

FINAL PROJECT NARRATIVE REPORT

You will need to refer to your Project Application Form and the Agreement with WACC. Please answer the questions as fully and concisely as possible to help us learn about your completed project. The report should not exceed 15 pages, excluding appendices. Please return the report with any supporting documents and materials to WACC. We welcome stories about how individuals benefitted from the project, with photos. We also welcome case studies. Please place stories and case studies, if any, in an appendix.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Project Title: (as in the Agreement)	Women of Expression - Women adapting to climate change in Brazil
1.2 Project Reference Number: (as in the Agreement)	1905
1.3 Full Name of Organisation:	Associação Artigo 19
1.4 Country:	Brazil
1.5 Full Postal Address:	
1.6 Physical Address:	Rua João Adolfo, 118, cjto 802 CEP 01050-020 Sao Paulo, SP Brazil
1.7 Contact Person:	Paula Martins
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1.10 E-mail:	paula@article19.org
1.11 Website:	www.artigo19.org and www.article19.org
1.12 Period the project was implemented: (from month/year to month/year)	02/2012 to 07/2012

2. OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

2.1 What was the project's long-term goal?
This project aimed at contributing to fight the feminization of poverty by improving women's freedom of expression and information. We addressed one specific situation that has been disproportionately impacting on women's lives, namely, the effects of climate change on women's living conditions.
2.2 What was the project's immediate purpose and to what extent was it achieved?
The project purpose was to allow women living in poverty to receive improved information on climate change, especially from official sources, and then to impart information through community radios and the internet from a gender perspective, sharing strategies to cope with its negative impacts, and empowering women to demand from relevant authorities and decision-makers the planning and implementation of adaptation strategies and policies that

are gender-sensitive.

This short-term objective was achieved. Many of the communities benefited by the project had never before discussed their problems as consequences of climate change. Their knowledge of this phenomenon was limited and the debate generated great interest. Women who took part of the project were able to organize and write down or register in video their demands to relevant authorities. In some communities, news-pieces were created and disseminated by women. We only fear that the communities benefited by the project did not have the necessary structures (community based organizations or leaders) to follow up and adopt the freedom of information and expression tools explored during the project also in the long-run. Project activities were very well-received and appreciated by communities, but they did not have the effect of creating a systematic and organized change that will continue after the end of our efforts.

2.3 To what extent were the expected outcomes and outputs achieved?

Expected outcomes and indicators

- Women affected by climate change aware and interested in the right to freedom of information.
- Targeted communities deepening their awareness and understanding about the effects of climate change on their daily lives and establishing internal debate and dialogue to seek solutions and community-based adaptation measures.
- Women actively campaigning for the protection of the right to freedom of expression and information of their communities.
- Improved information and an assessment of existing official information sources and data concerning selected issues related to climate change available, in particular to see whether they provide relevant, accurate and complete information that can be used to plan, monitor and evaluate public policies and regulations to oppose climate change.
- Improved comprehension of the specific impacts of climate change on the lives of women living in affected communities.
- Affected communities able to design a clear set of recommendations for the adoption and implementation of adaptation strategies and policies that are gender-sensitive;
- Affected women better capacitated to carry out advocacy to promote adaptation strategies and policies that are gender-sensitive;
- General public aware of the specific challenges faced on the ground by communities whose lives have been

Achieved outcomes (disaggregated by sex)

- Women in affected communities were interested in participating in the project's roundtables.
- Members of affected communities provided testimonies and designed recommendations to serve as advocacy material to promote better public policies and adaptation strategies.
- Women in affected communities collaboratively wrote information requests and talked about the intention to use this tool in their everyday life.
- Women in affected communities produced a wall-newspaper and a video
- Material collected in preparation and during the project related to climate change is extensive, original e useful.
- Research and other material containing an assessment of the specific impacts of global warming in the lives of women in affected communities are published at www.artigo19.org/mulheresdeexpressao and <http://artigo19.org/mulheresdeexpressao/mulheres-se-adaptando/>
- Women's rights NGOs took part in ARTICLE 19's round table and were very active at Rio+20's Peoples' Summit discussing climate change
- The project website was promoted at our webpage and with the use of social media.

negatively impacted by climate change.

