



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Regional Literacy and CONFINTEA VI
Preparatory Conference in Latin America
and the Caribbean

*"From Literacy to Lifelong Learning:
Towards the challenges of the 21 Century".*
(Mexico City, Mexico, 10-13 September 2008)

"Programme of literacy education, primary basic education
and training for work of vulnerable young people
and adults of the Pacific and central
parts of Colombia"



United Nations Literacy Decade

EFFECTIVE PRACTICE

Presented at the Regional Literacy and CONFINTEA VI Preparatory Conference in Latin America and the Caribbean, 10-13 September 2008, Mexico City, Mexico

Programme name: Programme of literacy education, primary basic education and training for work of vulnerable young people and adults of the Pacific and central parts of Colombia

Implemented by: La Caja de Compensación Familiar CAFAM

Basic facts

Country: Colombia

Outreach: 200,000 persons

Target Population: Adults 15-45 years old

Language of instruction: Spanish

Facilitator/Beneficiary ratio: 1/25

Main Funding: Ministerio de Educación Nacional

Contact: Carolina Serrano, cserrano@oei.org.co

Website: www.oei.es

Brief Description

As a result of social and armed conflicts, the weak education system and the lack of employment possibilities, some parts of Colombia are at present affected by a high rate of illiteracy, in some cases as much as 20%. Low academic standards often deprive these people from employment opportunities. The Programme for Literacy and Education for Young People and Adults aims at benefiting the most vulnerable, displaced people, people of African descent, indigenous people, and women heading households. Loss of cultural ties, high unemployment, juvenile delinquency, early pregnancies and, in general, a low self-esteem undermines their human dignity and security.

To help reduce illiteracy, this project sets out to raise the educational level and build up working skills in the target population of the territories concerned. The curriculum, in addition to covering basic competencies like mathematics,

communication and language, social sciences and preparation for the world of work, strengthens the awareness of values, the culture of peace, sustainable human development, and a better standard of living.