

SUCCESS STORY

Nexos Locales Signs MoUs with 26 Municipalities

USAID's Nexos Locales Signs MoU Agreements with 26 Municipalities in the Western Highlands as a strong show of commitment toward development in the country.



Photo: Nexos Locales

El Dr. Edgar Balsells, Director del Proyecto en el momento en el cual se realizaba la firma de uno de los MOU con el Alcalde de Santa María Nebal, Quiché, Pedro Raymundo Cobo.

“Nos sentimos muy satisfechos pero a la vez muy comprometidos porque es un desafío para nosotros; nos queda un año de administración pero en ese espacio de tiempo estamos convencidos que podremos desarrollar el apoyo que corresponde.”

- Santiago Federico Pelicó Rojas, Alcalde de Momostenango.

During an intensive 4-day tour in December 2014 through the departments of Quetzaltenango (including Totonicapan), San Marcos, Huehuetenango and Quiché, the Nexos Locales Project signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with 5 departments and 26 municipalities in the Western Highlands of Guatemala. This important milestone facilitates joint efforts and cooperation between Nexos Locales and the 26 municipalities in fulfilling shared development outcomes particular to each municipality. The signing of the MoUs paved the way for addressing critically important social, economic and governance issues unique to each community, such as public financial management, service delivery, climate change, access to potable water, local economic development, civil society, youth, and gender.

By signing an MoU with Nexos Locales, Mayors have sent a strong message to their communities that they are committed to improving the lives of their constituents and creating positive change in the region. This message was reinforced in Huehuetenango where nine mayors, including civil society and government institutions, were gathered in the same room, a site rarely seen throughout the region. The MoUs are symbolic in that they provide Nexos Locales with the “key” to enter each municipality and work with civil society.

Of the 30 municipalities where Nexos Locales provides coverage, only four were not signed. They include:

- Cunen (RC1-Sub, Quiché)
- Santa Cruz Barillas (RC1 – Huehuetenango)
- Chichicastenango (RC2 – Xela/Toto/S.Quiché) unavailable
- Zacualpa (RC2 – Xela/Toto/S.Quiché) wait till Feb

Nexos Locales will continue to conduct outreach and relationship building with each of these municipalities in an effort to complete and sign MoUs. The delay in obtaining signatures for each of these municipalities was not due to a lack of political will, but rather scheduling conflicts and/or security concerns (Santa Cruz Barillas).

Telling Our Story

U.S. Agency for International Development
Washington, DC 20523-1000
<http://stories.usaid.gov>