Expected outputs and indicators

- A- 3 communities significantly affected by different impacts of climate change (floods / landslides; elevation of sea level / fishing communities; drought) are identified and the actual effects on the daily lives of community members are unpacked
- B- At least 10 information requests are presented to relevant authorities
- C- 3 roundtables are organized with community leaders on the impacts of climate change, with specific attention to those faced by women
- D- 3 capacity building programmes on freedom of expression and information are carried out in target communities
- E- At least 10 video testimonies and other footage showing the impact of climate change on women in targeted communities are produced and made available to the general public and to public authorities
- F- 1 blog is launched containing all information collected during the project (including types of communities visited, their location, information collected from official sources, and all testimonies, debate conclusions and other audio visual material)
- G- Audio visual material on women and climate change is disseminated on-line and distributed to community radios and public TVs
- H- DVDs containing information about each of the 3 selected communities and recommendations is distributed to relevant authorities

Achieved outputs (disaggregated by sex, if applicable)

- A - 4 communities significantly affected by different impacts of climate change (floods / landslides; elevation of sea level / fishing communities; drought) were identified and the actual effects on the daily lives of community members were unpacked
- B- 12 information requests were presented to relevant authorities
- C- 4 roundtables were organized with community leaders on the impacts of climate change, with specific attention to those faced by women
- D- 3 capacity building programmes on freedom of expression and information were carried out in target communities
- E- 20 video testimonies and other footage showing the impact of climate change on women in targeted communities were produced and made available to the general public and to public authorities
- F- 1 blog was launched containing all information collected during the project (including types of communities visited, their location, information collected from official sources, and all testimonies, debate conclusions and other audio visual material):
www.artigo19.org/mulheresdeexpressao and
<http://artigo19.org/mulheresdeexpressao/mulheres-se-adaptando/>
- G- Audiovisual material on women and climate change was disseminated on-line through our webpage.
- H- The video containing information about each of the 3 communities and recommendations was selected to be displayed at the Peoples' Summit non-stop at the Ford Foundation stand.

2.4 What other observations did you make? Please mention anything that may illustrate the benefits arising from the project.

For many women who took part of the project, *climate change* was a foreign and unknown expression. They were very much surprised to realize that many of the problems they face daily result from human action “against” the environment and the environment’s response to it. Now that they understand that, they want authorities to take effective measures to

prevent and combat climate change.

The workshops were also a great opportunity to introduce these women to the recently approved Access to Information Law. During the discussions, women highlighted that the law will assist them greatly when contacting government authorities, because it inverts the usual relationship established between government and citizens. With the law, it becomes clear that government officials have to be accountable and inform people about their actions and decisions. People have duties, but they also have rights. Knowing that access to information is a right really empowered these women.

Finally, the experience of putting together a communication product was very important to demystify the communication process in the eyes of benefited women and to provide them with a tool for mobilization and to give visibility to their agendas.

2.5 If you observed any unintended positive outcomes arising from the project, please describe.

We did not anticipate that the contact made to organize the workshops would generate partnerships for other activities such as occurred. We held an event with the World Resources Institute at Rio +20, after interviewing their representative as a subsidy for the project. We took part in the Climate Change Day promoted by 320.org. Finally, we already arranged to organize further workshops with Sabia as part of another ARTICLE 19 project.

We also did not anticipate that our partners could add a new approach to their work as a result of this project. Sabia, for instance, held similar workshops with women on the impacts of drought. On the other hand, Vitae Civilis expressed their intention to from now own address gender issues in their projects.

Finally, our workshops also gave visibility to the activities carried out by our partners. Our partnership with Centro Sabia was presented during the I National Symposium on Communication Rights (<http://endc.org.br/>). Our roundtable on climate change was listed among the activities of the Climate Change Day organized by 350.org (http://act.climatedots.org/event/impacts_en/3229).

2.6 If you observed any negative outcomes arising from the project, please describe.

In a certain way, the project created an expectation of long-term counselling and technical assistance that we could not address.

2.7 Did you observe any long-term impact (positive or negative) in the wider context that might be related to the project interventions?

Women that participated in the workshops may now identify daily how the climate is changing, what their roles on the big disasters are and how women are affected by them in a different manner. Maybe small daily traditions/actions may change. For example, at Jd. Vera Cruz community, they will probably campaign around the garbage cans issue raised during our meeting.

We also believe that affected communities will start to recognize themselves as citizens that have rights and are not simply subordinated to government decisions taken far from their villages, towns and cities. Women who participated in the workshops may now frequently use information requests to get documents, minutes, numbers, data, etc. about issues that will improve their lives.

2.8 What methods did you use for assessing outcomes and impact?

The workshops were evaluated verbally by participants on the day of the last meeting. We also received feedbacks from partners. Please, find attached the activity report done by Centro Sabiá.

2.9 Please describe the actual direct beneficiaries and indicate the number of women and men. Please also mention any indirect beneficiaries.

The actual direct beneficiaries were:

- Low-income rural women in Pernambuco drought region: 18 - only 1 man took part in the activities. Total:19
- Poor women at landslides area of Sao Paulo city: 8 - only 1 man took part the activity, the coordinator of the NGO partner. Total: 9
- Poor women at landslides area of Maua city: 9 – no men took part in the roundtable.
- Quilombola women (slaves descendent) in Sao Paulo State: 9 – no men took part in the roundtable.

