

2.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

Country: Guatemala

Year: 2006

Thematic Focus	Cooperation partner(s)
Protection from violence and insecurity	Ecumenical Forum for Peace and Reconciliation (FEPAZ), Human Mobility Pastoral of the Guatemalan Episcopal Conference (PMH/CEG), Institute of Education for Sustainable Development (IEPADES), Hope and Fraternity Foundation (ESFRA), Guatemalan Women's Group (GGM), Foundation for Community Development (FUNDESCO), CEIBA Group Association, Collective Civil Association
HIV and AIDS	Association of Positive People (GP), Health Pastoral of the Guatemalan Episcopal Conference (PS/CEG), Life Project (PV), ESFRA
Communities for safe water and sanitation	CIEDEG and Madre Selva
Protection from natural disasters and complex emergencies	CIEDEG and Madre Selva.
Indigenous population rights and organizational strengthening	Association AK' TENAMIT and Scholarship projects

2.3 Which projects were completed during the year?

NCA Project ID	Norad Project Number	Other Backdonor Reference	Project Name
12854	GLO-04/268-319		AK' TENAMIT - III Continental Summit of the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas.
13481		NCA	NCA Emergency Preparedness. NOTE: This project was a punctual support for the strengthening of the NCA emergency preparedness through the buying of three motorcycles.
14044		LACE-61	CIEDEG/Action by Churches Together (ACT) Guatemala Strengthening. NOTE: This project aimed to strengthen the emergency preparedness of the ACT National Forum in Guatemala.

2.4 To what degree have the programmes been implemented as planned, and what results were achieved during the year?

Protection from violence and insecurity:

Taking into account that the violence has increased in Guatemala and that it is a multidimensional problem, the actions carried out by the thematic program in Guatemala were specifically addressed to five issues: Peace Agreements and Truth and Reconciliation Commissions; Gender-Based Violence and direct and indirect attention of the victims of the violence; Illegal small arms proliferation; Youth gangs and Protection of migrants' human rights.

Specific Objectives – Country Programme Plan 2005-2009 - after adjustments in 2006:

1. NCA and partners have participated in networks to advocate and promote awareness-raising actions to draw attention to the political and social agenda linked to the Peace Accords and reconciliation agreements. Prevention and protection from violence, gender based violence and small arms will be specific priorities.

Expected results:

- 1.1 Alliances have formulated and presented proposals and inputs to the Peace Secretariat and the high level Commission for Peace, to strengthen the Peace Accords implementation.
- 1.2 Prevention and protection from violence, gender based violence and small arms will be promoted to be addressed by governmental policies for peace and reconciliation

Outputs/Results:

In relation to the Peace Agreements and Truth and Reconciliation Commissions, on 17 and 18 August 2006, CIEDEG, through the **Ecumenical Forum for Peace and Reconciliation (FEPAZ)**, organized the 1st Ecumenical Conference for the Peace in Guatemala as part of the activities to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the signing of the Peace Accords in Guatemala. The main purpose of this conference was to analyze how the Peace Accords have contributed to the democracy strengthening in Guatemala and what role the churches should play in this context. This event was attended by 36 women and 35 men, representing many different churches in Guatemala and overseas, in addition to spiritual leaders of the Mayan people.

As a result of the discussions during the event, there were established some challenges for the churches in order to follow up the Peace Accords spirit: the dissemination of the content of the Peace Accords, to promote and strengthen the civil organizations and their participation, to work for an integrated democracy and for the respect of the indigenous peoples' rights. In addition, churches have been encouraged to achieve two big challenges: to promote participation of women and young people in the decision making bodies in churches, and to take an active role in the promotion of a peace culture in the communities.

The violence against women has been increasing in Guatemala, and at present the worst situation is characterised by "femicide". Special interest has been taken in the prevention of domestic violence, a phenomena that affects mainly women and children. Two important results were achieved related to this issue:

