MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

This report provides monthly institutional (Victims Unit, Ministry of Health, National Historical Memory Center and Mayor/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

- R1. Improved GoC Strategic Management for Victims Law
  - High Commission for Peace’s policies for business and peace-building presented and implemented
  - On December 9, two leading peace negotiators, High Commissioner for Peace Sergio Jaramillo and General Óscar Naranjo, met with entrepreneurs and international institutions, including USAID/Colombia, to exchange perspectives on enterprises’ role in peace-building
  - The private sector was invited to commit to principles of Do No Harm in all business endeavors, to participate in PPP to strengthen citizenship, democratization of productive chains and reestablish trust at the local level, particularly in conflict areas
  - Further meetings with the private sector at the local level will begin in January to continue the exchange

- R2. Improved GoC Rehabilitation Services for the Wellbeing of Citizens
  - Psychosocial workshops with families of victims of forced disappearance and public servants
    - Between October and December, 133 victims and 104 public servants from the Attorney General’s Office and the Victims Unit from six municipalities were trained
    - The urgent search mechanism and procedures to report disappearances, as well as the importance of victims organizations, psychosocial impacts, and care and self-care strategies were covered in the trainings
    - Workshops were held in Medellín and Bogotá with families of victims of forced disappearance and public servants who work with the victimizing act
    - The RNI reports 44,492 direct victims of forced disappearance and 107,963 indirect victims (which includes family members) registered as of November 2014

- R3. Transitional Justice Processes Advanced
  - International Regional Memory Groups Seminar
    - From December 1 to 2, an encounter was held in Bogotá to share experiences, challenges, lessons learned, and strategies to reconstruct historical memory of the armed conflict at the regional and local levels
    - 75 diverse participants attended, including institutions such as the National Historical Memory Center (CNMH), experts from international and national academia, USAID and regional historical memory groups (GRAM)
    - 12 research groups from universities around the country participated, 3 of which screened documentaries they produced on the impacts and memories of the conflict in their communities
    - Efforts with regional historical memory groups began in 2011, and the groups’ research has reconstructed emblematic cases and contexts of victimizing acts
  - Collective reparations results shared with key stakeholders
    - On December 10, the main results achieved by VISP’s five collective reparations subjects (Sacramento;Narr para Vivir; Journalists’ national case; Pueblo Bello, Fundación; and the Wiwa community) were presented
    - Normative analyses were presented on the right to participation, diversity mainstreaming and transformative reparation, and recommendations were offered...

- R4. Select GoC Institutions and Systems Accommodate the Specific Needs of Ethnic Groups and Women
  - Dissemination backpacks completed and delivered
    - The backpacks to disseminate ethnic legal decrees and the attention and reparation route with diversity mainstreaming were officially completed
    - Backpacks contain educational tools and materials developed in collaboration with communities at the local level that will be used to lead trainings
  - In December, the backpacks were used to train civil servants from the Victims Unit’s Central - Local and Collective Reparation Sub-Directories on the ethnic approach and legal decrees, and were transferred to the Victims Unit’s Reparations School and ethnic authorities and public servants in Sucre, Córdoba and Caquetá
  - In 2015, the backpacks will be transferred throughout the country with the Victims Unit

- R1. Improved GoC Strategic Management for Victims Law
  - Construction of Psychosocial Response Model for Complex Crises with Sisma Mujer advances
    - The first version of the document “Psychosocial attention guidelines for women at risk and under protection measures” was been completed, as well as the methodological design and two evaluation instruments to measure the applicability and integrity of the proposal
    - The Psychosocial Response Models contribute to the provision of psychosocial services to respond to communities and individuals affected by the armed conflict who are in need of immediate psychological stabilization to avoid additional damages
    - Through workshops in Bogotá and Cartagena with the group Sisma Mujer, the indicators and base line for the psychosocial response model for complex crises for women under protection measures were developed
    - Participants also included the Victims Unit and Departmental Health Secretaries, the institutional actors responsible for implementing psychosocial attention guidelines for women under protection measures

