



## The Colombia Guidelines on Security and Human Rights Pilot

The Colombia Guidelines (CG) code and process draw from the 2000 Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPs) and extend the principles to non-extractive industries. By the end of the 2 year pilot phase, ending in 2008, there should be a finished code, a governance structure and procedures to monitor company compliance with the code. The initiative will then be opened to multinational and domestic business operating in Colombia and should serve as a model to be implemented in weak governance zones across the globe.

The CG have started out with a small group (see below), take security and human rights as its key issues and is based on multi-stakeholder participation.

### Features:

- Global initiatives usually face buy-in and implementation obstacles when they reach cultural, political and security realities on the ground, whereas local initiatives risk being too local, disconnected from international standards and democratic norms. Therefore, the CG has a local-global design:

	Local	Global
<b>Businesses</b>	Indupalma	The Coca-Cola Company
	Isa	Nestle
	Isagen	ABB
	Palmares S.A.	
	Tipiel	
	Argos	
<b>NGOs</b>	Cinep	International Alert
	Codhes	
	Indepz	
<b>Unions</b>	CUT	IUF
<b>Facilitators</b>	Fundación Ideas para la Paz (FIP)	International Business Leaders Forum (IBLF)
<b>Governments</b>	Colombia	Canada
		Switzerland

- The text clarified some of the original wording of the VPs and added three chapters: extortion by illegal armed groups and mafia organizations, security and protection of union members and employees, and compliance along the supply-chain. It also has an explicit commitment by NGOs and unions to reject any form of illegal violence.
- The initiative aims to have governance and procedures, including a monitoring mechanism, right from the beginning. We are looking into quantitative and

qualitative indicators and probably an investigation and recommendation model similar to the Ethical Trading Initiative.

Jonas Moberg, former IBLF and now at EITI, and Alexandra Guáqueta from FIP have been key figures in setting up the process. Participants are also grateful to John Ruggie, UN Special Representative on business and human rights, and Gerard Pachoud from the Swiss Government.