- **Foundation for Community Development (FUNDESCO)** worked in the strengthening of the advocacy work of three women's organizations in slum areas of Guatemala City. The work included capacity building about human rights, gender perspective, domestic violence and armed violence. 55 women are integrating the three organizations. They advise women and men at community level on issues like prevention of and attention to domestic violence. Their work is also being linked to community and municipal coordination. FUNDESCO also supported the strengthening of organizational capacities of women, training them in administration, project elaboration and facilitating skills.
- **Guatemalan Group of Women (GGM)** did a research about the femicide situation in Guatemala during 2004. The research identified significant characteristics of the femicide in Guatemala during 2004: most of the victims were young women, housewives and students. The murders happened more frequently during the night and in public areas. Most of them suffered sexual violation and torture. The assassinations were done using fire weapons, and most of the victims were threatened before being killed. The research also highlighted that femicide in Guatemala is characterized by a patriarchal culture where the assassination of women is the most extreme evidence of gender domination between men and women. The investigation also estimates that the violence mechanisms in femicide are part of post-conflict society practices. The research also stated that the official information and investigation of the Police and Public Ministry are weak and that the general society needs to be aware about this problem avoiding the stigmatization of the victims. This research aims to be a tool to promote the adequate criminal investigation and the formulation of public policies that decrease the impunity level of femicide in Guatemala.

In relation with Illegal small arms proliferation, the **Institute of Education for Sustainable Development (IEPADES)** implemented the fifth edition of a drawing contest as part of the social awareness work they do in relation to the promotion of a non armed violence culture in Guatemala. This event was also addressed to young people. The activity was successful because IEPADES received more than 7 500 drawings of children and youth (girls and boys). A printed calendar was produced and shows what children and young people think about the misuse of small arms in the society. These activities aim at promoting a non armed violence culture and the protection of security rights amongst the new generations in Guatemala, due to the fact that Guatemala presents one of the highest rates of fire guns homicides in Latin America. Armed violence in Guatemala is also linked to drug-trafficking and organized crime.

Regarding the youth gangs, **Hope and Fraternity Foundation (ESFRA)**, implemented a prevention work to avoid the integration of gangs by young people that live in some slum areas of Guatemala City. Their work had a coverage of five communities located in three slum areas denominated "of high risk of young gangs" by the Civil National Police. Among the activities for prevention, ESFRA implemented training, sport and recreational activities. 161 young people participated actively, of whom 62 (39%) were girls/women. The age conditions of the participants where from 14 to 20 years old. As part of their educational approach, ESFRA also promoted sexual and reproductive health education to these young people. This component aims to avoid younger pregnancy and abortion and the widespread of sexually transmitted diseases, like HIV. The reinforcement of social values is a main component of this project, because ESFRA is committed to avoid the involvement and recruitment of young people and children in gangs and delinquency.

At regional level criminal youth gangs and proliferation of small arms continued to be the focus of the Mesoamerican Youth Parliament (MYP), supported through **CEIBA Group Association**. This parliament is considered an important effort for young people to do advocacy at a regional level, especially to promote the rehabilitation of drug users and members of criminal gangs. The participants of this process are mostly rehabilitated people. CEIBA facilitated the organization and the implementation of the 2nd. Mesoamerican Youth Parliament held in Tegucigalpa, Honduras from 3 to 9 of December, 2006. Young women and men representing 29 youth organizations participated. There were representatives from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. The Mexican delegates did not participate due to the fact that they had immigration problems crossing the El Salvador border.

Currently, 6 young women (50%) are integrating the Executive Board of this MYP, a situation that shows the interest to promote women's participation in decision-making at this level.

Some representatives of the MYP participated in important regional activities where the situation of young gangs, drug-trafficking, small arms and organized crime were discussed.

Central America meeting called "**A Way for a Region without Violence**", took place in Guatemala in April 2006. It was organized by CEIBA, Central America Parliament (PARLACEN), the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala and the Mennonite organization Red Paz. This event discussed issues related to the increase of youth crime, such as: drug trafficking, assassinations, small arms and prostitution in the region.

In October 2006, four representatives of the MYP participated in the international forum "The youth violence in the region: a pending dialogue" held in El Salvador and organized by the Central America Coalition for the Prevention of the Youth Violence.

In regards to the protection of migrants' human rights, the **Human Mobility Pastoral of the Guatemala Episcopal Conference (PMH-CEG)** continued with their social awareness work about national and international migration, especially addressed to promote the respect of the migrants' human rights faced with the aggravations of the US policy on illegal immigration.

12 workshops and one national meeting were held at the centre of the dioceses delegates. Two national level events were also implemented: *The Migrants' Stations of the Cross* during Lenten and the *Day of the Migrant* in September.

As part of their work, PMH-CEG worked for the protection of the security, health and political rights of the migrants. Migrants from South and Central America are attended at the Migrants' Houses established around the country. The migrants receive cloths, food and accommodation during their stay in these shelters. Women and children are prioritized.

