

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

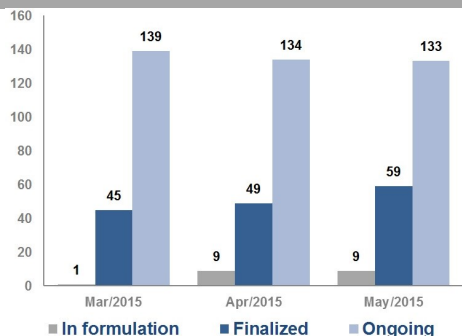
This report provides monthly institutional (Victims Unit, Ministry of Health, National Historical Memory Center and Mayor's/Governor's Offices) and Victims Law achievements.

Corresponding VISP activities that have contributed to these achievements are included below each achievement.

VISP STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

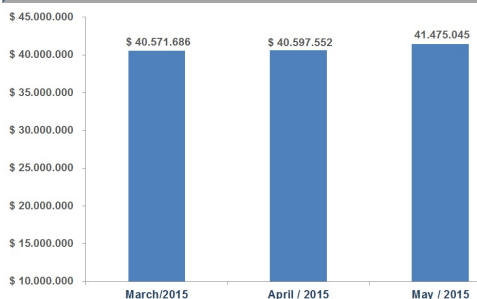
Provide accompaniment and technical support for GoC policies, systems and institutions at the national, departmental and municipal levels, to strengthen capacities and build necessary competencies for the timely and effective execution and implementation of the Victims Law.

VISP projects by status and month



* One project was cancelled between March and April 2015.

Value of VISP's formulated projects by month



IR1. Improved GOC Strategic Management for Victims Law

Inter-institutional support for victims' participation

- Supported the encounter hosted by Representatives from the National Municipal Ombudsperson's Federation (FENALPER) to discuss the participation of victims at the regional level with leaders from victims' organizations, GoC institution's, NGOs and international cooperation
- 155 Participants discussed the outcome and achievements of the first participation roundtables 2013-15
- 33 Municipal and 10 Departmental Victims Participation Roundtables were elected and installed for the 2015-17 period with technical support from VISP
- The National Victims Participation Roundtable will be elected in early June

Characterization strategy with a perspective on victims' rights implemented

- Responding to local governments' need to be able to characterize victims in their regions, VISP supported the design of a characterization strategy with the Victims Unit's National Information Network (RNI) and an information tool to consolidate national and local information in a single platform
- This strategy ensures up-to-date information on victims' situation and their current attention phase, providing regional entities with guidelines and inputs to characterize victims and guarantee the enjoyment of rights
- To date, the tool has characterized Bogotá, Medellín, Cartagena, Popayán, Quibdó, Riohacha, Santa Marta, Pasto, Florencia, Montería, Sincelejo and Tumaco on victims in the Victims Single Registry, assistance, humanitarian aid, and comprehensive reparation for collective subjects, and VISP's other targeted municipalities are in process

IR2. Improved GOC Rehabilitation Services for the Wellbeing of Citizens

Capacity building through training to build skills in psychosocial support at different levels

- With the Victims Unit: in Bogotá, training multipliers were qualified on techniques to encourage self-care, staff care and peer support among the entity's public servants; 30 members of the Psychosocial Team were trained on narrative techniques; 25 members of the Validation and Registry at the management level were qualified on self-care; and institutional strengthening workshops were held with public servants who work

with victims of forced disappearance.

- With the National Historical Memory Center (CNMH), 25 public servants were trained on abilities to mitigate emotional burnout and strengthen the institution's leadership team on self-care skills
- With the Ministry of Health, Victims Psychosocial and Comprehensive Health Program (PAPSIVI) Phase III was advanced through trainings in Caquetá and Cauca

Supporting comprehensive rehabilitation services for victims with disabilities

- Four training processes were held with functional rehabilitation professionals in Cartagena, Apartadó, Quibdó and Popayán to share models, legal frameworks, comprehensive reparation, and activities with do no harm and psychosocial approaches
- 100 participants gained tools and skills to provide quality attention to victims with disabilities and overcome existing stereotypes
- Additionally, in Santa Marta, support was provided to victims with disabilities, victims' representatives and institutions to construct guidelines for rehabilitation measures

