

Ecuador Partnership History of Collaboration

May 1990	Gerald Mumaw, Mennonite Board of Missions (MBM) Associate Secretary for Latin America, visits Ecuador and attends a meeting of the Federation of Indigenous Evangelicals of Ecuador (FEINE) to dialogue on the need for theological training.
1991	MBM Board of Directors takes action to increase work with indigenous Christians in South America. This was reaffirmed by the Overseas Committee in 1995.
1992	Mauricio and Sara Chenlo, MBM appointees, arrive in Ecuador.
Feb. 12-13, 1994	Missions Festival held during Iowa-Nebraska Conference. Alice Roth, MBM Vice-President of Overseas Ministries presented the idea of a partnership with MBM for Ecuador.
1994	I-N Mission Board starts to process a possible partnership with MBM and Ecuador.
July-Aug. 1994	Chenlos visit churches in I-N Conference.
July 1995	The Board of Missions of Iowa-Nebraska sent Dean Rhodes and IMCOL sent César Moya as representatives together with Frieda Erb and Mauricio Chenlo of MBM for an evaluation team for the work in Ecuador to listen and assess the needs of a Mennonite presence there. The recommendations were to continue to support Indigenous theological education and social development, intensify work in justice and peace and form a Mennonite community with new believers. They felt they were ready to start a partnership, but Chenlos ended their service in the fall of 1995.
April 13, 1996	Alice Roth and Duane Richard, chair of the I-N Conference Mission Board, discuss the possibility of a partnership.
June 28, 1996	Alice Roth and Greg Rake, MBM Director of Latin America, share with the I-N Mission Board on possible involvement with Ecuador.
Aug. 16-17, '96	Greg Rake speaks at I-N Missions Festival
Aug. 1996	MBM receives a formal proposal from the Indian Theological Training Center in Ecuador for theological training of Indian church leaders and theological resources.
Aug. 1996	Assignment description written and distributed.
Nov. 1996	Exploration of assignment with Mauricio and Sara Chenlo.
Jan 1997	Mauricio Chenlo and Greg Rake visit I-N Mission Board. Strong affirmation and willingness to pursue partnership. The conference plans to send youth work teams every other year to Ecuador.
Apr 4, 1997	Peter Graber, MBM Partnership Director, meets with I-N Mission Board to discuss partnership.
April 15, 1997	Personnel appointed by MBM Board of Directors and COM (Commission on Overseas Mission) to serve a 3-year term in Ecuador beginning July 1, 1997-June 30, 2000.
May 1997	First draft of the partnership covenant between MBM/COM and Iowa-Nebraska is written and distributed.
June 1997	Appointed personnel withdraw and program attention is refocused on recruiting personnel to serve the ministry goals.
August 1997	The partnership is affirmed by Iowa-Nebraska congregations at the annual missions

	banquet.
November 1997	Greg Rake and César Moya, Executive Secretary for the Colombian Mennonite Church visit Quito, reassess the situation, and recommend further consultation before proceeding.
March 6-8, 1998	Consultation is held in Quito with participation from CIET (Indigenous Center for Theological Studies), ICMC (International Christian Mennonite Community), MBM/COM, IMCOL (Colombia Mennonite Churches), and I-N Conference representatives. At this consultation the ministry plan is reformulated and a new set of partners emerges.
May-Aug '98	A new covenant draft is prepared by MBM.
August 1998	César Moya along with Greg Rake attends the meeting of the Iowa Nebraska conference in Mountain Lake, Minnesota.
Nov. 1998	Meeting in Quito, Ecuador of representatives of MBM/COM, I-N and IMCOL to define partners in the partnership. It was recommended that initially the partnership would be formed by MBM/COM, I-N and IMCOL.
Dec. 1998	Dialogue with representatives of MBM/COM and I-N with Executive Committee of IMCOL.
January 2000	Work team from Central Plains goes to Ecuador. Dan Bontrager, Mark Boshart, Doyle Roth, Eber Diener, Erma Edwards, Jim Geeding, Karen Leichty, Katie Boshart, Laverta Eberly, Royce Roth, and Grant and Edie Nebel. César Moya and Patricia Urueña sent as workers to Ecuador by MBM/COM, I-N Conference and IMCOL. They are the first missionaries from Colombia after 50 years as a church.
