



NOTIREIBA

OCTOBER 2023

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LOCAL REIBAS IN THE PANAMAZONIAN REGION

REIBA SARRAPIA - COLOMBIA

October 5-6. The Kuāwāi Educational Community organized a space for games for children and youth: mini-soccer, traditional volleyball (jādɪpjä), canoeing competition, archery, and more. These activities began with a parade and the selection of the event patronesses. Volunteer Rosa Fontan participated in these activities.



October 12 - 13. In Sarrapia, 10 Piaroa communities came together to celebrate the "Day of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity of the Colombian Nation" through various sports activities, strengthening their culture through traditional games like archery and canoeing.

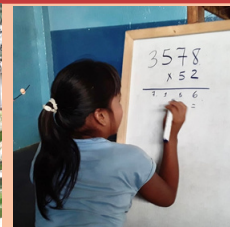
October 28. Meeting between Sarrapia & Pueblo Nuevo. Along with educational activities, the Sarrapia Lauritas Sisters also run the Missionary Children's Ministry led by Sister Claudine and supported by Volunteer Rosa in Sarrapia and Sister Cynthia in Pueblo Nuevo. On this occasion, the children of Sarrapia sailed to Pueblo Nuevo to meet the Piaroa children there, totaling 100 in attendance.





October 2023

In the Piaroa community of Sarrapia, the Lauritas' house is a community of daily gathering and learning for children, youth, and adults. Rosa also collaborates in providing educational support to the children.



REIBA PUEBLO NUEVO - COLOMBIA

October 21. Celebration of Mother Laura's feast day, a Colombian saint and the founder of the Congregation of the Lauritas (Cong. María Inmaculada and Saint Catharine of Siena).



They are also monitoring the progress of the place where Volunteer Sister Cynthia (Daughters of Our Lady of Mercy) will live, accompanied by Sister Sara (Congregation of Mother Laura). Currently, they reside in the sacristy of the chapel in Pueblo Nuevo. Sister Cynthia says, "...here, the community wants us to be comfortable, and a few months ago, they began the construction!! We are now in the final stages."



In the Piaroa community of Pueblo Nuevo, Sister Cynthia helps to provide educational support to the children and girls.





REIBA AISHALTON – GUYANA

Preparations and Celebrations for Amerindian Heritage Month in Guyana. The St. Robert Bellarmine parish youth group, accompanied by Volunteer Sydney, prepared and performed the Parachaara dance to welcome people to the celebration and call the bush hogs in from the forest, a ritual which hopes to bring success in hunting. The youth enthusiastically created their own costumes using plants from the forest which they collected. The community elders helped to teach them the song and dance and demonstrated how to make the skirts.



October 20. Wapichan classes began!

This class is a learning space in which all members of the REIBA-Guyana Local Team in Aishalton participate, which is especially helpful as they face the challenge of learning Wapichan. Young people and adults from the community who want to improve their reading and writing skills also participate.



October 21: Reopening of the library. The newly reopened library is a space which has been enhanced as a meeting and learning center, where children, youth, and adults of various ages enjoy reading.





"Presentation before the South Rupununi District Council (SRDC). This organization represents the Wapichan people in all matters related to their organization and rights as an indigenous community. It was before them that Silverius Perry, the current coordinator of the Local REIBA in Guyana and the Quality Bilingual Education Program (QBEP), presented this project and its updates. He indicated that the program is already operating in three nursery schools and is continuing this year with the first grade of primary school, with plans to extend to an additional 14 Wapichan communities by next September.



Sydney, on the other hand, presented the REIBA project, sharing her role as a volunteer in the midst of the Wapichan people and linking the network with the QBEP program. This connection allows Guyana teachers and schools to connect globally with other indigenous communities and educators in the Amazon territory, achieving widespread impact by sharing experiences of Bilingual Intercultural Education. The community openly expressed their enthusiasm and support for both REIBA and the QBEP program, and everyone acknowledged the historical impact it is having in Guyana and beyond.