IR3. Transitional Justice Processes Advanced

South – South International School of Reparations

- From May 4 to 8, national and international experts shared experiences and lessons learned on reparation processes with victims of conflicts, with the support and participation of the Victims Unit, the Presidential Cooperation Agency, USAID and IOM
- During initial days in Bogotá, experts discussed reconciliation, truth, individual and collective reparation, gender and children, among others; then, they traveled to Valledupar to learn about regional contexts, visiting a Victims Attention Center and an ethnic community
- This encounter was the first step in the development of a permanent network for participating countries, which will come together again in October

Human Rights Archive Toolbox

- Developed with the CNMH, the toolbox aims to strengthen social organizations' archives, so judicial institutions, truth commissions, researchers and society as whole can access evidence on human rights violations and acts that took place in the conflict
- Designed through participatory workshops and validation sessions with victims and organizations in nine departments and two regional meetings, it contains two guiding booklets and a USB flash drive with readings

Financial compensations delivered to victims at the regional level

- Support was provided to the Victims Unit to deliver compensations to victims of forced displacement and sexual violence in Pasto, Tumaco, Santa Marta, Fundación, Sincelejo, Montería, Cartagena, Quibdó, Apartadó and Medellín, the first of a three part process
- 238 victims of sexual violence received compensations during these sessions, 17% of the total 1,405 who have been compensated throughout the country so far this year, of a goal of 19,441 in 2015.
- Regional Offices were accompanied to ensure dignity, and guarantee victims access to opportunities to invest their compensations in housing and education

IR4. Select GOC Institutions and Systems Accommodate the Specific Needs of Ethnic Groups and Women

Supporting dignity and awareness to prevent sexual violence

- On May 25, 2015, Dignity Day for Female Victims of Sexual Violence was commemorated for the first time with support from VISP
- In Bogotá, the day was observed with the initiative "It is not time to be silent," including activist and victim Jineth Bedoya, and with the Victims Unit, the CNMH, and other GoC entities
- At the local level, regional grassroots encounters addressed the issue of sexual violence in Quibdó, Santa Marta, Popayán and Cartagena using workshops, dialogues, mobilization strategies and other means to support survivors and raise awareness
- The Victims Unit began implementing a specific strategy for victims of sexual violence to support their reparation route through financial guidance and an introduction to institutional programs to invest their compensations

Quote



"At USAID we no longer ask ourselves what we can do for Colombia, but what can we do with Colombia," stated Peter Natiello, Director of USAID/Colombia, on the first day of the International School of Reparations encounter in Bogotá.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



International
Organization
for
Migration

Institutional Strengthening of Select GoC Entities

Victims Assistance and Reparation Unit (Victims Unit)



Unidad para la Atención
y Reparación Integral
a las Víctimas

Institutional capacities:

- International School of Reparations: South-South exchange held in Bogotá
- Victims Attention Point in Tierralta completed

Individual competencies:

- Public servants in Córdoba trained in the new Comprehensive Route to attend to victims
- Risk mitigation workshop with public servants from the Victims Unit's Regional Office in Medellín, as part of the Rehabilitation Self-Care Strategy

National Historical Memory Center



Centro Nacional
de Memoria Histórica

Institutional capabilities:

- Human Rights Archives Toolbox completed
- Conmemora Radio begins diffusion on university radio stations

Individual competencies:

- Historical memory in the regions guide socialized with local authorities
- Self-care workshop with CNMH public servants
- Validation sessions of the LGBT historical memory report

Ministry of Health



MinSalud
Ministerio de Salud
y Protección Social

Individual competencies:

- PAPSIVI Phase III trained interdisciplinary teams at the regional level in Cauca and Caquetá

Mayor's and Governor's Offices

Institutional capabilities:

- Technical support to establish Departmental Victims Participation Roundtables
- Experience encounter: effective victims' participation and participation roundtables

Municipal Ombudsman's Offices

Institutional capabilities

- Support for victims' characterization in Samaniego with Mayor's Office
- Meeting on peace building with women from the Caribe region with Governor's Office in Magdalena
- Support "Training of trainers Diploma" in Cartagena with the Mayor's Office, from which 25 victims' leaders graduated

