

SUCCESS STORY:

2. Eleven Local Governments in Amazonia set up Transparency Murals

THREE PROVINCIAL MUNICIPALITIES AND EIGHT DISTRICT GOVERNMENTS...

...assume responsibility for providing access to information and transparency within their governments as they publically unveil their respective Transparency Murals.



“...I would say that the Mural is primarily a tool to ensure that residents have access or knowledge of financial aspects and public works currently being developed ...”

—Jorge Vela, responsible for Access to Public Information in the Provincial Municipality in Lamas, San Martín.

A total of eleven municipalities in Amazonia have established Transparency Murals as a low-cost and user-friendly alternative to the Standard Transparency Portals. They provide an option to replace the use of websites to disseminate information for local residents regarding their government administrations. The Murals provide postings on the mayor's daily schedule, the budget, public investment allocations, compensation levels for public employees and upcoming activities.

This alternative approach is the result of efforts to overcome obstacles in areas of Amazonia as local governments attempted to comply with requirements under the Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information. Officials were constrained by unstable Internet connections, local residents having little or no access to digital media and scarce economic resources in local governments to ensure timely updates to electronic transparency portals.

The local government officials responsible for access to public information and transparency implemented the Murals with technical assistance provided by the USAID ProDecentralization Program.

The eleven local governments that implemented this best management practice are:

- **Loreto:** the provincial municipality in Maynas and the district municipality in Belen.
- **Madre de Dios:** the district municipalities in Inambari and Laberinto.
- **San Martín:** the provincial municipality in Lamas and the district municipalities in Cunumbuque, Zapatero and Tabalosos.
- **Ucayali:** the provincial municipality in Coronel Portillo and the district municipalities in Manantay and Nueva Requena.

The case of San Martin is also noteworthy as a result of an internship taking place among local governments. With support from the Office of the Public Ombudsman, officials were provided opportunities to exchange experiences and discuss recommendations to improve the practice of transparency through the use of the Murals.

This marks an important step forward by governments in Amazonia under the national policy on Open Government.