

# GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY 2001 COLOMBIAN REPORT



## **THAT IT IS THE CORPORACION GRUPO TAYRONA?**

The Corporation group Tayrona is a non government organization without spirit of lucre, conformed by professionals' interdisciplinary team, youths and children. For but of twelve years it develops actions environmentally toward the construction of communities responsible, socially fair, economically sustainable and culturally respectful through the human development and of the empoderamiento of the social actors in Colombia and Latin America.

## **THAT IT IS THE PROGRAM OF YOUNG FOR THE ENVIRONMENT THE LIFE AND THE PEACE?**

"Young for the environment the Life and the Peace is the program of the Corporación Grupo Tayrona directed to people among the 14 and the 30 years that it looks for empoderar to the youths, potencializando its capacities so that they are dinamizadores of collective processes that propendan for the democratic coexistence and the sustainable development, stimulating this way its active participation in the implementation of the Calendar 21, the Calendar of Hábitat and the Program of Action of Youth for the year 2000 and from now on.

Through actions and projects like: the Juvenile Voluntariado, the Net of Young, the School of Training, the Sustainable Productive Projects, the Shops Environmental lúdicos, the ecological cocktails that promote healthy lifestyles and the Encounters; it has been achieved great quantity of Young at local, regional, national and international level to be interested to include the sustainable development and the voluntary action in its projects of life.

In the Corporation, all the members have the character of volunteers. They contribute work, time and resources for the development of initiatives like: projects of community service, arborización days and embellecimiento, campaigns of cleaning, democracy shops, of environmental

education and lúdica among others. It has been possible to incentivate the youths for a good use of the free time and they have been fomented in them values as the solidarity, the work in team and the social responsibility.

Another project is the Net of Young for the environment the Life and the Peace to which belong at the moment, young escolarizados, non escolarizados and workers, of urban and rural areas; the same as environmental and juvenile organizations of Colombia and Latin America. The net works like half articulador and cohesionador; and it is constituted in a support net, of information and communication for the generation of alliances and collective learnings.

Through the exchange of experiences and of the community work, you could identify the great necessity that existed among the youths, of receiving a training that responded to their necessities and expectations, to look for alternative that improved their quality of life and that of their communities. She/he was born The School of Formation and The Sustainable Productive Projects then" (paper microempresas, production of crafts with solid residuals, elaboration of products in wood, among other.) that besides contributing solutions to the unemployment problem among the youths, it has contributed to generate knowledge and to foment values around a culture of sustainable development. Young of different regions they have been formed, increasing their administration capacity and leadership.

The Program of Lúdica for the environment, the Life and the Peace looks for through simple and pleasant languages as: the marionettes, the theater, the music, the cuenteros, the plastic arts etc, to inform children and to young of the importance of completing protagonistic papers in the solution of the problems that you/they suffer to their communities, promoting the resolution pacifies of conflicts and motivating to the community in general to participate in the projects and processes of taking of decisions and that they improve their quality of life.

The ecological cocktails with the help of fruits and other natural products have been one of the successful projects; since it has contributed to prevent the consumption of alcohol and of substances psicoactivas among the youths, fomenting responsible and healthy lifestyles.

The investigation has been another area of important work. They have been carried out studies at National and Latin American level that you/they have allowed to identify aspects of the processes of the youths' participation in the implementation of the calendar 21 and the hábitat calendar and in the projects of community help.

For their great impact, this experience obtained the recognition of Youth Service América and of the Interamerican Bank of Development being the Corporación Grupo Tayrona, chosen as the National Coordinating Agency in Colombia, of the Celebration of the World Day of the Juvenile Voluntary Service from its first version: year 2000 and also, for the 2001. In more than 90 countries it was carried out this celebration. In Colombia the Corporation mobilized young in the main cities and departments of the country.