Sept. 2000	Meeting in Quito, Ecuador with participation of IMCOL, MBM/COM and Central Plains Mennonite Conference (formerly Iowa-Nebraska).
June 2001	Partnership meeting at Central Plains Mennonite Conference Assembly in Milford, NE.
May - July 2002	Berta Gil from Colombia served as pastoral assistant at the Mennonite Church in Quito.
August 2002	The Andean Anabaptist gathering was held in Ecuador at the headquarters of the Nazarene Seminary in Quito. Several members of the new church of Quito participated, among them a family of refugees. The Quito church was in charge of the logistics of the event.
November 2002	Partnership meeting in Bogotá and Ibagué, Colombia, including a review of the partnership and initial long-term planning. (The meeting was moved to Ibagué because of the death of César's mother.) Present were Doyle Roth, Grant Nebel, (Central Plains) Gustavo Angulo, Islandes Losada, Pedro Stucky, Alix Lozano, and Maria Ines Palomares (IMCOL) Linda Shelly. (MMN) César Moya and Patricia Urueña, (Ecuador) Elizabeth Soto (Facilitator) Janine Martin (Translator)
2003	The church first retreat was held at Camp "New Life," in Merced, with the theme "History and Theology of the Radical Reformation " led by Dr. Rudy Baergen , then dean of Mennonite Biblical Seminary of Colombia.
February 2003	Work and Fellowship team from Central Plains and Colombia goes to Ecuador and works at the new building of the church in Quito and the Yaruquíes church. Members of the team were Mike Bates, Arleen Cook, Kevin Dick, Leslie Harder,

	Don and Shirley Kempf, Alex Naula, David Roberts, Larry Roberts, Doyle Roth, Ross Simpson, Kristen Swartley and Gay Widmer from the U.S. and Tomas Orjuela and Jorge Ruiz from Colombia.
March 2003	Arrival of Liliana Ocampo from IMCOL to serve as pastoral assistant with the Mennonite church in Quito.
June 2003	Central Plains assembly and banquet in Henderson, Nebraska. Ecuador support was confirmed as a part of the Central Plains spending blueprint. César and Patricia spoke at the banquet and in churches.
September 2003	First contact with families in Riobamba interested in being pastored.
October 2003	Partnership meeting in Quito, Ecuador, including 5-year planning and signing the partnership covenant with a 5-year commitment. Present were Noreen Gingerich, Leslie Harder, Doyle Roth, (Central Plains) Alix Lozano, Pedro Stucky, (IMCOL) James Krabill, Linda Shelly, (MMN) César Moya, Patricia Urueña, Liliana Ocampo, (Ecuador) and Elizabeth Soto. (Facilitator)
October 2003	Arrival of Laura and Steve Nafziger from Ohio as Mennonite Mission Network volunteers to work with the school and church in Cebadas.
February, 2004	Central Plains and IMCOL send a Fellowship and Work Team to Cebadas. The team was Mark and Amy Boshart, Kevin Dick, Kim Eberspacher, Andrew Freed, Randall and Diane Nafziger, Alex and Julia Naula, Doyle and Jenna Roth, Ralph Stutzman, and Curtis Wyse.
March, 2004	Liliana commits to stay in Ecuador as a worker of the IMCOL Missions Department. The church in Quito begins to rent a house for refugees.
September, 2004	The Andean Regional Gathering of Anabaptist churches takes place in Isla Margarita, Venezuela. Julio Correa Erazo from the Quito church participates together with César and Patricia.
