

## Through “vallenato” National Government is preventing children and youth recruitment

- ***The “Fundación Festival de la Leyenda Vallenata” received an important donation of accordions thanks to the articulation of the Presidential Commissioner Office for Human Rights and International Affairs and Gran Tierra Energy, which will strengthen the training and talent of children and young people who are at high risk of recruitment in the municipalities of Valledupar and Pueblo Bello.***

**Valledupar, 17 de agosto de 2021. (@ConsejeriaDDHH).** Through the Technical Commission for the prevention of recruitment, use, and sexual violence of boys, girls and adolescents, by illegal armed groups, CIPRUNNA, the Presidential Commissioner Office for Human Rights and International Affairs, has been implementing community initiatives within the framework of the “Join for Me” strategy, aimed at strengthening protective environments of children and adolescents, in order to promote projects based on legality and prevent the materialization of risks associated with recruitment, use, and sexual violence.

Thanks to the support of **Gran Tierra Energy**, who has join forces within the National Business and Human Rights Action Plan and contribute to the “Join for me” strategy, with the donation of 15 accordions to the Vallenato Training program for children and girls in vulnerable conditions from Valledupar and Pueblo Bello, which will also contribute to the training process in Music Education provided by the Foundation through the Rafael Escalona School.

“These accordions will be of great help, taking into account that these activities contribute to a good time management of children and adolescents, to the construction of values, to the strengthening of rights and to the reinforcement of skills and aptitudes that separate them from violent and vulnerable environments”, said the Counselor Nancy Patricia Gutiérrez.

Manuel Buitrago, President and Country Manager of Gran Tierra Energy in Colombia stated, “Gran Tierra Energy is strongly committed to respecting and promoting Human Rights wherever we work and in support of that commitment we are pleased to donate 15 accordions to the Fundación Leyenda Vallenata. We hope that this donation will contribute to the continued strengthening of the Vallenato Typical Ensemble Training program, and will help connect children living in vulnerable communities to their culture and provide them with an outlet to integrate musical education into their lives.”