



Children Change Colombia **Newsletter**

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Football for Peace

We are delighted to announce that in August we officially launched our Football for Peace project! Thank you to everyone who donated, we are so pleased that our vision has come true and that it will benefit so many children. So, what does the project involve and how will it help Colombian children and young people?

The project is taking place in the Pacific region of Colombia and aims to support 200 children from 9 communities of the Afro Colombian Council Acadesan and will help them develop socio-emotional skills, promote gender equality and improve their capacities against forced recruitment and gender-based violence. Sport will help children and young people develop socio-emotional skills and improve their capacities to participate in peace-building processes, towards the prevention of forced recruitment. Above all, they will have a safe space to just be children.

Chocó, located in the Pacific region of Colombia has historically been inhabited by Afro-descendent and Indigenous communities. For decades they have dealt with the presence of armed groups and thus children and young people are at risk of being forcibly recruited which has had a negative impact on education, with 26% of children in Chocó not attending school. Women and girls are the most affected with armed groups using sexual-based violence as a method of intimidation and coercion.

In order to achieve the goals of the project, we have partnered with the German development agency GIZ. We are implementing the GIZ sports for development methodology and care routes to prevent sexual violence. The methodology helps children and young people to learn values such as respect and teamwork through sport. GIZ trainers have travelled to the project area to train 30 teachers and mentors and monitor the implementation of the methodology in the practice of football. The training aims to certify 5 of the participants to become trainers themselves thus ensuring the replication of the methodology without relying on third parties like GIZ in the future. Teachers will be trained in children's rights, leading football sessions with focus on values like empathy and discipline and recognising, preventing and denouncing cases of sexual violence.

Including the children and young people, parents and caregivers as well as community members and teachers, we hope to have 630 direct beneficiaries and 1,220 indirect beneficiaries over the course of this project.



Thames Walk 2023

We are incredibly thankful for the outpour of support during this year's Thames Walk. Through all the fundraising support, we were able to surpass our initial goal of £5,000 and raised a total of £8,000. This allows us to continue running projects in Colombia and start new programmes to support children. The Thames Walk event was a day to remember, with over one hundred people attending, Colombian dancing, music, food and coffee. Thank you to all of you for supporting our work and coming out to our events.



Cascade Training for local Staff

Pilu Rivas from ACTI (Action for Child Trauma International), an organisation that helps communities treat children with trauma and PTSD, ran an online session with staff from all of CCC's partners in Colombia to assess the results of the previous workshop on the Accelerated Trauma Technique for Children (CATT), which was held in February 2022. The participants, working in different parts and contexts of Colombia, expressed their concerns about children still living in conflict areas, and best to help them to cope with this situation.

In November of this year, Pilu will travel to Colombia to deliver a second workshop to train as trainers some of previous participants so the ACTI methodology can be taught directly in the communities. This training, already applied in Africa and the Middle East, had never previously been taught in the Americas and CCC is very proud to help make this happen. The programme will also include sessions on training the participants to deal with children living in areas of conflict and unrest.



Entrepreneurship Workshop

Children Change Colombia, Mision Gaia and Rebel Business School have been working together with the students of the Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta to offer a unique opportunity to them through The Rebel Entrepreneurship Workshop. 53 students aged between 15 and 22 years old took part in this workshop, which consist of a 'revolutionary' entrepreneurship approach that started in the United Kingdom in 2011 and has supported over 17,000 entrepreneurs around the world.

In the workshop 23% of the attendees made their first sale and 45% opened their social media business accounts. "With this training I learned that I can start an entrepreneurship project without money!" Said Keiner, one of the students of the workshop.

Wilson Herazo, a psychologist involved in this project, told us: "The students and facilitators encountered a number of experiences which allowed us to learn, not only the different phases of the entrepreneurial process, but the self-imposing challenges that limit our desire to transcend... We feel this workshop changed our lives and the lives of many of our colleagues in positive ways."



Michael Palin



We are so excited to share with you the amazing opportunity we had to feature in the BBC Radio 4 Appeal. We were represented by Michael Palin, world renowned actor, travel documentarist and presenter. He shared the touching and inspiring story of Keiner, a child that has been supported by Children Change Colombia to create a brighter future for himself and his family after becoming an orphan due to the conflict in La Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. CCC has provided psychological support, as well as professional development skills that have allowed him to begin his entrepreneurial journey.

All the money raised will go to our project in the Sierra Nevada to improve the life of 500 rural and indigenous children. The project aims to break the cycle of poverty among local people through improving education in local schools, as well as teaching young people vocational and entrepreneurial skills with a focus on eco-tourism and green jobs so that they can benefit from their biodiverse territory.

Michael Palin has also shared why he believes you should support CCC, saying "If a country is going to get out of the problems it's had, it depends on the next generation, and those are the children". You can listen to his full statement on our Youtube Channel and also support the BBC Radio 4 Appeal by scanning the QR Code below.



Cryptocurrency

As you may know, CCC is now accepting crypto currency donations. So far we have raised £8,230 in crypto which allowed us to start our Football for Peace project. The more we receive the more children and young people we will be able to help around Colombia and change their lives for the better. As little as £30 will give one child a full football kit and boots, £450 will give a whole team of children their football kit and boots, £215 will train 5 teachers on the prevention of child recruitment and £1,000 will allow us to restore a football pitch! Furthermore, donating cryptocurrency is a non-taxable event, meaning you do not owe capital gains tax on the appreciated amount and can deduct it on your taxes making it one of the most tax-efficient ways to support us. We currently accept over 70 crypto currencies and have an easy step by step guide on how to donate on our website.

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Yes, I want to help transform the lives of children in Colombia

Title **Name**

Address

Postcode

Tel **Email**

Make a single donation

Here is my gift of: **£10** **£25** **£80** **£100** **Other**

Please make cheques payable to Children Change Colombia

OR make BACS transfer to Children Change Colombia: Sort code 60-07-02, Account no. 22060111

We accept the following cards: Visa, Mastercard, CAF Charitycard.

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Expiry **3 digit security number** (on signature strip)

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Donate by Direct Debit (this helps reduce our administration costs) (please delete as appropriate)

£5 **£10** **£20** **Other** monthly/quarterly/annually

starting on 1st 15th (please delete as appropriate) (month) (year)

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

Bank/Building Society

Address **Postcode**

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank/Building Society acc.no. **Sort Code**

Signature **Date**

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society: Please pay Charities Aid Foundation Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Charities Aid Foundation and, if so, will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.



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Gift Aid Declaration

I am a UK Tax Payer and I would like **Children Change Colombia** to reclaim the tax on all qualifying donations I have made to them in the past 4 years as well as any future donations. I will notify them if I am no longer eligible or if I change address. To qualify for gift aid I understand that I pay less income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signed **Date**

I do not require an acknowledgement (please tick or we will assume you do; this will help us save on administration costs).

I would also like to receive email updates about your work protecting children's rights in Colombia, your fundraising events and campaigns, and how I can get involved.

You can change the ways you hear from us at any time using the contract details below.

You can also donate online at www.childrenchange colombia.org/donate.

Thank you so much for your support!

T: 020 8050 2735 E: info@childrenchange colombia.org

Please return this form to: Children Change Colombia, 5 Richbell Place, Holborn, London, WC1N 3LA

Charity number 1075037

