PARAGUAY
PROGRAM SUMMARY

Within the framework of the Follow-up Mechanism on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), the implementation of the recommendations made to the Republic of Paraguay in the Second Round of Review was analyzed, referring to: i) systems of government hiring; ii) procurement of goods and services; iii) protecting public servants and private citizens who in good faith report acts of corruption; and iv) criminalization acts of corruption.

Likewise an analysis of the implementation of the provisions of the Convention selected by the Committee for the Fifth Round was carried out, related to: i) training to public servants to ensure an adequate understanding of their responsibilities and the ethical standards that govern them; and ii) the study of preventive measures that take into account the relationship between equitable compensation and probity in public service.

As part of this analysis, with the consent of the Republic of Paraguay, an on-site visit was held from September 30 to October 2, 2015. The representatives of Brazil and Haiti in their capacity as members of the review subgroup participated, with the support of the MESICIC Technical Secretariat. This on-site visit gathered information from government officials, civil society organizations, the private sector and academics on the issues under analysis.

OBJECTIVES

That the Republic of Paraguay strengthen its legal and institutional tools in the areas of the Convention mentioned above, through concrete recommendations formulated to it, which will result in greater effectiveness in the prevention, detection, investigation, punishment of acts of corruption and in the protection of the people that report them.

RESULTS

At the Twenty-Sixth Meeting of the MESICIC Committee of Experts held from March 7 - 11, 2016, a country report was adopted regarding how the Republic of Paraguay is implementing each of the aforementioned provisions of the Convention and containing concrete recommendations on how to fill the gaps and correct inadequacies detected. In this respect, it can take the corresponding corrective measures and obtain better results.

The approved report is published in the Anti-Corruption Portal of the Americas at the following link:

http://www.oas.org/juridico/PDFs/mesicic5_pry_final_en.pdf
PROGRAM SUMMARY

Since 2005, the Youth Forum of the Americas has served as an official platform for young people to take the lead in initiating activities that generate spaces to proactively contribute to the definition of priorities and mandates for states.

As a result of each Forum, the youth adopt a declaration of commitment related to the mandates of each Summit. This is how young people make concrete proposals to governments, while at the same time setting their own agenda for action and follow-up to the agreements reached at the Forum.

From each statement, the youths themselves will take action and present recommendations to the actors involved in the forum and delegations of the participating governments. Young people undertake not only to demand actions from governments, but also to take on responsibilities to meet the challenges of each region.

OBJECTIVES

The forum is a process based on face-to-face and virtual consultations as well as regional and local events in OAS Member States. This is constituted as the participatory component of the Forum; youth have the opportunity to express opinions on a platform created by YABT for them.

The forum has been consolidated as a hemispheric platform and official channel to express its recommendations, suggestions and actions to the leaders responsible for the continent’s policies. The youth thus contributes to the definition of the priorities and mandates of the Summits.

SDG: 1, 5, 8, 10, 13, 16, 17.

RESULTS

The IV Youth Forum of the Americas took place in Panama. As a result of each Forum, the Youth adopt a declaration of commitment related to the mandates of each Summit. This is how young people make concrete proposals to governments, while at the same time setting their own agenda for action and follow-up to the agreements reached at the Forum.

From each statement, the youths themselves will take action and present recommendations to the actors involved in the forum and delegations of the participating governments. Young people undertake not only to demand actions from governments, but also to take on responsibilities to meet the challenges of each region.

As part of the Forum process, national dialogues and virtual meetings have been held in Haiti as a follow-up to the declaration and keeping in mind the next Forum to be held in Peru in 2018. This program involves an active network of more than 5,000 young leaders.
PROGRAM SUMMARY

The program has promoted the appointment of judicial facilitators in Argentina, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Paraguay. Judicial facilitators are leaders chosen by their communities and appointed by local judges who serve as voluntary mediators and conciliators. Their tasks include advising members of the community on the law and administrative processes, as well as carrying out conciliations and mediations in areas where the law allows; if the conflict is not solved they serve as a mechanism for transmitting situations or cases. Judicial facilitators do not have jurisdictional functions; they only intervene if the parties involved request their help. Their objective is to facilitate dialogue and reach agreements in conflictive situations that take place in their communities.

The local judges appoint, train and supervise the judicial facilitators that act in their municipalities. The Program supports the judicial authorities during those processes. Moreover, the program contributes to strengthening the capacities of the judicial facilitators by a postgraduate degree on the judicial facilitators’ service and a master’s degree on access to justice.

OBJECTIVES

The program aims to improve the access to justice of vulnerable groups of the OAS Member States citizens and strengthen their judicial institutions through the establishment and consolidation of national services of judicial facilitators.

RESULTS

In October 2017 there were 12,541 judicial facilitators, of which 41% were women. This means that approximately 6.3 million citizens in the Americas have access to a judicial facilitator. So far 1.5 million people have participated in informative meetings on the law organized by judicial facilitators and 3.2 million people was beneficiated by their services. Also, the judicial facilitators carried out 155,000 mediations.

In the Program 6,209 judicial officers (64% women) graduated from the postgraduate degree and 118 judicial officers of Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama from the master’s degree. Moreover, the Program trained 2,109 police officers from Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama on the judicial facilitators’ service.

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<th>OAS Pillar</th>
<th>Name of Activity</th>
<th>Target Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Donor Countries</th>
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<td>Private sectors, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Italy</td>
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