

**Former Territorial Area for Training and Reintegration (F-TATR)**

**La Plancha, Anorí, Antioquia**

**Productive Projects**

The majority of projects undertaken in the F-TATR La Plancha fall under the administrative and legal oversight of COOMULDESNA (Cooperativa Multiactiva para el Desarrollo Económico y Social del Norte de Antioquia). This cooperative comprises approximately 100 former combatants from the now defunct 36 Front of the FARC-EP, who was active in the North, Northeast, and Bajo Cauca regions of Antioquia. However, all of these projects have encountered challenges related to marketing and distribution. One important example is the fish farming project, which involves 40 members and an investment of 492 million COP. Unfortunately, the cooperative has made the decision to liquidate this project due to their perception of its lack of sustainability.

**La Montaña (The Mountain) textile manufacturing:**  
(collective project, CNR Funded)

Manager: Guillermo León Chancí Estrada

Budget: 288,000,000 COP (64,500 USD) from CNR; USD 23,700 (XB funding)

Started: 2018. CNR funds delivered: November 2021

Implemented by UNDP



“Confecciones La Montaña, Voluntad de Paz” has its roots in the work of the tailors of the former 36 Front during war time, dedicated to manufacture uniforms, rucksacks and other accessories for the combatants.

The project started using machines that belonged to the former FARC-EP. However, this was one of the first projects to be supported by XB grants. It received a total of 23,700 USD in the first batch of initiatives, and later received funds from the CNR (National Reintegration Council). UNDP, SENA (National Learning Service), and ARN (Agency for Reintegration and Normalization) have also contributed to this project.



This project stands as one of the initial textile manufacturing endeavors undertaken by former combatants, and it has garnered significant international acclaim. The workshop remains exceptionally busy due to the overwhelming demand for its products. The UNVMC has been instrumental in supporting this initiative by enhancing its visibility, forging valuable connections with collaborators for logo design and expanding its outreach efforts. Moreover, the UNVMC, in collaboration with ARN (Agency for Reincorporation and Normalization), has facilitated the project's participation in prestigious events like Colombia Moda 2020.

The workshop and administration of the project are staffed by a dedicated team of fifteen individuals, consisting of both men and women. Among them are individuals who have acquired disabilities as a result of the war, showcasing the project's commitment to inclusivity and providing opportunities for those most affected by the conflict. Additionally, the project has also provided employment to two couples of former combatants, further contributing to their reintegration into civilian life.

**Esencias La Montaña:** (Initiative)

Manager: Luz Omaira Agudelo Agudelo

Budget: 83,000,000 COP (18,500 USD)

Funded by: French Embassy, PISCCA funds;  
International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Delivered: 2020



In 2019, the F-TATR women's committee received encouragement from IOM to pursue entrepreneurship as a means to attain economic independence. As a result, the women decided to venture into the manufacturing of soaps, along with other hygiene and cosmetic products. Through initial trials and training, the women's committee gained valuable skills and experience.

In May 2019, the women's committee took the initiative to apply for funding from the French Embassy's PISCCA fund, and their efforts were rewarded with the first-place award at the national level. The NGO PASO COLOMBIA also played a vital role by providing training and capacity-building support to the women's committee.

The project currently involves the participation of twenty-seven women and three men, comprising both former combatants and individuals from the local community. However, only a few of them are engaged in the project on a daily basis due to the lack of a well-developed marketing strategy.

To further enhance their soap-making and cosmetic product manufacturing techniques, the Norwegian Refugee Council, SENA (National Service for Learning) and ARN have contributed by providing advisors and expertise to the project.

**Eco-Brickworks:** (Initiative)

Manager: Luis Albeiro Soñeth Chantaca

Funds: PeaceBuilding Fund, implemented by PNUD

Budget: 160,000,000 COP (35,600 USD)

Delivered: 2019.



This initiative brings together 11 FARC-EP ex-combatants and involves the active participation of six communities in the area. Recognizing the pressing need for adequate housing in the region, where many houses are constructed using substandard materials such as wood, the former combatants and communities decided to focus on manufacturing sustainable bricks.

The bricks produced are compressed earth blocks (CEB) that incorporate only 1% cement and do not involve the use of any other chemicals or processes. The raw materials for the bricks are sourced from the surrounding mountains of La Plancha, utilizing up to five different types of suitable earth to achieve a variety of colors.

Initially, the project started with a manual machine for training ex-combatants and community members. However, with the support of the PeaceBuilding Fund, the project acquired machines that have significantly increased their production capacity. These machines now have the ability to produce up to 1500 bricks per day and provide employment for eight individuals.

Unfortunately, the project has encountered significant delays due to challenges in accessing electricity to power the machines. Currently, the initiative faces organizational issues related to the association between communities and the cooperative, which have hindered its progress.



**Apiculture, Miel de la Montaña:** (collective project, CNR Funded)

Manager: Ferney Orrego

Budget: 227.000.000 COP (50,500 USD)

Funded by: CNR



Delivered: 2021

"Miel de la Montaña" (Honey of the Mountain) is an inspiring project led by a team of 18 ex-combatants, including two women. This initiative adopts an environmentally friendly approach, actively contributing to the preservation of the tropical forest and native bees in the region. Their main focus is on producing pure, high-quality honey while also developing other honey-related products.

The project recognizes the importance of preserving the natural ecosystem and the vital role that native bees play in pollination and maintaining biodiversity. By promoting sustainable beekeeping practices, "Miel de la Montaña" aims to safeguard the local environment and support the well-being of the surrounding ecosystem.

"Miel de la Montaña" stands as a testament to the ex-combatants' dedication to building a sustainable future, both economically and ecologically. Through their efforts, they not only contribute to their own reintegration into civilian life but also make a positive impact on the preservation of the tropical forest and native bee populations in the area.