HIV and AIDS:

The work implemented under this thematic priority was focused on the attention of people living with HIV and AIDS (PLWA), particularly on health and psychosocial assistance; promotion of their rights; anti stigmatization and participation in advocacy actions.

Specific Objectives – Country Programme Plan 2005-2009:

1. Partners through networks and alliances have advocated for the elaboration of public policy and laws protecting the human rights of the PLWA.

2. Faith based organizations have been empowered to promote treatment and social inclusion of PLWA and prevention of HIV and AIDS at community levels.

Expected results:

- 1.1 Partners have advocated for the enactment and enforcement of policy and laws to prevent discrimination of PLWA.
- 1.2 Partners and PLWA have mobilized to demand affordable access to generic anti-retroviral medicines and treatment.
- 2.1 Awareness has been raised at community level for HIV and AIDS prevention.
- 2.2 Care taking and psycho-social support to communities and PLWA.
- 2.3 Faith based organizations are mobilized and advocating against the stigma and discrimination of PLWA.

Outputs / Results:

Life Project worked strongly to promote a non stigmatization culture against PLWA. They trained and informed people from market places, teachers of public schools and representatives of the Youth and Family Pastors of the Catholic Church in the southeast of Guatemala. Life Project coordinated the HIV and AIDS Sub-Commission of the Guatemalan Episcopal Conference of the Catholic Church. They also had strong coordination and advocacy work with the United People Association (a PLWA organization) and the Guatemalan South East Network of PLWA. Prevention and attention of PLWA were important actions of Life Project. They coordinated with the National Hospital in Coatepeque and offered advice and training to all the people that attend the "Clinic 12", which is a clinic at the hospital offering specialized service on HIV and AIDS.

Health Pastoral of the Guatemalan Episcopal Conference (PS/CEG) achieved the elaboration of the strategic plan for the HIV and AIDS Sub-Commission. PS/CEG also worked on social awareness, training representatives of the following Pastoral Teams: Health, Human Mobility, Communication, Youth and Family, all of these at national level.

During the second semester, PS/CEG launched a national campaign to inform people about the political position of the Catholic Church in relation to the HIV and AIDS situation in Guatemala. This campaign was transmitted by radio, TV, newspaper and internet. The slogan of the campaign was "*The solidarity is transmitted with a smile, the HIV is not*".

Positive People Association (GP) is a non religious organization, mostly integrated by PLWA. During 2006 GP strengthened their organizational and administrative capacities through a capacity building process where an own model for the attention was identified and a new strategic plan was elaborated. This was done in addition to their regular work on prevention, advocacy and attention of PLWA.

The model of attention includes a program addressed to change the behavior in order to prevent new infections by the virus, processes for community development, psychological support and legal advice for both PLWA and other people affected.

The first national seminar was held as part of the empowerment of PLWA, in order to analyze the situation and to give response on HIV and AIDS in Guatemala from the PLWA vision.

Association Positive People (GP), GP promoted the integration of the Women living with HIV and AIDS Network in Guatemala, which would be an important actor to defend the specific rights of this sector and to empower women living with the virus, at national and regional levels. GP is working for the respect of the rights and protection of women living with HIV and AIDS due to gender inequities and illness stigmatization. GP also promoted the respect and promotion of the working rights of people living with HIV and AIDS in order to generate work opportunities, especially for women.

7 women of Positive People participated in the VII Latin American Network of Women Living with HIV and AIDS (ICW-Latin), arranged in Panama City in October 2006. With the slogan "*nothing for us without us*", this international event aimed to advocate at a regional level about the necessity to include PLWA, basically women, in all the processes of decision making programmes where they will be affected.

Communities for safe water and sanitation:

Specific Objectives – Country Programme Plan 2005-2009 – after adjustments in 2006:

1. Partners and networks have advocated for policies and laws to address equitable access to safe water and sanitation services and sustainable use of water resources.
2. Partners, indigenous and rural communities have been empowered to influence sustainable management of key watersheds at local level.

Expected results:

- 1.1 Partners and networks have promoted equitable access to safe water and sanitation services and integrated management water resources.
- 2.1 Alliance building has been conducted to raise awareness and mobilize rural communities watershed protection.

Outputs/Results:

Madre Selva implemented a project between April and December 2006 in coordination with local municipalities. The project was for repairing the water system in the affected communities by Tropical Storm Stan in Sipakapa, a municipality in the district of San Marcos. The purpose was achieved of regaining three sections of the water system destroyed by Stan.