Total: 46. 44 women and 2 men.

We can mention that the indirect beneficiaries were the public at People´s Summit.

2.10 What is the likelihood that the project outcomes will be sustained over the medium and long term? Please explain.

We believe that workshop participants will continue to use information requests as a tool to claim their rights and advocate for social change.

The blog will continue to be a reference of texts, testimonies and positions for this topic in Brazil for next years.

2.11 What has been the most important change brought about by the project and what is the key evidence for this change?

The most important change brought about this project was to introduce the participants to the climate change debate and how access to information can be used for adaptation measures. See some testimonies above.

By Maria Da Paz from Cumaru - PE: "You brought some information to us about climate change. It is a subject hardly spoken. I think we had not so much interest. Even on television we only see those quick information. And we find very interesting all the information you brought".

By Joelma Amaral from Cumaru – PE: "Moments like this are very important. Especially for us, people who live in rural areas and need information, and we don´t have it. Whoever didn´t know what climate change was, now knows and figure out what we can do to live with these changes. (...) And the manner we can deal with this is to access information and to seek ways to improve the lives of people wherever we live. Such moments are very important to us, not because we are poor people living in the countryside, but because we are citizens who want to live with dignity. Due to this we must seek information to improve people's lives".

3. ACTIVITIES

3.1 Please provide a summary of the major activities carried out in comparison with those planned. In the case of significant changes, please explain the reasons. If applicable, please report on specific activities for women and men respectively.

Planned activities	Actual activities (<i>state if they were specifically for women, for men, or for all</i>):	Explanation of change
1. Baseline study and consultations 2. Capacity building 3. Dissemination 4. Advocacy	1. Although the research and the consultations were made, we didn't publish them as a study but as reference material at the website www.artigo19.org/mulheresdeexpresso and http://artigo19.org/mulheresdeexpresso/mulheres-se-adaptando/ 2. Capacity building 3. Dissemination 4. Advocacy work at Rio + 20 and People Summit	1. The timing for the baseline research and the workshops overlapped due to difficulties in finding target communities with interest in the workshop 2. We addressed all the content planned. 3. The project was disseminated among ARTICLE 19's partners and contacts. It was also publicized with the launching of the website. Finally, dissemination was also secured through the presentations of the project results during Rio+20, the Peoples' Summit and other events. 4. We choose to focus our advocacy work at Rio + 20 and Peoples' Summit due to the high number of authorities that met at the event.
3.2 How did the beneficiaries react to the programme activities?		
<p>There was no original demand from the affected groups for debating climate change. We worked with women who gathered around other claims. So, it was a challenge to get their interest to what we would like to bring to light. In all groups we worked, there was a decrease in participation from one workshop to other.</p>		
3.3. If the project is primarily purchase of equipment, please describe what kind of impact / change the equipment is bringing to the beneficiaries.		
<p>The camera purchased was crucial for women to experience being in a position of talking to others about public matters and to demand improvements in their living conditions. It was also important to demystify the relationship between interviewer-interviewee.</p>		
3.4. If the project included a workshop, seminar, or consultation, please attach the list of participants, the themes/topics of their speeches/papers, and any statement, declaration, or other material published.		
<p>Please find attached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Materials of dissemination of the workshop in landslides area - Sample of claims of the drought region - Sample of claims of the landslides area - Sample of news plan - 3 Samples of wall-newspapers put together by participants - State of play of the information requests - Lists of participants - 1 CD with video done during the workshop at landslides areas and the advocacy 		

video edited by ARTICLE 19.

- Activity report done by Centro Sabiá
- Programme activities

Some links:

- http://www.centrosabia.org.br/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=681:mulheres-e-mudancas-climaticas-e-tema-de-oficina&catid=54:noticias&Itemid=141
- <http://leilasoraya.blogspot.com.br/2012/03/mulheres-de-expressao-mulheres.html>
- <http://jrussar.wordpress.com/2012/03/08/mulheres-de-expressao/>
- <http://www.vitaecivilis.org.br/index.php/br/midia/noticias/142-vitae-civilis-participa-de-campanha-que-discute-questoes-de-genero-e-mudancas-climaticas>
- http://act.climatedots.org/event/impacts_en/3229
- <http://endc.org.br/>

4. CHANGES IN THE ORGANISATION

4.1. Please note any important changes or events that took place that directly affected the project. These can relate to management, planning, staffing, or other matters.

No changes or events directly affected the project, but some context changes had impact in our activities and indicated below.