November, 2004	Ecuador Partnership meeting is held in Bogotá, including planning for César and Patricia's departure from Ecuador for a year. Installation of leadership team and service of thanksgiving in Quito. Present were César Moya, Patricia Urueña, Liliana Ocampo, (Ecuador) Linda Shelly, (MMN) Noreen Gingerich, Doyle Roth, (Central Plains) Alix Lozano, Luis Correa, Misael Prieto, (Department of Missions of Colombia Mennonite Church) Pedro Stucky (IMCOL) and Micah Shristi (Translator)
February & March, 2005	Three Fellowship and Work Teams collaborate in the construction of two classrooms for Ñukanchik Yachay: 1) The Ohio team was Randy and Diane Nafziger, Dale and Arlene Short, Dan and Shirley Nafziger, Dave and LuAnn Kanagy, Ron and Lauren Gerig, Stan and Clara Grieser, and Joe Nafziger. 2) The first group from Central Plains was LeRoy and Marion Friesen, Dave Roth, Doyle Roth, Isaac Roth, Tim Springer, Randy Springer, Bruce Stutzman, Ralph Stutzman, and Norman Unternaher from Central Plains, Julia Naula from Indiana and Omar ??? and Egda Chiuquin from Colombia. 3) The second group from Central Plains was Gay Widmer, Jerry and Joyce Roth, Grant and Edie Nebel, Roger Farmer, Jon Leichty, Stephanie and Susan Wyse, Kelsey Wyse, Erika Detweiler, Trent Widmer, Matt Mullins and Ramiro Hernández. (Mark and Amy Boshart,

	Kevin Dick, Kim Eberspacher, Andrew Freed, Randall and Diane Nafziger, Alex and Julia Naula, Doyle and Jenna Roth, Ralph Stutzman and Curtis Wyse)
June, 2005	César, Patricia and family visit churches in Colombia.
July – October, 2005	César and Patricia study at the Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana in Costa Rica, completing their courses for their Masters degrees in theology.
July and August, 2005	Laura and Steve Nafziger leave Ecuador and David and Ericka Gingerich arrive.
November 2005- May 2006	César and Patricia live in Iowa with their family, write their theses and visit more than 20 Central Plains churches.
November, 2005	Liliana Ocampo, Henry Pineda and Alix Lozano travel to Iowa for the Partnership meeting. They share in 8 churches in Iowa and Nebraska and visit Liliana and Henry visit Newton, Kansas too.
February, 2006	Don and Shirley Kempf visit the Quito church and the ministries of the Ecuador Partnership for a month.
March – April, 2006	Gilberto and Rosa Flores offer workshops in Quito and Riobamba for a week
June, 2006	Four youth from Salem Mennonite Church in Shickley, NE visit Quito to participate in activities with the youth of the Quito Mennonite Church. (David Hochstetler, Kate Lichti, Dan Swartzendruber, and Anne Troyer)
May – July, 2006	Alix Lozano visits Liliana Ocampo and the Quito church in May in her IMCOL role in relation to Liliana's departure. Liliana leaves the end of July.
August – September, 2006	David and Ericka Gingerich finish their time living in Cebadas and move to live in Quito and serve the Mennonite church of Quito.
November, 2006	Meeting of the Ecuador Partnership in Quito. First visit of Dean Heisey of Mennonite Mission Network. New work agreement for theological education with FEINE. Present were Doyle and Anne Roth, Marvin and Neta Faye Yoder, Leslie and Gladys Harder, (Central Plains) Pedro Stucky, Alix Lozano, (IMCOL) Dean Heisey, Linda Shelly (MMN), César Moya, Patricia Urueña, and David and Ericka Gingerich. (Ecuador)
January, 2007	Quito church rented its 5 th location in six years.
April, 2007	Beginning of dialogue with the Anglican Church about refugee work.
May, 2007	David and Ericka Gingerich departed after serving approximately a year in Cebadas and a year in Quito.

July, 2007	Visit of Ivette & Raúl Escobar and Diego & Verónica Veloz (7 people) from Riobamba to Central Plains (Iowa, Nebraska) and Mennonite Mission Network, Newton.
October, 2007	Trish Morck begins coordinating refugee work with Anglicans and Mennonites working together.
