project and status after termination of contract period*
- *other (please specify)*

Name and signature of the person having completed the report

Name: Diana Rico Revelo

Title: Ph.D in Contemporary Political Processes

Date: 8/05/2019

Signature: *Diana C. Rico R.*