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AÑOS



FUNDAEC
FUNDACIÓN PARA LA APLICACIÓN Y ENSEÑANZA DE LA CIENCIA

SEEDS OF CHANGE

MARCH 31, 2025 - EDITION 03

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

In this third edition of our newsletter—the first of 2025—we are excited to introduce a new element: a section dedicated to providing more in-depth insights into one of our programs. In this edition, we have included additional information about the school engagement component of our Growing Hope project.

We are also pleased to share that in January, we launched a new campaign called **Weaving Stories**, which aims to highlight the experiences of participants in our various programs. Each month, we will share one of these stories through a profile and a short video. This initiative is part of our communications team's effort to present additional and complementary narratives to those found in the book **Weaving a Fabric of Unity**. You can find these stories on our website and social media platforms.

Wishing you all a wonderful start to the year!

Bitá Correa A.
Director FUNDAEC





Growing Hope

The Growing Hope project promotes community well-being by fostering the development of a sustainable food system in Norte del Cauca, Colombia. In this edition of the newsletter, we highlight the work carried out in two educational institutions: Escuela Primaria Mixta in Mingo and the Bahá'í Ruhi Arbab School in Puerto Tejada. At these schools, students, teachers, and parents have received training on healthy eating and well-being within the educational environment. Additionally, teachers have been trained in the use of action-research materials designed by FUNDAEC, allowing them to conduct their own classroom research. As a result, these initiatives have led to the design and creation of school gardens, as well as government funding to support and sustain their efforts.

Significant progress has been made through various activities, including the establishment of a Diversified High-Efficiency Plot (DHE), where crops such as pumpkin, cilantro, cucumber, beans, and cassava have been successfully harvested. Additionally, productive projects related to animal husbandry—such as raising chickens, pigs, and laying hens—have been implemented, with some of these products now being incorporated into the school store's offerings.

FUNDAEC has also supported the school store by providing supplies and organizing the physical space. Currently, the store offers natural juices, pumpkin cakes, beans, rice, salad, chicken rice, and natural yogurt, while eliminating the sale of sodas and packaged products. These collaborative efforts have had a significant impact on the educational community, increasing awareness among students, teachers, and families about the importance of healthy eating and encouraging them to translate this knowledge into concrete actions that improve both their nutrition and overall quality of life.



NEW SECTION: WEAVING STORIES

At FUNDAEC, we believe in the power of education to enhance community well-being and help turn many dreams into reality. That is why we have created Weaving Stories, a new section available on our website

 <https://fundaec.org/en/>

where each month we will share inspiring stories of those who, with **FUNDAEC's** support, are driving the continuous progress of their communities.

The first story we will present is that of Danna, a young tutor in the Preparation for Social Action (PSA) program. In her story, Danna shares how this experience has impacted her life and surroundings.

We invite you to read her story and discover how you can support more people in achieving their goals and contributing to the development of their communities.

 [READ STORY](#)





Visit to Unity Foundation - Luxembourg

In December 2024, FUNDAEC visited the Unity Foundation (UF) in Luxembourg to share experiences and strengthen partnerships. The visit allowed discussions on the expansion of the Preparation for Social Action (PSA) Program to international contexts, especially in Africa, thanks to collaboration with local organizations supported by UF.

Activities during the week included a visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg, meetings with schools and teachers working with UF, and recording an interview for the upcoming podcast **Actors of Change** on @radioara. The week concluded with an event organized by UF with some of its friends and collaborators at their offices, where further discussions were held about FUNDAEC's programs and their impact.



Weaving a Fabric of Unity - Book Tour

We are thrilled to announce the **Weaving a Fabric of Unity book tour!** During this tour, the authors will share their experiences writing the book and reflect on FUNDAEC's 50 years of impact and learning.