November, 2007	Delegation of 7 from Central Plains to Ecuador, and then 6 to Colombia to visit IMCOL; Partnership meeting with CPMC, IMCOL and Mennonite Mission Network in Colombia. Present were Marvin and Neta Faye Yoder, Leslie and Gladys Harder, Ed and Gay Kauffman, (Central Plains) Alix Lozano, Pedro Stucky, Cecilia Obregón, Carlos Ortiz, Luis Correa, Alberto Guerrero, Oscar Herrera, (IMCOL) Linda Shelly, (MMN) César Moya and Patricia Urueña, (Ecuador) and Aaron Kauffman. (Facilitator)
March, 2008	March 7-9, 2008 the second Anabaptist retreat was held at the Christian Alliance Camp in Calacalí with the theme "Leadership in Anabaptist perspective and challenges for the XXI century," with the guidance of pastors Dave and Shana Boshart, conference ministers for Central Plains Mennonite Conference. Raul and Yvette Escobar with their two daughters Cayetana and Alejandra participated in the retreat.
May, 2008	César and Patricia travel to Kansas for the graduation of their son Daniel from Hesston College and to Iowa to lead a workshop with leaders of the Hispanic churches.
August, 2008	The relationship with Seminario Sudamericano SEMISUD begins.
September, 2008	Don and Jan Rheinheimer arrive in Ecuador to begin their ministry in Riobamba.
September, 2008	The Central Plains Conference Council approves the formation of work team known as CPMC Ecuador Partners in Mission to give more focused time to the partnership.
November, 2008	A delegation of 5 people from Central Plains, 3 from Colombia and 1 from Mennonite Mission Network visit Ecuador together and participate in the partnership meeting. Fernando Ramos from Central Plains also visits Colombia. Present were Pedro Stucky, William Valencia, Oscar Herrera, (IMCOL) Fernando Ramos, Rosie Epp, Eileen Rolón, Leslie and Gladys Harder, (Central Plains) Linda Shelly, (MMN) César Moya, Patricia Urueña, Don and Jan Rheinheimer (Ecuador).
November, 2008	Juan and Leydi Mayorga return from Argentina. Juan is employed one fourth time by the Quito church as pastoral assistant, initially for six months, but this ended in January 2009 because of other priorities.
January – July, 2009	Amelia Brandt from Washington, D.C. participated in the ministries of the Mennonite Church in Quito, and taught English at the Escuela Hazel McCallion.
February, 2009	Don & Shirley Kempf and Larry and Lois Kauffman from Central Plains visit Ecuador to prepare for promoting ministries in the CPMC churches.
March 1, 2009	Weekly services began in Riobamba with the first Sunday of Lent.

August, 2009	First three baptisms in the Riobamba church: Raúl Escobar, Mónica Pino and Eduardo Ortiz.
November, 2009	Lonnie Bartel and Carolyn and Dennis Peters of CPMC together with Laura Polo and Rodrigo Preciado from Colombia formed a fellowship and work team to visit Ecuador, spending most of their time in Riobamba.
February, 2010	The Quito and Riobamba congregations joined together in a third retreat Feb. 13-15, 2010, in Same, Esmeraldas, along the seashore. The topic was "Mennonite beliefs and practices in dialogue with the XXI century," facilitated by Dr. John Roth, professor of history and theology at Goshen College, Indiana.
February, 2010	Rosebert Ipuz and Carlos Moreno of Colombia, and Don Boshart, Mark Boshart, Jason Burkey, Donald Roth, Doyle Roth, Randy Roth, Mike Springer and Brad Stauffer of Central Plains participated in a fellowship and work team in Arajuno, in response to a recommendation from FEINE.
March, 2010	Partnership visit and meeting in Ecuador with Don Kempf, Lawrence Littlebear, Keshia Littlebear, Dave Miller, Fernando Ramos, Katie and Scott Spohn, Holly Blosser Yoder and Diane Zaerr Brenneman of Central Plains; Oscar Herrera and William Valencia of Colombia; and Kevin Goertzen and Linda Shelly of Mennonite Mission Network together with workers César Moya & Patricia Urueña and Don & Jan Rheinheimer, Ecuadorian church representatives Darwin Villacís and Alba Silva (Quito) and Daniel Escobar and Beatriz Beltran Escobar (Riobamba) and Ecuadorian partners.