## **PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES TO THE CELEBRATION?**

1. During the year 2000 it was carried out divulgation of the Global Youth Service Day 2001 celebrations in the Regional, National and Second Latin American and Caribbean Encounter of Youth in favor of the environment Life and Peace. As a result of these encounters it were defined the Regional and National Youth Action Plans in favor of the environment Life and Peace 2000 - 2003; having like one of the 5 strategies the Youth Voluntarism that will develop activities like training, contest and recognitions, communication through Electronic Bulletins, Exchange of Successful Experiences and Forums, among others.
2. It were carried out two surveys; a national one and other Latin American one that allowed to identify some aspects of Youth Volunteer work.
3. It were carried out conferences, events and shops in schools and universities to make divulgation and to recruit new volunteers.
4. Intrer-Institutional meetings with government entities, youth organizations, nets, schools and universities to strengthen alliances and work united.
5. It also was carried out an encounter with 50 schools of D.C. that had attendance of young school government, teachers and supervisors of district, where a new generation of youth was linked in activities of voluntary service. It is important to highlight that these schools were as motivated that in each one of these schools were carried out activities to celebrate the GYDS2001 like; billboards contests, cleaning campaigns, tree planting days, conferences, cultural presentations, recycling campaigns, community service projects among many others. (Encounter photo is annexed).
6. In Medellin, second Colombian main City, it was motivated to the community in civic participation through processes as the "Juntas de Acción Comunitaria" (Action Community Council), which had dignitaries' election a week after Global Youth Service Day.
7. It was carried out divulgation through local and national media to socialize information and to join more youth and institutions to work voluntarily.

## **WHAT ACTIVITIES WAS CARRIED OUT FOR THE GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY 2001?**

In Colombia It have been added to this celebration government entities, juvenile organizations, schools, universities, nets, youth and voluntary service organizations of Bogotá, Cundinamarca, Medellín, the Coffee axis (Eje cafetero), Cali, Bucaramanga, Aguachica, Pailitas, Bosconia and Urabá among others. In each one of these cities diverse activities was developed to promote Voluntary Service as strategy of juvenile participation, fomenting a good use of free time and values like solidarity and work in team, this activities were developed in schools, universities, neighborhoods etc.

**In Bogotá**, Colombian capital, the **Corporación Group Tayrona** with collaboration of Libre University together with their school and their student groups carried out a series of activities with Free entrance that took place in the big campus of the Libre university from 9:00AM to 4:00PM located in carrera 66 No. 53 - 40 on 21 April. The main activities of this event were (program):

1. Presentation of institutional offer to youth:
  - Presidential Program Young Colombia (Programa Presidencial Colombia Joven)
  - Presidential Program Youth in Action (Programa Presidencial Jóvenes en Acción)
  - Agriculture and Rural Development Ministry (Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural)
  - Culture Ministry (Ministerio de Cultura)
  - Government of Cundinamarca (Gobernación de Cundinamarca)
2. Presentation of Significant experiences of Voluntary Service
  - Corporación Grupo Tayrona (Corporación Grupo Tayrona)
  - Red Cross (Cruz Roja)
  - Civil Defense (Defensa Civil)
  - Firemen of Chía (Bomberos de Chía)
  - Scout of Colombia (Scout de Colombia)
  - Vigilant of Patrimony (Vigías del Patrimonio)
  - Youth Builders of Peace (Jóvenes Constructores de Paz)
3. Lunch to participants
4. Work tables
5. Delivery of recognitions to youth and juvenile organizations.
6. Stand and Artistic Works Exhibition
7. Conclusions presentation
8. Activities planning and Selection of Main Action.

In **Cali**, third main city of Colombia and Department Capital, the leadership group of ICESI university carried out an Encounter of Juvenile Voluntarism on April 27 in the Public Improvements Society from 9:00am to 5:00pm. The program to this event was: Introduction, presentation of institutional programs, conferences, Exchange of Experiences, delivery of recognitions to youth and institutions and it concluded with a concert of a Rock Group.

We can highlight the following organizations that participated:

- -Mayor of Cali (Alcaldía de Cali)
- --Zoo of Cali (Zoológico de Cali)
- -Rotary Club (Club Rotarios)
- Youth Christian Association
- -Social Service Group, German School (Grupo de Servicio Social Colegio Alemán)
- -AIESEC
- -Firemen
- Red Cross
- -Fundamor
- Teca Experimental

- Active club 20-30 (Club Activo 20-30)

In **Medellin**, second Colombian main city and Department Capital, the Juvenile Group of Belén Cooperative carried out on Saturday 21 from 8:00am to 1:00 pm the Second Encounter of Juvenile Groups Integration with participation of approximately 167 people from 12 youth groups and it ended at 5:00pm in the Belén park with a musical presentation with orchestra, musical group and theater presentations joining community in general.