Highlights by Target Municipality

Antioquia: Medellín, Necoclí, Turbo, Apartadó and Chigorodó

R2: Risk mitigation workshop with public servants from the Victims Unit's Regional Office in Medellín; R4: Encounter with persons of non-conforming gender identities

Bolívar: Cartagena, María la Baja, San Juan Nepomuceno, San Jacinto, Carmen de Bolívar

R1: 25 victims' leaders graduated from the diploma program "Training Trainers" in Cartagena; R2: Functional rehabilitation course in Cartagena; R3: Narrar para Vivir project formulation workshop

Chocó: Quibdó, Bojayá, Riosucio

R2: Accompaniment to the commemoration of May 2 in Bojayá; R4: Promotion of the participation of victims from ethnic communities

Caquetá: Florencia, La Montañita, Cartagena del Chairá

R1: Presentation of the characterization strategy transitional justice committee; R3: Supported the presentation of the CNMH's report on forced disappearance

Cauca: Popayán

R4: Initiatives to prevent sexual violence in Popayán

Córdoba: Montería, Montelíbano, Tierralta

R1: Training with public servants on the Comprehensive Route; R3: Memory Dialogues: Risks and Challenges of the Post-Conflict; R4: Public servants trained on incorporating ethnic approaches

La Guajira: Riohacha, Dibulla, San Juan del Cesar

R4: Support to Afro-Colombian Community Councils; Workshop with LGBT community in Riohacha

Magdalena: Santa Marta, Ciénaga, Fundación

R4: Female victims trained to prevent GBV; Ete Ennaka indigenous community analyzed collective reparation proposals

Nariño: Pasto, Samaniego, Tumaco

R1: Support for victims' characterization in Samaniego; R4: Public servants trained on incorporating ethnic approaches

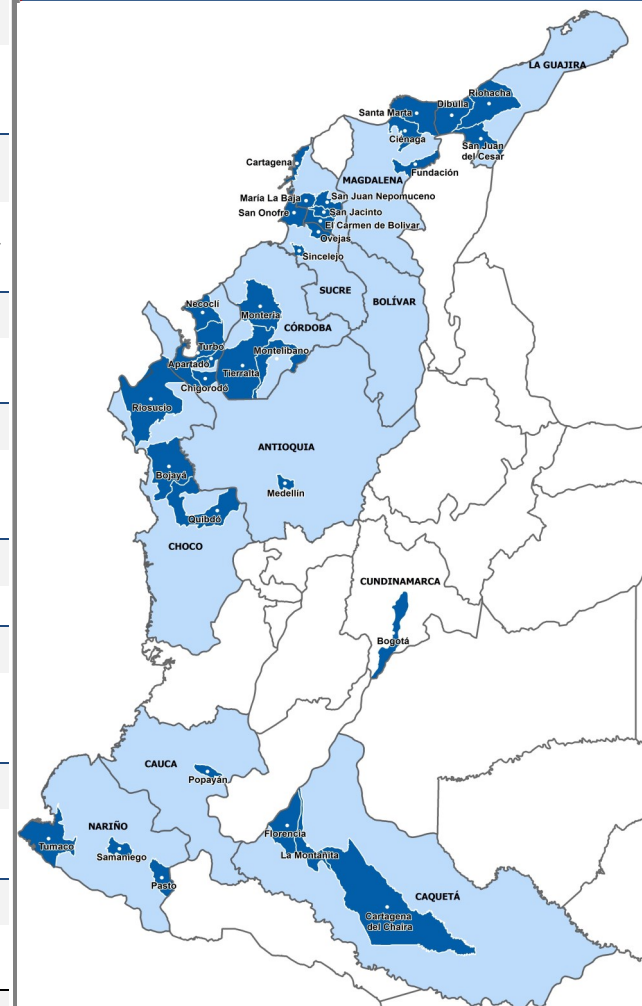
Sucre: Sincelejo, San Onofre, Ovejas

R2: Community based rehabilitation support in three municipalities; R4: Collective declaration workshop with Afro-Colombian community in Sincelejo

Bogotá

R2: International Seminar Psychosocial Attention in the Post-Conflict

VISP Targeted Regions



Highlighted Products

- Human Rights Archives Toolbox: <http://bit.ly/1Lh6QcH>
- Video "Beyond Surviving," produced with the Presidential Council for Women's Equality: <http://bit.ly/1LRrBJM>