UNESCO PARTICIPATION PROGRAM 2024-2025

Title of the proposal: Training Courses to promote a second language as a proposal to close gender gaps.
General theme: Learning English to close gender gaps.
About SED: The Bogotá Secretariat for Education (SED) was created in 1955 by the City Council and is the governing entity of initial (preschool), basic (primary and secondary) and High School education in Bogotá. Its purpose is to guide and lead the formulation and execution of policies, plans, and programs to guarantee the right to education and ensure the population's access to knowledge and comprehensive training.

1. **Summary**

This project seeks to implement a second language learning initiative in rural Bogotá, impacting 120 students. It will be implemented with the installed capacity already acquired by the District Bilingual Plan and the Rural Educational Policy of Bogotá, as a way to improve the English language skills of students, while promoting equitable gender aspirational models in STEM areas, as a way to guarantee a quality and transformative education that recognizes the additional difficulties of rural areas and vindicates the importance of addressing gender equality in distant educational contexts.

2. **Project description**
   a. **Goals**

General objective: Promote access to bilingual education and equitable aspirational models in difficult-to-access areas of Bogotá.

Specific objectives:
- Promote the development of English language skills in 120 students from rural Bogotá.
- Encourage the recognition of women in STEM fields.

   b. **Activities**

The project will be carried out through face-to-face English classes and workshops that highlight the role of women in STEM areas, covering levels A1 and/or A2 of the CEFR for 120 students from grades 9 to 11 in rural institutions. The project offers a total of 60 hours of English lessons, distributed in two-hour sessions. In addition to these classes, 5 gender related workshops will be held, each lasting 2 hours. All this for a total of 70 hours of teaching. The duration of the project will be 8 months, starting in March 2024 and ending in October 2024.

Operator: An invitation will be made to the allies of the District Bilingual Plan to be part of the initiative. Among them are The Colombo American Center, The British Council, and the Colombo American University Institution UNICA, which are operators that have experience with the SED in similar Bilingual education programs for rural areas. The SED will provide support in the creation of the

workshops based on the “A fuego” strategy, which has already done this type of strategies in Spanish.

Unesco program to which it points: By promoting access to quality education in terms of a second language, while working on gender equality by using English as a medium of instruction, we help the city advance towards the Sustainable Development Goal number 4, “Ensure inclusive, equitable, quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.”

This means, the program is aligned with this year´s 42C /5 document in the education and gender equality programs. Specifically, the project seeks to advance in Output 1 ED 2 about gender transformative education systems.

c. **Beneficiaries:** 120 students from grades 9 to 11 in rural institutions will be benefitted.

d. **Expected results:** Progress of students in the middle band of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

e. **Work plan/Schedule**

Activity/Month	March	April	June	July	August	September	October	November
English Program								
English Learning Workshops	X	X			X	X	X	
Gender Equality Workshops								
Gender Equality Workshops					X	X	X	