SAFE STEPS

Preventing antipersonnel mine accidents through education.

OVERVIEW

Safe Steps promotes Antipersonnel Mines Risk Education (ERM) through information and communication technologies. This activity is implemented through a public-private partnership between USAID, the Antonio Restrepo Barco Foundation, Discovery and Computadores para Educar. Together these organizations are contributing USD $5.8 million, USD $1.7 million of which was contributed by USAID directly and USD $4.1 million of which was contributed by the private sector. Safe Steps is being implemented in 44 municipalities affected by antipersonnel mines accidents and runs from January 2019-January 2024.
COMPONENTS

RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS

Safe Steps raises awareness about the risk of antipersonnel mines in Colombia, including the characteristics of these artefacts and risk zones. Safe Steps particularly focuses on educating children.

PRIORITIZING INTEGRAL ACTION

Safe Steps encourages local authorities to identify antipersonnel mine risks in their community and to address these risks through coordinated actions.

STRENGTHENING CAPABILITIES

Safe Steps strengthens community capacities to understand the danger associated with antipersonnel mines and to respond appropriately in the presence of an explosive artefact or possible accident.

RESULTS

- Developed education materials about the history of mines and their associated risks;
- Produced a miniseries promoting safe behavior by children that has over 37,000 views on Youtube;
- Published 56 press releases related to antipersonnel mine risks in local and national media outlets;
- Organized six public policy advocacy workshops to promote the inclusion of civil society mine training in local planning instruments; and
- Encouraged 38 municipal and six departmental government actors to commit to include Comprehensive Action against Antipersonnel Mine Risk (AICMA) in their local management plans.