By the end of September, Madre Selva promoted a meeting among experts on water and environmental sciences and church leaders. The main goal was to promote a stronger participation of churches in advocating for safe water and sustainable use of water resources. The Catholic, Lutheran and Presbyterian churches and the Ecumenical Forum for Peace and Reconciliation (FEPAZ) participated in this event.

During 2006 Madre Selva also developed activities denouncing the consequences that the mining exploitation of the company Montana is having in the surroundings of the municipality of Sipakapa. The result was higher sensibility from the local population of the effects of mining exploitation on the water, degradation of the basins and the repercussion in higher levels of physical vulnerability.

Madre Selva promoted an analysis of an amendment to the current Mining Law, proposed by a multi-stakeholder commission. The analysis concluded that the protection of water resources is not secured because the amendment does not properly enforce the implementation of environmental impact assessment prior to the initiation of mining operations.

CIEDEG continued successfully the implementation of small scale projects for water recovery and sustainability. The programme is also related to ecological agriculture, food security and prevention of disasters in vulnerable regions in the indigenous Western highlands in Totonicapan and in the indigenous Chorti area in the Eastern departments of Zacapa and Chiquimula.

Two courses on sustainable agriculture were carried out. Forty five men and 20 women participated. 180 plots of land in 10 communities were farmed using sustainable agriculture techniques and procedures. Six irrigation systems were constructed benefiting 55 families in 6 communities.

The agriculture promoters and the communities who attended have got an integrated vision and understanding about the basin management and of the hydrographical cycle. This integrated understanding also includes the environmental management for its sustainability.

Protection from natural disasters and complex emergencies:

Specific Objectives - Country Programme Plan 2005-2009:

1. Vulnerable communities where the ACT partners have presence are strengthened in emergency preparedness and prevention.
2. NCA partners and ACT members institutional capabilities for emergency preparedness and prevention are strengthened.
3. Emergency prevention and response capabilities in rural areas have improved as a result of inclusion of civil society organizations in the Governmental National Coordination System for Disasters, CONRED.

Expected results for the year 2006

Strengthening of capacities and incidence:

- Consolidated coordination, and emergency preparedness and response capabilities of 39 partner organizations in five regions of the country considered of high risk.
- Conducted training activities on the follow themes: EDAN; SPHERE, Code of Conduct and Humanitarian Chart.
- Conducted key research on Risk scenarios in regions.
- Advocated at national and local level: To subscribe a letter of understanding between ACT Guatemala Forum and CONRED; for the improvement of public policies and programs on emergency preparedness, prevention and response.
- Improved PME, communication and coordination skills of ACT Guatemala Forum.

Attention of the Emergency due to Tropical Storm Stan in October 2005:

- Implemented a strategy that allows the leap from the post emergency process in 2005 over to the rehabilitation phase in 2006.

Outputs/Results

In the year 2006, all processes developed in relation to this thematic priority were done through ACT (Action by Churches Together) Guatemala Forum, which is an alliance of agencies and ecumenical organizations and churches. Together with local partners, ACT Guatemala Forum coordinated actions to support communities and people affected by disasters, trying to give attention and a humanitarian response from a perspective of the handling and reduction of the risk. Regionally ACT Central America Forum, which is an alliance of ACT forums of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, tried to coordinate these efforts and contributions from each country.

The developed activities and the obtained results were determined, to a great extent, by the implementation of two projects designed and implemented by the national and regional ACT Forum, LACE 61 and LACE 52. LACE 61 was related to the capacity strengthening and the consolidation of the capacities on how to respond on emergency matters. LACE 52 was designed to attend and give response to the emergency situation caused by the tropical Storm Stan in October of 2005.

