

Inter-American Foundation

Helping Communities Thrive!

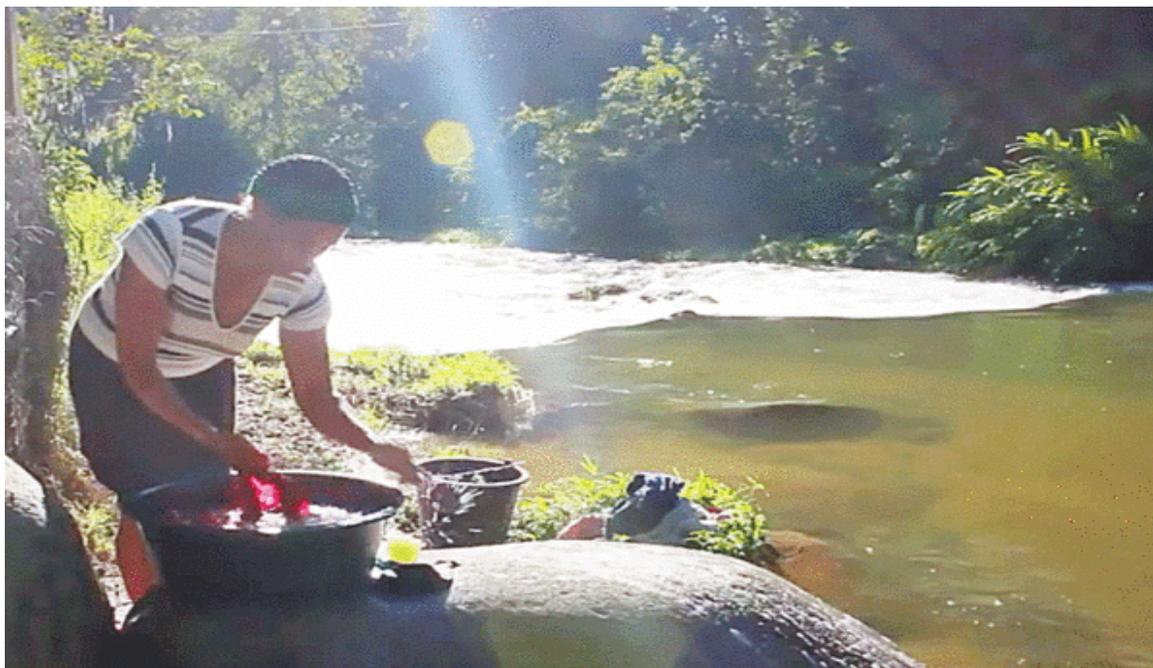
March 21, 2016 |



Young people during an event organized by PRODESAL in Cordoba, Colombia

Combating Chronic Violence with Cumbia and Champeta

This [IAF blog](#) tells the story of talented local artists and youth organizations in Lorica, a small municipality in Cordoba, Colombia, where youth face some of the highest rates in the country of poverty, abuse, and forced recruitment into armed groups. Through a series of activities sponsored by Corporación Taller de Promoción Popular y Desarrollo Alternativo ([PRODESAL](#)), an IAF grantee-partner, they have produced [a video](#) drawing on the region's musical and cultural traditions to combat gender-based violence, aiming to include youth in addressing problems underlying violence in Colombia, particularly chronic violence against women.



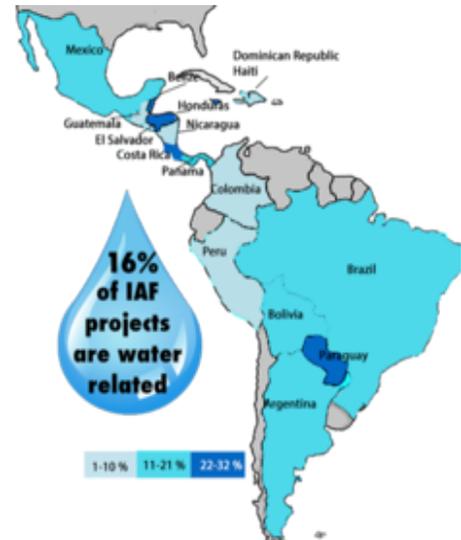
At Ensenada, Bonao, Dominican Republic, water is used to generate electricity

Making a Splash on World Water Day!

Almost half of the world's workers --1.5 billion people -- work directly in water-related sectors, and nearly all jobs depend on water and the people and agencies that ensure its safe delivery.

The United Nations has declared March 22 "World Water Day" in order to draw attention to the importance of water in communities, and to inspire people to learn about and advocate for the sustainable management of this valuable resource.

The IAF observes World Water Day by recognizing our grantee-partners that have initiatives to protect water and watersheds for future generations. Check out [this link](#) to see how they are thriving. Visit unwater.org to learn how you can make a difference on March 22.



Celebrating International Women's Day

In honor of International Women's Day, Alma Gloria Temaj Morales, project coordinator of *Mujb'ab'l Yol*, an IAF grantee-partner in Guatemala, made a presentation at the Organization of American States on March 8th, about the role of community radio in helping grassroots organizations address violence against women and girls. The OAS event was entitled "[Barriers to Justice: Ending Violence Against Women in the Americas](#)."



Transnational Partners for Development

The Inter-American Foundation helps communities in Latin America and the Caribbean enlist family members living abroad in their local development efforts. The IAF is breaking new ground in [helping channel diaspora investment](#) into sustainable social and economic development initiatives that go beyond one-off projects or donations and advance bottom-up development in their home countries.

Our video, "[United for Grassroots Development](#)", offers a glimpse into the efforts of immigrants living in the United States to collect and invest resources in support of their home communities.

The Inter-American Foundation (IAF) is an independent U.S. foreign assistance agency that promotes and invests in citizen-led grassroots initiatives in Latin America and the Caribbean to help communities thrive. This approach results in effective, community-owned development characterized by economic opportunity, resilience to violence, social inclusion and greater citizen participation in democratic processes. To learn more about the Inter-American Foundation visit iaf.gov.



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