



3. Off the streets and into sport

Fundación Carvajal, Colombia

Despite its name, meaning 'good fortune', life in the industrial port town of Buenaventura, on Colombia's west coast is rough, and tough. Trafigura's Impala rail transport operations are located in this city and we are particularly sensitive to the difficult conditions for youth in the area who are subject to record amounts of violence and crime. Our local partner, Fundación Carvajal, runs Golazo (meaning 'goal' in Spanish), a programme which uses football as a positive alternative to violence and street crime. Working in the neediest neighbourhoods, Golazo benefits around 350 children and young people and promotes strong healthy values such as discipline and teamwork through the medium of sports. This is a much-needed initiative in a city where adolescents are often recruited and coerced into gangs and crime. Golazo offers an alternative, healthy sports-led community in the form of after-school activities and home support via parent groups, too. Once a month, the young teens have access to a psychologist-led workshop where they are encouraged to discuss and reframe their values.

2015 Highlights:

- + 352 children are now practicing football for personal development and non-violence
- + 6 sport community leaders were empowered to each train around 55 children in vulnerable neighbourhoods
- + 58 parent caretakers were trained in parenting skills.

Testimonial

GETTING INVOLVED IN FOOTBALL GETS OUR YOUNGSTERS ON A MORE POSITIVE PATH

By Camila Gomez Afanador, Golazo Programme Manager, Fundación Carvajal (on the far left, photo above)

How do you connect with children hardened and broken by violence at home? Or who witness gangs in their neighbourhood? Or whose homes, built on precarious pillars, are constantly threatened by rising tides? The answer: a mix of passion, unwavering commitment and an inspired project that makes them turn to goals, not gangs.

The 11-strong Carvajal team runs the thrice-weekly Golazo football training in the port city of Buenaventura. Colombia's collective passion for football is an ideal vector for reaching youth and providing strong role models as an alternative to the notorious gang culture here:

"Football is the big thing, here – it's seen as cool and kids look up to national footballers and want to be like them. Getting involved in football gets our youngsters on a positive path."

In and around the port, standards of education are poor: many children lack the motivation to take school seriously. Many are left alone for hours at a time, with parents working or absent. Camila paints the picture: "The children have too much free time, they're left unsupervised.

Add to that a lack of opportunities, no money and a difficult home life and you've got the perfect conditions for a lot of kids getting into lots of trouble. Golazo provides an invaluable outlet for 350 local children. The only prerequisite for joining the programme is that they go to school."

Golazo games and occasional tournaments also encourage teamwork, respect and social cohesion. At the start of each game, rules are established and at the end, the youths discuss whether they were respected, and if not, why not.

In addition to the training sessions, Golazo offers social and professional support to children living in Colombia's most violent city.

In 2015, the project began addressing social and cultural behaviours by adding community parenting workshops on topics such as getting to know your children, stress management and communicating without violence.

Quick facts

- + Golazo is supported by six local volunteers and a former professional female footballer. Other mentors include a university student, a local politician and a businessman. They all provide strong role models and encourage values of teamwork and respect.



4. A movement of leaders

Teach for America, USA

Teach for America (TFA) is creating a movement of leaders who can relate to and inspire children to achieve an excellent education. It hires college and university graduates and professionals to educate kids from disadvantaged communities in the USA. These teachers are known as 'corps members' and commit two years to teaching in schools. The Trafigura Foundation supports TFA's operations in Greater New Orleans, a region that comprises low-income, high-need communities and under-resourced schools. Racial diversity among corps members helps tackle inequalities and bridge the education gap. Urban and rural public schools benefit from the enthusiasm and knowledge of corps members, who positively impact students' lives. Although 16 million American children face the extra challenges of poverty, an increasing body of evidence shows they can achieve at the highest levels despite adverse conditions.

2015 Highlights:

- + 2015 marked the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. Since the storm, the city has made incredible progress on many fronts, including education. Teach For America has been a major driver of that progress
- + New Orleans has 73% of students graduating high school compared to 54% in 2005, and the percentage of students who go on to college has climbed from 37% to 59%.



5. Fairy-tale endings for difficult stories

ISCOS, Singapore

Poverty and exclusion mean that many children in disadvantaged families don't get the best start in life. But if their parents also have a criminal record, their chances of success worsen. Singapore-based charity ISCOS runs a 'Fairy Godparent' scheme that helps children of ex-offenders acquire positive life skills. Each year in Singapore, 9,000 offenders are released from prison and return to their families. Although this marks a positive new beginning, help is required for offenders and families to recreate healthy environments, especially as current welfare schemes are rather limited and don't meet the full needs of these children and family units. The organisation takes a holistic view, ensuring the family unit stays strong and offering academic assistance to their children, which ISCOS believes is key to breaking the cycle of intergenerational offending. The Fairy Godparent scheme adopts a three-pillared approach which strengthens student development, family support and the home environment. Trafigura colleagues in the Singapore office can find volunteering opportunities within the scheme, as the office has developed a direct relationship with ISCOS.

2015 Highlight:

- + ISCOS Bursary Awards were presented to 195 students at a special gala evening, distributing funds amounting to \$73,000.



6. Schooling a community

HBI, Philippines

HBI, or *Haligi ng Bata* – 'Pillars for Children', seeks to improve the health, sanitation, education, and livelihood of school children in the fishing town of San Fernando in La Union, where the community is poor and marginalised. We are funding improvements to the San Agustín Elementary School, which, until now, had operated under dire conditions, with a low attendance rate. HBI is improving school infrastructure and educational services, and extending these benefits more broadly by addressing the community's sanitation and livelihood issues. Parents are also being sensitised to issues of health and hygiene, encouraged to implement school improvement programmes and improve their own skills and earning capacity. HBI now reaches 1,400 direct beneficiaries a year, comprising the 800 pupils and 600 residents of the San Agustín coastal community. Livelihood training on income-boosting professions such as hairdressing, manicures, food preparation and candy making is enabling community members to generate revenues and create a community-run hairdressing salon. The school is also now endowed with latrines, a canteen, functioning library, educational games and an art class.

2015 Highlights:

- + Marginalised children are thriving: the last set of academic results showed an improvement of over 13%
- + The two livelihood community projects are up and running: the community beauty salon provides women a weekly income of 250-400 Philippine peso (\$5 to \$8) and the school canteen between \$2 and \$4 a day
- + The community's improved sanitation, attendance and educational results were officially recognised by the local government.