¿WHAT IS THE RESEARCH PROMOTION DIRECTION?

It is the area that designs and implements, strategies, programs or projects for scientific development of the country within the framework of national development policies, especially that of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI).

OBJECTIVE

To improve the quality and impact of research and the transfer of knowledge and technology.

INSTRUMENTS

• Strategic Plans (National Programs STI).

• National Public calls (Research Projects Strengthening of research Centers, graduate research scholarships).

• Measurement and Classification Processes: Research Groups, Researchers, National Scientific Journals.

¿WHAT HAS BEEN DONE?

In 2015 COLCIENCIAS developed the following 4 strategic programs for the implementation of the instruments as follows:

1. Graduate research Scholarships

Achievements:

• Colciencias reached 100% of the goal of 2,500 beneficiaries of scholarships (masters and Ph.D.) awarded by Colciencias and other entities, distributed as follows:

  - 983 scholarships for Ph.D. studies: 725 for programs at colombian universities and 258 to study abroad.
  - 1,517 study scholarships for masters studies: 1,403 to study abroad and 114 for programs at colombian universities.
Colciencias signed several agreements with different institutions in order to expand coverage and to ensure critical mass of researchers as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agreement signed with</th>
<th>Results obtained</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colfuturo</td>
<td>127 Ph.D. and 1,383 masters scholarships abroad.</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Hydrocarbons Agency</td>
<td>6 Ph.D. and 3 masters scholarships.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>5 Ph.D. scholarships on STEAM programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fulbright</td>
<td>Support for 40 doctoral scholarships in the United States, with priority on STEM programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Departments (Boyacá, Chocó y Sucre)</td>
<td>75 Ph.D. and 131 masters scholarships.</td>
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The distribution by knowledge area of the granted Ph.D scholarships is illustrated on the figure below.
1.2 Promoting the development of programs and projects to generate knowledge in STI

To support research activities with emphasis on those that contribute to solving the problems of the country and its regions, Colciencias has granted in 2015 USD$ 13.950.000 in financial support for 163 R + D projects.

Additionally, financial support for two health research centers, worth USD$691.891, was granted.

Strengthening scientific journals

In 2015 the classification model of Colombian scientific journals was revised to focus on citational impact and to increase their international visibility.

Measurement and recognition of research groups and researchers

In October 2015 Colciencias opened a call aimed to update information on research groups, and researchers in the country, their activities and results.

Through this model we can particulary, quantify the number of papers published by colombian researchers in scientific journals among others. On december 31st 2015, preliminary data reached 6329 papers.

Final results will be published on may 21st 2016. The measurement and recognition model allows to design and promote policies that foster the capabilities of the colombian STI System. Recognition and classification provides several benefits for groups and researchers:

•Access to funding resources.

•Better performance in the processes of quality accreditation of institutions and programs with the National Accreditation Council.

•National and international recognition, giving groups and researchers a reference that will facilitate relationships with other national research structures and international research networks.
Peer reviewers bank

A diagnostic process has identified the need to improve the evaluation process of STI proposals eligible for funding and the qualification of the researchers who are included in the national database of peer reviewers. The proposal developed during 2015 will be implemented in 2016 and includes a pilot program to expand the database with international researchers from Mexico and Spain.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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