Quote

At the Public—Private Partnerships event on December 9, High Commissioner for Peace Sergio Jaramillo, “We are in a moment of decisions, the greatest challenge today is in Colombia; in Havana just the vehicle is being constructed, but it is in the field here, in the regions, where we must drive it. That is the challenge,” lauding the collaborative space led by USAID and SAB Miller Bavaria
**Highlights by Target Municipality**

**Antioquia:** Medellín, Necocli, Turbo, Apartadó and Chigorodó

- R2: Medellín, workshop with families of victims of forced disappearance and public servants from the Victims Unit and the Attorney General’s Office; R4: Turbo, workshop on gender justice and prevention of violence against women

**Cauca:** Popayán

- R2: Popayán, training to disseminate “Elements to incorporate a psychosocial approach in attention, assistance and reparation to victims”

**Chocó:** Quibdó, Bojayá, Riosucio

- R4: End of year workshop for the emotional recovery process with women in Quibdó

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

- R2: Cartagena, workshop to develop Psychosocial Response Model for women under protection measures with Sisma Mujer

**La Guajira:** Riohacha, Dibulla, San Juan del Cesar

- From December 9-12, celebrated Peace and Human Rights Week with VISP support, including events such as Film for Peace, symbolic acts with diversity mainstreaming, and discussion tables

**Sucre:** Sincelejo, San Onofre, Ovejas

- R2: Sincelejo, training to disseminate “Elements to incorporate a psychosocial approach in attention, assistance and reparation to victims”

**Córdoba:** Montería, Montelíbano, Tierralta

- R2: Montería, training to disseminate “Elements to incorporate a psychosocial approach in attention, assistance and reparation to victims”

**Caquetá:** Florencia, La Montañita, Cartagena del Chairá

- R2: Florencia, training to disseminate “Elements to incorporate a psychosocial approach in attention, assistance and reparation to victims”

**Bogotá**

- “Transforming Realities,” Colombian government and private sector build public-private partnerships for peace; R3: International Seminar “Experiences in Historical Memory” with regional historical memory groups; R2: Workshop to develop Psychosocial Response Model for women under protection measures with Sisma Mujer

**Victims Assistance and Reparation Unit (Victims Unit)**

**Institutional capacities:**
- Final meeting to consolidate the Afro Participation Protocol proposal
- Socialization of results achieved in the collective reparations process and recommendations with the Victims Unit
- Workshop to transfer the ethnic approach and legal decrees methodology using materials from the dissemination kit in Bogotá, and diffusion of the backpacks to the Victims Unit’s Directing Committee

**Individual competencies:**
- Workshop with families of victims of enforced disappearance and public servants from the Victims Unit and the Attorney General’s Office who work with the crime
- The guide “Elements to incorporate a psychosocial approach in attention, assistance and reparation to victims” was disseminated with Regional Offices in Sincelejo, Popayán, Florencia and Montería, completing trainings on the guide in all targeted departments
- Workshop on gender justice, awareness and prevention of violence against women with public servants from the Victims Unit in Turbo
- The guide “Elements to incorporate a psychosocial approach in attention, assistance and reparation to victims” was disseminated with Regional Offices in Sincelejo, Popayán, Florencia and Montería, completing trainings on the guide in all targeted departments
- Workshop with families of victims of enforced disappearance and public servants from the Victims Unit and the Attorney General’s Office who work with the crime

**National Historical Memory Center**

**Institutional capacities:**
- International Seminar: Experiences in Historical Memory held in Bogotá with regional historical memory groups

**Ministry of Health**

**Institutional capacities:**
- Proposal design workshop for the replicable model experiences project

**National Planning Department (DNP)**

**Institutional capacities:**
- Project design and general royalties system workshop in Amazonas with 150 indigenous leaders

**Individual competencies:**
- Project design and general royalties system workshop in Amazonas with 150 indigenous leaders

**VISP Targeted Regions**

- Diversity mainstreaming dissemination backpacks for indigenous (left) and Afro-descendant (right) communities were completed and transferred for their use in training processes at the central and regional levels