REIBA FATIMA MISSION – BOLIVIA

October 1. Mission Fatima, Bolivia celebrates Missionary Month with the theme proposed by Pope Francis--"Fervent Hearts, Feet on the Journey"--inspired by the biblical account of the disciples of Emmaus.

October 9. In San Borja, members of the Local REIBA meet with the Bishop in charge of the Vicariate of Reyes, Monsignor Eugenio Coter, and the parish priest, Father Efraín Canaviri, to present the progress being made within the REIBA project in Mission Fatima. They expressed their gratitude for their support in continuing to collectively serve the Tsimane people.



Volunteer Nery accompanies Sunday celebrations through gospel reflections, encouraging community sharing and inviting a revival and deepening of the vocation of the baptized as missionary disciples.



October 2023



October 20. The Bolivian Bible Society, in coordination with the Lauritas Sisters, visited Mission Fatima and made donations of items such as books, notebooks, pencils, personal hygiene products, and soccer balls, which were distributed to the students in the community. The Society even managed to fully translate a movie depicting the life of Jesus into Tsimane. Thanks to Brother Rolando Villena for his commitment and service to those in need.

October 21. Feast of Saint Laura Montoya, founder of the Lauritas Missionaries. There was a Eucharistic celebration at Mission Fatima. The community was visited by Father Santos, Deacon Roy Quizpe, the Menesian Brothers, and the Corredentora Sisters. After the Holy Mass, they distributed fruit and vegetable seeds, as well as native plants, and then joyfully shared a snack together.



October 23. Workshop: We Care for Our Common Home. Thanks to Biologist Mónica Pacoricona, a workshop on environmental conservation was conducted for high school students. The Tsimane translation for this educational event was carried out by student Sonia Apo Canchi. Mónica's visit was made possible through the efforts of the Lauritas Sisters, who have been supporting educational outreach in the Tsimane community for over 15 years.





REIBA IAUARETÊ - BRASIL

October 7. Volunteer Luciana participated in the evaluation of the Pastoral Project of the Diocese of San Gabriel de Cachoeira, which lasted for 3 years. Discussions and group reflections were conducted for the new Pastoral Plan. The parish had suggestions, such as the need to create an educational ministry and to introduce and value interculturality in their celebrations, areas in which REIBA can actively collaborate.



October 11. At the San Miguel School, Children's Day, Our Lady of Aparecida Day, and Teacher's Day were all celebrated in advance through games, presentations, and various other activities. Volunteer Luciana actively participated by assisting in decorating the school and distributing souvenirs to the third-year students. She, along with another teacher, was responsible for leading the opening prayer for this school event. In the afternoon, the children she mentors continued celebrating with games and snacks.



October 22. Pastoral Accompaniment. Volunteer Luciana accompanied the parish priest and some catechists on a visit to the riverside community of Juquira, where they celebrated mass along with 2 baptisms. Afterwards, there was a quinhapira (food sharing) at the community center.





REIBA WIJINT - PERU

October 25. Inauguration of 30 solar panels. This project is sponsored by ODEC (Catholic Education Office) of the Vicariate of Yurimaguas and will provide us with 24-hour energy.



REIBA PUERTO NARIÑO- COLOMBIA

October 10 - 14. To celebrate the end of the school year, the 'Excellence Championship' was held at the San Francisco de Loretoyaco Institution. On this occasion, REIBA supported in the Native Language section. Each grade presented the typical dances and foods of the Tikuna people. The students were deeply engaged in this experience, and some tourists even decided to take a look, as they found the activity interesting.





THEMATIC FORMATIONAL SESSIONS – OCTOBER

October 3. A local experience was shared on the topic of 'Language Revitalization.' REIBA - San Antonio de Lomerío in Bolivia shared its experience with Besiro language revitalization. Professor Ignacio Pocoena and REIBA Volunteer Ana Gabriela shared their work experience with children and adolescents in developing methodologies for teaching the native language.

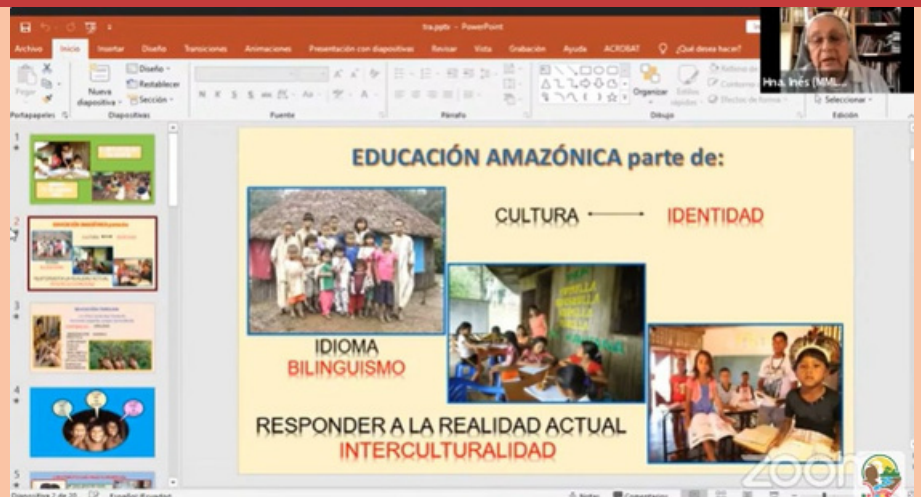


October 10. The topic discussed was 'Spanish Proficiency in Courses Undertaken by Spanish Speakers.' The presentation was given by Sandra Robilliard, a Peruvian educator with 20 years of experience in designing, developing, and evaluating curricular proposals for Regular Basic Education and initial and ongoing Teacher Training in the field of Intercultural Bilingual Education, with an emphasis on teaching Spanish as a second language.

October 12. An alternative reflection session on the topic 'Language Revitalization' was held again with Roberto Zariquey, a Peruvian linguist and professor at PUCP - Peru, with over 15 years of fieldwork experience in the Amazon. He addressed various questions regarding the work of keeping the native language alive among the communities supported by REIBA volunteers.

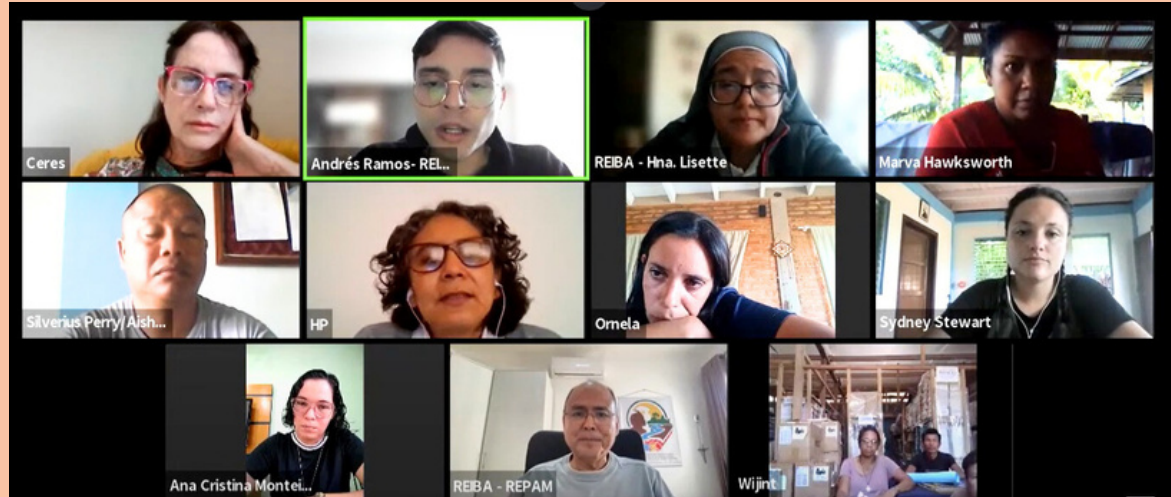


October 17. Sister Inés Ochoa, a Mother Laura Missionary, presented the topic: 'Development of Bilingual Intercultural Education Materials.' She has extensive experience in the field of Intercultural Bilingual Education, enriched by her many years of missionary service to indigenous peoples. She is currently working on the creation of Intercultural Bilingual Materials with the Waorani indigenous community.





October 24. Local Experience - Construction of Intercultural Bilingual Education (IBE) Materials. The Local REIBA in Aishalton (Guyana) shared their enriching experience about the work they have been doing in developing their own educational materials.



THEMATIC FORMATIONAL SESSIONS IN THE LOCAL REIBAS

REIBA IAURETÊ – BRASIL



October 3. Volunteer Luciana, along with the teachers from San Miguel School, attended a session on the REIBA experience in Bolivia regarding language revitalization. They shared 'chibé' (cassava flour mixed with water) to cool off from the intense heat. The teachers at this school value the Thematic Formational Sessions (EFT) as they provide spaces for training that generate new ideas for educational practices. Luciana also made several books downloaded from the internet on various regional indigenous topics available on the school's computer.

October 17. Volunteer Luciana accompanied another EFT session with the school teachers.





REIBA AISHALTON - GUYANA

October 3 and 19. These are images from the Thematic Formational Reflection Sessions in Sawariwau, where both teachers and young education assistants, who provide their service and help at the school, participated. Similar sessions were held in Karaudarnau.



October 19. Aishalton. Collective reflection session with teachers from three communities. There was a group dialogue in which traditional knowledge and cultural rituals were shared. The teachers also discussed some of the challenges they face in the classroom when dealing with different languages, all while considering how to incorporate aspects of the ecological calendar into their classes.



REIBA SARRAPIA - COLOMBIA

October 3. Sarrapia is present and participating in the Thematic Formational Sessions from various locations.

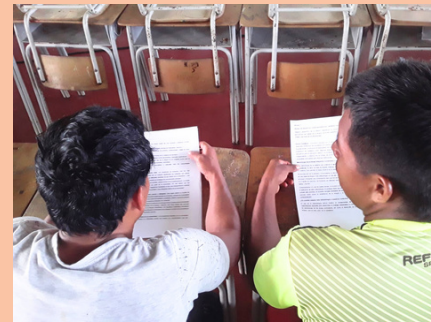




October 18. Teachers from the Sarrapia community gathered to work on Modules 2 and 3 presented in the Thematic Formational Sessions (EFTs), which helped create enriching spaces for teacher reflection.



October 19. The local REIBA team in Sarrapia/Pueblo Nuevo held its monthly evaluation and planning meeting. The EFT is a focal point on the agenda.



CENTRAL COORDINATION

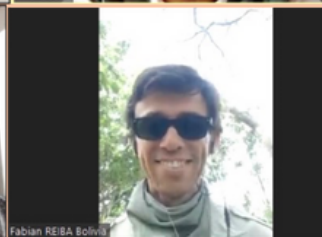
REIBA COMMISSIONS - COORDINATOR MEETINGS

October 1 and 24. Father Pablo, Sister Lisette, and Andrés met to evaluate the different activities and plans of the Intercultural Bilingual Education (IBE), Volunteer, and Communication commissions.



VOLUNTEER COMMISSION

October 5 and 27. Father Pablo, Sister Lisette, JoAnn, and Nery met to discuss matters related to new volunteers and those in the field, as well as the evaluations that both volunteers and coordinators should conduct.





IBE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

October 10. Various aspects of the development of Thematic Formational Sessions in the territory were discussed, as well as topics related to Local REIBA Teams and the role of volunteers.



VOLUNTEER COMMISSION

October 22. On Universal Mission Sunday, the volunteers gathered to share the 3rd 'Virtual Coffee Chat.' It's a meeting space where they share their missionary experiences in the Territory through fraternal dialogue.