- NCA coordinated the implementation of training workshops in contingency plans, Analysis and discussion of Marcos Seismologic, Geologic and Hydric of Guatemala and the associated vulnerability, with the attendance of experts in the diverse treated subjects; Evaluation of Damages and Analysis of Needs- EDAN- and fundamental aspects of SPHERE MANUAL like the Humanitarian letter, The Code of Conduct and application of SPHERE norms in case of humanitarian assistance. In this process NCA worked with 30 local ACT partners, including the NCA's partners like CIEDEG and Madre Selva.
- It was developed a consultancy on Analysis of alliances and identification of inputs on advocacy plans for the ACT Guatemala Forum. Another consultancy was related to Analysis of Institutional Capacities on Intervention in Emergencies with Approach of risk management in the western region of the country. Hopefully both consultancies will serve as inputs for the continuation of LACE 61 for this year.
- A developing process was done to establish a Strategic Plan of ACT Guatemala Forum 2006-2009. A final document was written.
- In March 2006 a letter of understanding was signed between ACT Guatemala Forum and CONRED. The ACT Guatemala Forum hopes to implement that in 2007. The main aspects are: a) to share information related to the theme of emergencies and risk management; b) Cooperation together in emergency attention; and c) Cooperation together in strengthening of capabilities.
- In the context of LACE 61 linked to work developed as consequence of Tropical Storm Stan rehabilitation phase, NCA made an important contribution in the process of *Theological reflection of the disaster*. The product is an enriched document by theologians and experts in risk management in the region, where general features on Reflection of Disaster from a Biblical analysis of emergencies can be found. The final document named "*Aportes para una Reflexión Teológica del Desastre desde la perspectiva de Gestión del Riesgo*", will be an important tool in the work with emergency matters, and it will become a working guide for local churches in the deaconry facing any disaster.
- NCA coordinated the operation of the emergency and rehabilitation phases as a result of the tropical storm Stan. In this last phase, 19 projects linked to Recovery of Productive Capacity, Psychosocial Attention, Risk Management and Social Auditing, were approved. The implementation of these projects was done through an equal number of partners.

- The implemented projects were developed in the districts of San Marcos, Sololá, Totonicapán, Quetzaltenango, Chimaltenango, Suchitepéquez, Retalhuleu, Sacatepéquez and Escuintla. During the emergency phase, the partners performed projects that benefited 220 communities in 9 districts. In the rehabilitation phase 20,143 families from 8 districts were benefited, including direct and indirect beneficiaries, reported by executing partners.

Results of the direct interventions of NCA's partners CIEDEG and Madre Selva in the areas affected by Tropical Storm Stan:

- CIEDEG performed a project of production and risk management in the period of April-December 2006. The activities of this project were performed in the districts of Totonicapán and Sololá, which are among the most affected areas. The efforts were focused on recovery of the agricultural productive capacities in selected communities, making a special emphasis in nourishment security.
- From January to May 2006 CIEDEG focused their intervention in the departments of Chimaltenango, Totonicapán and Quetzaltenango, providing kits of hygiene, water, medicines, food and blankets.
- Madre Selva in coordination with the local municipality implemented a project between April and December 2006, repairing systems of clean water in the communities affected by the tropical storm Stan in Sipakapa, a municipality in the department of San Marcos. The main objective was reached by recovering three sections of water systems that were destroyed by Stan.

Indigenous population rights and organizational strengthening:

In favor of the Indigenous Peoples' rights and development, NCA supported two actions:

1. Scholarship project: NCA supported specific scholarship projects in Comalapa, Chimaltenango; Aguacatán, Huehuetenango; Chajabal, Totonicapán and in some slum areas of the Guatemala City. The students were at primary and secondary level. This project supported 250 children of which 95% are indigenous.
2. NCA supported a process through which indigenous young people could elaborate a youth development agenda to be presented in the III Continental Summit of Indigenous Peoples to be held in Guatemala in March 2007. The Association Ak' Tenamit was responsible for the process in coordination with the Educational Programme Pop No'j.

2.5 Were there any special internal or external conditions that significantly affected the implementation of the plan for the year?

Due to the work implemented, some partners have been threatened, generating insecurity. One of the organisations affected was FUNDESCO, which suffered two forceful break-ins in their office. For that reason FUNDESCO moved to another building.

As reported in 2005, CIEDEG continued with their internal strengthening process due to the crisis generated by the corrupt situation of UNESAT, a profit entity created by CIEDEG's board in order to promote self sustainability. NCA played an active role in this process.

CIEDEG hired external consultants to evaluate the causes and effects and to bring solutions to the institutional crisis. The crisis initiated with a division among two groups with different visions about CIEDEG's role, which resulted in three different Executive Secretaries being appointed in one year. This crisis was also a result of the misuse of funds in UNESAT.

NCA promoted reconciliation among the different parties involved in the crisis, and also recommended to audit UNESAT and to proceed with legal prosecution to those involved in the misuse of funds if illegalities were proved.