May 2010	Darwin Villacís and Mirian Jaramillo were installed as deacons of the Quito Mennonite Church.
June/July 2010	Eight from Christ Community Church in Des Moines visited Quito and Riobamba: Emma Frank, Natalie Heggen, Nathaniel Hill, Kelsey McDougal, Briann Petersen, Kathleen Ryan, Mike Timmons and Emily Verdoorn.
July 2010	César Moya and Patricia Urueña left for a year at AMBS in Indiana to do research, teach and take part in classes, and also share in Central Plains churches.
August 2010	Erica Hartman and Kelsey Hartman from Indiana arrived to serve for 9 months in the Quito church ministries and at the Escuela Hazel McCallion.
September 2010	Daniel and Beatriz Escobar were installed as pastors in the Riobamba church.
September 2010	Don and Jan Rheinheimer departed from Riobamba after two years, returning to Illinois in the United States.
September 2010	Rosebert Ipuz from Armenia, Colombia, arrived to serve for one year in the Riobamba church ministries. William and Luz Marina Valencia from the Missions Committee of Colombia visited the Mennonite Church in Riobamba for a week to support the church community.
October 2010	Joe Liechty and Phil Thomas from Goshen College and Jenny Neme from Colombia served as presenters in a course on "Ministry of Reconciliation and Conflict Transformation at Semisud, with participation from the Quito and Riobamba churches.

December 2010	David Shenk arrived from Virginia to serve for two years in the Quito church ministries, especially with the refugee program.
February 2011	Jorge Cañón and Eugenio Polo from Colombia and Brad Stauffer, Ben Ramirez, Gerry Dunlap, Jason Stahl, Galen Schwietzer, Dennis Bauman, Ralph Stutzman, Matt Koehler, Doyle Roth and Jason Burkey from Central Plains participated in a follow-up fellowship and work team in Arajuno, under the coordination of Rosembert Ipuz and David Shenk.
March 2011	David Shenk traveled to Colombia, participating in the IMCOL annual assembly, and getting to know IMCOL's work with refugees in Colombia, as well as the overall country situation.
April 2011	Amanda and Gamaliel Falla serving with Mennonite Mission Network in Colombia traveled to Ecuador for two weeks to encourage and support the churches in Riobamba and Quito.
May 2011	Erica Hartman and Kelsey Hartman completed their 9 months serving in the Quito church ministries and at the Escuela Hazel McCallion and returned to Indiana.
June 2011	Mirian Jaramillo and Darwin Villacís, Mikaela Insuasti, Roberto Insuasti and Daniela Sánchez from Quito, Raúl Escobar and Ivett Alarcón, Jannina Escobar and Josué Noriega from Riobamba, and Peter Stucky from Colombia participated in the CPMC annual assembly and the Ecuador Partnership meeting. William Valencia and Luz Marina Gil from Colombia were unable to participate due to visa denials. From Ecuador Lucia Jurado, Marcelo Noriega, Yessenia Pozo and Karen Guapaz couldn't participate because of visa problems.
January 2012	IMCOL sent William and Luz Marina Valencia to Riobamba to serve as pastors of the congregation and work with leadership development through the partnership.
January 2012	Alba Silva began serving with the Quito church in a defined role.
January 26 to February 7, 2012	A group of seven people from Central Plains Mennonite Conference participated in a Fellowship and Learning Tour to Ecuador from January 26 to February 7. Participants were Don and Shirley Kempf, Joe Jr. and Lynn Walks Along, Roger Farmer, Ken Egli and Alyssa Rodriguez. William and Luz Marina Valencia from Colombia joined the group in Ecuador before beginning their time as pastors of the Mennonite congregation in Riobamba.
Feb 23 – March 5, 2012	Fellowship and Work Team for Arajuno: A group of 15 people: Doyle Roth, Nate Reil, Ben Ramirez, Gabe Ramirez (Milford Mennonite), John Burkey, Jason Burkey, John Goertzen, Jason Stahl (Bellwood Mennonite), Matt Koehler, David Roth (Beth-el Mennonite), Paul Von Tersch (Sugar Creek Mennonite), Russ Roth, Shawn Roth (Christ's Place, Lincoln) and José Velásquez de la regional de sabana y Tequendama. y Oswaldo Ramírez de la regional Bogotá.
