

# Documents

Document Title	Document Date	Document Type	Action Type	Project	Activity or Meeting
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1. Letter to NGO Section					
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# Funcasol

April 3, 2008

Chief, NGO Section  
Department of Public Information  
Room S-1070L  
United Nations, New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Sir or Madam,

This letter is a formal request to be associated with the Department of Public Information (DPI). Our organization, Fundacion Colombiana Funcasol USA, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization closely affiliated with Funcasol Internacional in Colombia. We have collaborated in many areas with the shared goal of helping to provide health care, education, and sustainable enterprise opportunities to displaced families in Colombia, women heads of household, at-risk youth, the elderly, and others who have been affected by the civil conflict in that country as well as other Andean and Caribbean countries with similar problems. Here are six examples that illustrate the work we have done, with the supporting documentation attached:

- (1) **Housing project:** We have secured funding from investors in London in excess of US 20,000,000 to fabricate and provide affordable housing to displaced families on the Valle del Cauca region. The project, El Poblador de la Esperanza, includes the design of the following integrated communities, with housing in the following municipalities, respectively:

Palmira	1,700
Tulúa	700
Bolívar	500

Our website, [www.funcasolinternacional.com](http://www.funcasolinternacional.com) has three videos where you may view information on this housing project and the models of the housing units.

- (2) **Hospital Equipment for Hospital Departamental Tomás Uribe Uribe:**

**Laparoscopy:** Through collaboration with The Karl Storz Company, we secured the donation of an entire laparoscopy clinic set-up including the instruments, the monitors, the equipment, light sources, and the various attachments necessary to provide laparoscopy procedures. This equipment was provided to a clinic in Colombia so that less invasive surgery procedures could be made available to displaced and disadvantaged people who would otherwise be unable to avail themselves of this type

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# Funcasol

of health care option, or would have to travel a long distance to receive it.

**BV-212 C-Arm:** Through collaboration with Amber Diagnostics, we have secured a C-arm for use at the Tomas Uribe Uribe clinic in Tulua, Colombia. This equipment will also help bring affordable healthcare options to disadvantaged and displaced people closer to their living locales.

- (3) **Reforestation:** We are currently in discussions with Greg Bowles of Sustainable Harvest International (SHI) in order to connect land-owners with reforestation agencies which will help provide oxygen and reduce greenhouse gases. This would provide employment to displaced persons and help stabilize areas with sustainable economic activity, as well as help the environment. This could be a counterweight to farming which can deplete forest areas.
- (4) **Medical tourism:** due to the relatively low cost of healthcare available in Colombia, medical tourism is an ideal economic engine where people from the United States, Canada, and Europe would come to Colombia to receive healthcare such as plastic surgery, radiology, and other procedures.
- (5) **International Aid & AmeriCares:** This program is to send medicines and medical equipment to Colombia through Funcasol Internacional (Colombia). We have submitted an application to International Aid last year and are waiting for approval. International Aid supplies medical equipment and its affiliate, AmeriCares (<http://www.americares.org/>), supplies clothing, medicine, and other necessities to people in crisis.
- (6) **AgroIndustrial Projects:** Funcasol Colombia has acquired and provided over 18,000 hectares of land for the cultivation of cacao, cork, palms, peppers, and other agricultural products with the goal of supplying distributors in the United States. Funcasol USA is currently determining the requirements for importing these products and entering into contact with various U.S. distributors.

Sincerely,

Martha Quintero Insignares, President  
FUNCASOL-USA

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