The external consultants interviewed persons at different levels within the organization, including the board, the executive secretary, members of the staff and representatives of churches and ecumenical organizations members of CIEDEG's general assembly. The conclusions were really surprising for NCA, Church World Service, Christian Aid and other donors involved in the process:

- a) CIEDEG as it is today will have to be closed permanently, after concluding the current projects;
- b) CIEDEG will have to reopen into a new institution to save what can be saved from the current programs. This document provoked a reaction of CIEDEG's staff which proposed a third scenario;
- c) CIEDEG will have to go through a re-engineering process in order to promote new leadership

among the youngest staff members, redefine the goals and size of the programs, and to strengthen the participation of the general assembly and founder members in the redefinition of a strategic plan.

The different members of CIEDEG have been working on the preparation of this third scenario. A preliminary proposal was presented by September, and hopefully a final proposal will be presented in the first half of 2007.

2.6 Results and risks: Is it probable that the projects/programmes will achieve their goals, or is there a risk of major changes?

The NCA's Regional Office was in 2006 affected by a re-structuring process, where one programme officer and two people from the administrative staff resigned. This situation has generated an overload of work in the technical team. This situation has affected and will still affect the monitoring activities and the programmatic accompaniment of the partners to some degree.

2.7 Which concrete measures have been implemented to ensure administrative/technical and financial sustainability?

As part of the capacity building process, the NCA Regional Office offered financial training to all the partners in Guatemala (as well the partners in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, Cuba and Peru). The objective of the activity was to strengthen the financial reporting of the partners in relation to new procedures of NCA.

In addition, NCA has taken some conversations with the Central American Desk Representative of INTERVIDA from Spain. The idea is to agree on financial support for the work that RO is doing in the region.

2.8 Which concrete measures have been implemented to link inputs to national plans and priorities?

NCA is committed to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the accomplishment of the national development plans from the perspective of added value that characterizes the nature and philosophy of NCA.

The work of NCA in Guatemala has an implicit relation with the following specific plans:

1. The National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of the domestic violence against women (PLANNOVI) 2004 – 2014.
2. Peace Agreements
3. The Convention (No. 169) concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries of the International Labor Organization (ILO).

In the emergency focus, NCA as coordinator of ACT Guatemala Forum, signed a cooperation agreement with the National Council for the Disasters Reduction (CONRED).

2.9 Which concrete measures have been implemented to strengthen the role of civil society in the development process?

In 2006 capacity building of the partners in this respect had a special focus on emergency preparedness (see 2.4). Also, NCA promoted strategic coordination and alliances between our partners, and between our partners and likeminded organizations. NCA also encouraged the partners to relate to other important stakeholders, especially those from the Government, International donors and private sector to promote the development of the right holders.

2.10 How have inputs helped to promote Norway's development policy objectives?

NCA prioritized the involvement and participation of women and indigenous peoples in some political and social processes, like the III Indigenous People Summit, the ICW regional structure and some decision making bodies of churches.

2.11 Specific reporting on The Norwegian Government's Action Plan for the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security

Even though there are no specific projects in relation with the Resolution 1325, some partners in Guatemala implemented actions regarding some aims of this action plan.

4 workshops have been implemented by CIEDEG to promote and start to ensure women's participation and integration of a gender perspective into religious dialogue at the local and national level. In this stage, FEPAZ followed up the recommendations lifted up during the 1st. Ecumenical Conference for the Peace in Guatemala regarding the improvement of women's participation in the decision making bodies of Churches and to encourage women to take an active role in the promotion of a peace culture in the communities, especially those affected by the internal armed conflict.

NCA supported a study done by GGM in relation to the femicide situation in Guatemala during 2004. Femicide is understood as the killings and torture leading death of women due to gender discrimination and injustices, the most extreme violence practiced by men against women with the purpose to maintain male domination, power and control of women.

IEPADES, promoted the participation of girls and women into the discussion about the effects that armed violence has in the individual, family, community and national life. IEPADES aims to promote social awareness about how armed violence affects in different way to women and men and also, how the armed violence is practiced in a post-conflict society. Girls and young women participated in the annual drawing contest for children and youths.

3. FOLLOW-UP OF RESULTS AND EVALUATION

3.1 Describe the reviews/evaluations that have been carried out during the year and give a brief summary of the conclusions, recommendations and follow-up activities:

The only evaluation implemented during 2006 is the one related to the HIV and AIDS Programme called: Central America HIV and AIDS Sub-Evaluation, which is part of the NCA's HIV and AIDS work.

The main conclusions and recommendations are described in the 2006 annual report of the HIV and AIDS Thematic Programme for Central America, Cuba and Peru.