The tour will take place during February, March, and April, with visits to various cities across the United States. The first stop was in New York on February 4, at the Rockefeller Foundation, where a discussion was held with the book's authors. Moderated by Dr. Vesall Nourani, the panel explored FUNDAEC's history, impact, and current actions, with a focus on regenerative agriculture.

We invite you to join this unique journey to learn more about our history and the principles that guide our work. Don't miss it!

For more details about the book, including author backgrounds, expert academic reviews, and purchase options, visit:

BOOK INFORMATION

If you are in Colombia, you can purchase the book by writing to:

textos@fundaec.org



Documentary release

On February 12, we launched the documentary **Siembra Vida**, which captures the voices of individuals, communities, and groups participating in FUNDAEC's efforts to preserve the environment and restore native species through the Transforming the Environment project.

The insights, images, and testimonies interwoven in this documentary highlight both the impact and initial contributions of this collective effort, as well as the potential within communities.

The video also serves as a source of motivation and inspiration for everyone—children, youth, adults, communities, groups, institutions, and leaders—to become guardians of nature by planting trees and growing their own food.

We invite you to watch the documentary at the following link:

Social Media Updates

We have great news! This year, the Instagram account Education for Development (@fundaec_online) will merge with our main account: Foundation for the Application and Teaching of Science (@fundaec_org).

In this new phase, you will find all content related to our online courses, programs, and updates about FUNDAEC's work—all in one place.

Follow us at @fundaec_org to stay updated!



SOWING LIFE





■ LOCATION
 ■ DATTE
 ■ # PARTICIPANTS

| LOCATION | DATTE | # PARTICIPANTS |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| SAMPUÉS, SUCRE | 20 JUNE | 64 |
| LOS PALMITOS, SUCRE | 5 JULY | 97 |
| PERICO NEGRO, CAUCA (PAS) | 18 AUGUST | 89 |
| RIOHACHA, GUAJIRA | 8 SEPTEMBER | 120 |
| GUAMAL, BOLÍVAR | 8 OCTOBER | 130 |
| LORICA, CÓRDOBA | 14 OCTOBER | 122 |
| CALI, VALLE (LANZAMIENTO DEL LIBRO) | 25 OCTOBER | 50 |
| CALI, VALLE (PERSONAL FUNDAEC) | 25 OCTOBER | 40 |
| TUCHÍN, CÓRDOBA | 1 NOVEMBER | 380 |
| SAN SEBASTIÁN, CÓRDOBA | 17 NOVEMBER | 170 |
| PERICO NEGRO, CAUCA (REGIONAL) | 23 NOVEMBER | 400 |
| VALLEDUPAR, CESAR | 30 NOVEMBER | 45 |
| SANTA ROSA, VILLA NUEVA, BOLÍVAR | 1 DECEMBER | 94 |
| NORTE DE ATLÁNTICO | 1 DECEMBER | 64 |
| EL SILENCIO, GUAJIRA | 1 DECEMBER | 178 |
| SANTA LUCÍA, ATLÁNTICO | 5 DECEMBER | 84 |
| NORTE DE BOLÍVAR | 6 DECEMBER | 51 |
| ATLÁNTICO | 9 DECEMBER | 86 |
| RÍO FRÍO, VALLE DEL CAUCA | 16 FEBRUARY | 23 |
| TOTAL | | 2.287 |

FUNDAEC's 50th Anniversary Celebrations

During FUNDAEC's 50th-anniversary celebrations, profound reflections were shared, emphasizing the transformative power of education. Here are some of the quotes that resonated throughout the speeches:

"True education not only shapes minds but also hearts; and the educator, as a moral leader, is the architect of that change."

"At this institution, I learned the true value of education—to love this profession and to recognize my responsibility as a social leader in building a just, equitable, and prejudice-free world, one that is at peace through service to communities as an educator."

These words embody the spirit that has guided FUNDAEC for half a century. With them, we close 2024 and the anniversary celebrations that took place across various regions of the country.

Thank you for accompanying us on this meaningful journey and for being part of our shared commitment to education and development.