April 2012	The Riobamba church moved to a new location in Alamos 1

April 2012	David Shenk became coordinator of the Quito Mennonite Church refugee project, replacing Trish Morck who left Ecuador with her family.
May 2012	Presentation to Mennonite World Conference of a letter from the Iglesia Cristiana Anabautista Menonita de Ecuador (ICAME) requesting membership
August 2012	Six youth from Riobamba traveled to Anolaima for a time of fellowship with Colombian youth.
August 2012	Jana Meyer of MCC visited Ecuador as a part of MCC's ongoing financial support of the refugee work, and David Shenk, César Moya and Patricia Urueña traveled to Colombia for MCC meetings the next month.
October 2012	Beginning of PROPAZ theological study and leadership development program.
December 2012	David Shenk extended his original two year term for an additional year to continue serving with the Quito church ministries, especially with the refugee program.
Jan 24 – Feb. 5, 2013	Learning Tour: Margie Mejia-Caraballo (Templo Alabanza) from Moline IL, Don, Shirley and Jonathan Kempf (Salem Mennonite) from Shickley NE, Shawn Nolt (Salem Mennonite) from Shickley NE, and Lois Janzen Preheim (Salem Mennonite) from Freeman SD; María Elena Arango from Bogotá
February 2013	2013 Official constitution of the Iglesia Anabautista Menonita de Ecuador (ICAME). The first board consists of all Ecuadorians: Darwin Villacís (President), Daniela Sánchez (Vice president), Alba Silva (Treasurer), Yessenia Pozo (Secretary), and Julio Correa, Oswaldo Moina and Tatiana Jahyya.
Feb. 21 – March 4, 2013	Fellowship and Work Team in Quito: Doyle Roth (Milford Mennonite), David Hochstetler (Salem Mennonite), John Goertzen, Gerry Dunlap (Bellwood Mennonite), Ralph Stutzman (Wood River Mennonite), and Mitzi Escorcía from Barranquilla and Santiago Stucky from Bogotá
March 2013	First church service of the new church plant in Calderón.
March 2013	Alyssa Rodriguez arrived from Iowa to serve for two years in the Quito church ministries, especially with the education programs.
March 14 – 18, 2013	Ecuador visit prior to partnership meeting in Colombia: Don Kempf, David and Shana Peachey Boshart, Gebremichael Heramo, Holly and John Blosser Yoder, Fernando Ramos, Alyssa Rodríguez, Peter Stucky and Linda Shelly.
March 18 – 25, 2013	Trip to Colombia for partnership meeting, IMCOL visit and assembly-- Central Plains: Don Kempf, David Boshart, Gebremichael Heramo, Holly and John Blosser Yoder, Fernando Ramos; Quito: Alba Silva, Yessenia Pozo, Javier Guapaz; Riobamba: Lucia Jurado and Marcelo Noriega; Workers: César Moya, Patricia Urueña , Alyssa Rodriguez, David Shenk, Luz Marina and William Valencia; MMN: Linda Shelly
March 26 – April 1, 2013	Trip to Venezuela to visit churches and learn about SBMC's program: Don Kempf, David Boshart, Oscar Herrera, Zarái Gonzalía and Linda Shelly

May 2013	The fourth Anabaptist retreat was held May 23 - 26 at the Baptist de La Merced camp. Fifty two people attended from Quito and Calderon, and ten from Riobamba. We are grateful to Tim and Carol Detweiler for their presentations on " Pastoral care between brothers and sisters.
July 2013	First church service of the new church plant in Jardines del Inca
August 2013	Patricia Urueña and Tatiana Jhayya from Quito and Luz Marina Valencia from Riobamba participated in Colombia in the workshop on "Sister Care" and the regional meeting of Latin American Women Theologians.
August 2013	Arrival of Wendy Palencia from Colombia to support the refugee project through the YAMEN program.
October 2013	Arrival of Caleb Yoder to support PROPAZ and the new church plant in Calderón.