2 projects of voluntary service was established like result of this celebration:

The first one was a 26 people union for the reforestation project of the Hill "3 Cruces", hill located in south occidental area of Medellin city, which faced a forest fire approximately 4 months ago, losing around of 45% of its vegetable covering. To give a solution actually there are already approximately 85% of native trees donated by municipal nursery of Medellin. It is schedule that reforestation will be executed approximately in one month.

The second volunteer project is a group of 12 people that are going to involve in a community program founded several years ago named "Beletón", which has like goal to summon solidarity of the neighborhood community towards support of specific problems through of cultural and recreational acts like an third age reign, a cavalcade, and a popular stage. This twelve people are united to the existent work team of "Beleton" to contribute in its organization for September.

**In the Coffee Axis (Eje Cafetero)**, region that face a big earthquake, the Youth Net of Quindío (Department Capital) and "Raíces" Association, prepared a Departmental Encounter of youth Houses during 21, 22 and 23 April, where was promoted youth Voluntarism like change strategy. In the School "Rufino José Cuervo" on Friday 20 was carried out a day to promote Youth Voluntary Service, Children Rights and Youth's Law.

In **Bucaramanga**, fourth main city of Colombia and Department Capital, a youth organization named "Colombia Young Century 21" prepared an encounter and cultural activities with schools to celebrate the day.

In **Aguachica, Pailitas and Bosconia**, three municipalities of Colombia, the Minors of Future Foundation (Fundación Menores del Futuro) carried out during the whole month of April, ludic, artistic, recreational and sport activities, to promote rights and duties of Youth younger than 18 years in these three municipalities. Among some activities we can stand out, painting contest, cultural festivals, walks, processions and marches.

In **Apartadó Urabá**, region affected by violence, the "FundaUniban" foundation and the alternative juvenile group of communication noticampanos carried out on Saturday 21 from 10:00am to 7:00pm in the Churidó town a Recreational and Cultural Festival with participation of youth children and adults. Were delivered Recognitions to voluntary youth like stimuli to their community work.

**Also the following events were carried out during April month to enlarge the GYSD2001 celebration:**

During the April month, some Youths of the Program Weavers of Society (Tejedores de Sociedad) and the district youth committee "threads of dragon" (hilos de dragón) organized processions, theater plays, an sport encounter and several concerts in small parks in more than 19 districts of Bogotá.

In several municipalities of Cundinamarca, youth groups developed contests, conferences, shops, cultural activities during the whole month of April to contribute to the GYSD2001. Also the Program Youth Builders of Peace of the Secretary for Social Development of Cundinamarca's Government, was motivated by the Corporación Grupo Tayrona to continue fomenting Youth Voluntarism, for this reason, this program carried out Youth Talking in more than 50 department municipalities, where one of the main axes will be youth voluntarism as participation strategy.

## **LOCAL AND NATIONAL DIVULGATION OF THE GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY**

It was carried out divulgation in the media through press bulletins and interviews. (some newspaper articles are annexed).

It was carried out a radial program at national level and another one at regional level to promote Youth Voluntarism and to invite to participate in GYDS 2001 celebration, in the Todelar channel. Was sent Electronic Bulletins and Press Bulletins to youth organizations, government entities, schools, universities, and private companies among others.

## **TRAINING**

In the Corporación Grupo Tayrona headquarter began the training shops for volunteers that make part of the School of Formation for youth, these shops are important because many youth will reply that learned in their communities. (we annex pictures of one shop)

## **ENCOUNTERS AND EXCHANGES:**

To make following of the process and to advance the GYSD2002 celebration, we are organizing the regional, national and Latin-American and Caribbean encounter of Youth in favor of the Environment Life and Peace, where there will be worktables dedicated to Youth Volunteers topics. In this Encounters also will be made the contributions of Youth to the World Summit of Sustainable Development 2002, bringing as flag the Youth Voluntarism.

## **RECOGNITIONS**

In many activities that were carried out to celebrate GYSD2001 were deliver recognitions to youth and youth organizations and were established an annual competition to best Organizations and best youth that work with voluntary service, this awards will be given in the National Encounter of Youth in favor of the Environment Life and Peace on September 2001.

# CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## CONCLUSIONS:

1. Among the main difficulties that faced youth to carry out a good Community work are:
  - a) -lack of opportunities.
  - b) -restricted access to Information.
  - c) -lack of continuity in projects
  - d) -lack of articulation to Inter-institutional level
  - e) -minimum support to juvenile initiatives.
  - f) -lack of training.
  - g) -ignorance about financing sources, precarious knowledge in the formulation of projects,
  - h) -minimum financing of Youth projects
2. Regularly mechanisms that Youth organizations and youth groups use to finance their projects are:
  - a) members Contributions
  - b) Sale of products and services
  - c) Funding through projects
3. More than 60% of youth that develop voluntary service activities have not received recognition for their work.
4. Youth would like their voluntary work will be recognized and stimulated through:
  - a) Discounts to study
  - b) Discounts to travel.
  - c) Exchanges with other organizations that develop voluntary service
  - d) Formation and Training Shops.
  - e) Social Recognition.
5. In what activities would youth like to participate?
  - a) Encounters
  - b) Research Projects
  - c) Voluntary Service Projects
  - d) Training Programs

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- To Generate and to strengthen alliances among youth, youth organizations, government entities and international organisms.
- To Generate dynamic spaces for debate and interdisciplinary and intergenerational reflection.
- To Design and to establish training shops for volunteers.
- This training shops, should offer tools in projects formulation and managing of international resources.
- To Promote the exchange of experiences and investigations of juvenile volunteer work

- To Unify proposals and to articulate initiatives.
- To Strengthen the Work in net.
- To Carry out regional, national and international encounters.
- To Promote exchanges among volunteers of different countries.
- To Make a publication with: Database of organizations that develop voluntary service, and programs that they carry out.
- To carry out Meetings with representatives of Youth Service América, Interamerican Development Bank and different institutions of United States to get economic support and to strengthen alliances.

## **NUMBER OF WRAPPED PEOPLE IN THE GYDS 2001**

In all activities that were carried out in Colombia participated around 8.000 people.

### **NLA CONTACT PERSONS**

Contact Person No. 1	Adriana Patricia Valenzuela National Juvenil Director
Contact Person No. 2	Juan Diego Valenzuela Information Coordinator
Group Information:	
Address:	Carrera 4 No. 12 – 74 Candelaria Centro Histórico
Telefax:	(571) 3422688
Telephone:	(571) 3522142
Email:	grupotayrona@hotmail.com
Country	Colombia – Sudamérica

### **IMPACT**

This Celebration had a great local and national impact since it was carried out in several cities of Colombia from the capital until remote municipalities of Colombia some of this affected by conflict. They were mobilized more than 8.000 youths in the country, were strengthened alliances with public and private institutions as Republic Presidency, Ministries and other Public and private Entities as the Government of Cundinamarca, to follow a common work in favor of voluntarism.

The media covered several of the national and locals events and they offered its collaboration to continue divulgating the programs that promote youth voluntarism.

The Corporación Grupo Tayrona, to enable multipliers that continue promoting youth voluntarism and due to the great number of people interested in take part in the process, began the first training shop in its headquarter.

Thanks to the divulgation and invitation made by Corporation Group Tayrona, many youth and organizations wish to join to the Global Youth Service Day 2002 in Colombia and to celebrate

together this day, for this reason Group Tayrona will stimulate and it will support the 2002 celebration in more than 50% of the main cities of Colombia.

As recognition to the work developed by Group Tayrona, the Presidential Program "Young Colombia", Entity rector of Youth's politics in Colombia, will offer a place to the Group in the national fair of juvenile work Expocamello, to promote the Corporation programs. This space will also be used by youth of Group Tayrona to promote the juvenile voluntarism.

Corporation has also carried out necessary diligences to get spaces in other national fairs that will be carried out in middle year like Agroexpo and Expoambiental, to continue linking people to Youth voluntarism in 2001 and invite to participate in GYSD 2002, since Group Tayrona wants to continue being the National Coordinating Agency for GYSD 2002.

The fact that youth leaders of Group Tayrona made promotion campaigns around the country, shops and divulgation in media among other activities, impacted institutions and many Colombian youths that have contact Grupo Tayrona to make the GYDS 2002 celebration in their regions.

For this reason we recommend that in many countries of the world youth will be empowerment and can to assume the challenge of leadering celebration process of GYDS.

We congratulate directives and organizers of GYSD at International level for their support to the NLA's and for mobilization in more than 100 countries of the world.