

# ¿EN QUÉ VA EL APOYO?

## Huellas de Cooperación Bilateral



Bogotá D.C.

December 4, 2007

U.S. Embassy

## SAFE WATER FOR PUTUMAYO

**O**n November 15, 2007, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through its Area for Municipal Alternative Development (ADAM), launched an agreement to donate over 300 million Colombian pesos with the Putumayo Cooperative Public Services Company *Aguas del Putumayo*.

The goal of the agreement is to support the company so it may take over the management of the Departmental Water Plan, and to strengthen community public service providers that supply water and sanitation in Mocoa, Villagarzón, Puerto Caicedo, Puerto Asís, Orito, Valle del Guamuéz, and San Miguel.

The time period to execute the project will be one year. This effort will be complemented with 300 million Colombian pesos provided by the Governor's Office, to strengthen activities in rural areas.

The Water Departmental Plan that will run from 2008 to 2017 will be crucial to secure the proper supply and management of this resource in the department for the next decade. The Governor's Office has assigned a 56 billion Colombian pesos budget to implement it, and it will increase to up to 100 billion Colombian pesos with contributions from the World Bank and the municipalities.

In the last year, Governor Jesus Fernando Checa, has highlighted the investments made in this sector in order to increase coverage and water quality. In his own words, "In more than one sense, the greatest indicator of mortality is gastrointestinal ailments. All of these projects have a rate of return that will allow it to be paid in three years. Instead of giving money to the health sector, it's better to take away its clientele. And the hospital's greatest customers are the kids. All of this is going to help a great deal."



Charles Oberbeck, ADAM's director, and Jesus Checa, Governor of Putumayo, during a protocol meeting to review the ADAM covenant with *Aguas de Putumayo*.



Villagarzon's Aqueduct (in Putumayo)

## About ADAM

The United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Areas for Municipal Alternative Development (ADAM) is part of the International Cooperation Agreement signed between the governments of the United States and Colombia, towards the promotion of licit production and peace consolidation in the country. The Presidential Agency for Social Action and Cooperation (Acción Social) is the Colombian agency responsible for coordinating activities with ADAM.

The objective of ADAM's Local Governments component is to strengthen the presence and acceptance of the Government in 100 selected municipalities from 12 departments throughout the country, and carry out activities in planning, income and finances, citizen participation, public services, social infrastructure, and institutional development.

As a strategy, and complying with the sector's policies, the public service component will be responsible for strengthening the companies that provide water and sanitation services, so they may include the use of better practices.

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