5. CONTEXT

5.1 Please note any important changes in the following contexts since the project began and summarise the implications for the relevance of the project.

Political:	Elections on the second semester. We did not realize that this event could make it difficult to approach the target communities. In the first moment, community leaders were not aware (or convinced) of our non-partisan or political interests. So, it was difficult to establish trust.
Social:	<p>To cover certain issues in some regions in Brazil can lead to physical aggressions or threats. One leader that was interviewing people about the provision of water in Cumaru – PE was threatened. News about this case had an impact on our activities, for people were afraid of being vocal and come publicly with demands concerning the same issue.</p> <p>The ostensive presence of police officers at Jd. Vera Cruz also intimidated some women during the communications workshop. Their presence was not related to the project, but participants were afraid of being hurt during a violent conflict between the police and local residents, so, they preferred not to risk and stay home. Only four women took part in the production of the video workshop.</p>
Natural environment:	No important change.

5.2 To what extent is the project still relevant in the present-day context? Please explain.

We noticed that our project had an impact on the work of our partners, as already mentioned. For instance, we can currently see Centro Sabiá promoting the agenda on climate change and gender:

http://www.centrosabia.org.br/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=857&catid=54&Itemid=141

Vitae Civilis also started to point out gender matters as part of their environmental work on climate change:

<http://www.vitaecivilis.org.br/index.php/br/midia/noticias/347-uma-rede-para-os-valores>

6. YOUR ORGANISATION'S LEADERSHIP ROLE AND NETWORKING WITH OTHERS

6.1 Has the project and the support from WACC helped your organisation be in a better position to provide leadership for further initiatives of your own or of others? If so, please explain.

The project helped ARTICLE 19 to establish very important partnerships that resulted in plans for further joint actions. Besides that, some partners started to hold similar workshops after our work, replicating and multiplying the impacts of the WACC-funded project.

6.2 In what ways has your organisation articulated and shared good practices, lessons learned, and/or resource materials with other organisations working on similar or related concerns? If you have not done so, do you plan to do so? How can WACC assist?

The experience was shared between ARTICLE 19 international network, board members and other supporters such as DFID – UK Department for International Development and Ford Foundation.

7. CONCLUSIONS

7.1 What lessons and good practices have emerged from this project?

We created a methodology to link climate change, access to information and communication rights.

7.2 What challenges and difficulties were encountered, and how did you address them?

Before our contact, some targeted women groups had never heard about climate change. So, it was a challenge to find groups interested in debating this issue or taking part in all the activities we had planned. For instance, at the Chafik area, women were interested on climate change, access to information and communication rights but they didn't agree to produce a radio spot on their claims to the local radio, our partner in the region. The same occurred with quilombola women (runaway slaves descendants). In these cases, we respected their opinions and will. Sometimes we were requested to address any specific interest of the community.

7.3 Did the project have any impact on gender equality issues?

For affected women, taking part in the project was very important to put them at the focus of debate on climate change and show that they can have a voice and should be heard on their claims.

7.4 What further work needs to be carried out or follow up steps taken, if any?

In order to improve the impact of these activities, it's necessary to plan a long-term

programme, not only a few workshops. Long-term and systematic counselling and technical assistance could assist in reducing the feminization of poverty and the effects of climate change on women's living conditions.

7.5 Other comments, if any.

7.6 We would like to receive digital copies of materials produced such as manuals, training materials, and other products to share them with others. We would also appreciate digital copies or internet links to photos, video or audio recordings produced by or about the project. Please indicate below what you are sending us.

Please find attached:

- Materials of dissemination of the workshop in landslides area
- Sample of claims of the drought region
- Sample of claims of the landslides area
- Sample of news plan
- 3 Samples of wall-newspaper news
- State of play of the information requests
- Lists of participants
- 1 CD with video done during the workshop at landslides area and the advocacy video edited by ARTICLE 19.
- Activity report done by Centro Sabiá
- Programme activities

Some links:

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- <http://leilasoraya.blogspot.com.br/2012/03/mulheres-de-expressao-mulheres.html>
- <http://jrussar.wordpress.com/2012/03/08/mulheres-de-expressao/>
- <http://www.vitaecivilis.org.br/index.php/br/midia/noticias/142-vitae-civilis-participa-de-campanha-que-discute-questoes-de-genero-e-mudancas-climaticas>
- http://act.climatedots.org/event/impacts_en/3229
- <http://endc.org.br/>

Links of the activities during Rio +20:

- <http://www.forumdemedialivre.org/>
- <http://www.amarribo.org.br/rio+20.html>

Name and position of person submitting the report.

Laura Conde Tresca – Freedom of Expression Programme Officer

Signature:

Date: