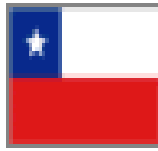




Argentina



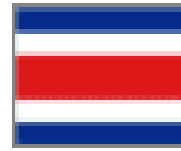
Brazil



Chile



Colombia



Costa Rica



Ecuador

The Latin America Regional Pro Bono Report

HIGHLIGHTS

2010 PBDA Survey Results

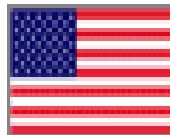
Release Date: April 1, 2011



Mexico



Peru



USA



Uruguay



Venezuela



Trinidad
& Tobago

Respondents and Submission Rates

	Number of Law Firm PBDA Signatories	Number of Signatories Sent Survey	Number of Surveys Returned	Submission Rate
ARGENTINA	17	16	10	62.5%
BRAZIL	58	38	3	7.9%
CHILE	20	20	19	95%
COLOMBIA	43	41	9	22%
COSTA RICA	1	1	0	0%
ECUADOR	4	4	1	25%
MEXICO	26	21	4	19%
PERU	39	31	7	22.6%
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	1	1	0	0%
URUGUAY	1	1	0	0%
VENEZUELA	11	4	1	25%
TOTALS	221	178	53	29.8%

Internal Organization of Pro Bono Programs

Number of Respondents with the Following Actors in Charge of the Distribution of Pro Bono Projects					
No Director	3	5.7%	Pro Bono Committee	13	24.5%
All Partners	5	9.4%	Pro Bono Coordinator	24	45.3%
Partner Committee	6	11.3%	Administrative Staff	0	0%
Pro Bono Partner or President	5	9.4%	Other	0	0%

Types of Pro Bono Work

Number of Regional Respondents Indicating Pro Bono Experience in Legal Areas Listed					
5	Anti-corruption	16	Environmental Law (Policymaking)	17	Intellectual Property

10	Child Custody	21	Family Law	28	Labor Law
35	Corporate Law	11	Finance	13	Law Reform
21	Disability Rights	15	Healthcare	5	Mergers & Acquisitions
4	Domestic Violence	8	Human Rights	19	Microfinance/Microenterprise
26	Education	6	Immigration	16	Real Estate
6	Rights of the Elderly	4	Indigenous Rights/Rights of Ethnic Groups	5	Securities
7	Environmental Law (Litigation)	21	Individual Representation of Poor People	34	Transactional/Institutional Support of NGOs
				9	Other

Sources of Pro Bono Work

Number of Regional Respondents that Have Found New Pro Bono Opportunities from These Sources					
5	Professors or other academics	15	Religious organizations	2	Attorneys from the public sector
26	Social services organizations	15	Bar associations	1	Radio
44	Non-profit organizations	37	Your law firm's partners	2	Television
10	Government agencies	36	Your law firm's associates	2	Newspapers
1	Judges	21	Your law firm's staff	4	Online databases
0	Court personnel	6	Attorneys from the private sector	12	Other

Selection of Pro Bono Work

- Forty-five of 50 respondents (90%) reported considering the nature of the case when selecting new pro bono work.
- Forty-three respondents (86%) indicated the consideration of form of pro bono assistance to be provided.
- 42 (84%) reported considering necessary legal expertise.
- Twenty-two of 50 firms (44.9%) indicated that estimated fixed costs have some impact on the decision to undertake a project, with 17 firms (34.7%) reporting that costs are not calculated before project approval.
- 2 respondents (4.1%) said that costs had a major impact on the decision to undertake a pro bono project.
- 8 (16.3%) indicated that costs had no effect at all.

- The vast majority of respondents (45 of 49, 91.8%) indicated that they do not have a fixed annual pro bono budget.

Tracking and Oversight of Pro Bono Work

- Thirty out of 43 respondents (69.8%) indicated that they have a formal system for tracking pro bono hours.
- 13 (30.2%) said that they had no such system. However, many firms lacked detailed records regarding pro bono hours and participation, or were unwilling to disclose such data due to confidentiality concerns.
- Only 8 of 42 respondents (19.1%) indicated that they publish a report on their pro bono work.
- 34 of 42 (80.9%) who publish no such report.
- All respondents who indicated that they publish a pro bono report indicated that the report was electronic. No firm reported publishing a pro bono report in print in 2010.
- These numbers represent a small decrease from the fall 2009 survey. In that survey, 27.6% of respondents indicated that they published a pro bono report; 75% of those reports were electronic, 25% were in print.
- Twenty-nine of 42 respondents (69.1%) indicated that every pro bono project that they undertake is supervised by at least one partner.

Commitment to and Use of the PBDA

- Forty-eight out of 52 of respondents (92.3%) reported that they adhere to the definition of pro bono work as set out in the PBDA.
- A smaller majority, 30 out of 42 (71.4%), indicated that their pro bono coordinator, or other person in charge of pro bono work, had read the PBDA Guide on the Implementation of Pro Bono Projects.
- Thirty out of 43 firms (69.8%) reported that they adhere to the PBDA standard of 20 annual hours of pro bono work per lawyer.
- Firms have not been as eager to make their commitment to the PBDA known. Only 25 of 51 respondents (49.1%) reported that their firm publicizes its commitment to and support for the Declaration.
- 44.4% of firms (20 of 45) have generated a written declaration of their commitment to pro bono.

Cooperation with Outside Organizations

- Non-profit Organizations were the single most reported source of pro bono work, eliciting responses from 44 of 51 respondents (86.3%).
- Other important outside institutions that served as sources of pro bono work were Social Services Organizations (26 of 51, 51%), Religious Organizations (15 of 51, 29.4%), Bar Associations (15 of 54, 29.4%), and Government Agencies (10 of 54, 19.6%).

- 23 of 46 (50%) of firms reported that their partners or associates serve as directors of social organizations or NGOs that serve the less privileged.
- 26.1% (12 of 46) respondents reported that their firm provides financial support to organizations that promote access to justice.
- A mere 13% (6 of 46) of respondents indicated that their firms work with public interest law school clinics.

Challenges to Participation in Pro Bono Work

- 33 of 41 (80.5%) of respondents report time constraints as a serious challenge to pro bono participation.
- Thirteen firms (31.7%) considered the fact that pro bono was not within the relevant specialization and expertise of the firm to be a serious impediment.
- Six firms that selected “Other” highlighted such challenges as the lack of a commitment to pro bono in the national legal culture, a failure to introduce young lawyers to pro bono, and the lack of a national pro bono clearinghouse.

Number of Regional Respondents Who Found That the Following Were among the Biggest Impediments to Pro Bono Participation								
1	2.4%	Language barriers	6	14.6%	Taxes	0	0%	Lack of malpractice insurance or protection
5	12.2%	Not consistent with the firm or culture of the employer	1	2.4%	Detrimental from a career perspective	5	12.2%	Lack of adequate opportunities
13	31.7%	Not within the specialization or experience of the firm	2	4.9%	Excessive regulation or control	5	12.2%	Other
33	80.5%	Time constraints	3	7.3%	Lack of financial resources and support			

Effective Support Methods

Number of Respondents Who Stated That the Vance Center Could Effectively Support their Pro Bono Efforts Through the Following								
30	73.2%	Share information regarding best practices through blogs and website	20	48.8%	Regional workgroups	23	56.1%	Cooperation with US or international NGOs to discuss pro bono
22	53.7%	Work with lawyers' associations to improve laws and regulations in the field	15	36.6%	Other conferences on pro bono and legal aid	28	68.3%	Technical materials on the institutionalization of pro bono
26	63.4%	Annual conferences and roundtables	23	56.1%	Cooperation with US or international firms to discuss pro bono	23	56.1%	Sharing information on regional projects in development
16	39%	Videoconferences for associates						

Trends from the 2009 to the 2010 Survey

- Pro bono coordinators, pro bono manuals, and formal pro bono selection procedures were all more prevalent among the 2010 respondents than among respondents to the 2009 survey.
- The role of online databases and pro bono clearinghouses rapidly expanded.
- Firms seem to be giving pro bono work greater consideration in the assessment of associates. Several of the key structural and cultural barriers to pro bono work within firms appear to have eroded somewhat since 2009.
- 2010 respondents fell short of the 2009 firms in one area, the publication of reports on pro bono work.

Response Rates from the 2009 and 2010 PBDA Survey		
Survey Response	2009	2010
A pro bono coordinator is responsible for the distribution of pro bono work in our firm	27.1%	45.3%
Our firm has a written manual of its pro bono policies	15.8%	28.9%
Our firm has used an online pro bono database or a pro bono clearinghouse to procure pro bono work	3.4%	21.6%
Our firm has formal procedures for the selection of pro bono work	49.2%	58%
In our firm, pro bono work affects determinations on associate salary, bonus, and promotion decisions	36.8%	40.5%
Pro bono work is considered in our firm's associate evaluations	54.4%	66.7%
Our firm publishes a report on its pro bono work	27.6%	19.1%
The following are among the most significant barriers to pro bono work:		
Pro bono work is not consistent with culture of the firm	18.2%	12.2%
Pro bono work is not within the specialization or expertise of the firm	38.2%	31.7%
A lack of financial resources or support	14.5%	7.3%
A lack of adequate pro bono opportunities	27.3%	12.2%