

## *Challenges:*

- On the ground in Guatemala, people are looking at us trying to see how we are planning to support the country. People have concerns about the lack of respect shown by the international community through short term efforts. Is this what Canada is doing? Some Guatemalans are asking that international NGOs not play the roles that their government is responsible for. We must consider how Guatemalans feel about our support.
- We must be realistic and honest concerning our current capacity and needs (resources, information), within government and NGOs, to engage in ongoing collaboration and dialogue. For NGOs, the research and organizational preparations necessary to participate meaningfully in this dialogue were substantial and unsustainable. There is a clear lack of depth of analysis within the NGO community concerning Guatemala as no NGOs currently focus solely on this country. We must find ways to effectively obtain and distribute information coming out of Guatemala in order that it not take so much energy to achieve an adequate level of analysis. If government and NGOs are to work together towards an effective long-term peacebuilding strategy, we clearly must allocate additional resources to greatly enhance our level of analysis, to dialogue regularly among ourselves and periodically with Guatemalans on specific issues. We must think hard and strategically about how we will do this effectively, despite current government and NGO constraints.