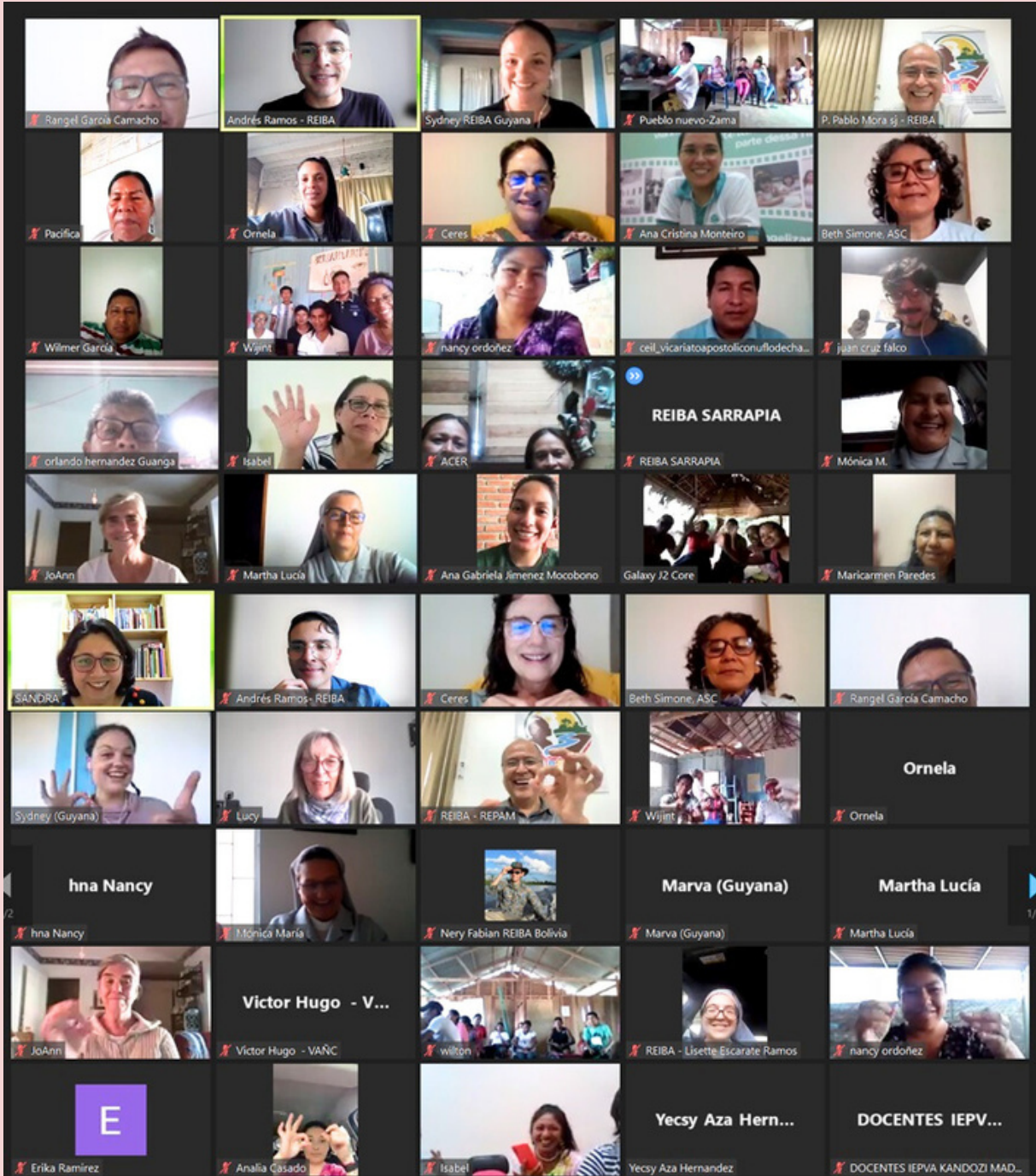


REIBA Volunteer Formation. On October 12, 19, and 26, Father Kevin Flaherty, a Jesuit priest and psychologist, accompanied the volunteers in training and invited them to engage in dialogues and reflections on topics related to human development, such as the sense of growth in adulthood, skills for living in community, and conflict resolution. These are topics of great interest which pose some of the most significant challenges for the Local REIBAs in strengthening teamwork.





¡Gracias REIBA!



Thank You!



¡Gracias!



EFT Octubre 2023

